

Contents

	PAGE		PAGE
Officers Location Statement	94	1st Battalion Notes	107
WOs and Senior NCOs Location Statement ..	96	5th Battalion Notes	153
Christmas Cards	97	Home Counties Brigade Depot Notes	164
Editor's Comments	98	The Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion	166
Personalia	99	Notes from the Cadets	167
Articles:		Obituary	169
Albuhera Day 1965	101	Correspondence	173
Hampton Court Palace Reception	102	Regimental Association:	
Commonwealth Memorial, Pusan, Korea ..	103	Secretary's Notes	175
Changes in Out-of-Date Expressions	104	Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting	
Essay Competitions 1966	104	June 15, 1965	175
Regimental Museum	105	News from the Branches	177
		Officers Club Notes	181



(Photo by Sgt. K. Lloyd)

Colonel W. A. Stewart, O.B.E., the oldest surviving ex-Commanding Officer of the 57th, on his visit to the Sergeants Mess, 1st Battalion, Gibraltar, June 1965

The Die Hards

THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT
(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

HALF YEARLY : APRIL AND OCTOBER
VOL. XVI No. 2 OCTOBER 1965 PRICE 2/6

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE'S OWN) (57th and 77th)

The Plume of the Prince of Wales. In each of the four corners the late Duke of Cambridge's Cypher and Coronet.

"Mysore," "Serangapatam," "Albuhera," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajos," "Vittoria," "Pyrenees," "Nivelle," "Nive," "Peninsula," "Alma," "Inkerman," "Sevastopol," "New Zealand," "South Africa, 1879," "Relief of Ladysmith," "South Africa, 1900-02."

World War I—46 Battalions—"Mons," "Le Cateau," "Retreat from Mons," "Marne, 1914," "Aisne, 1914, '18," "La Bassée, 1914," "Messines, 1914, '17, '18," "Armentières, 1914," "Neuve Chapelle," "Ypres, 1915, '17, '18," "Gravenstafel," "St. Julien," "Frezenberg," "Bellevue," "Aubers," "Hooge, 1915," "Loos," "Somme, 1916, '18," "Albert, 1916, '18," "Bazentin," "Delville Wood," "Pozières," "Ginchy," "Flers-Courcellette," "Morval," "Thiepval," "Le Transloy," "Ancre Heights," "Ancre, 1916, '18," "Bapaume, 1917, '18," "Arras, 1917, '18," "Vimy, 1917," "Scarpe, 1917, '18," "Arleux," "Pillckem," "Langemark, 1917," "Menin Road," "Polygon Wood," "Broodseinde," "Poelcappelle," "Passchendaele," "Cambrai, 1917, '18," "St. Quentin," "Rosières," "Ave," "Villers Bretonneux," "Lys," "Estaires," "Hazebrouck," "Baillieu," "Kemmel," "Scherpenberg," "Hindenburg Line," "Canal du Nord," "St. Quentin Canal," "Courtrai," "Selle," "Valenciennes," "Sambre," "France and Flanders, 1914-18," "Italy, 1917-18," "Struma," "Doiran, 1918," "Macedonia, 1915-18," "Suva," "Landing at Suva," "Scimitar Hill," "Gallipoli, 1915," "Rumani," "Egypt, 1915-17," "Gaza," "El Mughar," "Jerusalem," "Jericho," "Jordan," "Tell 'Asur," "Palestine, 1917-18," "Mesopotamia, 1917-18," "Murmans, 1919," "Dukhovskaya," "Siberia, 1918-19."

World War II—7 Battalions—North-West Europe, 1940: "The Dyle," "Defence of the Escaut," "Ypres—Comines Canal," "Dunkirk, 1940." South-East Asia, 1941: "Hong Kong," "North Africa, 1942-43: "El Alamein," "Advance on Tripoli," "Mareth," "Akarit," "Djebel Roumana," "Sicily, 1943": "Francofonte," "Sterro," "Sterro Hills." Italy, 1944-45: "Anzio," "Carroceto," "Gothic Line," "Monte Grande." North-West Europe, 1944-45: "Normandy Landing," "Cambes," "Breville," "The Odon," "Caen," "The Orne," "Hill 112," "Bourquebus Ridge," "Troarn," "Mont Pincon," "Falaise," "The Seine, 1944," "The Nederin," "Le Havre," "The Lower Maas," "Venraij," "Meijel," "Geilenkirchen," "Venlo Pocket," "The Rhineland," "Goch," "The Reichwald," "The Rhine," "Lingen," "Brinkum," "Bremen."

"Korea, 1950-51," "Naktong Bridgehead," "Chongju," "Chongchon II," "Chuam-Ni," "Kapyong-chon," "Kapyong."

Colonel of the Regiment Major-General C. M. M. Man, O.B.E., M.C.

Regimental Headquarters

Location: T.A. Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex.
R.O.II: Col. F. Walden, D.L.
R.O.III: Major E. L. Heywood.
Curator, Regimental Museum: Major R. W. J. Smith, M.B.E.

Affiliated Cadet Units

16 (Hornsey) Cadet Company
32 (Edgware) Cadet Company.
72 (Hounslow) Cadet Company.
75 (Staines) Cadet Company.
77 (Feltham) Cadet Company.

Regular and Territorial Battalions

1st Battalion
O.C.: Lt.-Col. J. N. Shipster, D.S.O.
Location: Palace Barracks, Hollywood, Co. Down, Northern Ireland
5th Battalion (T.A.)
O.C.: Lt.-Col. P. J. Hall, T.D.

Allied Units

CANADA
7th Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery, Sarnia, Ontario.
50th Field Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery (The Prince of Wales Rangers), Peterborough, Ontario.
102nd (Wentworth) Field Battery, Royal Canadian Artillery, Dundas, Ontario.
The Royal Rifles of Canada, Quebec.

Locations
Battalion H.Q. } T.A. Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware,
"H.Q." Company } Middlesex.
"A" Company T.A. Centre, Priory Road, Hornsey, N.8.
"B" Company T.A. Centre, Churchfield Road, Ealing, W.13.
"C" Company T.A. Centre, Old Park Avenue, Enfield, Middlesex.
"D" Company T.A. Centre, Hanworth Road, Hounslow, Middlesex.

AUSTRALIA
University of New South Wales Regt.

NEW ZEALAND
5th Bn. (Wellington West Coast Taranaki) Royal New Zealand Infantry Regt.

HONG KONG
The Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers).

County of Middlesex Army Cadet Force
Headquarters: 456 Uxbridge Road, London, W.12.
Commandant: Bt. Col. I. D. Brotherton, T.D., D.L.
Cadet Executive Officer: Major A. T. Jones, M.B.E., T.D.

Home Counties Brigado Depot
H.Q.: Howe Barracks, Canterbury.
Brigade Colonel: Col. I. H. Battye, M.B.E.
D.A.A.G.: Major M. P. St. F. Dracopoli, Queen's Own Buffs.

Officers Location Statement

REGULAR OFFICERS

Major-General	J. E. F. Willoughby, C.B.E.	G.O.C. MELF
Major-General	C. M. M. Man, O.B.E., M.C., M.A.	G.O.C. 49 Div. (T.A.)/W. Riding and North Midland District
Col.	W. P. M. Allen, O.B.E., M.C.	Colonel A/Q., H.Q. 1 (BR) Corps
Col.	J. W. G. Ormiston	Inspector P.T. (Army)
Col.	A. R. Waller, M.B.E., M.C.	N.A.T.O. Defence College
Col.	A. G. Hewitt, M.B.E., M.C.	Colonel A/Q Singapore Base Area
Col.	I. R. Burrows, O.B.E., M.A.	Colonel G.S., D.I. (M.I.) 3, Ministry of Defence
Col.	I. H. Batty, M.B.E., B.A.	Brigade Colonel, Home Counties Brigade
L.-Col. (L/Col.)	D. C. L. Nolda, O.B.E., B.A.	Commandant, Sennelager Training Centre, B.A.O.R.
Lt.-Col.	F. de R. Morgan, M.C.	G.S.O.1., A.S.D.1, Ministry of Defence
Lt.-Col.	P. L. Pearce Gould, M.B.E., M.A.	A.Q.M.G., H.Q. Eastern Command
Lt.-Col.	C. N. Clayden	Deputy Comd., H.C. Brigade and Commander H.C. Brigade Depot
Lt.-Col.	D. Sax	T.S.O. 1, Ministry of Defence (A.E.P. 2a)
Lt.-Col.	J. N. Shipster, D.S.O.	1st Battalion
Major	G. C. Dawson	14 Signal Regiment, Gloucester
Major	E. F. Thompson, M.C., T.D.	D.A.A.G., A.G. 2, Ministry of Defence
Major	P. W. Galvin	G.S.O.2. (Secretary Exercise Planning Staff) S.H.A.P.E.
Major	E. A. H. Jeffcoat	G.S.O.2, A.S.D. 3, Ministry of Defence
Major	C. H. Mievile, M.C.	G.S.O. 2 (Trg.), H.Q. 53 (Welsh) Division (T.A.)/Wal District
Major	P. G. V. Bellers	D.A.A.G., A.P.S. 4, Ministry of Defence
Major	K. J. Carter	2I.C., 1st Battalion
Major	B. A. M. Pielow	British Military Delegation, Paris
Major	H. J. A. Moore	1st Battalion
Major	G. G. Norton	1st Battalion
Major	B. K. Clayden	B.M., 127 Infantry Brigade (T.A.)
Major	J. I. D. Pike, M.C.	1st Battalion
Major	B. H. Marciandi	1st Battalion
Major	C. L. Lawrence, M.C.	Training Officer, 5th Battalion (T.A.)
Major	P. A. S. Wollocombe	D.A.Q.M.G. (Maint) H.Q. Northern Command
Major	J. S. B. Pollard	1st Battalion
Major	R. D. Fisher	1st Battalion
Capt.	M. V. Hayward	Royal Naval Staff College, Greenwich
Capt.	A. E. McManus	Technical Staff Course, Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham
Capt.	J. M. Hewson, M.C.	G.S.O.3, H. Q. Cyrenaica District
Capt.	I. M. E. Lloyd	1st Battalion
Capt.	W. G. A. Crumley	Adjutant, 1st Battalion
Capt.	H. M. du V. Lohan	Adjutant, Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers)
Capt.	M. C. D. L. Gilham	G.S.O.3, H.Q. FARELF
Capt.	P. Mallalieu	1st Battalion
Capt.	M. D. Legg	1st Battalion
Capt.	P. V. Cheesman	1st Battalion
Capt.	M. F. Deakin	Army Air Corps attd. Royal Malaysian Air Force
Capt.	P. D. J. Clarke	Adjutant, 5th Battalion (T.A.)
Capt.	G. Bulloch	The Jamaica Regiment
Capt.	G. Goring	1st Battalion
Capt.	A. B. Cowing	1st Battalion
Capt.	R. C. Pitman	Trucial Oman Scouts

Capt.	J. G. Lofting	A.D.C. to G.O.C. MELF
Capt.	F. K. Gladden	1st Battalion
Lt.	P. J. Monypenny	Infantry Junior Leaders' Battalion, Oswestry
Lt.	B. K. Finch	Malaysian Rangers
Lt.	P. J. Hubert	1st Battalion
Lt.	R. A. Bartlett	Home Counties Brigade Depot (P.S.)
Lt.	P. F. Packham	Home Counties Brigade Depot (H.S.)
Lt.	J. B. Hawkins	Infantry Junior Leaders' Battalion, Oswestry
Lt.	D. J. Daniell	1st Battalion
Lt.	B. A. Carlston	1st Battalion
Lt.	M. B. Montgomery	1st Battalion
Lt.	D. M. Falcke	No. 42 Army Youth Team (Finchley)
2/Lt.	M. W. Deakin	1st Battalion
2/Lt.	A. G. D. Lowrie	1st Battalion
2/Lt.	R. H. Graham	1st Battalion
2/Lt.	S. M. Dowse	1st Battalion
2/Lt.	J. D. Jonklaas	1st Battalion
Major (Q.M.)	S. C. W. Weller, M.M.	5th Battalion (T.A.)
Major (Q.M.)	A. E. F. Waldron, M.B.E.	Home Counties Brigade Depot (P.S.)
Capt. (Q.M.)	P. Donovan	1st Battalion
Capt. (Q.M.)	F. L. Griffiths	4th Battalion, The Buffs (T.A.)
Capt. (Q.M.)	M. Wild	1st Battalion

Short Service Officers

Lt.	G. N. Freeborn	1st Battalion
Lt.	N. J. Bryant	Home Counties Brigade Depot (H.S.)
2/Lt.	P. G. Truman	1st Battalion
2/Lt.	S. J. Yates	1st Battalion

5th BATTALION (T.A.)

Honorary Colonel

Major-General B. P. Hughes, C.B., C.B.E.

T.A. Officers

Lt.-Col.	P. J. Hall, T.D.	Battalion Commander
Major	J. D. Gunnell, T.D.	2IC
Major	E. J. Naish, T.D.	O.C. "C" Company
Major	M. J. Beaumont	O.C. "H.Q." Company
Major	H. E. Couch	O.C. "A" Company
Major	S. L. J. Henshaw	O.C. "B" Company
Capt.	G. J. Young	2IC "C" Company
Capt.	K. D. Murray	O.C. "D" Company
Capt.	J. S. Richards	2IC "B" Company
Capt.	M. J. S. Doran	2IC "D" Company
Capt.	J. M. Robertson	Platoon Commander
Capt.	D. O. M. Thomas	Platoon Commander
Capt.	J. C. Parkinson	I.O.
Capt.	R. G. Tett	R.S.O.
Capt.	T. D. Jones	2IC "A" Company
Lt.	D. J. Margand	Platoon Commander
Lt.	J. McMaster	
Lt.	J. M. Brown	Platoon Commander
Lt.	D. S. Smith	Platoon Commander
Lt.	F. J. Hamilton	Platoon Commander
2/Lt.	R. J. Scott	Platoon Commander
2/Lt.	M. L. Muirhead	Platoon Commander
2/Lt.	R. J. Claydon	Platoon Commander
Lt. (Q.M.)	R. G. Vaisey	2nd Quartermaster

Attached Officers

Major	R. L. MacQueen (R.A.M.C.)	..	Medical Officer
Capt.	B. A. Hennah (R.A.P.C.)	..	Unit Paymaster
Rev.	R. Brown, R.A.CH.D.	..	Chaplain

Permanent Staff Officers

Major	C. L. Lawrence, M.C.	..	Training Officer
Capt.	P. D. J. Clarke	..	Adjutant
Major	S. C. W. Weller, M.M.	..	Quartermaster

E.R.E.

Major	D. L. James, T.D.	..	D.A.Q.M.G. Mov. (T.A.) 54 East Anglian Div./Dist.
Capt.	S. J. Carter	..	O.C. "H.Q." Company, 56 (London) Inf. Bde. (T.A.)

Warrant Officers and Senior N.C.O.s Location Statement

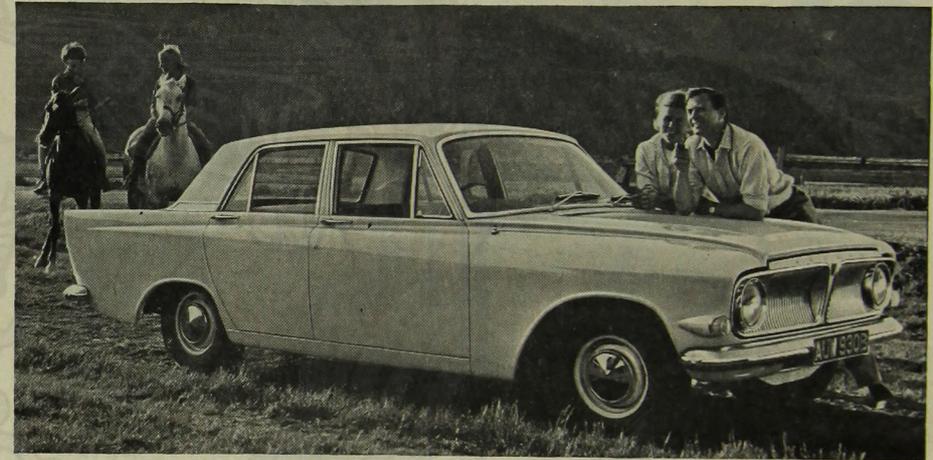
(corrected to September 1, 1965)

REGULAR W.O.s AND SENIOR N.C.O.s

Bde. Rank or Pos.	Appt.	Name	Unit	Bde. Rank or Pos.	Appt.	Name	Unit
WARRANT OFFICERS CLASS I							
1	R.S.M.	T. McMillan	Sennelager Trg. Centre	47	C/Sgt.	C. Shinn	1 Mx.
7	G.S.M.	R. Dodkins	Bulford Garrison	52	C/Sgt.	C. Blackwell	R.M.A. Sandhurst
WARRANT OFFICERS CLASS II							
15	A/W.O.1	K. Beale	1 Mx.	4	Sgt.	M. Butler	P.S. Staff
19	R.Q.M.S.	A. DaCosta	School of Infantry	6	Sgt.	R. Davies	Defence N.B.C. School
26	C.S.M.	S. Michel	5 Mx. (T.A.)	13	Sgt.	K. Lloyd	1 Mx.
28	R.Q.M.S.	M. Eastap	H.Q. 99 Gurkha Infantry Bde. Group	20	Sgt.	H. Horder	1 Mx.
31	R.Q.M.S.	G. Simmons	1 Mx.	47	Sgt.	B. Tarry	1 Mx.
36	C.S.M.	E. Steward	H.Q. 1 (B.R.) Corps	54	Sgt.	S. Speakman	1 Mx.
43	C.S.M.	D. Walters	5 Buffs (T.A.)	57	Sgt.	W. Argent	Bde. Depot (P.S.)
56	C.S.M.	R. Power	1 Mx.	58	A/C/Sgt.	L. Plumb	1 Mx.
57	C.S.M.	B. Warner	5 Mx. (T.A.)	69	Sgt.	J. Williamson	Bde. Depot (P.S.)
COLOUR SERGEANTS							
2	C/Sgt.	J. Potter	1 Mx.	71	Sgt.	B. Edey	1 Mx.
4	C/Sgt.	P. Dive	1 Mx.	88	Sgt.	B. Pritchard	Malaysian Rangers
20	C/Sgt.	A. Nicholson	4 Div. H.Q. & Sig. Regt.	91	Sgt.	A. Briggs	1 Mx.
21	C/Sgt.	W. Smith	1 Mx.	93	Sgt.	J. Redmond	1 Mx.
26	A/W.O.2	J. Martin, M.M.	1 Mx.	94	Sgt.	D. Miles	1 Mx.
31	C/Sgt.	R. Clements	1 Mx.	96	Sgt.	J. Young	Inf. J.L. Bn.
35	A/W.O.2	C. Partridge	1 Mx.	98	Sgt.	J. Kerr	1 Royal Sussex
37	C/Sgt.	D. Lagden	1 Mx.	100	Sgt.	G. Overton	1 Mx.
44	C/Sgt.	M. Elston	1 Mx.	112	Sgt.	J. Leat	1 Mx.
46	C/Sgt.	R. Ford	1 Mx.	116	Sgt.	F. O'Rawe	42 A.Y.T.
				125	Sgt.	J. Barr	5 Buffs (T.A.)
				130	Sgt.	M. Quinn	1 Mx.
				131	Sgt.	R. Shave	Bde. Depot (P.S.)
				135	Sgt.	R. DaCosta	1 Mx.
				136	Sgt.	M. Weston	1 Mx.
				140	Sgt.	J. Dickens	1 Mx.



MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR TAX-FREE PRIVILEGES



BUY A FORD OF BRITAIN CAR!

You can't beat a Ford of Britain car, they're famous all over the world for their versatility and reliability. They take everything in their stride, give you mile after mile of comfortable, economical driving. Autobahn, dirt track, city street, country lane—a Ford of Britain car is always at home. And you get delivery priority of any car in the superb Ford range if you're posted abroad.

NO BRITISH TAX TO PAY! You can enjoy your Ford in Britain for up to six months before you leave, or you may qualify for up to twelve months' tax-free privilege between

overseas postings. Alternatively Ford will ship your car direct to you. Hire purchase facilities are readily available. **TAKE YOUR PICK FROM THE FABULOUS FORD RANGE** The complete range of exciting saloons, estate cars and GT cars is yours to choose from. Automatic transmission is available as an optional extra on all models from Cortina up, and of course you get the added bonus of world-famous Ford service and replacement parts wherever you go. For full details of any model(s) contact your local Ford dealer or fill in this coupon:

Please send me without obligation, full details of the Ford of Britain model I have ticked below and your personal export scheme.

NAME _____
 FULL ADDRESS _____
 I AM BEING POSTED TO _____
 ANGLIA CORTINA CORSAIR ZEPHYR 4 ZEPHYR 6 ZODIAC

Cut out this coupon and post it to Dept. 12

FORD MOTOR COMPANY LIMITED, LONDON SALES, 88 REGENT STREET, LONDON W1 • Telephone: REgent 7272



This is the Gin*



... to
be sure
say

'Gordon's for me'

THE LARGEST SELLING GIN IN
GREAT BRITAIN, THE USA AND THE WORLD



"If
only
I had
the
money!"

You may have said it yourself. But, consider. You will probably never have a better opportunity than you have now of putting some money aside for the future. You enjoy good pay—with no overheads—and all the facilities of the Post Office Savings Bank scheme are yours for the asking. What could be simpler?

Make saving a good habit. Save as much or as little as you like, but do it regularly. Keep your money in the Savings Bank as long as you possibly can. You will find that it soon mounts up and collects interest—ready to help start you up in the trade you are now learning in the Service, or for furnishing your home when you get married.

All the details of the scheme are in the leaflets illustrated here. Write to me personally, and I will send you a copy of the one that applies to your Service:

Air Chief Marshal Sir Hugh W. L. Saunders,
G.C.B., K.B.E., M.C., D.F.C., M.M.,
Chairman, H.M. Forces Savings Committee,
Block B, Government Buildings, London Road,
Stanmore, Middlesex

Bde. Pos.	Rank or Appt.	Name	Unit	Rank	Name	Company
142	Sgt.	D. Burke	5 Mx. (T.A.)	Sgt.	C. B. Wagner	"B" Company
144	Sgt.	J. Meacock	Bde. Depot (P.S.)	Sgt.	M. Ward	"D" Company
148	Sgt.	J. Whittle	School of Infantry	Sgt.	G. Young	"D" Company
149	A/W.O.2	E. Nash	H.Q. 6 Z. Rifles	Sgt.	B. Lauwers	"H.Q." Company
151	Sgt.	W. Kerr	1 Mx.	Sgt.	K. G. Anderson	"H.Q." Company
155	Sgt.	C. Barnes	5 Mx. (T.A.)	Sgt.	C. J. Purchase	"H.Q." Company
164	Sgt.	F. Potts	1 Queen's Own Buffs	Sgt.	G. M. Stunt	"H.Q." Company
				Sgt.	H. C. Large	"D" Company
165	Sgt.	J. Reynolds	1 Mx.	Sgt.	N. K. Gasson	"D" Company
169	Sgt.	P. McFadyn	1 Mx.	Sgt.	A. C. Foster	"B" Company
172	Sgt.	L. Fisher	1 Mx.	Sgt.	R. Stone	"A" Company
175	Sgt.	A. Brumwell	1 Mx.	Sgt.	J. W. H. Morgan	"D" Company
178	Sgt.	F. Willis	1 Mx.	Sgt.	D. Harwood	"C" Company
179	Sgt.	J. Redrup	1 Mx.	P/Sgt.	B. G. Smith	"A" Company
194	Sgt.	A. Stevens	1 Mx.	P/Sgt.	C. Trindall	"D" Company
185	Sgt.	A. O'Gorman	1 Mx.			

BANDMASTER

4	B.M.	J. McShane	1 Mx.
---	------	------------	-------

ORDERLY ROOM SERGEANTS

1	W.O.2	P. Soper, B.E.M.	A.A.J.L. Regt.
5	W.O.2	G. Cripps	1 Mx.
8	C/Sgt.	A. Gibbs	1 Queens Surreys

DRUM MAJOR

2	W.O.2	J. Lewis	Bde. Depot (P.S.)
---	-------	----------	-------------------

SERGEANTS IN THE BAND

1	Sgt.	G. Beechey	1 Mx.
6	Sgt.	A. Torrie	1 Mx.

Permanent Staff

W.O.1	B. J. Lyons (R.S.M.)	Battalion H.Q.
W.O.2	S. Michel (C.S.M.)	"A" Company
W.O.2	D. W. Adkins (C.S.M.)	"B" Company
W.O.2	B. G. Warner	"H.Q." Company
C/Sgt.	J. W. Eldridge	"D" Company
Sgt.	D. Burke	"C" Company
Sgt.	C. H. Barnes	"H.Q." Company

5th BATTALION (T.A.)

Rank	Name	Company
Warrant Officers, Class II		
W.O.2	R. G. Roberts	"B" Company
W.O.2	W. Payne	"C" Company
W.O.2	J. Vasey	"D" Company
W.O.2	R. R. Birmingham	"H.Q." Company
W.O.2	R. Elliott	"A" Company
Colour Sergeants		
C/Sgt.	H. Rea	"D" Company
C/Sgt.	L. Hawkins, B.E.M.	"H.Q." Company (Signals)
C/Sgt.	E. James	"A" Company
C/Sgt.	A. E. Howe, M.B.E.	Battalion H.Q.
C/Sgt.	K. Mortimer	"H.Q." Company
C/Sgt.	A. Green	"H.Q." Company
C/Sgt.	F. W. Hawes	"B" Company
Sergeants		
Sgt.	C. Holford, B.E.M.	"H.Q." Company
Sgt.	E. R. Oakley	"H.Q." Company
Sgt.	A. Sills	"H.Q." Company
Sgt.	D. F. Gainsbury	"B" Company

CHRISTMAS CARDS 1965

1. This year it has been decided that the Regimental Christmas card will be one produced by The Army Benevolent Fund.

The card size 3½ in. by 6 in. has on the outside a reproduction of the original oil painting by Vincenzo Catena (1470(?)–1531) of a Warrior adoring the Infant Christ.

On the inside of each card the Regimental crest will be embossed in black above the greeting.

The price of these cards is 11d. each, or 11s. per dozen, to which must be added postage as under:

For 1 dozen — 1s. 0d.
 " 2 " — 1s. 6d.
 " 3 " — 2s. 0d.

and thereafter adding 3d. for each additional dozen.

The card number is 9, which should be quoted when ordering.

2. In addition the plain double card with the Regimental crest on the outside and the greetings on the inside is available.

The price of these cards is 5d. each, or 5s. per dozen, to which must be added postage as under:

For 1 dozen — 10d.
 " 2 " — 1s. 4d.
 " 3 " — 1s. 8d.
 " 4 " — 2s. 0d.

and thereafter adding 3d. for each additional dozen.

The card number is 4, which should be quoted when ordering.

Editor's Comments

Reorganisation of Britain's Reserve Army

The Territorial Army and the Army Emergency Reserve are to be replaced by a force of about 50,000 volunteer reservists which may be called the Territorial Reserve. This was announced in the House of Commons by Mr. Denis Healey, Secretary of State for Defence, on July 29, when he gave the main outline of the British Government's plans to reorganise the Reserve Army. Details of the proposals, which it is estimated will ultimately save some £20 million a year, will be published in a White Paper in the late autumn.

Mr. Healey said that volunteers of the Territorial Army had served Britain well in two World Wars, and he paid tribute to what they and members of the A.E.R. had done in the past and expressed the hope that the same spirit of service could be maintained in the future. But it had become clear that the tasks of the Reserve Army had changed so radically as to require a reorganisation no less comprehensive than that introduced by Lord Haldane nearly 50 years ago.

The future role of the reserves will be to provide first, some individuals and a few units to be called out at any time to reinforce the Regular Army; secondly, the reinforcements needed to support the Regular Army in limited war; and, thirdly, such reinforcements for N.A.T.O. as our commitments require.

Most of the units of the new Reserve would be based on areas of the country like the present T.A. units, and some like the present A.E.R. would be recruited, trained and administered by central headquarters.

The main cuts in the Territorial Army would fall on Royal Artillery and Infantry Regiments, and it is envisaged that the "teeth arms" of the new Territorial Reserve would include one Armoured Reconnaissance Regiment, four Artillery Regiments, two Special Air Service Battalions, one Parachute Battalion, and 13 Infantry Battalions, all equipped to the highest possible standards.

In so far as the Regiment is concerned it appears certain that we shall be required to supply a company group of a Home Counties Battalion, whose headquarters will be at Canterbury.

It is proposed to begin the reorganisation early 1967 and to complete it during the following year.

The 1st Battalion During the Battle of Hong Kong—A Tribute

I am indebted to Lt.-Gen. Sir Brian Horrocks for allowing me to publish the following extract from a

letter which he had received from ex-B.S.M.C. B. J. Stewart saying how much he had enjoyed reading the General's book, "A Full Life":—

"In Hong Kong where I was captured we fought with the Middlesex Regiment and I was able to experience (having blown up our own guns) fighting with them. Since then, everywhere I have been—in the Service and in civilian life—I have quoted them to be the world's finest fighting men. "Die Hard" they did, individual sections refusing to surrender after the capitulation. The Japs had to wipe out pockets of them; not even when the Japs took our own officers to them would they give in, unless it was a Middlesex Officer. At least one of these sections which I met while bringing a small party of wounded back through "No Man's Land" were never heard of again. Suffice it to say that my experience with them in Hong Kong, plus the way they and their C.O. stood up to the Japs in the P.O.W. cages, make me regard them as the world's best."

A wonderful tribute to these "Die-Hards" who fought as valiantly as did their predecessors on the ridge at Albuhera on May 16, 1811.

Regimental Badge—New Territories, Hong Kong

Those who have been stationed in, or have visited, the New Territories in Hong Kong will be pleased to know that the maintenance of our Regimental badge on Lamb's Hill, which had become a problem, has now been voluntarily undertaken by our old friends of the Hong Kong Regiment (th Volunteers), and we are very grateful indeed to the Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. J. Laurence Smith, Royal Tank Regiment, for his willing co-operation over this matter.

Our "Ever Readies" in Aden

Probably the most "active" service seen by any member of the Regiment in the period covered by this issue of *The Die-Hards* has been by Lt. "Jock" Smith, the "Ever Ready" officer from the 5th Battalion called out for service in Aden with the 1st Battalion, the Royal Sussex Regiment.

Reprinted on page 155 is his verbatim report on a successful ambush patrol.

Changes in Out-of-Date Expressions

The changes published on page 104 will, I am sure, be read with interest and some amusement by our ex-soldiers of the older generation.

Personalia

Since the last issue of *The Die-Hards* there has been a spate of promotions, and we congratulate the following on attaining the rank shown:—

Major Capt. R. D. Fisher of the 1st Battalion and Capts. M. J. Beaumont, H. E. Couch and S. L. J. Henshaw of the 5th Battalion.

Captain Lts. J. G. Lofting and F. K. Gladden of the 1st Battalion, and Lts. J. M. Robertson, D. O. M. Thomas, J. C. Parkinson, R. G. Tett and T. D. Jones of the 5th Battalion.

Col. Ian Brotherton has now taken over as Commandant of the County of Middlesex Army Cadet Force, and we wish him every success in his new venture.

Major Rex Cain, who has been holding a staff appointment at the Ministry of Defence, has decided to retire and, by the time this issue of the Journal appears in print, this will be a *fait accompli*.

We wish him the best of luck in his future occupation—whatever that may be.

We were very pleased to see one of our old 1914-18 veterans, C. S. Carey (L/14097), when he visited Regimental Headquarters for the first time at the end of July. He was wounded and taken prisoner at Mons in 1914 when serving in "D" Company, 4th Battalion, under the command of Capt. Glass.

Lt. B. A. Carlston, who was transferred to the Regiment from the Northern Rhodesia (now Zambia) Army in 1964, on being granted a permanent Regular Army commission and has since been seconded to that Army, has now been posted to the 1st Battalion.

Capt. Peter Cheesman, on completion of his tour of duty at the All Arms Junior Leaders' Regiment, Tonfau, has been posted to the 1st Battalion.

An old soldier, who keeps up a regular correspondence with Regimental Headquarters is ex-Pte. P. C. ("Pip") Connor, M.M., (G/19511), who served throughout the 1914-18 War firstly in the 21st (Service) Battalion and later in the 2nd Battalion. For some years he has lived in Canada and recently has been in hospital suffering from an infected wrist, which is now all right again.

It was in 1918, whilst he was serving with the 2nd Battalion, that he was recommended for the award of the Military Medal by Lt.-Col. (now Brigadier) E. E. F. Baker, who was then commanding the Battalion.

We were delighted at Regimental Headquarters to have a visit from Lt.-Col. Harvey del Court last August when he was over from South Africa.

Although he has made a good recovery he still feels the effects of the serious leg operation mentioned in these columns in the last April issue.

We now have news of Lt.-Col. "Tom" Cubitt who, as reported in the last issue of *The Die-Hards*, has gone with his family to the U.S.A. He lives in California, where he is employed as a full-time riding instructor at the Pebble Beach stables.

Old Michael Doherty (6188400), who served in the Boer War with the East Surrey Regiment and transferred to the Regiment in October 1903, is now getting frail. He was at work until he was 80, but now at 84 years of age he has to take things easy.

He was one of the Advance Party when the Regiment took over the newly-built barracks at Mill Hill. He was also on parade when the Regimental flag was lowered for the last time in Inglis Barracks in 1961.

He is believed to be the sole survivor of the funeral party when Drummer Dudley Staggole, v.c., D.C.M., was buried in Hendon Park Cemetery on August 5, 1911.

We were pleased to get news some time ago of Lt. David Everard, who is now working in East Africa (Tanzania).

He states that the leg which was injured so badly in a car accident a short time before he left the Service, has healed up wonderfully in that land of sunshine.

In addition to winning the Inter-Services individual épée championship at the Royal Tournament last July Sgt. F. B. Finnis has also won the Army Individual Foils Championship this year. Well done!

On June 12, Lt.-Col. Peter Hall represented the Regiment at the Army Dinner held at the Banqueting House, Whitehall, in the presence of Her Majesty the Queen. This dinner was given to commemorate the Battle of Waterloo and was followed by a Massed Bands and Colours Parade on Horse Guards Parade.

Congratulations and best wishes to Lt. Michael Hedgecoe, a former National Service officer and son of Col. and Mrs. Frank Hedgecoe, on his marriage.

The number of Regimental inmates at the Star and Garter Home, Richmond, was increased to three by the admission last June of ex-Pte. Richard Irvine (14109), who served for seven years with the Colours until November 8, 1918.

We were very pleased to read in the Supplement to the *London Gazette* dated July 16, 1965, that Major D. L. James, one of our T.A. officers extra regimentally employed, has been awarded a 2nd Clasp to his Territorial Efficiency Decoration, and offer him our heartiest congratulations.

Major Chris Lawrence has taken over the duties of Training Officer to the 5th Battalion in place of Major Geoff Norton, who has rejoined the 1st Battalion.

John Loxton (6188016), ate 1/7th Battalion was a welcome visitor to Regimental Headquarters recently when he attended one of the Mill Hill Branch monthly meetings.

"Snowball," as he was affectionately known, was a veteran of "D" Company at Tottenham, and a very faithful and loyal member of the Battalion. Successive P.S.I.'s at Tottenham in the days before the last war owe much to "Snowball" for the amount of ungrudging labour he put in to ensure the cleanliness of his Drill Hall. And how spotless it always was!

Major Brian Marciandi has been selected to attend the course at the Joint Services Staff College starting in January 1966. At the conclusion of this course next July he will go to R.M.A.S. as a Company Commander.

Major John Moore is to take up a staff appointment as G.S.O.2 at Headquarters, Western Command, in November.

Col. John Ormiston has been selected for appointment as Inspector P.T.(Army), and assumed his new duties on October 7.

Congratulations to Major Julian du Parc Braham, a former 7th Battalion officer, on his promotion to Lieutenant-Colonel to fill a T.A. staff appointment, and on the award of the Territorial Efficiency Decoration.

Major Bert Peasley, who has been Adjutant at the Home Postal Depot R.E. for about seven years, terminated his service under the general terms of his Extended Service Commission in September. Not only will he be much missed by the Postal Depot, where he was a tower of strength on the administrative side, but also by the staff at Regimental Headquarters, to whom he was always most helpful and co-operative in connection with the various functions we still hold at Inglis Barracks.

We wish him every good luck in his efforts to find a suitable job in civilian life.

Major David Pike has completed his tour of duty with the A.C.C. Depot and Training Centre, Aldershot, and rejoined the 1st Battalion at the end of May.

Capt. Ernie Pike finally left the Service on July 31 last on termination of his Short Service Commission, after many years of faithful and devoted service to the Regiment.

We understand that he has "landed" a good job in civilian life, and we wish him all the success that he deserves.

A surprise and welcome arrival for the Regimental Dinner this year was Col. Jimmy Reid, who had flown in from the U.S.A. shortly beforehand to see his horse, "Biscayne," run in some of the well known English flat races.

Our oldest living Die-Hard, Lt.-Col. Cresswell Rooke, who served with much distinction throughout the 1914-18 War, celebrated his 92nd birthday this year.

When writing to thank the Colonel of the Regiment and all Ranks for their telegram of birthday wishes he says "my very proud thanks for their Greetings telegram which will be among my greatest treasures."

We were very pleased to receive a visit from ex-Cpl. Harry Seldon (23276259) quite recently. He will be remembered by those who served with the 1st Battalion in Austria and Cyprus as one of those privileged to work in the "Kremlin."

Another recent visitor to Regimental Headquarters was ex-Pte. J. Tomlin (14455716), a National Serviceman, who served with the 1st Battalion in the war in Korea.

He has now emigrated with his family to Australia.

Col. Rex Waller, having completed his tour of duty on the staff at Headquarters, Southern Command, is now attending a course at the N.A.T.O. Defence College until next February.

Whilst on a visit to the Ealing Branch recently the Secretary of the Regimental Association made the acquaintance of ex-Cpl. A. Werndly, who was at one time in "K" Company of the 1st Battalion. He is now aged 79 and looks remarkably fit.

"Bowker" White (L1325), who formerly served in "G" Company of the 3rd Battalion, now runs a boarding house in Ramsgate.

He sends his best wishes to all Die-Hards wherever they may be.

A welcome visitor to Regimental Headquarters last July, when he was attending the Mill Hill Branch monthly meeting, was ex-C.S.M. A. H. L. (Tich) Williams (6193445). He served with the 1st Battalion, in which he was a well-known and popular sportsman, from 1920 until 1937, when he was posted to the Depot for a two-year tour of duty as an instructor. During the 1939-45 War he served with the 1/7th Battalion in France, North Africa and Italy, and finished up as a Sergeant-Major on troopships. He retired to pension in January 1947.

Major Pat Wollocombe, who returned to this country from a tour of duty with the Kenya Army at the end of last year, is now holding a staff appointment (D.A.Q.M.G.) at Headquarters, Northern Command.

Congratulations to ex-Cpl. Brian Wright (23113877) and his wife on the birth of a son. During his service in the Regiment Brian was employed as an Orderly Room Clerk with the 1st Battalion in Austria and Cyprus.

ALBUHERA DAY, 1965

The parade to celebrate the 154th anniversary of the Battle of Albuhera was held by kind permission of Lt.-Col. H. G. Jourdan, Commanding Home Postal Depot R.E., at the old regimental depot, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, on Sunday, May 16, 1965. It was held in weather that was dull, but with hearts that were bright. The fact that it rained as the parade fell in did not damp the ardour of the majority as it also failed to wash away the imperishable intrepidity of those original Die-Hards on the Ridge of Albuhera over a century and a half ago.

Great support was given to this year's regimental celebration by the Territorial Battalion, which supplied the Parade Commander, Major E. J. Naish; the Chaplain, the Reverend Ralph Brown, and the Sergeant-Major, R.S.M. H. Boseley. In addition there were twenty-seven rank and file (Ever Readies) and forty members of the Band and Drums. All groups of the regiment were represented, the Regular battalion by six members of No. 42 Army Youth Team who are at present recruiting in England, eight young soldiers from the Infantry



The Colonel of the Regiment inspecting Old Comrades who attended the Albuhera Day Parade at Mill Hill. From left to right: Mr. S. Bartle (late 1st Battalion), Major E. J. Naish (Parade Commander, 5th Battalion), The Colonel of the Regiment, Mr. C. Brust, M.M. (late 7th Battalion), Mr. W. Wright (late 4th Battalion), Major A. E. Peasley (late 2nd Battalion), Mr. S. Turner (late 2nd and 11th Battalions), Mr. W. Tiffen (late 4th and 24th Battalions)

As one old soldier remarked when the inclemency of the weather was mentioned, "They fought the battle in the rain; we can commemorate it in the rain just as well." This was the view accepted and no change in the original programme was made.

Junior Leaders' Battalion who intend to join the regiment on completion of their training, whilst ex-members of the regiment represented the various Regular, Reserve, Territorial and Service battalions who have worn our cap badge since 1896 when the oldest soldier on

parade, ex-Sergeant C. C. Baldry, enlisted. These old soldiers were in sufficient strength to form two detachments of sixty each.

The first arrival for the parade was also the first to see active service, Mr. George Ford, who had fought with the 2nd Battalion at the Battle of Spion Kop, January 24, 1900. At the other end of the scale was a very smart young soldier of the Junior Leaders Bn. who is 6ft. 3ins. tall. He is the son of ex-R.S.M. Bartle, and is seventy years—more than the allotted span—younger than the oldest soldier there.

The Association Standard was on parade, carried by Mr. G. Hurlock and escorted by Messrs. F. E. Wookey and R. J. Harris. The three Old Comrades so honoured had all served in the Far East under the command of General Man who was holding his first parade as Colonel of the Regiment. The Colonel's orderlies were In-Pensioners W. R. Carvell and C. M. King, both dressed in the long scarlet frock coat of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. The two detachments of Old Comrades were formed up under the command of ex-R.S.M. S. Bartle (with ex-Sgt. W. Bratby of the Mill Hill Branch as Right Guide) and Mr. A. Todman (with Mr. G. A. Cooper, M.M., as Right Guide) of the 9th Battalion Branch.

After the service at the War Memorial the parade was inspected by the Colonel of the Regiment who paid the old soldiers the compliment of making it a personal and a thorough inspection. It made the older members of the regiment who have now passed the age of active soldiering feel proud that they were in line with the "Ever Readies," the volunteers of the 5th Battalion (T.A.) who were then waiting for posting overseas and who have, since that date, been on the sharp end of the army and experienced active service.

To the tune of Sir Manley Power & Paddy's Resource the parade marched past and paid compliments to the 9th Colonel of the Middlesex Regiment, General Man being the ninth holder of this appointment since the amalgamation of the 57th and 77th in 1881.

Back in the drill hall at Edgware many comrades who had served for years in sunnier climes were able to get together and join in conversation and relive their escapades of years gone by. This affects the distaff side of our regimental family, too, as many of the ladies who had occupied Married Quarters enjoy this friendly *tete-a-tete* they can have amongst all the noise and laughter of a packed building. Small groups of members who had served in the same battalions and garrisons were to be seen at their tables comparing experiences and the style of living now and when they were young.

It is the esprit-de-corps and real pleasure of comrades of varying ranks shown by the joyous and animated greeting when they meet after this parade that impress so much. Those predecessors of the twenty-first Colonel, Sir William Inglis of the 57th and Sir Thomas Pictou of the 77th—and, indeed, Lord Lawrence, the "Saviour of India" who was the Colonel of the ancestor Volunteer unit—would agree that those who now throng the annual parade are as great in heart as their ancestors ever were.

HAMPTON COURT PALACE RECEPTION

As stated by the Editor in his Comments in the April issue of *The Die-Hards* the ancient County of Middlesex ceased to be a separate administrative area on March 31, 1965, and with the County of London, was merged into a new Greater London area.

On the day before the old County was dismembered and amalgamated the Regiment gave it a fitting send-off at a reception, sponsored by the Officers' Club, in the magnificent Great Hall at Hampton Court Palace, by gracious permission of Her Majesty the Queen.

Members of the Lieutenancy, the County Council, Mayors, Mayoresses and Town Clerks of 15 Boroughs, Chairmen and Clerks of Urban District Councils, Members of Parliament for 16 Middlesex constituencies, and other distinguished guests brought the gathering to about 400.

At his last function before relinquishing the Coloneley of the Regiment, Maj.-Gen. J. E. F. Willoughby, with Mrs. Willoughby, received the guests, and there were well over 100 Officers' Club members with their private guests present.

Among the distinguished guests was Lt.-Gen. G. C. Bucknall, Lord Lieutenant of Middlesex, who since April 1, has been a Deputy Lieutenant under Field-Marshal Earl Alexander of Tunis, Lord Lieutenant of the County. Other distinguished guests included the Lord Bishop of London and Mrs. Stopford, the Lord Bishop of Kensington and Mrs. Goodchild, Lt.-Gen. Sir Brian and Lady Horrocks, the Venerable Archdeacon I. D. Neill (Chaplain General to the Army) and Mrs. Neill, Maj.-Gen. Sir Charles Harvey (Steward of Hampton Court Palace) and Lady Harvey, Maj.-Gen. D. E. B. Talbot (Deputy Colonel of the Queen's Own Buffs) and Mrs. Talbot, Maj.-Gen. Sir Nigel Tapp (Eastern Regional Organiser of the Army Benevolent Fund) and Lady Tapp, and Brigadier J. B. Ashworth (Colonel of the Royal Sussex Regiment) and Mrs. Ashworth.

In a brief address to the gathering the Colonel of the Regiment said:—

"On the eve of this great change that will after 1,200 years bring to an end the County of Middlesex there is very little that I would presume to add to that which has already been said with such sincerity and grace and dignity; and especially I have in mind the address of the Lord Bishop of London at St. Margaret's Church in Westminster on October 4.

We, too, of your Regiment look on this occasion with sorrow and grief, but with gratitude for the preservation of the continuity of things, for your example of service, for your constant concern for your Regiment, and for our Name which we have carried to the world's ends with Honour.

It is a glory which few can match that in the Great War our County raised for its Regiment no less than

47 separate battalions. We have asked you here for this our last opportunity of showing our appreciation of our debt to our County, and in this Great Hall of the Royal Palace of Hampton Court which itself must speak more eloquently than I of the great palimpsest of history that is the County of Middlesex and which will live on.

For here no end shall be
But a beginning everlastingly."

In reply Mr. John Barter, Chairman of the Middlesex County Council, said that the Regiment had been kindness itself during the past years. He added "The County dies extremely hard. The Regiment will continue to Die-Hard."

Commonwealth Memorial United Nations Cemetery Pusan, Korea

The following is a copy of a letter received last May by the Colonel of the Regiment from Maj.-Gen. I. H. Freeland, C.B., D.S.O., Vice Adjutant General, in connection with the dedication and unveiling of the Commonwealth Memorial in the United Nations Cemetery at Pusan, Korea:—

I am writing on behalf of the Adjutant General who is at present in the United States.

The Commonwealth Memorial in the United Nations Cemetery, Pusan, Korea, has now been completed. All the graves are marked with headstones while the names of those whose graves are not known are inscribed on the Memorial.

The ceremony of dedication is to take place on Commonwealth Day this year, May 24, and Lt.-Gen. Sir William Pike will unveil the Memorial. The Guard of Honour will be furnished by the 1st Battalion Durham Light Infantry together with the Regimental Band and Pipers from the King's Own Scottish Borderers from Hong Kong.

The Royal Navy and the Royal Air Force will also provide detachments. There will be representatives from the other Commonwealth countries concerned, South Africa and the United Nations.

I am only sorry that it has not been possible to arrange for representatives from all the Regiments and Corps, which served in Korea, to attend the ceremony.

I attach a copy of the message that the Chaplain General is sending to all known next-of-kin before the ceremony. From it you will see that later we intend sending them a copy of the Order of Service with photographs of the ceremony and of the relevant headstone or memorial panel.

The message which the Chaplain General sent to all known next-of-kin before the ceremony was as follows:—

From:—The Venerable Archdeacon I. D. Neill, C.B., O.B.E., M.A., Chaplain to the Queen, Chaplain-General.

The Commonwealth Memorial in the United Nations Cemetery at Pusan, Korea has recently been completed and is to be unveiled and dedicated on Monday, May 24, 1965 at 3 p.m. local time which is 7 a.m. British Summer Time.

Arrangements are being made for a photograph to be taken of each grave headstone or name plaque on the Memorial and this, together with a copy of the Order of Service and a photograph of the ceremony, will be sent to you in due course.

I am writing this with the approval and agreement of the Senior Chaplains of all denominations of the Royal Navy, Army and Royal Air Force. We wish you to know that you will be very much in our thoughts and that our prayers will be with you at this time.

This Dedication is an occasion both sad and triumphant, both personal and Commonwealth, and it has a link as much with things temporal as it has with things eternal.

May we look at these one by one:—

On this day, memories of great sadness and a great sense of loss will be re-awakened for some of you. In our struggle against evil true gallantry is found in our willingness to put our right cause before ourselves. Sometimes this has resulted in costs which we hoped we would never have to pay in terms of health or loss of limb or faculty for some, and in terms of bereavement for others. Yours is a gallantry which must be desperately hard to keep on giving year after year, and at this time vast numbers of people will pause to think about you and to salute you. But every day there is "Another" who never ceases to think of you with strange understanding for He "so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son." Perhaps at the time of your early loss you felt something of His peace in your heart—even to wonder at it—and this occasion will be for you a reminder to go on drawing strength and comfort from Him.

And this day of Dedication is a day of Triumph. Death is not the end but the beginning. It is only we in ourselves who experience loss and sadness. Our loved ones have entered the eternal courts where there is "neither sorrow nor crying neither . . . any more pain." In God's presence there is "fullness of joy" and this is the God of Love and Salvation and Forgiveness. If at this time the old sadness seems reawakened, will you find triumph in the words spoken by the angel in the empty Easter tomb—"He is not here, He is risen." These words are true of every Christian grave.

Then can we try too to remember that although these proceedings are deeply personal to us, they are truly just as personal to others. Each of us is just one person belonging to a vast fellowship reaching throughout the Commonwealth, a fellowship of those who have subscribed in dearest, greatest terms to the cause of peace and security for all peoples.

It is a continuous struggle I know; but how awful would be the alternative if we abandoned it in any generation. Our prayer should be today for others as well as for ourselves and for the coming of that time

too when God's will may be done "in Earth, as it is in Heaven."

Thus it is we who now stand with one foot back on the sacred ground of memory—honourable, gallant memory, grateful memory too for the quality of a loved one who so captured our hearts; but our other foot is forward, forward on the certain ground of faith. Our faith is not in ourselves, nor in our understanding. Our faith is in our God who showed Himself to us in Jesus Christ, who gave Himself to us to the uttermost, and who one day will again rule in the hearts and lives of men and nations, and in the van of whose final conquest we are now trusted to serve.

IVAN NEILL.

Changes in out-of-date expressions

For some time, the Ministry of Defence have been considering changing certain expressions which are not entirely appropriate to present day usage.

As part of this process, the following changes have been announced:

Old expression	New Term
Batman	Orderly
Sick Parade	Sick List
Dental Sick Parade	Dental Treatment
Rank and File Mess	Soldiers' Mess
Married Family	Family

The term "soldier" is also preferred to "other rank" and should be used whenever possible particularly in the field of recruiting and public relations.

Hillings Ltd FLORISTS

for Flowers, Plants, etc.

MEMBERS OF INTERFLORA



(Flowers by wire, any time and anywhere throughout the world)

DAY PHONES: MILL HILL 1387 STONEGROVE 8081
NIGHT PHONE: MILL HILL 1324

1 BROADWAY, MILL HILL, N.W.7
296 HALE LANE, EDGWARE

BERTRAND STEWART ESSAY COMPETITION, 1966

Prize: £80.

Closing Date: June 22, 1966.

Subject: "We have often, in the past, been accused of training to fight the last war. The tactics taught and practised for Limited War in the mid-sixties, twenty years after the last war, seem to show that we are in danger of following historical precedent.

"Are we right to plan for a stereotyped brigade group type of battle bearing in mind the type of enemy we may expect to fight?

"How far have we failed to reflect modern weapons, techniques, equipment and influences in our tactics?"

"Discuss this and consider what changes might be necessary in tactical doctrine and methods to fight small-scale wars outside Europe."

General conditions for this essay competition will be the same as for the 1965 competition and can be found in DCI (General) No. 12 of December 1964, except that the address of the Army Quarterly and Defence Journal shown in paragraph 5 is now: 43 Cardington Street, London, N.W.1.

GEORGE KNIGHT CLOWES MEMORIAL PRIZE ESSAY

Prizes: 1st prize £35; 2nd prize £15.

Closing Date: March 31, 1966.

Subject: "The problem of the married soldier is not a serious one in a mainly short-service army, such as those of most Continental countries and our own in the days of National Service. With a long-service professional Army it creates very real problems of accommodation, movement, finance and morale.

"Discuss the Military problems created by early marriage amongst officers and other ranks of the present-day British Army."

General conditions for this essay competition will be the same as for the 1965 competition and can be found in DCI (Army) No. 171 of June 16, 1965, except that the address of the Army Quarterly and Defence Journal shown in paragraph 7 is now: 43 Cardington Street, London, N.W.1.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

From "The Sporting Life,"
Tuesday, August 24, 1915

Lt. A. C. Sheen of the 22nd Battalion Middlesex Regiment, stationed at Mill Hill writes:—"We should like to arrange Association football matches with any teams within a radius of seven miles from here. As the height limit in this Battalion is 5 ft. 2 in., it is suggested that our opponents should limit their team to 5 ft. 2 in., but the men would not adhere strictly to this suggestion if it was found impossible for the club to turn out a representative side under those conditions."

Lt. (later Captain) Sheen became Adjutant of the 22nd (Bantams) Battalion on July 17, 1915, and when this Battalion was disbanded the following year, he was transferred to the 21st (Service) Battalion, with which unit he served in France and Flanders.

FOR STRIKING RESULTS



BRITISH MADE BY BRYANT & MAY



ONYX FOR MEN by LENTHÉRIC 17-18 OLD BOND STREET LONDON



Abroad
BAOR enjoy
SKOL

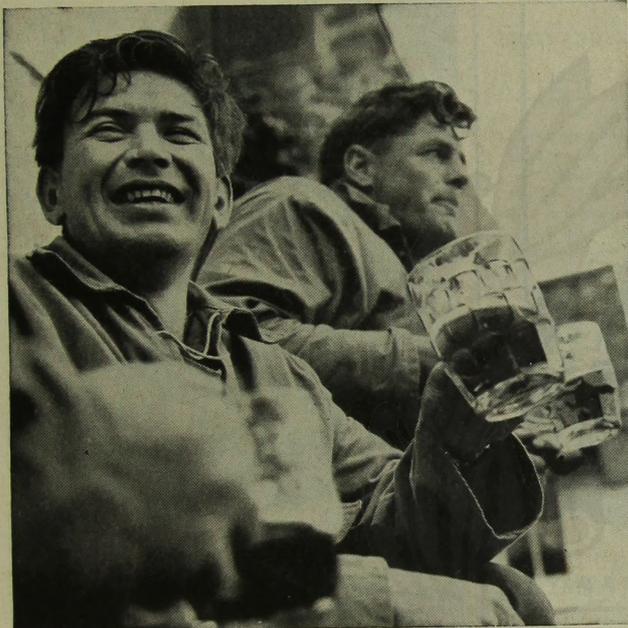
International
LAGER BEER

It's available in cans, too!

At home
the beer the
men drink is
DOUBLE DIAMOND

Bottled and on Draught





A pub in every port

Just brought the boat into harbour for stores and beer. Marvellous, that's how a pint of beer tastes after a six-hour thrash to windward. You know, we've a pub in every port from here to Mousehole.

When you're out to enjoy yourself—
BEER, IT'S LOVELY!

ISSUED BY
THE BREWERS' SOCIETY
42 PORTMAN SQUARE, LONDON W.1



**ON THE
STRATEGIC
RESERVE**
(of every N.A.A.F.I.)

—THE BEST YOU CAN GET


The Governor and Company
of Adventurers of England
Trading into Hudson's Bay
INCORPORATED 2nd MAY 1670



**Variety!
Quality!
Value!**

Jolly Lollies
Aniseed Balls
Nougat
Bubble Gum

Sherbet Fountains
Gob Stoppers
Choc Nougat

Licorice
Jamboree Bags
Coconut Ice

What a range for children



Barratt & Co. Ltd.,
Wood Green, London N.22

Printed in Great Britain

REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

The following is a description of two most interesting items which have been presented to the Museum recently:

Gorget and Officers cross-belt plate of Lieutenant and Adjutant James Nunn, 57th Regiment

(a) Gorget

With the exception of the cuirass, or breast and back plate, of the Household Cavalry, the Gorget (Fr. gorge—a throat) was the last survival of plate armour used by our fighting services. Reduced to a crescent shaped ornament, it was long worn by officers to denote that they were on duty. They were abolished in the British Army in 1830 when many changes in uniform took place. The name survives by being applied to the patches or tabs worn on the collars of officers of the rank of colonel and above. These patches are the relics of the lace and hooks from which the original gorget was suspended.

The gorget of Lieutenant Nunn is that of George III 1760-1820 and in addition to having the Hanoverian escutcheon on the Royal Arms, has the number "57th Regt." on the horns of the ornament. Above the "57th" on the right horn is engraved crossed halberd and a Colour and the same above "Regt." on the left horn. The Royal Arms engraved are those displayed from 1714-1800, viz., the first quarter impaled by the Arms of England and Scotland, the Fleur-de-Lys of France in the second quarter, the Harp of Ireland in the third quarter and again the fourth quarter those of England and Scotland with the Arms and escutcheon of George I.

(b) Officer's Cross-belt plate

This cross-belt plate is a collector's gem and is the only one of its pattern known to exist. Various collectors and students who have seen it agree that this pattern has never been described or catalogued before. There have been illustrations of four patterns of these ornaments worn by officers and one worn by Other Ranks in various Regt. and other histories: these were (a) the oval pattern of circa 1800 showing the three saxon seaxes and the figures "57" within a garter inscribed "West Middlesex Regiment"; (b) the oval 1816 pattern in burnished gilt with the two battle scrolls "Albuhera" and "Peninsula" plus the crown in raised gilt metal and the figures "57" within the laurel in raised silver; (c) the first rectangular pattern bearing the six honours "Albuhera," "Vittoria," "Pyrenees," "Nive," "Nivelle" and "Peninsula" around the regimental number within a star and laurel wreath and the last pattern of all before the abolition of these ornaments. This was a rectangular plate of burnished gilt metal with a star (of Bath Order) silver cut, cross, motto, laurel and crown gilt, oval plate with "57" all silver, the Garter and motto gilt upon crimson enamel, a centre of plain silver upon which are the three crowns of gilt. This pattern was in use from 1835 to 1855. On the Maltese cross are the six honours granted to the 57th up to that date. There are quite a number of this pattern still obtainable to collectors.

The relic recently given to the Museum is oval in shape and of gilt metal. Within a silver Garter with motto, is the White Horse of Hanover (or Brunswick) above the figures "57." It was not until 1782 that the 57th Regiment were given the territorial title of "West Middlesex Regiment," a title worn on Colours and various accoutrements from that date as described in (a) above.

James Nunn was appointed Adjutant of the 57th Regiment on September 6, 1780. It was during the last quarter of 1780 that a number of changes took place in the 57th; Colonel Campbell became the Colonel of the Regiment. At that time he was in New York, as a prisoner on parole, having been compelled to surrender Pensacola in Florida. He was succeeded as Lt.-Colonel commanding, by Major Lereth, who transferred from the 64th Regiment (later 1st Bn. N. Stafford Regt.). Adjutant Nunn was with the 57th until the end of the American War of Independence when many of the officers of the Regiment came from North of the Border, having been recruited by the Colonel, Major-General Campbell, who hailed from Strachur, Argyllshire. (The regimental rolls of 1792 show 16 out of 37 officers and 138 out of 360 men of Scottish birth.)

After the war finished in 1783, the regiment moved to Nova Scotia where in 1791 the Adjutant could feel satisfied with the inspecting general's report which said that the unit "made a good appearance, being able-bodied, serviceable men, in general elderly." The drill and firing were well performed, the drummers beat and played well, the clothing and gaiters were according to regulations, the hats well cocked, the regimental books correct." After this inspection, the regiment sailed for England, the first time it had been there since 1756. They were stationed at Hilsa where, the following year 1792, new Colours were presented.

Although Lieutenant and Adjutant Nunn had returned from the war in America, his life was not to be peaceful or uneventful. The regiment was moved to the North of England, then in a very disturbed state, to be of assistance to the civil power.

The year following, 1793, a party was sent to Hartlepool to assist in the suppression of smuggling and later two companies were dispatched to Sunderland to give aid to the magistrates. Adjutant Nunn was working full out at this time, as not only were the moves of various bodies of troops to be arranged but the new pattern uniform and accoutrements were being introduced, and the new pace in marching and system of drills had to be taught to all ranks. At that date it was the task of the Major and the Adjutant to inculcate these innovations to the regiment. The British Army at this time was in a very low state due to the loss of prestige suffered from the defeats in America. Recruits were difficult to obtain and even the post of Commander-in-Chief had been vacant since 1783. It was now that a fillip was given to bring men to the Colours. War was declared against the French

revolutionaries and Adjutant Nunn had again cause to burn the midnight oil when the Regiment was increased in establishment and mobilised for the Flanders campaign.

The 57th landed at Ostend on September 14, 1793, marching to Menin the next day. They were only a few weeks in the country when they were ordered to embark at Ostend marching via Ypres and Dixmude—places their descendants were to know so well over a century and a half later. On arriving at Ostend, they were ordered to reinforce the garrison of Nieuport and, after a successful operation, returned to Ostend to embark on their transports. Their orders were to sail to Portsmouth in preparation for sailing for the West Indies, but on reaching Portsmouth the orders were changed. The regiment now became part of the force under the command of Lord Moira who was preparing to assist the French Royalists in Brittany.

The vicious winter of 1794-95 caused many casualties to the opposing armies. The Waal became frozen over, the mismanagement of hospitals and neglect by the medical staff caused soldiers to refuse to go to hospital. It was tantamount to the death warrant. The men preferred to remain with their comrades and so have a chance to survive than to enter what were looked upon as charnel-houses, where the living were untended and the dead remained unburied. The 57th were more fortunate than many regiments due to the organisation and foresight of the regimental staff of whom Lieutenant and Adjutant Nunn was a hard working member. Prior to this winter three officers of the 57th had been to Rotterdam for a supply of blue cloth trousers and gaiters, shoes and warm stockings. This supply of warm clothing avoided the great loss of life that prevailed in many regiments. When the army moved to Zutphen, it was written of the conditions, "Never, perhaps, did a British Army experience such distress as this one did at this time. Not a village nor a house but bore witness to their misery, in containing some dead and others dying. Some were daily found who had crawled into houses singly, others contained five, six or seven together, some dead, and others dying or unable to walk: and as for those that were able to walk, it was no easy matter for them to find their way, for the country was one continual desert without roads, and every track filled up with drifting snow. Added to this, the inhabitants were their most inveterate enemies, and, where opportunity offered, would rather murder a poor, lost, distressed Englishman than direct him the right way."

Such was the Flanders campaign with its multitude of cares attendant for Lieutenant and Adjutant Nunn. Since 1780 he had seen his regiment in a disastrous colonial war, had experienced the unsavoury duty of being called out for rioting and in aid of the civil power and now be returned to England with only 400 men left fit for duty.

This was in May 1795 and the regiment was once more quartered in Hilsa Barracks. The regimental records say "Adjutant Nunn, who had been adjutant since the American War, being old and worn out, was appointed to a garrison battalion." This posting is dated September 1, 1795, when he was posted to the 1st Royal Garrison Battalion.

In 1803, the Army List shows under "Officers of reduced corps in full pay" the names of members of the late Royal Garrison Battalion which were 4 Captains, 18 Lieutenants, 1 Ensign, The Paymaster, Adjutant, Q.M., Surgeon and the Asst. Surgeon. Each year following the list decreases until in 1831, there appears only one name, that of Lt. James Nunn. Each year subsequently, this lone survivor is shown under the heading of Royal Garrison Battalion up to and including 1836. Then in 1837 he is shown under "Casualties since last published." Here we have a tough old officer who outlived his contemporaries of the Garrison Battalion, all tried and trusted officers, and who was to see the young recruits of his last days in the 57th go forward and win imperishable glory on the Ridge of Albuhera.

Well may the late Colonel Elgee write at the end of the last century when he knew that Major William Nunn, grandson of James Nunn, had his grandsire's badges etc.: "Major Nunn of the 20th had a perfect specimen of this rare officer's breastplate. It had belonged to his grandfather who left the 57th Regiment in 1795. I only wish that it could have told me all it had seen!" Colonel Elgee, unfortunately, thought the cross-belt plate was of the subsequent pattern as his illustration shows. With Colonel Elgee, the writer of these notes also exclaims, "I only wish that it could tell me all it had seen."

This new acquisition to the Regimental Museum is the oldest relic of the 57th we have and the only item in use before the Regiment adopted the title "West Middlesex Regiment."

Presented by F. F. Radford, Esq.

Donations

The Curator wishes to thank Mrs. Koudelka, the daughter of ex-R.S.M. W. Knight, M.B.E., for the donation of £1 after her visit to the Museum whilst on a holiday from Canada, where she now resides.

Wanted

Any regimental badges, buttons and especially shoulder titles are required by the Curator. The numbered titles, either in white metal or brass of the T.A. battalions, and those of the Service battalions, will be welcome additions to uniforms not now complete. The cap badge of the Pioneer battalions, 18th, 19th and 26th, with the additional scroll, is also a much wanted item for the Museum.

1st Battalion Notes

EDITORIAL

As we prepare for our move to Northern Ireland spirits are high in spite of the leaden hazy cloud of the "Levanter," which can seldom have hung heavier over the Rock than during the past two or three weeks. Our company in Tobruk usually has the equivalent to contend with in one form or another!

We have all enjoyed our tour in Gibraltar and Tobruk but now that it is coming to an end everybody is looking forward to our new station. Publicity about Holywood continues to be good; even down to the rain which, although known to be constant and copious, is alleged not to be wet!

The delays imposed by the Spanish authorities on vehicles crossing the Border still continue, but nevertheless, quite a number of parties, families and individuals have got away to visits to Spain. The free atmosphere of the early part of our tour has gone through and one feels shut in. As forecast in our last notes a lot of people have gone South to Morocco and have found it to be an ideal touring ground, especially for camping.

On March 9 the Deputy Fortress Commander, Brigadier S. C. Chambers, C.B.E. carried out the Annual Administrative Inspection. The main event took the form of a ceremonial parade on which the Queen's and Regimental Colours were carried. The Brigadier expressed his satisfaction with everything that he saw and subsequently gave the battalion a good report.

We have recently changed both our Commanding Officer and Regimental Sergeant-Major. Lt.-Col. John Shipster arrived to take over command in late March and Lt.-Col. Francis Morgan left us in early April for his new staff appointment in the Ministry of Defence. R.S.M. Beale also arrived in March and R.S.M. Dodkins left Gibraltar in April for his new appointment as Garrison Sergeant-Major at H.Q. Bulford Garrison. We all wish Colonel Morgan and R.S.M. Dodkins and their families well. We will miss them in the battalion. Colonel Morgan proved himself to be a true Die-hard during his tour of command and it is pleasant to know that from now on he remains a member of the Regiment.

R.S.M. Dodkins left the battalion after an unbroken tour of 10 years at the end of which he was presented with the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal by His Excellency The Governor. Details of his service are shown later in these notes.

We have been delighted to receive a number of visitors during recent months. A most notable couple were Colonel and Mrs. Archie Stewart who, accompanied by their grand-daughter and a friend, stayed here for a fortnight. They instantly made a great impression on the whole of the battalion and although only here for a

short time, we really missed them when they left. We will remember their pleasant company and stories of life in the Regiment in days gone by for many a year to come. The Brigade Colonel, Colonel Ian Battye, has also visited us, on duty, and Mrs. Battye, on holiday. We do hope that visitors will continue to arrive in Holywood in the numbers that they have come to Gibraltar.

For some time we have been planning a visit by the Regimental Band to "A" Company in Tobruk. Unfortunately the tragic crash of an R.A.F. Hastings aircraft has meant that all such aircraft have been "grounded" and consequently our plans have fallen through. Instead we are now planning to send the Regimental Sergeant-Major and the Bandmaster on a visit. It is understood that the Bandmaster intends to give a piano recital and the Regimental Sergeant-Major a drill recital.

Our weekend of Albuhera activities went with a swing and the non-serious and chaotic all-comers potted sports meeting was a great success, especially with the hundreds of children. Drumhead services were held in Gibraltar and Tobruk on the morning of May 16, and all customary events took place. The Warrant Officers and Sergeants' Mess Albuhera Ball was an outstanding success under the direction of the Regimental Sergeant-Major. The All Ranks' Dance on the following evening was also a great success, in part due to the fact that the hall still retained the magnificent decorations set up by the Warrant Officers and Sergeants for their Ball, a full-scale replica of the Monument at Albuhera Village being the focal point.

Now that we are to join 39 Infantry Brigade Group, an operational brigade, we have an aim for our training and we are busy doing what we can to prepare for some more active soldiering in Northern Ireland; with the hint of a possible operational tour in the not too long distant future. We are expecting, on the advice of the Brigade Colonel, that our strength will rise later in 1966 to the point at which it will be possible to form a third rifle company. This will indeed be a great step forward as our greatest problem is still our lack of man-power. The recently-announced cuts in the Territorial Army and the threat of the next Defence Review do little to help the morale of the Regular soldier as, at the moment, we are left wondering about our future. By the next edition of these notes we will be wiser and, we hope, happier.

The appreciation of the battalion which follows has been written by the Mayor and Chief Minister of Gibraltar. It seems a fitting tribute to which to finish our last editorial on our tour in Gibraltar.

Appreciation of the 1st Battalion

*By the Mayor and Chief Minister
of Gibraltar*

"Though we in Gibraltar are quite used to seeing Regiments come and go it is nevertheless always a sad occasion to say farewell to a departing Regiment. This is especially so in the case of those that have been in Gibraltar long enough to have made numerous friends amongst us, as is the case with the Middlesex Regiment.

I would like to feel that the members of the Regiment leave Gibraltar with regret, looking forward to a future tour here in the not too distant future.

The Regiment's connection with Gibraltar goes back to the middle of the 18th century and it is very pleasing that this connection has been strengthened during the last two years in various ways. Both Colonel Morgan and Colonel Shipster have been City Councillors; 25 members of the Regiment have married local girls and the sporting and ceremonial activities of the Regiment have made a strong impact on the life of the community.

The Band and Drums of the Regiment have been much admired and they have been a great asset to the social life of Gibraltar. Their participation in many civilian events has been much appreciated. The enthusiastic reception given to them by the people of Gibraltar in the 'Three Kings' and 'Fair Cavalcades' eloquently manifested the people's affection for them and for the Regiment they represent.

On behalf of all in Gibraltar I would like to wish you all in the Regiment the very best of luck and good fortune in the future. I trust that the Regiment's connection with Gibraltar will continue and that we will have the pleasure of welcoming you to our City again in the not too distant future."

(Signed) (Sir) JOSHUA HASSAN
Mayor and Chief Minister.



Sir Joshua Hassan

HERBERT CHAPPELL
INCORPORATING
HUMPHREYS & CROOK

*Military Tailors for
over one hundred years*

AND

Tailors

By appointment to

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

22 Suffolk Street, Haymarket, S.W.1

Established 1849

R.S.M. R. E. DODKINS

R.S.M. Ray Dodkins was born in Stoke Newington in 1924 and joined the Tower Hamlet Rifles T.A. in 1938 as a boy Signaller. On the outbreak of war he was too young for active service and was sent home with the words, "We're not that hard up yet!" He remained on the reserve until 1942 when he joined the Rifle Brigade. He landed in Normandy with 32 Guards Brigade and after hard fighting in the bridgehead he took



R.S.M. R. Dodkins receiving the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal from His Excellency The Governor, before leaving the Battalion. R.Q.M.S. R. Waite also received this Medal at the same time

part in the rapid race to Brussels. After the war he remained in Germany and joined the 1st Battalion as a Corporal. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1946. He moved with the battalion to Chelsea in 1948 and in 1949 went to Hong Kong. In 1950 he was due to return for service in U.K. when the Korean War started. He went with the battalion to Korea as the Mortar Platoon Sergeant. After nine months' fighting Sgt. Dodkins moved to England a little before the battalion returned to Hong Kong. He was promoted to Colour/Sergeant in 1953 and rejoined the 1st Battalion in Austria in 1955. Since then he has seen service in Zeltweg and Vienna, Cyprus, Aqaba, Hameln, Lydd, Greece and finally Gibraltar. He was promoted to the rank of Warrant Officer in 1958 and to Warrant Officer

Class 1 in 1961. In 1965, at the end of his tour of duty as Regimental Sergeant-Major he was presented with the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal by His Excellency The Governor.

His growing family caused him to give up his favourite form of transport, motor cycle and sidecar, in favour of a Mini Minor. The Regiment noticed little difference, however, as he also drives the Mini on three wheels! R.S.M. Dodkins married his wife, Veronica, in 1951 when she was a Warrant Officer Class 1 in the Womens' Royal Army Corps. They now have three children. Mrs. Dodkins has always been a great help to the battalion over family matters and will be sadly missed by the members of The Cambridge Club.

There will always be a warm welcome for the Dodkins' family in the Battalion wherever we may be.

THE CAMBRIDGE CLUB

Before beginning these notes on our activities we warmly welcome all wives who have "joined" the Battalion since April, especially Mrs. Shipster, whose husband, Lt.-Col. Shipster, took over command of the Regiment in April. We hope the next two years will prove happy and successful for them both.

We were all very sorry to say "Goodbye" to Mrs. Morgan and Mrs. Dodkins in late March. They were both such towers of strength behind the Cambridge Club, and we take this opportunity to wish them the very best in their new surroundings. We also said "Goodbye" to Mrs. Waite, who everyone will remember as one of the members of the "Top of the Rock" quiz team, and a formidable member she was too!

We have had two "bring-and-buy" sales since the last notes were written. Both were a great success. The February one was in aid of the R.S.P.C.A. and The Children's Home in Tangier, and the one in May was held after an excellent lecture on the Cheshire Children's Home in Tangier. A film was shown of the children in the Home. They looked very happy and bright in spite of their obvious tremendous handicaps.

Our Cub Pack has been flourishing, thanks to the enthusiasm and untiring help of Mrs. Tarry and Mrs. Thomas (R.A.D.C.) under the guidance of Mrs. Williams, wife of the Chief Clerk of Fortress H.Q. We would like to thank Mrs. Thomas, who has now left us, due to her husband's posting to Millbank, London, for all her work. Mrs. Tarry is still as keen as ever and she is looking forward to carrying on in Ireland.

A most interesting tour took place in March when we visited the reservoirs and water catchment-area of Gibraltar. The foreman of the City Council kindly undertook this venture and we were impressed by the size and length of the tanks holding the water. The catchment-area, at one time, was unique in the world.

Our annual dinner was held in May in the Key and Anchor Club of the NAAFI. It was a pleasant evening and it was especially nice to have as our guest Mrs. Batty, who was spending a holiday on "The Rock." After dinner a member of "the Magic Circle" came along and he showed us some amazing tricks, which left us almost, but not quite, speechless.

It was decided not to have any more meetings after

July 15, as by then the school holidays would have started, also we would all be very busy starting to pack up in readiness for the exodus to Ireland. For our final evening we had a "Forum on Ireland." It was heartening to see so many of our wives plus a few husbands there. It was a good and lively discussion and it gave us a clear idea of what Holywood will be like. The panel consisted of Lt.-Col. Shipster, Majors Carter and Peckham, Capts. Crumley and Donovan and the Chief Clerk, O.R.Q.M.S. Cripps. It was good to hear such keen, searching questions asked. Obviously the evening was enjoyed by all who were present.

We would like to thank the committee members: Mesdames Shipster, Carter, Lagden (treasurer), Miles (assistant treasurer), McShane, Partridge, Elston, Edey and Meehan for their untiring and tremendous help during the year. Without them all The Cambridge Wives' Club could not have existed.

We are all looking forward to Palace Barracks, Holywood, and the starting up again of the Cambridge Wives' Club with a big swing. "We have good ideas—we want good support"!

BATTALION HEADQUARTERS

Our tour in Gibraltar is almost ended and these will be the last notes to be written until we are settled in our new station at Palace Barracks, Northern Ireland.

In early April we said farewell to R.S.M. Dodkins who, having completed his tour with the 1st Battalion, left us to take up a new post as Garrison Sergeant-Major



The new Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. J. N. Shipster, D.S.O., at his desk

at Bulford Garrison, Bulford. W.O.1 Beale, after almost three years as Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant at H.Q.11 Infantry Brigade Group, B.A.O.R. returned to the Battalion as Regimental Sergeant-Major. We wish them both the best of luck in their new appointments.

Late April saw the Tobruk changeover of Companies and accompanying "A" Company to Tobruk for the first time went Pte. "Peddles" Pedley. It is hoped that "A" Company can prise him from his office into the sun as this could not be achieved in Gibraltar. Peddles relieved Pte. John Doran in Tobruk, who returned to the Orderly Room as documentation clerk.

The Albuhera sports which took place on Saturday, May 15 saw Battalion Headquarters turned out in force. Major Carter, Sgt. Mick Flynn, L/Cpl. Bill Walsh and Pte. Dave Bailes took part in the Obstacle Race which had in fact been devised by the 2IC. The race consisted of running up a plank, along a fork and across an imaginary river carrying a full bucket of water. One contestant thought this unfair and decided to ditch his water. The 2IC managed to catch most of it. This started a chain reaction and by the end of the race there was not a dry competitor left.

The Chain of Command race was run in the form of a relay and our team consisted of the Adjutant, Chief Clerk, Orderly Room Corporal and one private. John Doran started for Battalion Headquarters carrying a broom which he passed to Cpl. Mitch Fordham who in turn, having lost a lot of distance, handed the broom and his millboard to O.R.Q.M.S. George Cripps. Capt. Crumley surprised everyone in the last lap by carrying his briefcase in addition to all the other items handed over to him! This mass of paraphernalia did not hinder him from making a great sprint for the finishing post. Needless to say we lost the race!

The Orderly Room Staff dined out at the La Bayuca in April prior to the departure of Peddles to Tobruk. The food was good and spirits were high as well as expensive. After dinner we all adjourned to the Fox and Hounds for a few drinks—whilst there Bill Walsh gave us a demonstration of how to drink a yard-of-beer in one easy lesson; much to the disgust of some of Her Britannic Majesty's Sailors who had thrown out a challenge.

There have been some changes in the Battalion since the last issue of the Journal. In fact it is very seldom that one can see all the Orderly Room Staff at once. They are now either on drill, Khud Scrambles, studying the principles of Voice Procedure or Mechanical Transport Regulations!

We said goodbye to Bill Walsh in May. After much talk of purchasing his discharge from the Army he was given a free discharge, for reasons as yet undetermined, by the Ministry of Defence. We wish him all good fortune for the future.

Since the departure of C/Sgt. "Fanny" Gibbs the Orderly Room Quartermaster-Sergeant is endeavouring to carry on where "Fanny" left off. The Chief Clerk claims that he was completely blameless and that it was impossible for him to take the turning at the top of South Barracks Road without crossing the white line.

It was obviously the fault of the driver of the American Car that he got a broadside which resulted in the purchase of a new door. We would like to know who paid for the repair.

The Commanding Officer and the Adjutant decided to have a few days rest and flew to the United Kingdom on June 26 leaving the efficient running of the Battalion in the capable hands of the Second-in-Command and Capt. Cowing, the Regimental Signals Officer.

Somehow the Orderly Room Quartermaster-Sergeant managed to get the Quartermaster to redecorate the offices of Battalion Headquarters. Now, with the walls brightly painted and covered in pictures and signs, not to mention the Vickers M.M.G. positioned at the end of the corridor, one would not recognise the old place. In trying to acquire some lino though, we are incurring a little difficulty.

The Regimental Sergeant-Major and the Orderly Room Quartermaster-Sergeant together with the



Lt.-Col. F. de R. Morgan's Farewell to the Battalion

remainder of the Whaler Team must be congratulated on their efforts in the Gibraltar Command Regatta. They won their heat on Wednesday, July 14, in fine style and followed this up by leaving the rest of the field far behind in the finals on Thursday 15th. It's a good many years since such an event was won by an Infantry Battalion in Gibraltar. We hope they have the same success in the August and September events.

Pte. Brian Perrott, our despatch clerk, apart from his wins at The Casino, is also making quite a reputation for himself as a yachtsman. This season he has had the honour of taking the Brigade Colonel, Colonel Battye and Mrs. Battye sailing.

Mitch Fordham still spends most of his spare time looking for new holes, being a prominent member of the pot-holing world, here in Gibraltar.

Sgt. Flynn is endeavouring to pass his driving test prior to leaving Gibraltar. The next mention he gets in the *Die-hard Journal* may well be his obituary!

P.R.I. And Messing

The highlight of the past few months was of course the Albuhera Day festivities. On the eve of Albuhera Day, the Messing Staff, who had been hard at work preparing for the occasion, for some few days previously, began to produce the fruits of their labours. The lunch on that day included a spring chicken for each man and, to round the meal off, strawberries and cream.

The All-Ranks' dance that evening was acclaimed by the steaming twisting and turning participants as being the best occasion of that sort that had been seen for a long time. An excellent buffet prepared by the Messing Staff fed the four to five hundred persons attending. Music was provided by a local group "The Sound-casters" with Pte. Zeikenopasser producing the vocal.

Albuhera Day Lunch, always one of the big occasions of the year, enabled the cooks to surpass themselves. It included roast chicken, roast pork, roast beef with

Yorkshire pudding and all the trimmings and, in the evening, a cold buffet ranging from turkey to salmon was arranged.

One of the more amusing events during this period happened when W.O.2 Hynson wished to decorate "the Salmon." "The Salmon" appeared complete but without heads. To decorate them heads were required. Hurried parties were sent off to scour the local fish markets for discarded fish heads, the result being some very curious combinations.

On a more personal note, congratulations to the following families, L/Cpl. Thomas on the birth of a son, Pte. George on the birth of a daughter, L/Cpl. Ballard a son on June 18, and finally W.O.2 Hynson an 8½-lb. boy.

Captain Lloyd has now relinquished the position of "El Presidente" and having taken Pte. Flanagan with him retired to "C" Company; the new P.R.I. being Capt. Mallalieu. Sgt. Horder and Pte. Ashton have also

arrived to swell our ranks in preparation for Northern Ireland.

* * * *

Stop Press—The Cooks have at last taken to the Upper Rock and in the last Khud Scramble had a chance to scramble eggs in a new recipe.

HEADQUARTER COMPANY

Personalities

Not to be outdone by Battalion Headquarters, to which we welcome the new Commanding Officer and Regimental Sergeant-Major, there have been many changes in the Company. After a short period, shaking the sands of Libya from their boots Major Pollard and C.S.M. Power relieved Capt. Fisher and C.S.M. Garraty in mid-March. We welcome the new team and wish their predecessors good luck in their new appointments.

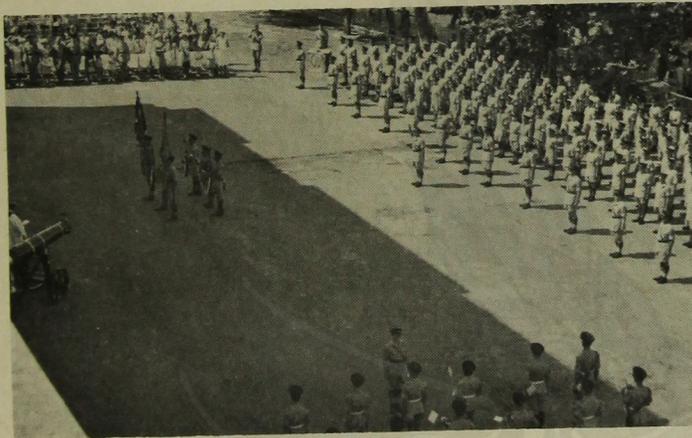
With the return of "B" Company from Tobruk in late April, Capt. Lloyd was able to sell the duties of

duties in the Officers' Mess to C/Sgt. Elston and joined the recruiting staff. Before these notes are finally published Ptes. Rahmatullah (Company Stores), Roylance (Signals), Quartermaine (M.T.) and Hugman (Cooks) will have been released on completion of their service; we hope to see them back!

Congratulations to R.S.M. Dodkins and R.Q.M.S. Waite on the award of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal for 18 years' undetected crime. Also to L/Cpl. Lambourne on his Commanding Officer's Commendation for bravery in rescuing a "stranded comrade" on a cliff face at Europa.

Congratulations to the following on their promotion: W.O.s Martin, M.M., (M.T.), Howells (Drums), Cpls. O'Brien (Company H.Q.), Moloney (Officers' Mess), Terry (Drums), L/Cpls. Toohey (M.T.), Hayes (Company H.Q.), Boyd (M.T.), Morrison (M.I. Room), Jones (Officers' Mess), Greengrass (M.I. Room) and Chalmers (Q.M.'s Staff).

Finally we welcome the Recce Platoon. Though



Albuhera
Day
Drumhead
Service

P.R.I. to Capt. Mallalieu and join "C" Company. The P.R.I. empire was immediately strengthened by the arrival of Sgt. Horder from the ration store, L/Cpl. Robertson taking over his job and L/Cpl. Brett joining the ration staff. Meanwhile "down at the Quartermaster's stores" R.Q.M.S. Waite handed over to R.Q.M.S. Simmons and set off for the Birmingham University O.T.C. on well-deserved promotion to Regimental Sergeant-Major.

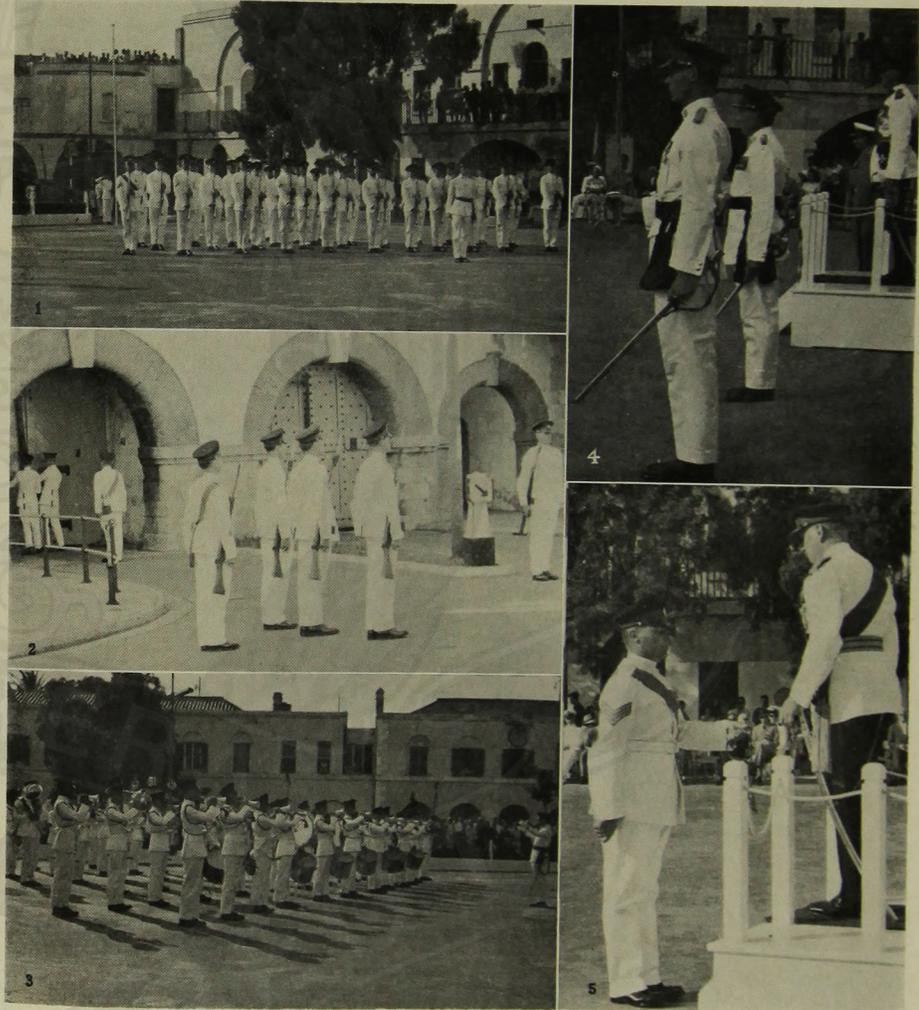
Sadly, we have recently said farewell to four stalwarts who have served the Company well. Band C/Sgt. McGowan has rejoined the Queen's Own Buffs on promotion, Sgt. Pritchard, of the Signal Platoon, has been seconded to the Malay Rangers at a rumoured transfer fee of £2,200 per annum, and Pte. Denyer has left the Company Stores for a spell at Canterbury. Here he will be close to Sgt. Willis, who has handed over his

swelling our number to about 280 all ranks they are a welcome addition to our more war-like element.

Training

Ceremonial commitments remain high and we have taken our fair share in three Ceremonies of the Keys, The Queen's Birthday Parade, and the Services' Display, part of the local Arts Festival. The April Ceremony of the Keys was performed very ably by the Gibraltar Regiment but the Band and Corps of Drums took part. In February and July we supplied in addition a dozen of the Outpost Platoon, The Escort, Signallers, drivers and first aid men. Forty-eight all ranks took part in the Queen's Birthday Parade which was one of the best seen on the Rock; the drill and turn-out were exemplary. For the Services' Display the Corps of Drums not only performed with the Band but in a solo spot

THE CEREMONY OF THE KEYS



1. Outpost Platoon: Commander, Lt. P. J. Hubert; Sergeant, Sgt. F. Willis. 2. Closing the Gates. 3. "Retreat." 4. Right to left: His Excellency The Governor, the Commanding Officer and the Adjutant. 5. Port Sergeant (Sgt. A. Briggs) and Keys

gave their idea of a typical Moroccan Market Scene—probably the athletic event of the year! Two Ferrets from the Reconnaissance Platoon also took part, plus, of course, the necessary signallers, drivers and working party. In addition the Band continued their customary monthly attendance at church and played at various Officers' and Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess functions. They played a large part in the success of the Albuhera Weekend and have recently made a series of fortnightly TV. appearances, being joined on one occasion by the Corps of Drums.

A number of courses/cadres have been held. Sixteen drummers attended a three-week Assault Pioneer Course run by 1st Fortress Squadron Royal Engineers and three more a week's First Aid Cadre. The Signals Platoon after a three months' Cadre were classified by the Company Commander, the majority achieving good results. The M.T. have run Cadres for both Rifle Companies and are now running a Standard I Class I Course for themselves; six hopefuls face the examiners this week (*Editor*—five passed). The Recce Platoon having successfully trained themselves as Ferret drivers and radio operators are now training six members of "B" Company in the intricacies of driving "an armoured four-tonner without brake lights" and operating a C42/B47 installation. In addition, on June 1 they took over the majority of the mobile border patrolling at Four Corners. To add to the burden Education Courses for Class II and III continue. No doubt we shall work even harder in N. Ireland but at least there won't be any V.O.X. notes—we hope!

Shooting is not easy here but attempts are being made to fire at least Part I of the Range Course on the 200 yards range at North Front. The first four-hour period suffered a total of one-and-a-half hours' interruption from the R.A.F. Control Tower but at least the weather was fine and a small air display was enjoyed by the waiting details.

Small parties have continued to get away from the Rock with the R.A.F. on some of the routine Shackleton patrols into the Atlantic. In addition the Signal Platoon sent a party out for a day on board a submarine, H.M.S. *Artful*, and seven members of the Company have just returned from a nine-day exercise aboard H.M.S. *Centaur*, an aircraft carrier. Routine local visits to the Gibraltar Police (official ones!) and Saccone and Speed's bottling plant keep the "spirits" up. The Corps of Drums spent an afternoon in the Harbour on two M.F.V.s, looking very warlike practising their operational role.

Adventure Training

Opportunities for Adventure Training are very limited but some expeditions of an adventurous nature have been made.

Two parties set off to Morocco for a week in early May. First away were the Drum Major and 15 drummers in two hired Volkswagen mini-buses and with some rather smart camping equipment. In one week they managed to travel down the Atlantic coast to Casablanca then inland to Marrakesh before turning round, returning to Casablanca and taking the central road to Meknes and Fez then returning to Tangier. The Company

Commander's party drawn mainly from the Signal Platoon, Quartermaster's, and driver/batmen took the two long wheel-base Nuffield Land-Rovers which though cheaper to hire were much heavier on petrol and had poor tyres. They followed the same route to Marrakesh but returned by the inland route through Ifrane, Fez and Tetouan to Tangier. Everyone had an excellent time, the two parties meeting unexpectedly at a camp site one night near Casablanca.

As a result of the obvious success of these trips a competition was held over the three long weekends in June and £5 awarded to the individual or group which showed the most initiative in getting away from the Rock—legally! This was won by Cpls. Burrows and Cousins of the Recce Platoon who travelled to Seville and back for 30s. each. A second prize was awarded to Pte. Hamill of the Signal Platoon for his efforts touring Spain on a bicycle. Other commendable efforts were made by a combined Signal Platoon and M.T. party who spent two weekends in an English-owned guest house at Benejariffe near Malaga, the adventure being to see who could stay sober longest, and a party from the Drums who hired a 10-berth yacht and visited Ceuta and Tetouan. Their adventure was the heavy sea on the return trip.

SMALL ADVERTISEMENTS

Small advertisements may be inserted in the Journal at a charge of twopence per word, with a minimum charge of 2s. 6d.

Matter for insertion, accompanied by the appropriate remittance, should be addressed to the Editor.

Sport

A vast amount of sport has continued at Minor Unit level. We won the Novices Boxing but lost the Open by one point to "A" Company. The result hinged on the last fight in which Pte. Casey the R.S.O.'s batman was narrowly defeated in a very hard-fought and courageous fight. We later managed to get his conqueror, Pte. Gore, posted to the gymnasium—alas too late.

The football team reached the final of the Minor Units Competition and were two nil up against H.M.S. *Rooke* at half time. The second half was more even and in the last 10 minutes, after an injury to our goalkeeper, L/Cpl. Lovegrove (R.P.s.), the opposition scored two quick goals to win 5-4. In the six-a-side competition we were unsuccessful, both teams playing hard but their tactics were wrong. However, the team is to be congratulated on a magnificent season.

Even more successful were the basketball team who won the League, the Cup, and finally defeated the Gibraltar Police "A" Team at Whitsun. In the Knock-Out Final they defeated R.A.F. Electronics Wing in a very fine match in which each team only called on one reserve. We are still short of the Cup however—it has been lost!

Saturday mornings are again spent on the sports fields, the object being to get as many men as possible out, especially the non-gliadiators! Initially football and hockey at Europa were played but with the change to summer sports athletics, swimming and cricket fill the bill. The M.T./Q.M. team are undisputed athletics champions, the Signal Platoon won the first Swimming Gala and the Cricket League looks like a tussle between the Band and Corps of Drums. Recce Platoon won the Water Polo. To cater for those with more specialised tastes there have been two fishing weekends and full use is made of Battalion courses on canoeing, sailing, sub-aqua, potholing and climbing. Finally there have been some excellent Battalion runs for all ranks. The first three were straight road runs, the fourth involved a climb up the Rock to a Slidex R.V. and the carrying down from there of a casualty, and the fifth was a four-stage affair involving a climb, a scramble down the Rock, a water hazard in the Nuffield Pool and a final "squelch" in. Recce Platoon did well to record the fastest time.

The next notes will be written in the Emerald Isle. No doubt we shall miss the sunshine and the duty-free items but for most, two years on the Rock, especially with the current restricted entry to Spain, has proved long enough. It will be good to get out on some worthwhile training again and sample some of that "Oirish Mist."

Have you placed a regular order
for a copy of the JOURNAL?

WHY NOT DO SO NOW?

SIGNAL PLATOON

Training

Since the last issue our three-month classification cadre has ended and the last week of April brought sweat to the brows of many of the Platoon, but all went much better than the pessimists forecast. Pte. Mick Hutton headed the list of fully classified signallers, with Paddy Ryan and Fritz Smith fighting it out for second and third places, Ron West (an older hand) coming fourth. All these got their "Flags." Of the remaining members of the Cadre of 14, Ptes. Mick Brown, Bob Hardy, Mick Higgins, Mick Reddings, Barry Scott, Bob Webb and Willy Williams passed in all subjects except the "dreaded Morse" (4 words per minute isn't fast enough). We hope they will soon succeed; everything comes to those who wait—some just take longer than others!

Cadre duly completed, an easy period was looked forward to, but no such luck. Sgt. Pritchard, Cpl. Stewart, L/Cpl. Barratt and Ptes. Page, Theobald, Williams and Reddings all took off for Tobruk. They relieved (:) Cpl. Dowsett, L/Cpl. Lambourne and Ptes. Calloway, Hamill, Roynance and Walsh, who returned to Gibraltar nicely sunburned and just in time to get mixed up in extra duties at the Frontier.

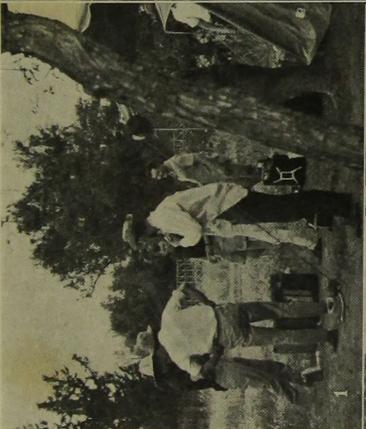
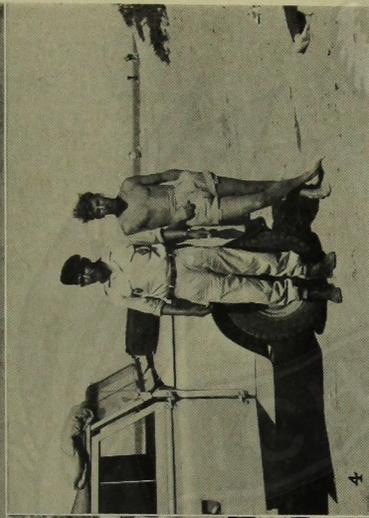
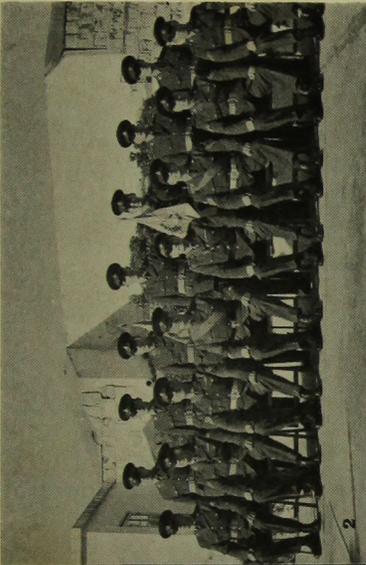
During the month of April we tried (with tongue in cheek), to contact Tobruk by radio. Unfortunately we were unsuccessful, but the nights out on the "Upper Rock" were enjoyed by those concerned. About this time the Recce Platoon was formed and Sgt. Weston with Sgt. Edey had to put their thinking caps on before starting yet another cadre, this time on "Ferret" Scout Cars. These were equipped with C/13 and B/47 Radios which hadn't been seen much before.

A Driving cadre came next and Brown, Scott, Webb, Higgins, Hutton and even Ryan, all managed to be passed out. The R.S.O. wonders whether they *all* had to read a number plate at 25 yards!

At present an N.C.O.s cadre is running; Ptes. Hutton, Smith, Hamill and Slater are all volunteers to the "torture" of "C" Company. This leaves few people left to train, but "B" Company went on exercise and L/Cpl. Lambourne with Ptes. Roynance, Hayes and Hardy found themselves out for the day. (Roynance and Hayes soon found out what it is like climbing up the "Rock" with their sets, shades of Greece again.) As usual the D.R.s are fully worked and have been down to two only, (Mick Gillham and Dave Watson) which meant both on duty each and every day, 24 hours a day, so they say, but things have changed now and Terry Price is back with us after his "rest." L/Cpl. Jim Hannaford, after seeing his wife off to England, had a slight accident, which has resulted in his being temporarily off the road. He is forecast to go to Hythe in September and is therefore "nose to the grindstone." He will follow Cpl. Brian Morley who finishes at Hythe on July 16 and we hope he has a successful course and result!

At present we are making the Battalion aware of the importance of Signals and fortnightly we have Signal Study periods and outdoor exercises, for the Officers and Senior N.C.O.s. Precise, "Green-cards" and

"H.Q." Company



1. Camp site, Marrakesh. Left to right: Capt. Cowing, Pte. Higgins, Pte. Webb, Pte. Smith, C/Sgt. Lagden. (Photo: Pte. M. Ryan)
2. Q.M.'s Department, March 1965. Left to right: (back row) Pte. Beale, Pte. Carpenter, L/Cpl. Williamson, L/Cpl. Chalmers, Pte. Amor, Pte. O'Connor, Pte. Russell; (front row) Cpl. Tuvey, Cpl. French,

S/Sgt. Girling, R.Q.M.S. Waite, Capt. P. Donovan, C/Sgt. Lagden, Cpl. Stubbins, Cpl. Jamieson.

3. The Corps of Drums with their mascot at the Mohammedia Camp site.
4. Pte. Higgins and "friend." (Photo: Pte. M. Ryan)

Tobruk

The notes for the present Detachment consisting of Cpl. Stewart, L/Cpl. Barratt, Ptes. Theobald, Reddings, Page and Williams, appear with the "A" Company notes. This is the party which relieved Cpl. Dowsett and Group in April. Cpl. Dowsett's party, consisting of L/Cpl. Lambourne, with Ptes. Walsh, Hamill, Roylance and Calloway, arrived on January 16. He had previously taken over on December 30. Their time in Tobruk is recorded here.

The first away into the Bondu were L/Cpl. Larry Lambourne with Pte. John Hamill and Pte. Paul Walsh. They went to Area 19, better known as Ras el

comments on exercises (e.g. "A little each day keeps the R.S.O. at bay"), have resulted in an increased interest in learning.

Sport

Sport has been enjoyed by most, and with the end of the football and hockey season and the advent of the summer weather, the Platoon found themselves concentrating on swimming. This proved to be very successful; in the "H.Q." Company Gala the Platoon (and most of them partook) were easy victors. Before this, in late May and early June, the athletics field took up most of our efforts. L/Cpl. Jim Hannaford in the mile, Snowy Phillips in the 440 yards, and "Volkers" Walsh in the high jump, represented "H.Q." Company in the Combined Services' competition. We even had three of the Platoon in the tug-o-war team at one time, under the supervision of Sgt. Weston.

Cricket is the current game and of our two matches combined with the Recce Platoon, we have won one and lost one (Capt. Cowing scoring an undefeated 37 in the last match).

Since March, when the boxing ended with the Opens final and Pte. Tony Casey fought a gruesome battle with Pte. Gore, which he narrowly lost, we have been involved in Battalion runs and scrambles every fortnight. At the present moment we are producing as many people for the life saving competition as is possible and already this season L/Cpl. Lambourne has passed his Bronze Medallion and Pte. Bob Webb is doing so now. We hope to have seven people through the course by the end of the season. As well as life saving, Pte. Bob Cleverly is on a strenuous rock-climbing cadre, but as yet we have no comments. From beneath to above we have also managed to find Signallers exploiting the tour in Gibraltar. Pte. Stones has been "Pot-holing" and of course Cpl. "Sonny" Dowsett is almost a troglodyte anyway. In the air, Shackleton flights have taken Ptes. Hamill and Casey round the Mediterranean.

We are now looking forward to Northern Ireland and the Rucker field; already Ptes. Roylance and Hutton have started Badminton training in preparation. Another popular sport here is sailing, although it may not be quite so popular in N. Ireland because of the inclement (but invigorating) weather. Nevertheless, the R.S.O., Ryan, Higgins and Hutton have all started and perhaps they may get a "ticket" between them.

The Die-Hards

117

tin, a distance of 75 miles as the radio wave flies. Communications from there were very bad and they enjoyed () a fortnight of T.G. operating. This particular desert jaunt was not particularly enjoyed by the Signal contingent, as they spent all their time fluctuating between calls, spud bashing, and cookhouse fatigues in general.

The next out of base were Pte. "Mouse" Calloway and "Big Fat Joe" Roylance. They went with the Support Platoon to Charruba, about 250 miles by radio, where much to the disgust of "Larry," they got through to base "Loud and clear" on Voice. Whilst out at Charruba, Roylance bagged a nice gazelle for the cooking pot.

The next two weeks were spent at Derna Ranges (communications very poor—being too close), nevertheless we ran an excellent bar. (Who's pinched the Church keys) While at Derna, Roylance managed to "prove" his big game hunting, by a pure fluke, bagging a second-class rifle shot after the third attempt. From then on we hardly spent a day in camp, apart from the Control Operators.

The Annual Administrative Inspection came and went, leaving us with a good report on our stores and embarrassed faces after explaining to the inspecting Colonel that the box of tools he found were miscellaneous "Buckshees." Still, the time passed by and it wasn't long before we welcomed Sgt. Pritchard on the Advance Party in April and gladly handed over the stores to him, and so back to Gibraltar.

Miscellaneous (Sometimes Routine)

The Administrative Inspection went off well and no comments were passed (except that the R.S.O. was in hospital). Drill parades however, began to increase and soon most were involved in duties, owing to the change-over of the Companies, Queen's Birthday Parade and the Ceremony of the Keys.

Albuhera Day was celebrated in time honoured fashion, with the Signal Platoon providing much of the manpower for the preparation of South Barracks Hall, where the All Ranks Dance was held. At the dance, almost the whole of the Platoon congregated around one table, where they proceeded to cause a rapid decline in the beer stocks (It is rumoured that Sgt. Weston, almost, bought a round) (The R.S.O. DID).

Social

Many of the Platoon have taken full advantage of touring Spain and Morocco. A party consisting of the R.S.O., Ryan, Smith, Higgins and Hamill, together with Major Pollard and other members of "H.Q." Company, went off to Morocco in two Safari Land-Rovers. A ten-day trip which included Casablanca, Marrakesh, the Atlas Mountains, Fez and Tetuan was enjoyed by all concerned. The only regret was that it was too short.

Other members of the Platoon have made full use of Spain, Pte. John Hamill cycling, Pte. Volkers Walsh driving and Pte. Fritz Smith and others camping. Benejariffe will stay long in the memory of those who

have visited its friendly atmosphere, (you can really "screch" to a halt there). The Algeciras and La Linea Fair, bullfights, San Roque have all been well supported and gave people an opportunity to visit Spain.

A sad occasion recently was to say farewell to Sgt. Rick Pritchard and family. Although the evening when Capt. Cowing and the N.C.O.s gave him a farewell party was anything but sad, we are very sorry to see him departing from us and the Battalion. We all wish him the very best. He is leaving the Battalion to go off on secondment to the Malay Rangers Depot at Ipoh, Malaya, as an instructor.

Another farewell is to Cpl. "Sonny" Dowsett, who leaves us for "C" Company before going to Hythe on a weapons course. We can't have him back; we've already got one with a "B" from that course. Joking aside, he has done many years service in the Signal Platoon and richly deserves a change. Best of luck to you and the family.

Congratulations to Pte. King on his marriage last March and also congratulations to the Phillips on the birth of a daughter on February 12, also to the Prices, more recently, on June 28. Congratulations, lastly though not leastly, to Sgt. "Woggy" Weston on gaining a "B" Grading on the Platoon Weapons Course.

This section would be incomplete without a mention of the married members and their new quarters or apartments. If life in the single quarters is sometimes rowdy, life in some married quarters is riotous. Pte. (Ulcers) Munns mentioned a story about a hole beneath the floor of his house to a few "friends," and said he thought it might contain hidden treasure. The outcome was indeed alarming when one evening, the Terrible Twins (Pte. "Time-to-do" Edge and "Old Soldier" Slater), with that hard shirking, sorry, working Battery Storeman "Snowy" Phillips accompanied by "Ton-up" Watson, went exploring the so-called hole, only to discover that it was a cave. Their beloved wives were left upstairs in the house to chat. What happened down underground and how they came to see the light of day will never really be known. Suffice it to say that on their return (belated), the wives were very upset to see them again as they had resigned themselves to the fact that they were merry widows. As for the "Down-under" party, they too were upset. No Treasure.

RECONNAISSANCE PLATOON

The Recce Platoon is now firmly established after a great deal of changes in faces and purpose. It was initially formed in late January from "A" Company.

Captain Goring and Sergeant Edey have had a long struggle to select and train men capable of signalling, driving and map-reading. Corporal Burrows, with his training in the Army Air Corps, has been an extremely dedicated and useful help in achieving our object.

After a week's course on N.B.C. training, we switched to a three-month signals cadre, losing several men and gaining new faces on the way. The more advanced signallers were put under the care of the M.T. to terrify their instructors in learning to drive.

Having reached thus far, we were all keyed-up at the prospect of an exciting four-month spell of testing our new-found knowledge in the blazing wastes of the Libyan Desert. A policy change from no less source than H.E. The Governor one morning shattered our dreams. We were to remain on the Rock and undergo training on Ferret Mark 1 Scout Cars, so that by June 1 we would permanently patrol the Spanish frontier. We were all deeply moved at the prospect as it greatly affected our plans and immediate future. Many were delighted as they would not be parted from wives and sweethearts, others, who had counted on the move for much the same reasons, had some rapid thinking to do. Captain Goring and Sergeant Edey were as bemused as any; they had watched the driving instruction progress and suffered terrible visions of six Ferrets loose on the Rock's crowded streets. How very wrong they were, the two Ferret driving cadres, run by Sgt. Spray and Sgt. Baker of the 14/20th Hussars, responded superbly. The men of the platoon took up the challenge, mastered the B47 and C13 radios and in two months learned to handle the three-and-a-half-ton armoured vehicles like circus ponies.

To meet the new requirement we needed a stronger platoon and had to borrow six men from the M.T. Platoon until the beginning of July. We thank Privates Kowatch, Bain, Murray, Saunders, Savage, and Tydemann for the excellent way they entered into the spirit of the thing and became very useful members of the platoon. To replace them, we welcome Privates Hall, Hounsell, Hubbard, Moore, Reid, and Stevens who, in training, have already shown exceptional ability and interest.

At this stage, we can look back on an encouraging review by the C.O., the day before our patrols started, and a month of day and night patrolling free of accidents. The success of our mission in Gibraltar lies very much on the shoulders of each man. Owing to our commitment we can never gather together as one. From the first, the training has been aimed at bestowing trust on each man and the response has been superb. We have looked for men who are intelligent, who can be trusted and stand on their own two feet and we have found them. It is no easy task to patrol a strip of ground that you know like the back of your hand, for three hours at a stretch every few days and to remain undaunted. There have been moments of weakness and the wrath of the Gods has been excited but the challenge has been courageously met.

We are all looking forward with enthusiasm to training in Northern Ireland. With twenty men and six Land-Rovers we can achieve a great deal. Miles of wonderful space to move in, wooded cover and open plain will give us all the scope we need to train for our real purpose. Plenty of opportunity for sport and hobbies, married quarters for those who need them and a landful of "Colleens" for those who do not.

When we are not committed to duties and training we like to get away from it all. Cpl. Burrows and Cpl. Cousins won the H.Q. Company adventure training prize of £5 for their trip to Seville. At the beginning of July, Cpl. Phillips, Privates Crookston, Goodman and

Gray went on a nine-day cruise on H.M.S. *Centaur*. When they came back they knew little of the mechanics of that vasty bulk but they had won sea-legs and a nostalgic reek of rum from daily, medicinal imbibing. The following week, Privates Davies, Herridge and Tofts went on a five-day yachting trip to Marbella to broaden their knowledge of the coast and to have a complete break from "the wire." We have yet to hear what they got up to.

The platoon takes a keen interest in sport of any kind. We combined with the Signals Platoon to beat the M.T. and Q.M. Departments at cricket. We came second out of twelve teams in the Battalion Rock Scramble and felt that we were "robbed." We have just taken a keen interest in swimming. Sgt. Edey is an excellent coach and is forming a water-polo team. In the meantime, we are all hoping to be at least buoyant in water. There are some who may never make it and may need religious training so that they can walk on the water instead.

MOTOR TRANSPORT PLATOON

Wild's West Transport Half-Yearly Report

The end of our tour in Gibraltar is in sight and our eyes are firmly set on the horizons of Northern Ireland. At least some of us are looking ahead; others are settling down to married life and are only thinking of the present. In addition to Pte. Dave Adams, who was married before the Yearly Report last, Ptes. Terry McNab and Michael "Barny" Bain have joined the ranks of the married families. Pte. Terry Flahant has had a recent addition to his family presented to him by his wife Joan; it was a boy. It is rumoured that a further addition is due to the M.T. family. Capt. Wild, the M.T.O., rang up the Royal Naval Hospital and was put through to the Ante-Natal Clinic!!!

Ptes. Reg Lampshire and Ken Acton have left us for E.R.E. postings in the U.K. and Pte. Dave Fletcher has departed for civilian life. To replace them, we have had posted to us from "C" Company Ptes. Phillip Roberts and Alfred Turner. Before the next Report the R.E.M.E. team will be depleted by the posting of Sgt. George Peacock, L/Cpls. "Charlie" Treusdell and Eddie Pearson. Charlie is the longest-serving member of the Platoon and generally speaking we are sorry to see him go. To those who have gone or are going, cheerio; to those who have arrived, welcome, you can take some of the duties off us.

Cadres and courses go hand in hand so this section will deal with just that. At present there is a Standard I Class I Drivers Cadre in progress supervised by Capt. Wild, Cpls. McIntosh, Puckey and L/Cpl. Stewart. On the cadre we have Ptes. Michael Tarr (Tiny), Richard Ridsdale (Yorky), Terry Flahant, Bob Washer, Phillip Russell, Phillip Roberts and Ekrem Ramadan. The result of this cadre will be forthcoming later in July. Various members of the platoon have been to the Army M.T. School at Boreham, sorry Bordon, and have acquitted themselves rather convincingly. W.O.2 John Martin, M.M., obtained "B" grades for both the

Accounts and M.T. Sergeants courses. L/Cpl. Ken Toohey wangled a "B" grade for Driving Instructors and a "C" grade on the Waterproofing. Ken was closely followed by L/Cpl. Tony Harding whose luck has still not changed; he was ungraded for his courses. L/Cpl. John Stewart followed Tony and managed a "B" on the Accounts, a "C" on the Waterproofing and an "E" for Driving Instructors. These will be followed in the near future by Ptes. Frank Saunders, Jeff Tydemann, Brian Murray and Geoff Kowatch, who are going on various courses. Before they go, together with Ptes. Bob Wright and Terry McNab, they will be attending an N.C.O.s Cadre with "C" Company. We will see how successful they are in the Yearly Report.

With the coming of summer, feverish activity could be seen all around the battalion getting ready for the summer sporting activities. Needless to say, the platoon was there as well. Athletics started with the Albuhera Sports on the Europa Sports Ground. This was a day of laughs and the platoon supplied a few of them, being beaten in the vehicle race by the Corporals Mess !!! In the Interdepartmental Sports in "H.Q." Company we fairly wiped the rest of them into the ground. The following track events were won outright: 220 yards (L/Cpl. Stewart); 440 yards (Sgt. Miles); four by 110 yards (L/Cpl. Stewart, Pte. Reg Lampshire, Pte. Jeff Tydemann and Sgt. Miles; their running order). We also did fairly well in the field events being well placed in the discus and L/Cpl. Stewart winning the high jump. L/Cpl. Roger Brown, the C.O.'s driver, displayed an unexpected outburst in the hop, step and jump. With this over the Battalion decided that they would have a potter about, so accordingly another meeting was arranged between the companies and 1st Fortress Squadron R.E. The Company did very well but the team had a very liberal sprinkling of the M.T. in it. This meeting was followed by the Combined Services Meeting. No sooner was that over than the Gibraltar A.A.A. Meeting was on us. Sgt. Dave Miles attempted to retain the Victor Ludorum Cup which he won last year but unluckily, he was beaten by Cpl. Nicholas of the R.A.F. Hard luck Dave, but keep the Missus cleaning the rest of your trophies! The three A's over, the company decided that it was time for cricket. To please the Company Commander the M.T. provided a team for a Saturday morning game. Having allowed the Recce Platoon to get 116 for 8, we were all out for 67. We have wondered since why we haven't been asked to play cricket again. With the coming of the new C.O. comes the arrival of fitness runs. Slowly but surely the drivers were pulled into these including old Cpl. George Whitt. Yep! George had a go on the Water and Khud Race and did very well. The platoon was finally placed third on this race. The only person who hasn't attempted one is the M.T.O., who keeps crying, "I did mine when you lot were in nappies."

Trips into Spain were arranged over the Whitsun period. Capt. Wild could tell you a story of the second trip if he could remember what happened after the first 12 hours. But he complains that a black-out occurred. All those who took part in the trips had a really enjoyable time lazing around and drinking.

Keeping up with the Joneses or Beatlemania

Since the Queen's Birthday Honours List was published a certain member of the platoon has been seen on occasions as in the photo and at these times is heard to say "If you can't beat them, then join them. I reckon I shall get a mention in the New Year Honours List." We very much doubt it Dave but there is no doubt at all you'll get a mention from the R.S.M., sorry Regimental Sergeant-Major, if he sees you in that form of dress. Severe reps all round. Photo supplied by Cpl. Dowsett (Bubbler) of the Signals Platoon.

So ends another chapter of Wild's West Transport Report. Any comments please forward to Capt. Wild. No correspondence can be entered into by this organisation due to the fact we haven't got a clerk. (I agree!—O.C. "H.Q." Company.)

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT

It had been hoped that the arrival of so eloquent and knowledgeable a character as our new Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant would relieve the writer of the responsibility of producing these notes. For although we must, in all honesty, admit that it is normally a pleasant and enjoyable pastime, the present requirement happens to fall in a hectic period of employment. It has to compete with drill rehearsals, road runs, signal training, sports competitions, preparations for the move to Northern Ireland and the normal routine work of supplying and maintaining the unit accommodation, clothing and equipment requirements, plus any other job that anyone else on the Rock wants done from catching rats on the upper Rock to constructing life-size models of Spanish National Monuments.

The notes themselves cover a period in which there has been the organisation of the Novices and Command Boxing Championships, Ceremony of the Keys rehearsals and parades, preparation and actual Annual Administration Inspection, Command Secretary's Audit, the Quartermaster General's visit, the move of the majority of the families living in town to Elliott's Battery at Europa, the juggling of accommodation for the redecoration of South Barracks, a Board of Officers Survey and an extremely difficult Rifle Company changeover. The task must be regarded as the penultimate straw, but then, as our ex-Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant proved, "This particular camel's capabilities are greater than anyone thinks."

In all sincerity we are pleased to welcome W.O.2 Simmons to the department and we have no doubt that he will have an interesting and enjoyable time with us. We also regretfully say goodbye to our previous Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant and congratulate him on his promotion to Regimental Sergeant Major of the Birmingham University O.C.T.U. We hope that he will enjoy his post and have no doubt that he will be closely concerned with the University Rugby, his favourite sport.

The sports policy within the department is "No time off unless actually representing the Company or

Battalion" and this has resulted in certain individuals overcoming their normal lethargy and making a serious attempt to improve their sporting skills and ability. They have not yet achieved much success but there has been a general improvement. Achievements to date are as follows: Pte. O'Conner entered the Novices Boxing and gained a walkover in the final of his weight then fought a plucky exhibition bout with L/Cpl. Clements of the Gymnasium staff. Pte. Amor won the 50 yards Butterfly event in convincing style in the Rifle Company versus Headquarter Company match in the Command Swimming League. Ptes. Beall and Amor are hoping to gain a place in the "H.Q." Company water polo team this season.

The department also managed to find a team for the inter departmental sports held by "H.Q." Company on May 22. Individuals competed as follows: Pte. Amor, 100 yards; Cpl. Tuvey, 220 yards; L/Cpl. Williamson, 880 yards; Pte. O'Conner, 1 mile; Pte. Amor, L/Cpl. Brett, Pte. Carpenter, Cpl. Tuvey, 110 yards Relay; Cpl. Tuvey, High Jump; Cpl. French, Shot; Pte. Beall, Discus; L/Cpl. Brett (loaned from the Messing Staff), Long Jump and 440 yards. Although everyone concerned gave their best only Cpl. Tuvey achieved the distinction of being selected for the Company team, but it did demonstrate that whatever the department may lack in skill it has the required spirit and attitude.

As far as personalities within the department are concerned there have been no radical changes. Pte. Russell has left us on compassionate posting to Canterbury and is replaced by Pte. Gurr from "B" Company who upholds the departmental prestige by gaining us at least one place in the first 30 on the Battalion Road Runs.

Ptes. Beall and Amor are busy planning their respective marriages. S/Sgt. Girling has decided to break the bonds of affection and circumstances which have bound him to the Battalion for almost 10 years and is looking forward to a new posting and different employment. Cpl. French continues to live a hectic social life which somehow never seems as well organised as his stores.

Cpl. Stubbings is wondering whether his 11 years' experience as a Q.M.'s Storeman and 18 years' service is finally going to provide a record(s) dividend! Pte. Chalmers has earned promotion to Lance-Corporal and is now beset with even more responsibilities. Cpl. Tuvey having being selected for the Company Athletics Team acquitted himself well, but drove himself so hard that he collapsed at the end of the 440 yards and at present is walking about, swathed in bandages like an Egyptian Mummy, and waiting for his gravel rash to turn septic. Cpl. Jamieson can hardly contain his impatience "to see more of the Emerald Isle," and is busy crossing the days off his calendar. L/Cpl. Williamson is still pestivating but admits that combating cockroaches, with their 10,000 years of experience, is no easy job. The remaining pioneers, Ptes. Carpenter and O'Conner are busy preparing crates and boxes for the unit move. Mention must be made of the tremendous amount of work that Cpl. Jamieson, Ptes.

LYLE & KINAHAN LTD

WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS, BEER & STOUT BOTTLERS, MINERAL WATER MANUFACTURERS



FAMOUS FOR

WINES AND SPIRITS

We have the largest selection of
superior wines in Northern Ireland

BEERS AND ...

"Old Friends"

BOTTLED GUINNESS

GOOD MEASURE! GOOD VALUE!



SOFT DRINKS

"You can trust the people who know"

LYLE & KINAHAN LTD.

5/9 Arthur Street, Belfast 1

Telephone 31512



THE LEADING SERVICE BELFAST-LIVERPOOL



Save a day and travel by our regular nightly service Belfast/Liverpool (Sundays excepted). Enjoy the personal service, travel in comfort and arrive refreshed. You will recommend this service to your friends. They will recommend it to you.

BELFAST STEAMSHIP CO LTD

9, DONEGALL PLACE, BELFAST TEL BELFAST 23636. TELEX 74547



Gurr, O'Conner and Carpenter put in on the model of the Albuhera Memorial for the Albuhera Ball. The provision of this well executed centrepiece was the Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant's first duty on his taking up his appointment and served as an introduction to the intricacies and all-encompassing responsibilities of his job, and the varied employment of this department.

The Q.M., Capt. Donovan, is now marshalling his forces and preparing for the multitude of problems that will arise in moving to our new duty station. He will be more relieved, however, when the proposed Unit Families Officer becomes an actual fact.

C/Sgt. Lagden having discharged his duties as Escort to the Keys and Colour Escort at the Annual Administrative Inspection disappeared into the wilds(?) of Morocco for a week, returned to achieve brief fame by winning the largest fish award at the "H.Q." Company Easter fishing match and has since once more been engaged in battling the many headed hydra of Dockyard Documentation.

To sum up before we pack kit for Northern Ireland, we have had a busy, varied and successful tour which we have thoroughly enjoyed and are looking forward to a varied, interesting and we hope slightly more exciting time in our new station.

BAND

The time has come once more to make ourselves heard through the world wide circulation of *The Die-Hards*. We start our publication welcoming Bds. Jeff Grimes of 6 Blakesware Gardens, Edmonton, now with the Band and who recently appeared on Gibraltar Television playing some of his own modern jazz. Jeff joined the Army in September 1962 and completed his basic music training on boy service at the Brigade Depot Canterbury. At the time he was the best all-round musician there. After serving 12 months on boy service he received his first promotion to junior Lance-Corporal and then graduated to a Junior Band Sergeant. Bds. Grimes plays clarinet and piano. Since arriving in Gibraltar he has joined forces with a local services quartet known as the "Road Runners" and hopes to make many more public appearances. We also welcome back to the Band L/Cpl. Joe Chester. L/Cpl. Chester re-enlisted into the Band as a euphonium player.

We congratulate Bds. Alec Wilson for his keen interest in animals and the general function of the local branch of the R.S.P.C.A. kennels at Rosia Bay. We often wondered where he got to on his afternoons off; we have since found out that not only his afternoons off but also the majority of his spare time is spent at the kennels.

For the spring leave many members of the Band spent their holiday in Spain and Morocco. L/Cpl. Anthony Reide and Bernard Yates spent their leave in Tangier—visiting the night clubs and many dens of iniquity!! Other members stayed in places like—Granada, Malaga and Marbella.

Over the Easter period the Band played at the "Inter-services Football Cup Final" between the Army

and the Navy. We played a fine selection of well-known marches before the match and then re-appeared at half-time with a small marching display. The Band have appeared on local Gibraltar Television playing a programme of Overtures; to mention a few we played the overture "Lustspiel" by Kellar-Bela, and "Orpheus in the Underworld" by Offenbach. Also in the programme were two solos; these were played by Cpl. Ivan Routledge and Bds. Anthony Nash. Ivan Routledge played Keogig's "Post Horn Gallop" and Anthony Nash a xylophone solo, "Two Imps" by Kenneth Alford. We have also produced programmes of waltzes and marches and an all martial programme when we joined forces with the Corps of Drums. To complete the series of programmes the Bandmaster gave a half hour pianoforte recital of music by Beethoven, Brahms and Chopin. All seemed to go quite well in spite of the "tropical heat" produced by the bright lighting.

During the last six months the Band Social Club have held many functions. Cheese and Beer parties were held in the club and on one occasion the Commanding Officer, Band President and R.S.M. K. Beale attended. There were cheeses from Camembert, Double Gloucester, Danish Blue, etc., to Fromage de-Militaire (Compo Cheese). As the evenings are entirely "free for all" these parties we feel sure have always been enjoyed! We also held a Barbecue at the Nuffield swimming pool. A local group provided the music and everybody got into "full-swing." The function was held as a farewell celebration for the Band C/Sgt. Colin McGowan. The President of the Club (Bandmaster McShane) presented the customary departure token—a silver Beer Tankard, appropriately inscribed. We wish him and his family all the very best in his new posting and surrounds. Colin McGowan's home town is Maidstone, Kent.

On afternoons during the summer some of the Band are invited aboard private yachts. The afternoons are spent either fishing off the boat or supporting the bar, later usually berthing in Algeciras then to make haste to the favourite "haunts." L/Cpls. Tony Reide and Bernard Yates and Bds. Roy Abrahams often manage to get a round of golf in before the sun has finally set.

On many evenings the Band Darts team play against the local teams. Here in Gibraltar the Darts leagues and games are taken very seriously and to mention one challenge, the Band Darts team again met the local team known as the Prince of Wales (R and F-Club) for the third year running to play off the final round of the "Dallas Grocers Cup." The competition proved most interesting and was a hard challenge for both teams to get the last double for the game. However, the Prince of Wales turned out to be the victors with a "54" win, and won the cup. They, having the right to keep the cup, kindly presented it to the Middlesex Band Club in appreciation for the good times had by both teams. The Band team was as follows: Bds. Binns (captain), L/Cpl. Crompton, Dmr. Campy, Cpl. O'Brien, Bds. Johnson, Pte. Meeham, Cpl. Holman, Cpl. Morley and last but not least L/Cpl. Kerrigan (reserve). The Band also played a team known as the Astoria (B) in the Darts semi-final of a 1,001 and won 2-1 to enter the finals in which they

had to play the Astoria (A) team. Again the Band team won 2-1. The annual trophy was presented by their captain. This was the only time a military team (services) had won the cup.

At the beginning of June the Band decided to participate in the forthcoming inter-company and Command Athletics. Much puffing and panting, not to mention perspiration on the part of the Band, produced a few surprises, in such races as the mile, won by the slowest member of the Band—Bdsm. Christopher Hull (Flogger). The Bandsmaster was attempting to show us how to throw the discus when the C.O. and Capt. Goring put us all to shame, no comment. Later that week we all took a trip back to the sports field to support members participating in the Sports of the day. The Motor Transport Platoon won the day and beat the Band by 11 points. However, the Band came second with 54 points. Band members taking part were: Bdsm. Victor Johnson who won two prizes (Long Jump 18 ft. 5 in. and the 100 yards), Bdsm. John Wallace threw the Discus and came third, Bdsm. Louis Bradford came fifth in the Hop, Skip and Jump, L/Cpl. Tony Reide put the Shot 30 ft. to come second and finally Bdsm. Roy Abrahams was fourth in the High Jump but had to retire because of a sprained leg muscle.

Throughout the aforementioned activities the Band have been kept very busy with rushed rehearsals for regimental dinners, dance band engagements and such like. Generally speaking the engagements have been the usual run of Fortress Dinners, Cocktail Parties, Sports days and so on, also many military parades (not exactly appreciated by Bands) and a couple of Tattoos, so the least said the better. Recently a local "services" amateur theatrical group produced a play entitled "Wanted one Body." Bdsm. Alec Wilson (6 ft. 5 in.) was called upon to play the part of an Undertaker. We are very pleased to say that the production went off very well and Wilson acted well. Congratulations.

We congratulate the following on their recent promotions: L/Cpls. Palmer, Clark and Crompton. Also to L/Cpl. Kenneth Clark and his wife Margaret who produced a baby boy—Christopher David (6 lb. 12 oz.).

During the first two weeks of July the Band of the Royal Marines from H.M.S. *Centaur* have been combining with us for a good "blow." We in the Band were very pleased at the idea that while they were staying in Gibraltar they would be playing for the Mounting of the Governor's Guard at the Convent.

All Band members are looking forward to the trip out to Tobruk for a couple of weeks in mid-August. On our return we shall be faced again with the re-packing of our instruments and generally preparing for the Battalion move to Northern Ireland.

**HAVE YOU PLACED AN ORDER
FOR A COPY OF THE JOURNAL ?
WHY NOT DO SO NOW ?**

CORPS OF DRUMS

It would be unnecessary to note yet again the recurring ceremonial commitments of the Corps of Drums. Suffice it to say that the weekly guard mounting, the bi-monthly Ceremony of the Keys and the annual Queen's Birthday Parade all took place as usual and that we naturally performed at all of them. (Editor—Very well too.)

The period under review started tragically with the death of Sir Winston Churchill; a loss which the people of Gibraltar shared with many other nations. Memorial Services were held in churches of all denominations, and we provided a group of buglers for most of them. L/Cpl. Barry Mason was flown to Madrid, at the request of the British Ambassador, where he sounded the calls at the service attended by most of the British community. The bugle is not usually recognised as an instrument which gives the player much scope for musical interpretation. Who though can deny the feeling which can be transmitted in a well played "Last Post"?

In early February the stork alighted on the Corps of Drums with a large sack in its mouth. First arrival was a daughter for Cpl. Dave Dawson and his wife Marion, followed two days later by Ptes. Derek Linala, Anthony Cross, Anthony Bowen and Malcolm May. It is generally agreed that Dave and Marion's daughter is by far the most presentable of the new arrivals, even if she can't play the drums yet.

In April Dmr. Brian Coombes set off for Tobruk to sound the calls at a service held to mark "Anzac Day." He returned with sand in his boots and his arm in a sling, but we always knew that life in desert was pretty tough.

By the end of April we felt the need for a change of air, and a party of 20 led, of course, by the Drum Major set out for an Adventure Training trip in Morocco. This trip has been written up by one of the would-be Shackletons on the party, but the editor may not like his work. It was a trip which all who went on will remember. No poetic simile known to writer could express the beauty and grandeur of this country. Come to think of it some of the wine was like air too.

Morocco was so good that within two months some of us were queueing up to join a weekend trip to Ceuta, the town across the straits from us.

Before long the veteran Morocco explorers were back in the uncharted alleys of the Casbah making their numbers with the natives. Some treacherous French explorers must have been in this country before, we think, as most of the natives speak "parlez-vous." If only we'd been here a few years earlier.

One of the annual events which cannot be described as stylised is the Gibraltar Arts Festival. (Quite where we fit into an Arts Festival is debatable.) This year we gave them the usual military music display, but also introduced a Moroccan market scene for light relief. Our interpretation of musicians, jugglers, tumblers and snake charmers was well received by a large crowd. Next year we hope Edinburgh will book us for their festival.

We are all personalities, so it would be invidious to mention any particular member under the usual heading. Some of us are receiving recognition for personality, however, and Cpls. Butler and Terry must be congratulated on their promotion along with acting L/Cpls. Davidson, Lawn, Brodie and Cameron. Long may the stripes stick. (Editor—not a tactful remark.)

We close with our minds savouring thoughts of the Emerald Isle and our ears full of the Band's sweet music from the neighbouring area. They really are sounding more like Peter Sellers' Irish Band as the time of the move draws on.

"A" COMPANY Back to Gibraltar

The last *The Die-Hards* issue left us just having returned to Gibraltar, in January, where it was thought that we would remain until the next changeover in April. At one stage it looked as if we might stay in Gibraltar for the remainder of the Battalion's tour but this happily was not to be the case and these notes again come to you from Tobruk.

The Company had a very busy tour in Gibraltar. The first main event was the Administrative Inspection on March 9 which hinged on a ceremonial parade at which the salute was taken by Brigadier S. C. Chambers, C.B.E., the new Deputy Fortress Commander. For some weeks previously we had all been rehearsing and generally preparing for the unknown "new broom." In the event, the Company came through well and Cpl. Stopp's efforts on the fire buckets were more than justified!

The decree to reorganise the Four Corners Guard due to increased tension at the Frontier produced a mounting duties bill for the hard worked C.S.M. to meet. It was found most economical for the Guard to be on a four day tour of duty and patrolling was constant if normally uneventful. Such reports of attempted Frontier violations as arrived were usually traced to elderly Spaniards collecting firewood and similar excursions.

In addition we were committed to Convent Guard, the formation and training of the Recce Platoon, potential N.C.O.s, Signals, M.T., First Aid, N.B.C. and Cinema Projectionists Cadres all of which added up to the complete involvement of the Company and interminable juggling with Duty Rosters.

As a result of these Cadres, we congratulate Ptes. Thorpe, Murphy, Frost, Lomas and Blackman on their promotion to Lance-Corporal and L/Cpls. Robinson, Fensom, Blackburn and Jones on promotion to Corporal.

The initial brief for the Recce Platoon was that they should all be able to communicate, drive and map read. Inevitably this led to certain changes in personalities but they soon settled down and towards the end of our tour were rewarded with six Ferret scout cars for training. We have left the Platoon behind in Gibraltar, now as part of H.Q. Company, but we wish them all the best of luck and this goes to all other road users on the Rock when these Ferrets really get mobile.

Our sporting activities were largely limited to a platoon scale but we did do well in the Novices and Command

Boxing Meetings. In the Novices Competition Ptes. Barlow, Marshall, Casey, Gore and Jumaye won their bouts and in the Command Competition Capt. Goring beat Cpl. Revera of H.Q. Company, the fight being stopped in the first round. Pte. Gore beat Pte. Casey of H.Q. Company. This bout was the decisive one of the competition and was stopped in Gore's favour in the second round after a very hard fought battle indeed. We are sorry to have lost Gore to H.Q. Company as an A.I.P.T.

Tobruk

And so the Company returned to Tobruk for the fourth and last time. We still have some old hands who have done all four tours here but the majority can only be credited with two or three which is still sufficient for the language to be in terms of "Bound-bashing, Concept Club, Three Ackers Bar" and knowledge of the desert generally and the Training Areas in particular to be pretty comprehensive.

On April 23 the Advance Party left for Tobruk by R.A.F. Comet. This time the trip via Lyncham was done in one day—a tiring business for those involved and which landed them in Tobruk at 1030 hrs. at night to be greeted happily by "B" Company with the news that there was not, and would not be, either water or electricity in the barracks in the foreseeable future. This resolved itself after about a month.

The Main Body arrived on April 29 filling all 103 seats in a Caledonian Airways Britannia. "B" Company were naturally well on time to meet it. Their comments (and those of "A" Company Advance Party) on seeing the three very attractive air hostesses do not bear repeating here. As these notes will be read from the safety of Northern Ireland, it is worth recording for posterity the touching farewells and sometimes even tears from the "local talent" as a Company leaves and within an hour the happy greetings from the same birds to old friends who have just returned with the incoming Company!

We settled in during the first week with some strenuous P.E. training and very soon platoons were cave dwelling at Pilastrino or struggling to maintain an upright stance in "djiblies" on Areas "D" and "19." Once again there was a general air of "We're glad to be here" and acclimatisation did not take long. This was a bit of a shock as during this period the shade temperature reached an all-time high of 113° Fahrenheit—luckily it later cooled into the 90s.

Albuhera Festivities

This year as Albuhera Day fell on a Sunday, celebrations continued throughout the week-end. Saturday morning was taken up with Inter-Platoon Knockout Competitions in softball, volleyball and tug of war. The climax of the morning was an Inter-Platoon/Section tortoise race for which there had been detailed searches and intensive training. It is not possible to record a result as the enthusiasm of the spectators led to "nobbling" the contestants in one way or another.

The M.T. consider that theirs was the winner and put it down to conscientious maintenance and servicing.

On Sunday the Company was awakened by Pte. Kendell and his bugle with an excellently sounded Long Reveille. For this purpose the Company included the remainder of the Garrison with particular reference to our friends the school teachers. After breakfast we turned out in ceremonial order for a short Service in the open-air cinema. This was well attended by R.A.F. families of the Station and was taken by the C. of E. and P.M.U.B. padres from El Adem. Unfortunately the R.C. padre who was to have flown specially from Cyprus could not appear at the last moment due to aircraft trouble. Kendell again blew admirably and the whole parade was impressive and moving to the R.A.F. and civilian congregation.

We then launched into Inter-Platoon Soccer, a culmination of the sporting activities of the previous day. The result after extra time was a draw so in all fairness each team had to receive a winning prize of beer. After the match, the Warrant Officers and Sergeants visited the Officers' Mess prior to adjourning to the Company lunch in the Airmen's Mess. The R.A.F. Cookhouse staff had gone to a great deal of trouble both in the layout of an attractive horse-shoe table and the meal itself which included vast quantities of turkey. We are very grateful to them. Beer flowed during and after the meal at the conclusion of which various members of the Company were "invited" to give a turn which varied from operatic arias by Pte. "Goggles" Brown to the unprintable from unmentionables. Even the O.C. was required to give voice all about Henry VIII.

The afternoon was spent in recovery on the beaches. In an excess of enthusiasm the officers volunteered their services as a complete Volley Ball team whilst making it quite plain that this would only happen on Albuhera Day.

In the evening the officers were entertained by the sergeants in their Mess and the soldiers by the W.V.S. in the shape of a Games Evening in the Concept Club with a "group" to add to the occasion and a buffet produced by Cpl. Anderson, our tireless if large Cook Corporal.

During the evening F.B.S. put out a radio programme on the Regiment in general, and Albuhera Day in particular, which had been written by the O.C. and narrated by him and the 2IC, now rather unkindly called the Murdoch and Horne of Tobruk.

The Tour Continues

Further platoon training followed Albuhera Day and our next big event was The Queen's Birthday Parade at El Adem on June 12. We formed No. 1 Squadron together with a platoon found by 10 Vehicle Company, R.A.O.C. The Parade included a fly past by R.A.F. Canberras and the mounted Section of the R.A.F. Police. (Editor—really!) Unhappily the two horses did not take kindly to the fly past and shied away from the saluting dais where the Inspecting Officer (Air Officer Administration, N.E.A.F.) was standing. Apart from this the parade went according to plan although the lack of a Band was felt.

Our story is brought up to date with Exercise Strike Back, a week's company exercise in the desert covering 100 miles of motoring in the middle of nowhere with a series of platoon and Company attacks, defensive positions, patrolling, etc. The exercise was designed to test all aspects of Company training and administration and it did just that. We were all pleased to return to Tobruk at the end of the time to a cold beer and shower. The exercise setting was one of a well led and armed gang of dissident tribesmen retreating through the desert. Their part was realistically played by the Anti-tank section led by 2/Lt. Yates. The finale was a Company night attack to wipe out the enemy. This worked well and it was surprising to see how mute one could be and the latent talents of many in the moving techniques of cat burglars. During the briefing prior to the exercise, one soldier queried the meaning of the words "dissident tribesmen." He was told firmly and quickly by another soldier that it meant "angry Wogs!" At the end of the exercise before leaving the Training Area, the normal debriefing took place. One N.C.O. was heard to remark that he had always understood debriefing to be some form of sexual orgy and was disappointed to find it was purely the officers sitting round in a huddle.

Next week the C.O. visits us, the first opportunity to see for himself what goes on in Tobruk. Thereafter we go to Derna for annual classification, a further series of live firing exercises and the final Company exercise where we depart to the desert for regrettably the last time. The Worcesters Advance Party is due here on September 10 and we leave for Gibraltar on October 1 to pick up kit and families; and so on leave to U.K. Further details of the final part of our last tour in Tobruk will appear in the next issue so one must not anticipate if only for no other reason than that our sub-Editor would not be best pleased with minimum contributions next time. Suffice it to say that Tobruk is a unique station and provides all one could wish for in the training line and a great deal of interest and amusement in every other way.

Chit Chat

From time to time C.S.E. shows come to the area. The last one starred Marty Wilde. Live entertainment is always gratefully received but it is slightly off putting when the shows monotonously provide large ladies gyrating with bobbles.

We have been pleased to see the following visitors: Col. Morris on his farewell tour and his successor as Commander Cyrenaica Area, Col. Martin; W.V.S. Administrator, Near East; Air Member, Board of N.A.A.F.I.; B.R.A.C. H.Q. Southern Command and various other personalities connected with forthcoming exercises.

Internally also there have been changes. Major Pollard left us to take over H.Q. Company and in his place we welcomed the erstwhile O.C. H.Q. Company, Capt. Fisher, as our 2IC. Lt. Gladden and 2/Lt. Falcke vanished to U.K. on the normal courses and on moving to Tobruk we left Capt. Goring behind with his Recce Platoon and Lt. Montgomery to write V.O.X. Notes and go off to the Support Weapons Course from which Lt. Daniell has now returned. Lt. Graham (our second

"A" COMPANY



1



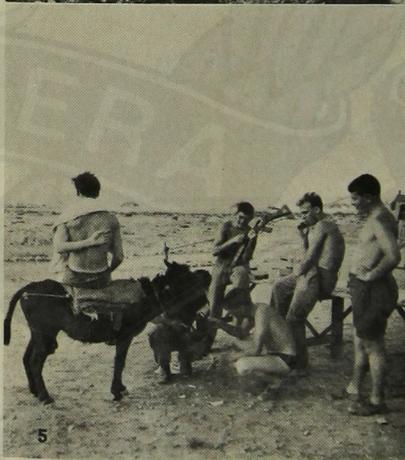
2



3



4



5

1. Albuhera Day. No. 1 Platoon Tug-of-War team. From left to right: (standing) Sgt. Quinn, 2/Lt. P. G. Truman, Pte. Bourne, Pte. Stacey, Pte. Cove, Pte. Petrie; (kneeling) Pte. Osborne, Cpl. Blackburn

2. "They fought on the beaches." No. 1 Platoon on the beach area D. Sgt. Quinn about to be put in

3. L/Cpl. Murphy and Pte. Connors do their nightly radio check in Area D.

4. "It's not like driving my three-tonner." Pte. Kelly, No. 1 Platoon driver, at Area D

5. Pte. Daly feeding scraps to the "Egg Man's" donkey

NAAFI INSTALMENT CREDIT HELPS YOU TO BUY NOW!

The excellent terms offered by this Naafi scheme bring a new exciting range of household and personal goods immediately within your purchasing range.

- * The economical way of buying on deferred payments
- * Your own payment scheme — weekly, fortnightly or monthly
- * Applies to the whole range of goods in the Naafi catalogue costing £5 or more
- * With usual Naafi discount or dividend

Make sure to see your Naafi manager today for full details of this exciting opportunity

 **IT PAYS TO BUY FROM NAAFI**

Peter McRae & Partners Limited

Life Assurance Consultants

Insurance and Mortgage Brokers

BEACON ROAD, CROWBOROUGH, SUSSEX

Telephone: CROWBOROUGH 3284/5/6

Did you know that besides protecting your family, life assurance can assist in other fields, such as education, house purchase, pension, and estate duty? We specialise in the needs of service personnel and would be pleased to advise.

We make no charges

We also have departments specialising in other forms of general insurances which are at your service.

educated officer) and 2/Lt.s Truman and Yates also joined just prior to leaving for Tobruk.

It was sad to see the departure of C.S.M. George Simmons but we congratulate him on his promotion to R.Q.M.S. and trust that a swig of red and yellow is still working wonders in that rarified atmosphere. He was replaced by our former C/Sgt., W.O.2 Jack Warner, who unfortunately had to go home soon after on compassionate leave and has now been posted to 5 Mx. In the meantime Sgt. Redrup had the unenviable task of juggling the duty rosters which gave him the hunted look of a man who compiled the Bradshaw railway time tables. We have now settled down with W.O.2 Ken Partridge in the chair and congratulate him on his promotion. In the stores too, Colour Sergeants have come and gone. We welcome C/Sgt. Plumb on promotion. It was sad to lose Sgt. Lloyd (and his camera) after so long with the Company but good to have Sgts. Redrup and Reynolds with us.

Congratulations to Sgt. Redrup, Cpl. Robinson and Pte. Robertson on becoming fathers, Sgt. Redrup for the third time. Robertson heard the news of the birth of his first child, a girl, whilst out on the Company exercise via the Command net which all goes to show that communications do sometimes work.

Those who have joined the ranks of the married pads recently include Cpl. Fisher, Ptes. Tomlinson, Morgan and Day to all of whom we offer our best wishes.

Miss Helena Hopcroft is the W.V.S. Organiser, El Adem and Tobruk. She regularly gives up every Sunday evening for our benefit and organises a Games Evening in the N.A.A.F.I., Tobruk. We are all grateful for her efforts.

L/Cpl. Norman is still providing a splendid service in the Stores whilst dreaming of winning the greyhound Grand National. L/Cpl. Frost and Pte. Dann form the nucleus of our Gaumont British cine team. Our baby sitting service is much sought after by the Tobruk families and 2/Lt. Yates is continually on the make for scoff. F.B.S. is now recording messages and record requests for "loved ones" in Gib and Pte. Marshall has a nasty blister. Enough of this drivel—back to the desert.

WHY NOT SEND A COPY
TO YOUR MOTHER OR
FATHER?

THEY WOULD BE INTERESTED
TO KNOW WHAT YOU
ARE DOING

"B" COMPANY

Annual Administrative Inspection

Having arrived back in Tobruk on January 14 we found that we had just over a fortnight in which to prepare ourselves for the Annual Administrative Inspection. The inspecting officer, Col. C. A. Morris, who is the Area Commander, first of all inspected the company formed up on parade. After the parade he visited each part of the company. Unfortunately for C/Sgt. Clements one of the Staff Officers unearthed his carefully hidden store of "buckshees." The inspection came to a convivial end in the Sergeants Mess, after which the Inspecting Officer expressed his satisfaction with all that he had seen (including the C.Q.M.S.'s "buckshees"?) and pronounced the Company fit for war.

The start of area training

With the Administrative Inspection out of the way we were able to get down to some interesting and worthwhile training. The Rifle Platoons went off to a training area near Derna. While they were there the sections carried out a 24-hour endurance exercise. Each section had to march to a selected area with full equipment, carrying all the food and water they needed for the exercise, and then set up section camps. Most sections found themselves caves in the side of Wadi Hmesa which provided excellent shelter. Pte. Clarke tried to supplement his rations by fishing. His technique was rather novel. He secured his bayonet to the end of a large pole and tried to stab the fish as they swam past. It is not recorded how successful he was. The exercise ended with a march back to the Base Camp. L/Cpl. Hayes' section covered the seven miles in two hours and ten minutes, which was not at all a bad time in the dark and with full kit.

The Commanding Officer came out to visit the Company. On February 15 he watched sections taking part in a section attack competition which was won by Cpl. Felton's section, with special praise going to Cpl. Mitchell's section of 6 Platoon.

The Company suffered its first casualty during a night exercise between 5 and 6 Platoons. Pte. Herbert 55 was hit on the head by a rock dislodged by a "guerilla fighter." On his way to hospital he was heard to mutter "This isn't the first time either." It would be interesting to know what experiences lay behind this remark. However he is now back with us, none the worse. Apart from falling rocks the other hazard of night patrolling was the dogs. These are to be found in the most unexpected places and will set up a howl as soon as sniff at you.

We therefore amended our battle drills to include "Action to be taken on encountering dogs—adopt all round defence and growl back."

Pte. Lake had an unexpected trip to Cyprus at the beginning of March. He broke his glasses and consequently was seriously handicapped. The normal replacement time for a pair of glasses is six weeks, but a phone call to the Senior Medical Officer at R.A.F. El Adem resulted in his flying to Cyprus on a Monday,

having a week's holiday there, and flying back on the Friday with new spectacles. Not a bad way to see the world!

During the Company's stay in Libya we have joined the ranks of the big game hunters. Pte. Roylance, who was attached from the Signals Platoon, shot a gazelle. And Sgt. Redmond shot a desert fox. Luckily on this tour we managed to confine our shooting to animals and did not shoot each other.

State visit of King Hassan of Morocco

While the Platoons were classifying on Derna Range, 8 Platoon were able to watch the State visit of King Hassan of Morocco to Tobruk. That part of the town which was to be seen by the King was given an amazing face lift. The road was resurfaced, houses repainted, walls were built to hide waste ground, coloured lights were erected in the streets, the national flags of Libya and Morocco were draped everywhere and any remaining exposure was covered with pictures of King Idris and King Hassan. The military escort was very impressive. The procession was headed by 24 lancers of the Royal Bodyguard, mounted on Arab Stallions, and dressed in blue and scarlet. Behind the Royal cars marched a pipe band of the Libyan Army playing very creditably. This was followed by a guard of honour of about full company strength, at the rear of the procession was a brass band which also played very well.

As readers will know, with the move towards the large Regiment, the question of Regimental titles has come up for discussion. When the title of this Regiment is being considered, a strong candidate would be "The Middlesex Irish." Such a title would be particularly applicable to "B" Company. And so it was quite obvious that St. Patrick's Day should not go by without a little celebration. In camp near Derna were 5 Platoon and so were some of the King's Regiment, who also have plenty of Irish blood in them. They all joined up to drink a little toast to St. Patrick. There was the annual bonfire and plenty of beer. As if this was not sufficient to pass the time the party was entertained by a music-hall turn of Pte. Dalaghan and a slanderous song composed and sung by Ptes. Sturley and Read.

Towards the end of March the General Officer Commanding held a tour of the battlefields of North Africa to study the Gazala battles and the second battle of Tobruk. The Company was called upon to assist. Cpl. Cairns led a band of 8 Platoon men to serve the meals on board the L.S.T. which was used as a floating hotel. Pte. Quilter had the interesting task of driving Major-General Essame, the well-known military historian, during the tour.

At this time 6 Platoon was having its share of area "C," a few miles west of Derna. They chose a most attractive area in which to establish their camp. Despite heavy showers, a fair amount of patrolling was done. An assault course was also devised through a network of caves not far from the camp. These caves exercised a tremendous fascination on the Platoon, which was lucky, for on the night of March 21 four large thunderstorms washed the camp away. Since the floodwater was obviously here to stay for some while the only thing

for the platoon to do was to move into these caves. These proved to be warm, dry, and comfortable. 6 Platoon are confirmed troglodytes now.

A few days later 6 Platoon had their first casualty. Patrols had been sent out one morning up to the 400-foot escarpment overlooking the coastline. The heavy rain had made the road very slippery, and Pte. Pocock fell 20 feet, injuring his back. The rest of the patrol realised that they could not move him so some of them ran back to the base camp for help. Within two hours of the fall occurring, Pte. Pocock was brought down on a stretcher and installed in Derna hospital. Credit is due to the Platoon rescue team who worked well together, although it is unfortunate that they should have gained the experience with a genuine casualty. From Derna hospital he was flown to Benghazi where he spent two weeks flat on his back. He then returned to Tobruk and rejoined the Company.

Escape and evasion

At the beginning of April 5 and 6 Platoons took part in a fast moving escape and evasion exercise designed to test their initiative and endurance. The exercise was held in the desert south of Tobruk. The men of the platoons were hunted by their officers and N.C.O.s. The groups, with five men in each, went by R.A.F. launch from Tobruk to a beach six miles down the coast. From there they had to travel about 17 miles to an RV without being caught. Not until they reached the RV were they given any food which they had to cook themselves. At this RV they were also given the location of the next one. During the second day the searchers became airborne, using R.A.F. helicopters to hunt down the "escapers." When a group was captured it was taken back to camp for interrogation. This interrogation was designed to dissuade groups from giving themselves up in order to get an easy time. In addition to the land and air patrols, the escapers also had to cope with the hazards of the desert—lack of water, fatigue, and, most important of all, the old minefields that had to be crossed. The Western Desert is littered with these old mines, some of them 25 years old now and highly sensitive. Luckily there were no casualties, but a few close shaves were reported. At least by now everyone knows what a mine looks like.

The second night involved a 15-mile march to their next RV for breakfast. Great credit is due to their map reading, for of seven groups only two failed to reach this RV by 0700 hours. Having eaten breakfast the groups were again sent on their ways, but this time they each had to carry parts of a "secret weapon," which was sealed in ammunition boxes. These parts weighed at least 75 lb. and had to be carried for eight miles before they could be delivered.

By the third afternoon nearly all the groups had come within easy reach of their next objective. Enemy patrolling now increased and some men were captured, but the majority chose to lie low until the early hours of the morning before they made their final dash to the RV. At 0700 hours the exercise came to an end with all groups accounted for and a host of "war stories" to be told.

During this exercise Pte. Lake was able to celebrate his birthday in rather odd surroundings. He and Pte. Alexander were making their way across the desert towards the old Italian fort of Pilastrino in the pitch dark when they were surrounded by a pack of dogs. They had stumbled upon a Bedouin encampment. They were taken to the headman who insisted that they should stay for the traditional cup of tea. There was a slight language problem, but with the headman's few words of English and much sign-language they managed to carry on a conversation. Just as they were about to leave a storm broke. Mahmoun, their host, insisted that they should stay for the night. As they had plenty of time in hand and it was pouring with rain they accepted gladly. A meal of bread dipped in a mixture of olive oil and sugar was produced. Although it sounds revolting Lake and Alexander ate it willingly. After supper they were shown a pile of rugs which was to be their bed for the night. They needed no second invitation and were soon fast asleep. At dawn they were awakened by Mahmoun and after drinking another cup of tea they continued the exercise, still in plenty of time.

R.A.F. El Adem Athletics Meeting

As soon as the rifle platoons returned to Tobruk they had to start training hard for the R.A.F. El Adem Athletics Meeting. "B" Company was at a serious disadvantage because 8 Platoon was 200 miles away in Giarabub and therefore unavailable. Although the team had only a fortnight to train it disproved all the professionals' theories on training. The company went into the lead from the start and increased this lead throughout the meeting. There was only one event in which we gained less than third place and that was the 440 yards, probably the most strenuous of the track events. A summary of the company's placings is as follows: 100 yards, first Pte. McDonald, 10.8 seconds; 220 yards, third Pte. McDonald; 440 yards, fourth Pte. Stevens; 880 yards, third L/Cpl. Clarke; three miles, second Pte. Phipps, third L/Cpl. Hayes, fourth Pte. Smith; four by 110 yards relay, first (2/Lt. Deakin, L/Cpl. Wittig, Pte. McDonald, L/Cpl. Clarke); long jump, second Pte. McDonald, third Pte. Read; high jump, second L/Cpl. Clarke; two mile walk, third Pte. Smith; javelin, first 2/Lt. Lowrie 155 ft. 9 in.; shot, first L/Cpl. Wittig 35 ft. 9 in.; hammer, second L/Cpl. Wittig; pole vault, second Cpl. Cleasby; discus, second Pte. Read; two mile steeplechase, Pte. Markham; one mile, third Pte. Phipps.

The finest effort of the meeting must be credited to Pte. Smith who was entered for the two mile walk. Having been called forward to give his name into the official recorder, he was then told that he would be called for when his event was to take place. He stood nearby talking to several other members of the Company waiting to hear his name announced over the air. However the pistol went off and to everyone's amazement the event was under way with Pte. Smith still 30 yards behind the start line. However he made his way forward to the start line and, finding the tail-end of the competitors 50 yards in front of him, in true

"Diehard" style set about his task of catching them up. Through sheer determination he managed to clinch third place in a field of ten, having lapped two other competitors. Just to show that he still had plenty of wind left he immediately entered as a private entry in the three mile run and finished a very strong fourth. Needless to say the company celebrated the win in true fashion. In fact, some members of the company were very reluctant to turn out next morning to meet the Government's speaker on Defence in the House of Lords, Lord Shepherd. As he spent precisely 2½ minutes in the Company lines many of us wondered why he came at all!

The next few days were spent in frantic packing and preparing for the return to Gibraltar. But the work was not allowed to prevent us from getting a final swim and a bit of sun-tanning.

Back in Gibraltar

And so we returned to the bright lights and flesh pots of Gibraltar. But really we returned to a life of Convent Guards, Four Corners, and fatigues. On May 15, however, 8 Platoon were able to display their prowess in the tug-of-war in the Albuhera Sports. In the semi-final they pulled against the M.T. Platoon. One pull lasted for seven minutes but eventually the M.T. collapsed in an exhausted and undignified heap. In the final "C" Company put up a good show but 8 Platoon knew who was best and proved it. Unfortunately they never got the beer they deserved as it "disappeared" from a locked room over the weekend and no-one knew anything about it!

Recently we have had a very good liaison with the Royal Navy. In fact, some people who shall remain nameless, feel that our liaison is too good. One very successful journey was made by Sgts. Overton and Dickens and a party from the company in H.M. Submarine *Artful*. The submarine was engaged in an exercise avoiding the R.A.F. Shackletons based at R.A.F. North Front. The party were shown all over the submarine and allowed to look through the periscope. Despite protests from his crew the Captain allowed the two sergeants to operate the trimmers which keep the submarine at the correct depth and on an even keel. Luckily, despite the sailors' forecasts that the Army would make the usual nonsense of it, they both coped very creditably and the Lords of the Admiralty were spared another embarrassment. Later the aircraft carrier H.M.S. *Centaur* came into harbour for a prolonged stay and parties from the company were shown round. After one of these visits one soldier confided "You know, it's amazing. All these blokes seem to know what they're on without anyone shouting at them." He certainly has a good point.

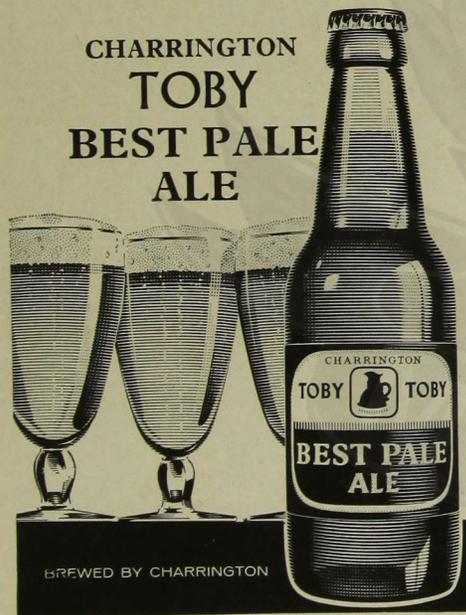
When H.M.S. *Centaur* put to sea for a ten-day exercise, Sgt. Dickens once more managed to get himself on board. He's taking this joint service stuff very seriously.

We had one more contact with the Royal Navy, but this one was not so successful. We planned to use one of their motor fishing vessels to go to Tangier for the

weekend. On the Saturday morning we arrived at the Dockyard with our food and plenty of something to wash it down with. The M.F.V. was very smart and clean; it had just had its Annual Administrative Inspection. We sailed out of harbour and set course for Tangier. The vessel was captained by a submarine officer who also wanted to see the good life of the wicked city. However, this was not to be our weekend of sin. A thick bank of fog filled the straits. With the prospect of meeting a ship going full speed the Captain decided to return to Gib. So by midday we were once more tied up and that was the end of our weekend. We hope to try again in a fortnight's time. In the next edition we will report on our fortune. (Editor: Yes they went—no reports received.)

Other parties have spent afternoons with the Gibraltar Police and have gone out into the harbour in the police launch. Apparently there is much more to see around the docks if you know what you are looking for, and the police have explained some of this to the parties. Returning to the land the men travelled in the squad cars and also were shown over the C.I.D., finishing with a visit to the police museum of exhibits, photographs and fingerprints.

CHARRINGTON TOBY BEST PALE ALE



The Gibraltar Arts Festival was started by a military display on Naval No. 1 Ground. The Company gave a demonstration of attacking a bandit camp. Sgt. Tarry was a very convincing native rebel leader of a nasty looking gang of terrorists. 2/Lt. Lowrie led the "Goodies" in their attack on the rebel camp while Lt. Hubert gave a running commentary over the tannoy system. The climax was the attack with plenty of explosives and small arms fire. The expenditure of ammunition was horrifying but the spectators seemed to enjoy it.

One weekend a Treasure Hunt was run for the Company. The men worked in pairs and had to find the answers to a number of questions about the Rock. The idea was to keep people enjoyably employed for a day. In fact, the first answers were handed in within three hours. Certain people used their initiative and went straight to the local Fire Station where they had most of the answers. The winners were Ptes. Anderson and Herbert 74, and the runners-up were Ptes. Quilter and Read. The prizes were return tickets on the Mons Calpe to Tangier. By all accounts they had a good time, but just exactly what they did the writer of these notes has not been allowed to know.

Personalia

Since the company returned from Tobruk Major Lawrence has left us, prior to going to the 5th Battalion. When asked what he is doing these days he mutters about a study period, brushes his moustache, and stalks off looking distracted. In his place we welcome Major Marciandi from "C" Company.

Immediately he arrived back in Gibraltar Capt. Mallalieu made it known that he had had enough so they let him creep away into the P.R.I. to recover and build up his strength for his forthcoming marriage. We hope that when he is handing out the P.R.I. wealth he will remember his old friends in "B" Company.

In his place has come Capt. Legg. We don't see much of him but what we do see we don't like. He is either trying to force us through our Third Class Education, or he tries to exterminate us in a gas chamber. Even on pay parades he takes most of our hard-earned wages back in stoppages.

Two of our Lance-Corporals are to be congratulated on their promotion to full Corporal. They are Cpls. Basset and Curtis.

Three men have been married since we returned to Gibraltar. They are L/Cpl. Hayes and Ptes. Pocock and Silk. We all congratulate them and their wives.

A notable departure has been Pte. Seatory, who has gone to see what civilian life is like. The best of luck, Johnny!

The C.Q.M.S. can have the final word in these notes. As the day of our move to Northern Ireland draws nearer he is desperately trying to have everything just right despite the efforts of every other member of the Company to thwart him.

After a particularly trying day he announced, "If this company had brains they'd be—dangerous." Let that be our epitaph until the next edition.

"C" COMPANY

There is talk afoot(?) of changing our designation to that of "Transit Company" of the Battalion; the wind of change has been blowing so strongly during the past few months that the only old faces seen here these days are those of the training subaltern, the C.S.M. and the C.Q.M.S. (Editor: Searle isn't so old.) However, we still fulfil our role of Training Centre for the Battalion. We lost 2/Lts. Truman and Graham of the Company in Tobruk, followed very closely by 2/Lt. Yates who obviously missed his recruit intake so much that he had to join them. Sgt. Williamson handed over the "Keys" to Sgt. Briggs, as Port Sergeant, and then departed for the Depot; Sgts. Reynolds and Redrup joined the subalterns in Tobruk and C/Sgt. Elston took over the Officers' Mess. Whilst all this was happening the company lost Cpl. Terry to the Corps of Drums and Cpl. Phillips to the Recce Platoon, leaving 2/Lt. Searle to think of more ways of getting into the Army Air Corps. Capt. Lloyd relinquished his empire in the Regimental Institute and joined us to look after the interests of pot-holing, canoeing and rock climbing. Then Sgt. McFadyen arrived to look after the recruits, and at the same time L/Cpl. Butler was promoted to Corporal, being allowed to stay with the company on the instructional staff. If this was not enough Major Marciandi decided he had been far too long in shiny "C" and posted himself to "B" Company. In his place we welcomed our new Company Commander, Major J. I. D. Pike, M.C., fresh from the A.C.C. Training Centre at Aldershot, and obviously full of beans—plus a very large cricket bag. But notwithstanding all these movements, we have still been hard at work training not only Battalion recruits but other arms of the service as well, especially Royal Navy "matelots" who so often stop in Gibraltar for a week or so to relax. As the last edition of the Journal went to press, the Company were very busy showing the Dutch Navy what the life of a soldier was like by taking them on a route march and a map reading exercise on the Upper Rock. In April we demonstrated platoon weapons down at Sandy Bay Range for a party of Army Cadets, and during the same month gave a fortnight's training to two University cadets. There are some occasions when we have other work to do, of course, and soldiers awaiting training did a very good job of preparing the Governor's Ball in the Convent on May 1. Regarding actual training, there have been two recruit intakes trained during this period; one intake distinguishing itself by managing to get Major Marciandi "shot" during their final exercise. At the moment the Company is preparing to start a Potential N.C.O.s Cadre and two recruit intakes at the same time.

In the sporting field 2/Lt. Searle still swims under water and plays polo; Ptes. Harper and Perks row with the R.S.M. every afternoon in the harbour, while Cpl. Shearing, Pte. Williams and Major Pike find time to play cricket either in the nets or down at Europa. Major Pike plays for the Army, Combined Services and has been seen in a Sergeants' Mess team as well—no doubt enjoying every minute of it. We do not see much of Capt. Lloyd these days as he is always scrambling

up the Rock face or down in the depths of the Lower St. Michael's Cave. In the form of "extra-mural activity" a very successful day trip to Tangier was arranged over the Whitsun holiday period for the recruits and Permanent Staff, whilst the C.S.M. won the very special title of "Housewife of the Week" in a competition in the N.A.A.F.I. But that is another story! As a prelude to a Battalion khud scramble, Capt. Lloyd decided to take the C.S.M. and Major Pike down a dismal, damp, dreary shaft in the centre of the rock to see if a rifle could be fired on a small stretch of sand called Governor's Beach. But unfortunately the tide was in at the time, and anyway, it was decided that soldiers would not have the time to qualify as pot-holders before they could fire a rifle—much to the Company Commander's relief it should be added.

"C" Company still looks after the unit Cinema, the unit Ammunition Stores, the two 30 metre ranges in Gibraltar, and now, even the administration of the Sports Store comes under our all-embracing wing. The permanent staff take part in ceremonial parades with the C.S.M., Sgt. Briggs and Pte. Harper assisting in securing the Fortress every three months. Pte. Burns finally got to the church on time; Pte. Glover is getting engaged to be married in September, and Pte. Perks may well be going to the "dogs" when we get to Northern Ireland. But we hope that there will be many new recruits waiting for us when we get there. In conclusion, special congratulations to Sgt. Rogers on his promotion and the C.Q.M.S., C/Sgt. Bill Smith, on his award of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. As we go to press Sgt. Dickens and Cpl. Curtis have come to us on temporary loan from "B" Company and Cpl. Dowsett from "H.Q." Company to assist as instructors. So no doubt we will, as usual, be able to carry out impossible tasks immediately, miracles having to wait just a trifle longer. . . .

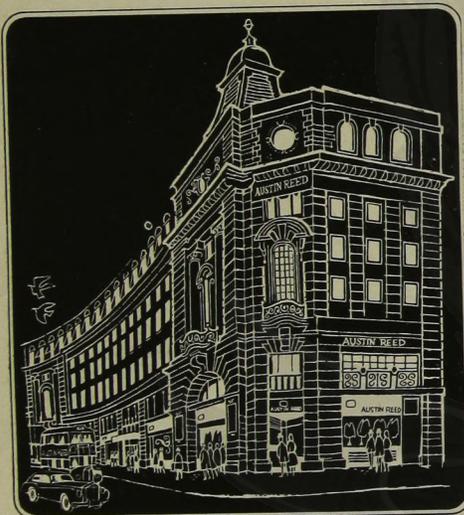
C/Sgt. Smith

The Company Q.M.S.—C/Sgt. William Nathaniel Smith—hails from Dukinfield in Cheshire. Bill was called up in November 1946 but because of the terrible winter that year did not actually join the colours until February 1947. Starting his service with the General Service Corps, Bill spent a brief period with the King's Own Royal Regiment before joining the 1st Battalion at Iserlohn in May 1947. Apart from a tour with the Junior Leader's Regiment at Plymouth, he has served with the 1st Battalion ever since.

During the time the 1st Battalion carried out London public duties in 1949, Bill was N.C.O. conducting reliefs at Buckingham Palace guard on the night the Prince of Wales was born; he admits to drinking a "few" that evening to celebrate the happy event. Posted to "D" Company for the Korean campaign Bill was one of the first "Die-Hards" to be wounded in action. Sent back to Japan for treatment he was subsequently evacuated to the United Kingdom.

During his service in Austria, Bill met his wife, Ingeborg, and in true regimental tradition decided to get married on Albuhera day 1955. As Bill says, there

The finest man's shop in the world



AUSTIN REED

Of Regent Street

Also at 33 Donegal Place, Belfast

is never far about forgetting his wedding anniversary.

Promoted to Sergeant in 1951 and Colour Sergeant in 1960, Bill has done two tours with "A" Company in Tobruk, before joining "C" Company earlier this year. His great sporting love is rugby football, although Bill can be seen taking part in other sports, except cricket (which he usually watches however). But even if most of his spare time is spent relaxing on the Gibraltar beaches with his wife and two children, Bill sometimes



C/Sgt. W. Smith, awarded Long Service and Good Conduct Medal

finds time to do a spot of angling—catching his supper he calls it. Bill is also reputed to mix the finest and strongest cocktail yet known in the Sergeants' Mess—at least C.S.M. Cakebread thinks so.

All ranks congratulate our "colour-bundle" on his recent award of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal and wish Bill and Ingeborg much happiness for the future.

Have you made a note of the dates?

**See Forthcoming Events
on the inside front cover**

OFFICERS MESS

"Nunc dimittis"—But as we approach the end of our stay in Gibraltar the pace quickens rather than slows. By the time these notes appear in print we shall have been through a hectic period of mess activity—and the past few months have seemed very full. In addition to our regular monthly guest nights and Sunday curry lunches we have had some more unusual functions.

On March 2 we held a Ladies Guest Night which followed the normal pattern for a Regimental Dinner except that the music played had a more romantic flavour than usual, and the party moved to the Cellar night club for dancing to round the evening off (Editor: morning.)

On March 22 we had a film show in the mess after dinner. Major John Moore produced his projecting equipment to show firstly, the final edition of the 1964 Peninsula Battlefield Tour, and also his own film of "A" Company's latest tour in Tobruk. Both were excellent.



**Albuhera Day—On the
Patio**

From left to right: R.S.M. K. Beale, C/Sgt. D. Lagden, R.Q.M.S. G. Simmons, Capt. P. Donovan, Major J. S. B. Pollard

A special Guest Night was held on March 23 to dine out Lt.-Col. Francis Morgan at the end of his tour of Command. Only a few special guests were invited to this dinner, but we were very pleased to welcome also Majors John Crompton and Bill Paget, respectively Second-in-Command and Quartermaster of 1st Battalion The Worcestershire Regiment, who were staying with us for a short and unofficial reconnaissance of their station when they relieve us in September.

On March 25 a private Cocktail party was held to say goodbye to Francis and Elenid Morgan, a sad occasion for us all. We hope that the Regimental Drums presented to him by the officers of the Battalion will always remind Col. Francis of a happy period in his and our service. We wish him and his family all happiness in the future.

The Albuhera period was celebrated with a due mixture of solemnity and hilarity. On Friday May 14, we were entertained by the Warrant Officers and

Sergeants to a Ball which must surely go down in Regimental records as one of the most splendid of a long series of Albuhera Balls. On the Saturday morning we were awakened as usual by the Corps of Drums at Reveille. Then, not quite usual, the Officers, still mostly in pyjamas, took over the drums and marched to South Barracks playing what might most charitably be called a musical extravaganza. Later in the morning, at a light hearted Sports Meeting, the officers pulled every other team off their feet in a tug-of-war competition—with Major Jones as anchor man, and several other weighty officers taking part, many thought that we had an unfair advantage. The remaining Albuhera celebrations followed a more traditional pattern.

On Saturday, June 19, we invited Naval Officers from H.M.S. Centaur, Yarmouth, Russell, Crofton, and Hardy, to lunchtime drinks. We hope to see more of H.M.S. Yarmouth in our next station as her home port is Belfast.

An innovation is the Regimental Dining Club, which has been started to enable distinguished guests to speak

to us and answer questions on any topic they choose. The first of these was held on July 6 when the guest was the Hon. Sir Joshua Hassan, C.B.E., M.V.O., Q.C., J.P., First Minister and Mayor of Gibraltar. This was a most entertaining and stimulating evening which augurs well for future meetings. Sir Joshua did not at all mind the somewhat barbed questions put to him and acquitted himself with passion and dexterity.

Visitors have been few; Lt.-Col. Archie Stewart's holiday, accompanied by Mrs. Stewart and their grand-daughter (Editor: and friend) was a memorable occasion for the mess as for the whole Battalion. Col. Archie dined with us on June 16, and entertained us with some vivid recollections of Regimental life going back as far as 1899 when he joined from Sandhurst. The Colonel and his family attended a Curry Lunch on June 20, and before leaving inspected the Mess Silver. He was delighted to find the silver goblet he presented over half a century ago.

Other visitors have been Col. Ian Batty, Lt.-Col. Stevenson Hamilton (the deputy O.I.C. Infantry Records), Peter Packham, on yet another period of leave, and Capt. Philippe Patricot of the French Army, who greatly added to the gaiety of the Mess during his *exchange au pair* visit.

We welcome Lt.-Col. John Shipster and congratulate him on his appointment to command. Mrs. Shipster and Caroline are happily installed, and Peter, John and Michael are making the most of their school holiday visits.

Others returning to the Battalion have been Major David Pike who left his family in England, but is fully equipped for a hard summer's cricket, and Capt. Mike Legg, who is so busy studying for the Staff College Examination that we do not see much of him, though we hear his typewriter going at all hours. 2/Lt. Simon Yates joined in February on a Short Service Commission.



Albuhera Day—On the Patio

From left to right: Lt.-Col. J. N. Shipster, C/Sgt. W. Smith, Capt. G. Goring, Sgt. B. Edey

The Mess Staff has changed considerably. After a long and outstandingly successful tour C/Sgt. Willis has gone to an appointment in U.K. His departure was hastened by his son's serious illness, and we wish him a quick and complete recovery. C/Sgt. Elston has taken over and we wish him all success. Pte. Walters has returned to civilian life, and has been replaced by Pte. Heneghan.

Silver

We were interested to hear recently from Major Bill Heywood at R.H.Q. that in delving through an old Property Book he had come across the names of the models for the four figures around the 3rd Battalion Centrepiece, which is our most splendid piece of silver.



The Mess Staff in the Kellar Bar

From left to right: Pte. Heneghan, L/Cpl. Jones, Ptes. Constance and Hassock

They were Major B. M. Large, Sgt. S. J. Purcell, Dmr. Bartlett and Pte. Dan Carr. These names are now recorded in our property book.

We decided that on our departure from this station we should do something to mark the hospitality of the R.A.F. Officers at Tobruk and El Adem to our Rifle companies there. A handsome silver cigarette box, suitably inscribed, has been obtained and presented. The officers serving with the Battalion all subscribed to this. We also wrote to all those who had served in Tobruk but have now left the Battalion and they have responded very generously in helping towards the cost of this presentation.

THE DIE-HARDS

**IT IS TO YOUR ADVANTAGE TO
BECOME A REGULAR SUBSCRIBER
TO THE JOURNAL**

**IT KEEPS YOU IN TOUCH WITH
THE REGIMENT AND YOUR OLD
FRIENDS. WHY NOT PLACE AN
ORDER FOR A COPY NOW**

WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS MESS

During the past six months we have had a "facelift" in the Mess and have moved the bar and ante-room. The new bar is now situated on the ground floor (although still well above sea level) and a new ante-room has been made adjacent to the new bar. The original bar and ante-room upstairs have been turned into a dining room and TV. and games room respectively. The Patio outside the bar has been enlarged and there is no doubt that it has that continental look; with outside tables and umbrellas, where all members can sit down, enjoy their drinks and see a real "buena vista" of the town and Bay of Gibraltar below. Now that the hot nights are here it is a wonderful relaxing spot, beautifully lit with fairy lights of different colours. The designer certainly hit the "jackpot" and we had some wonderful help from the local clerk of works in this project.

An innovation during this period has been a monthly Entertainment Committee. Each monthly committee is now striving to outshine the previous one—and how well they are succeeding. There is no doubt that the Mess has been really moving along since last March. As we went to press for the last edition we were very busy preparing for a farewell Cocktail Party given in honour of Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Morgan. This proved a huge success with some very good cocktails being mixed by C.S.M. Arthur Cakebread and C/Sgt. Bill Smith with the odd bit of assistance from Sgts. Jim Dickens and Roy Scott. Everyone had a very enjoyable time and it was a great pleasure for all members to talk to the outgoing Commanding Officer and Mrs. Morgan. The wives of members were especially pleased to be able to say a thank you to Mrs. Morgan for all the sterling work that she had put into the Cambridge Club, during the past three years.

It was once again farewell in April when we dined out R.S.M. R. E. Dodkins and welcomed at the same time our new R.S.M., W.O.1 K. E. Beale, fresh from B.A.O.R. At the after dinner speeches, Bandmaster John McShane spoke a few words of praise to R.S.M. Dodkins and on behalf of all members, presented him with a suitably engraved silver tray. R.S.M. Dodkins, not to be outdone, spoke of his happy days with the Regiment, especially those in the 1st Battalion Sergeants Mess and presented to us an engraved silver dinner gong.

By the second week in April the new Committee was in full swing and gaily presented a "Race Meeting." This was certainly full of life and vigour. Before the racing began there was a grand auction of horses by auctioneer C/Sgt. Mick Elston and a very expertly run "tote" under the management of Sgt. "Honest" Tony Briggs with the Bookies Bag being held by Jim Dickens. One of the highlights of the evening was a race in which the wooden horses were replaced by members—and ladies were roped in as jockeys. It was great stuff to see Bill Smith with a jockey a trifle overweight and C.S.M. Bob Power as a last minute substitute—and he subsequently won the race whilst a horse called "Hot Cross Bun" was left at the start—obviously a case of being "nobbled." With Mick Elston's experience (no doubt gained at Ascot) the evening was a roaring success.

For a change it was decided to hold a straight "Tombola" session with many outside visitors as well as many members and their wives present. Once again the Committee were working hard, especially some sterling "Clickety-Clicks" and "Kelly's Eye" from Tony Briggs. Between the numbers we had very good dance music played by a very good local quintet and even the floor boards creaked and kept in time with the dancing beat. We are told that the Band Sergeant was tapping his feet and snapping his fingers to the "twist."

On April 24 it was Cocktail time again. This time the excuse was to say goodbye to R.Q.M.S. Dick Waite who was leaving to take up an appointment at Birmingham University O.T.C. as R.S.M. This was a terrific evening. Once again Bill Smith provided the mixtures and six gallon containers as mixing bowls. There were no empty glasses to be found anywhere. A great deal of work was put in to this function and our special thanks must go to W.O.2 Stan Hynson for his excellent buffet.

"Fix yourself up with suitable duds" was the order of the day for Saturday, May 1. Yes, it was fancy dress time. This was a hilarious party with some great laughs right from the start. Sgt. Michael Flynn arrived dressed in old-time night attire, complete with candle and bedroom furniture, whilst Convict 99 in the shape of C.S.M.I. Stan Meadows made his entrance with a genuine ball and chain and his wife dressed as a local policewoman. Sgt. Jimmy Redmond without really trying entered the door as a Mexican—complete with sombrero. Count Dracula and the lady Vampire then arrived and we had to try hard to recognise Sgt. Paddy Mills and his wife—whilst Sgt. Edey came in as a Welsh witch complete with Bass broomstick. The prize for the best couple went to Sgt. David Miles and his wife for their "Tarzan and Jane" whilst a special prize went to Sgt. Tony Brumwell dressed as—yes you've guessed it—a glamorous blonde. The most spectacular entrance was that of the R.S.M. dressed as an Indian brave—complete with war paint. Above the great fun and laughter we had the dance band section of the Regimental Band to play for us. Now that the evenings were getting warmer we held a "Barbecue" on the newly decorated Patio. Great stuff this—there was dancing inside—waiters serving drinks under the umbrellas and some delectable dishes being cooked just off the porch. It was the new committee's turn this time and our thanks for this entertainment go to Drum Major Percy Howells and his team.

Now we come to the Albuhera weekend—and what a bumper this turned out to be. On Friday 14 we held our Albuhera Ball. Some 200 guests were invited and the local South Barracks Hall was transformed into a beautiful setting for this ball. The ceilings and walls were gaily decorated with coloured parachutes and crepe paper, with plants and tropical leaves everywhere. All the Regimental silver was displayed around the Ballroom and the tables were lit with silver candelabra. The centrepiece was a replica of the memorial at La Albuhera in Spain; floodlit and with the Colours displayed it was a wonderful sight. The Regimental Dance Band played till the early hours and we were also entertained by the

Other visitors have been Col. Ian Batty, Lt.-Col. Stevenson Hamilton (the deputy O.I.C. Infantry Records), Peter Packham, on yet another period of leave, and Capt. Philippe Patricot of the French Army, who greatly added to the gaiety of the Mess during his *échange au pair* visit.

We welcome Lt.-Col. John Shipster and congratulate him on his appointment to command. Mrs. Shipster and Caroline are happily installed, and Peter, John and Michael are making the most of their school holiday visits.

Others returning to the Battalion have been Major David Pike who left his family in England, but is fully equipped for a hard summer's cricket, and Capt. Mike Legg, who is so busy studying for the Staff College Examination that we do not see much of him, though we hear his typewriter going at all hours. 2/Lt. Simon Yates joined in February on a Short Service Commission.



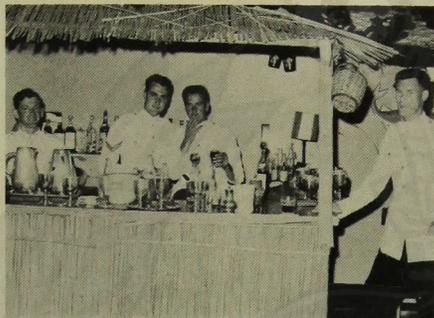
Albuhera Day—On the Patio

From left to right: Lt.-Col. J. N. Shipster, C/Sgt. W. Smith, Capt. G. Goring, Sgt. B. Edey

The Mess Staff has changed considerably. After a long and outstandingly successful tour C/Sgt. Willis has gone to an appointment in U.K. His departure was hastened by his son's serious illness, and we wish him a quick and complete recovery. C/Sgt. Elston has taken over and we wish him all success. Pte. Walters has returned to civilian life, and has been replaced by Pte. Henegan.

Silver

We were interested to hear recently from Major Bill Heywood at R.H.Q. that in delving through an old Property Book he had come across the names of the models for the four figures around the 3rd Battalion Centrepiece, which is our most splendid piece of silver.



The Mess Staff in the Kellar Bar

From left to right: Pte. Henegan, L/Cpl. Jones, Ptes. Constance and Hassock

They were Major B. M. Large, Sgt. S. J. Purcell, Dmr. Bartlett and Pte. Dan Carr. These names are now recorded in our property book.

We decided that on our departure from this station we should do something to mark the hospitality of the R.A.F. Officers at Tobruk and El Adem to our Rifle companies there. A handsome silver cigarette box, suitably inscribed, has been obtained and presented. The officers serving with the Battalion all subscribed to this. We also wrote to all those who had served in Tobruk but have now left the Battalion and they have responded very generously in helping towards the cost of this presentation.

THE DIE-HARDS

IT IS TO YOUR ADVANTAGE TO
BECOME A REGULAR SUBSCRIBER
TO THE JOURNAL
IT KEEPS YOU IN TOUCH WITH
THE REGIMENT AND YOUR OLD
FRIENDS. WHY NOT PLACE AN
ORDER FOR A COPY NOW

WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS MESS

During the past six months we have had a "facelift" in the Mess and have moved the bar and ante-room. The new bar is now situated on the ground floor (although still well above sea level) and a new ante-room has been made adjacent to the new bar. The original bar and ante-room upstairs have been turned into a dining room and TV and games room respectively. The Patio outside the bar has been enlarged and there is no doubt that it has that continental look; with outside tables and umbrellas, where all members can sit down, enjoy their drinks and see a real "buena vista" of the town and Bay of Gibraltar below. Now that the hot nights are here it is a wonderful relaxing spot, beautifully lit with fairy lights of different colours. The designer certainly hit the "jackpot" and we had some wonderful help from the local clerk of works in this project.

An innovation during this period has been a monthly Entertainment Committee. Each monthly committee is now striving to outshine the previous one—and how well they are succeeding. There is no doubt that the Mess has been really moving along since last March. As we went to press for the last edition we were very busy preparing for a farewell Cocktail Party given in honour of Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Morgan. This proved a huge success with some very good cocktails being mixed by C.S.M. Arthur Cakebread and C/Sgt. Bill Smith with the odd bit of assistance from Sgts. Jim Dickens and Roy Scott. Everyone had a very enjoyable time and it was a great pleasure for all members to talk to the outgoing Commanding Officer and Mrs. Morgan. The wives of members were especially pleased to be able to say a thank you to Mrs. Morgan for all the sterling work that she had put into the Cambridge Club, during the past three years.

It was once again farewell in April when we dined out R.S.M. R. E. Dodkins and welcomed at the same time our new R.S.M., W.O.1 K. E. Beale, fresh from B.A.O.R. At the after dinner speeches, Bandmaster John McShane spoke a few words of praise to R.S.M. Dodkins and on behalf of all members, presented him with a suitably engraved silver tray. R.S.M. Dodkins, not to be outdone, spoke of his happy days with the Regiment, especially those in the 1st Battalion Sergeants Mess and presented to us an engraved silver dinner gong.

By the second week in April the new Committee was in full swing and gaily presented a "Race Meeting." This was certainly full of life and vigour. Before the racing began there was a grand auction of horses by auctioneer C/Sgt. Mick Elston and a very expertly run "tote" under the management of Sgt. "Honest" Tony Briggs with the Bookies Bag being held by Jim Dickens. One of the highlights of the evening was a race in which the wooden horses were replaced by members—and ladies were roped in as jockeys. It was great stuff to see Bill Smith with a jockey a trifle overweight and C.S.M. Bob Power as a last minute substitute—and he subsequently won the race whilst a horse called "Hot Cross Bun" was left at the start—obviously a case of being "nobbled." With Mick Elston's experience (no doubt gained at Ascot) the evening was a roaring success.

For a change it was decided to hold a straight "Tombola" session with many outside visitors as well as many members and their wives present. Once again the Committee were working hard, especially some sterling "Clickety-Clicks" and "Kelly's Eye" from Tony Briggs. Between the numbers we had very good dance music played by a very good local quintet and even the floor boards creaked and kept in time with the dancing beat. We are told that the Band Sergeant was tapping his feet and snapping his fingers to the "twist."

On April 24 it was Cocktail time again. This time the excuse was to say goodbye to R.Q.M.S. Dick Waite who was leaving to take up an appointment at Birmingham University O.T.C. as R.S.M. This was a terrific evening. Once again Bill Smith provided the mixtures and six gallon containers as mixing bowls. There were no empty glasses to be found anywhere. A great deal of work was put in to this function and our special thanks must go to W.O.2 Stan Hynson for his excellent buffet.

"Fix yourself up with suitable duds" was the order of the day for Saturday, May 1. Yes, it was fancy dress time. This was a hilarious party with some great laughs right from the start. Sgt. Michael Flynn arrived dressed in old-time night attire, complete with candle and bedroom furniture, whilst Convict 99 in the shape of C.S.M.I. Stan Meadows made his entrance with a genuine ball and chain and his wife dressed as a local policewoman. Sgt. Jimmy Redmond without really trying entered the door as a Mexican—complete with sombrero. Count Dracula and the lady Vampire then arrived and we had to try hard to recognise Sgt. Paddy Mills and his wife—whilst Sgt. Edey came in as a Welsh witch complete with Bass broomstick. The prize for the best couple went to Sgt. David Miles and his wife for their "Tarzan and Jane" whilst a special prize went to Sgt. Tony Brumwell dressed as—yes you've guessed it—a glamorous blonde. The most spectacular entrance was that of the R.S.M. dressed as an Indian brave—complete with war paint. Above the great fun and laughter we had the dance band section of the Regimental Band to play for us. Now that the evenings were getting warmer we held a "Barbecue" on the newly decorated Patio. Great stuff this—there was dancing inside—waiters serving drinks under the umbrellas and some delectable dishes being cooked just off the porch. It was the new committee's turn this time and our thanks for this entertainment go to Drum Major Percy Howells and his team.

Now we come to the Albuhera weekend—and what a bumper this turned out to be. On Friday 14 we held our Albuhera Ball. Some 200 guests were invited and the local South Barracks Hall was transformed into a beautiful setting for this ball. The ceilings and walls were gaily decorated with coloured parachutes and crepe paper, with plants and tropical leaves everywhere. All the Regimental silver was displayed around the Ballroom and the tables were lit with silver candelabra. The centrepiece was a replica of the memorial at La Albuhera in Spain; floodlit and with the Colours displayed it was a wonderful sight. The Regimental Dance Band played till the early hours and we were also entertained by the

Corps of Drums, resplendent in their red uniforms, performing their Drum Fantasy, and a Spanish Cabaret (Editor—!). There was a magnificent buffet, fit for a king. Ladies were presented with a spray of flowers as they arrived and a very warming punch was served at the entrance. At the end of the Ball a welcome breakfast was served in the Mess with the "dawn chorus" in the background. There is no doubt that this Ball will for long be remembered as one of the finest that has ever taken place in the Regiment.

On May 21 we had the great pleasure of dining-in Lt.-Col. J. N. Shipster, D.S.O., Major K. J. Carter and Capt. W. G. A. Crumley. This was a truly regimental affair with some very amusing after dinner stories, and the odd verse here and there. It was said that the Col. and Major Carter were doing some tactical training on their way home, but that is another story.

We next held a "Beatnik" night and the order of the day was for everyone to arrive with an *objet d'art* which they had produced themselves to enter for a competition. This was most amusing, everyone dressed "incognito" and two of the local TV personalities came up to the Mess to judge the artistic efforts. The first prize was won by Sgt. Willis, a really good artist.

With the present Border situation as it is, a Sunday lunch for all the members and their wives is very pleasant indeed, and on the last Sunday in May a curry lunch was attended by about 60 members, wives and children. This was expertly prepared by C/Sgt. Colin McGowan in Malayan style and was a resounding success. The meal was served on the Patio and in the garden whilst the Regimental Band provided very good music from the balcony.

June was definitely "busting out all over" with a Twist session on the first Saturday. We had music provided by a local "pop" group, and the upstairs dining room was converted into a miniature Ballroom for the night, with gaily decorated tables and candles. Many members not professing to dance were seen doing all sorts of steps and we were all given some expert demonstrations in the art of "twisting" by Sgt. George Beechey. During the rest of the month we had alternate dancing and Tombola evenings and many friends from the Royal Navy especially H.M.S. *Centaur* came along to join in the fun.

Of particular note in June was the Queen's Birthday. After the parade we all congregated in the Mess and welcomed the Officers and a very distinguished guest, Col. W. A. Stewart, O.B.E., a sprightly 84 years young, who commanded the 1st Battalion before most of us were even born. He gave us a very lively talk on his experience with the Regiment and had the opportunity of speaking to every member present and we hope enjoyed himself immensely.

On the sporting front we have played two or three games of cricket on the odd Sunday; of particular note was a game against the Garrison Sergeants Mess, but although we had a tremendously entertaining time with an ever open Bar and an excellent cold chicken lunch, we were beaten by the odd wicket or two. We then played a game against the R.A.F. in June and in a 20 overs match, we scored 122 for five with notable

"knocks" by the R.S.M. 44, and Sgt. George Horder 31, and after that we skittled the R.A.F. out for 89. Once again a very pleasant day's entertainment.

A weekly feature in the Mess for those members living in is "Dining in" night every Friday. This gives an opportunity for dining in members to invite guests for dinner and it is usual for from ten to 15 to dine each week. These nights are very successful and provide an informal get together for many of the members and their wives. Our weekly whist nights are still as popular as ever, with the number of "tables" increasing to average about nine every Wednesday. This is where the members' wives assist in the purchasing of the whist and draw prizes.

Now as the summer is well under way we must all take as much sunshine as we can because we are told that in Northern Ireland the climate is slightly damp. On looking back we find that we have had a most enjoyable stay here in Gibraltar with many successful functions being held in our two-year stay. No doubt everyone will be looking forward to Belfast and the land of the leprechauns. Our spies have informed us that the Sergeants Mess in Holywood Barracks is a very good building with enough room for us all to enjoy ourselves and we no doubt will. Everyone here has that "packing bug" with them and we are gradually getting all things ready for the long trek to U.K. in September. There are quite a few members with cars to transport—whether they get there or not is another matter.

Our final words are very amusing concerning Bandmaster John McShane at the end of the Albuhera Ball. It seems that after the Ball he went to a neighbour to collect his small son Timothy to take him home complete in a pram. Unfortunately he was spotted by a local Constable on the beat and the Constable wanted to know why a gentleman in the Army was pushing a baby in a pram along the road about dawn. The Bandmaster was of course resplendent in his red mess kit; it took a bit of explaining, and almost ended up in Bandmaster John McShane being arrested for kidnapping. There hangs a tale.

The Seniority Roll is at present undergoing many changes. No fewer than three of our Colour Sergeants have been promoted to Warrant Officers, namely C.S.M. Ken Partridge, John Martin, M.M., and Drum Major Percy Howells. Sgts. Reg Ford, Cliff Shinn and Les Plumb are all now Colour Sergeants. C.S.M. George Simmons has handed over his Company and turned his back on ceremonial duties for a while and is now fully established as R.Q.M.S. Corporal Jack Rogers' promotion to Sergeant came at a very opportune time. Jack's father and mother were on holiday in Gibraltar when he was promoted and they were able to dine with us on the Friday evening when Jack was welcomed into the Mess. To all those mentioned we offer our sincere congratulations.

Inevitably when a person is promoted it means that someone else has gone. We have had to say a sad farewell to the following: R.Q.M.S. Dick Waite who left us to become R.S.M. at Birmingham O.T.C., C.S.M. Jack Warner now with 5 Mx., C.S.M. Sammy DaCosta who is now R.Q.M.S. at the School of Infantry, War-

minster, C/Sgt. Bill Williamson who is at present at the Brigade Depot, C/Sgt. Allan Willis who now has a recruiting post, C/Sgt. Colin McGowan who has returned to the Band of his parent regiment The Queen's Own Buffs, Sgt. John Meacock to the Brigade Depot and Sgt. "Rick" Pritchard who just left us en route to Malaysia. To all these old friends we wish bon voyage and good fortune wherever they are serving.

Stop Press: Sgt. "Sandy Sandy" Beechey has just been appointed Band Sergeant and promoted to Local Colour Sergeant. Well done George. Does this mean you will lose more hair?

CORPORALS MESS

The current quarter has been very busy, socially that is. April saw the departure of our President, R.S.M. R. E. Dodkins. We wish him all the best in his new duties as Garrison Sergeant-Major of Bulford Garrison.

Our new President—R.S.M. K. E. Beale, a well known member of the Battalion from B.A.O.R. days, arrived from Minden. We welcome him back, offering him our congratulations on his promotion and hoping his stay with the Battalion will be a happy one.

The structure of the mess committee has changed slightly. We have a General Committee, consisting of the P.M.C. and Treasurer. This quarter the P.M.C. is Cpl. (Blanco) Fleet, and the Treasurer, Cpl. John Moloney. The latter brings with him his experience in the Officers Mess to aid the handling of our financial affairs.

In addition we have an Entertainment Committee of President and two members who hold office for one month. April saw Cpl. (Froggie) French in the chair as P.E.C. with L/Cpls. Walsh and McKenzie in support.

They arranged two functions for us. The first was a games evening against the Corporals of R.A.F. North Front. Although hampered by numbers the R.A.F. put up an excellent showing and with some furtive fiddling of the scores the match was declared a draw. However, the "Boat Race" went to us. It is not known just when the team practise but they always seem to pull this event off. The evening rounded off with a sing song and was declared a great success by all those left standing.

The dance arranged later in the month was very well supported and enjoyed by one and all. Our thanks to the old faithfuls who always give support to the Mess.

The arrival of May saw Cpls. (Mitch) Fordham, Tom Terry and L/Cpl. MacConnachie as our Entertainment Committee. The first function of the month was a new one for the Mess, a cheese and wine party. The evening was a great success and it is hoped that more of this type of function will follow. The selection of cheese made by Cpl. Fordham was very pleasing. A note of interest, Issue Soap has been found to be definitely unpalatable. Unfortunately the border situation hampered the acquisition of wines. However those available went down very well indeed.

The next event in our social calendar was a "Beatnik Ball", a chance for members to express their uninhibited choice as to dress. A large section of the "with it"

members made this a swinging evening. Particularly worthy of note on this occasion was the sporting gesture of our Honorary Members from the Royal Naval Hospital. Having won the tobacco and spirit prizes in the raffle they proceeded to lash out "Sippers" and "Smokes" all round from the prizes they had won.

Note should be made here of the excellent support at Mess functions given by our Honorary members, the leading Sick Berth Attendants and Sick Berth Attendants of the Royal Naval Hospital. We shall certainly miss them when we leave Gibraltar. It is hoped that any of them who find themselves near the Battalion in future will call in at the Mess.

The last month of the current quarter and the pace slowed down slightly due to bad luck. Cpls. Aylward, Mitchell and L/Cpl. Brett certainly had an impressive programme laid out for us. Unfortunately the planned Barbecue had to be postponed due to a mix up in the bookings for the Nuffield Pool. We hear Cpl. Aylward is thinking of getting a job on the controlling board to ensure the certainty of future bookings.

A social evening organised at short notice consisted of Tombola and dancing, although not oversupported was enjoyed by all who came.

A dance was hastily arranged to fill the remainder of the social calendar. Once more Lady Luck stepped in as it was discovered that it would coincide with the Gibraltar Arts Festival. Once more a function had to be "shelved."

Our thanks to the members of all the committees for supplying us with such a varied and enjoyable social programme. Once more we record our appreciation of the help given by the Cooks in preparing the many excellent "buffets," enjoyed by all. Also our thanks to the staunch few who turn out to run the bar at the Mess functions.

During the past quarter there have once again been many comings and goings in the Mess. We offer a hearty welcome to all arrivals and best wishes to all those who have departed.

Particular congratulations to Cpl. Jack Rogers on his well deserved promotion to Sergeant. Always a regular supporter of the Mess he will be missed by all. We wish him all the best.

MAKE A NOTE OF THE DATES

Details of the forthcoming events which concern the Regiment will be found on the inside front cover.



Planned for Presentation

SMITHS jewelled lever watches... planned for those who specially seek a watch in every way outstanding. A masterpiece of craftsmanship, with the highest degree of precision and the utmost perfection of finish. To do honour to treasured friendship or to be a symbol of achievement. Or to be the kind of watch which *you* have always wanted—a proud, personal possession. Chosen as goodwill gifts for long or meritorious service, by I.C.I. Ltd., The British Motor Corporation, G.E.C. Ltd., Thomas de la Rue Ltd., British Transport Commission and many other great organisations. Illustrated is Model SW 502/E, 25 jewels, automatic 9 ct. gold case, at £46.

Please write or telephone
The Manager, Watch Branch,

SMITHS CLOCK & WATCH DIVISION

Showrooms 179 Great Portland St. W1
Langham 5811

SPORTS

Our sporting achievements are much the same as in the last *Die-Hards* report. We are not out to prove ourselves as gladiators simply because gladiators need careful grooming at the expense of other duties and we have not the men to spare from our commitments here. The type of sports which most suit us at present are largely non-competitive. We have a keen interest in water-skiing, fishing, swimming generally and scrambling over rocks and cliffs and our sporting potential is not fully realised in terms of wins and losses. For all that, our fortnightly Battalion Run, in which every able-bodied man takes part from Commanding Officer to storeman is a delight to the eye. Every man glows with sweat and good cheer and a competitive slant is always there.

We eagerly anticipate our arrival in Northern Ireland, where there are excellent facilities at our door-step and the Battalion will have all her companies under her wing to compete against each other and to combine their strengths. We shall stretch our wings and prove our worth in all fields of sport.

Cricket

Once more the cricket season is under way and the sports grounds are covered with white clad players. Europa Sports Ground can certainly boast the best pitches in Gibraltar and thanks to the efforts of C.S.M.I. Meadows these are constantly kept up to standard with water and rolling.

Battalion matches are not played on the Rock for all competitions are decided either at Minor Unit level or at Service level. In the Minor Units Competition H.Q. Company have settled down well and out of six matches have managed to win all but their first match against Electronics Squadron R.A.F. who are at present top of the League and have some really accomplished players. The Rifle Company in contrast had a bad start to the season and although they have gradually improved they are still meeting with mixed fortunes.

The Rifle Company's opening game of the season was against 1st Fortress Squadron R.E., which produced an exciting result and although they lost by two wickets, the game was in the balance until the last moment. The team at this stage was of an unknown quality and as a result of the match it was quite obvious that with the return of Major Pike and the inclusion of a newcomer Pte. Crawford (who comes from the West Indies) that the Company would have a useful side. Crawford in this match not only excelled himself with the bat in one stand of 93 with 2/Lt. Lowrie but also proved himself to be a capable fast-medium bowler. Bad fielding cost the Company the match, for having scored 103 they had the Sappers at 52 for 6 until some hard hitting clinched the game for the visitors.

Scores: Rifle Company—103 (Crawford 46, Lowrie 39); 1st Fortress Squadron—106 for 8 (Crawford 3 for 22, Wittig 3 for 44).

Unfortunately the team had to be changed for the next game against Fortress Headquarters but the ground fielding improved against weaker opposition and they had little difficulty in winning by 10 wickets. Only two bowlers were used, Pte. Crawford and Major Pike. The visitors could only muster 58 and the Company openers scored this in just over half an hour, to register the first win of the season.

Scores: Fortress Headquarters—58 (Pike 6 for 26, Crawford 4 for 21); Rifle Company—62 for no wickets (Pike 16 not out, Lowrie 42 not out).

It was after these two matches that they began to face stiffer opposition in the form of the R.A.F. teams. With some players absent on duty they were hard pressed to field a strong team. In their third match against Administrative Wing (R.A.F.) played at Europa, the R.A.F. batted first and although wickets fell quickly two high scores of 71 and 54 stopped the Company from dismissing them for a low total. The bowlers took some heavy punishment due mainly to some bad fielding. Facing the uphill target of 183, the Rifle Company never looked like achieving this score and were soon struggling, with openers dismissed without a run on the board. Major Pike and Pte. Wells put up a firm resistance but the Company were soon out.

Scores: Administrative Wing R.A.F.—183 for 9 (Pike 3 for 45, Crawford 3 for 54, Wittig 2 for 62); Rifle Company—69 (Pike 24, Wells 22 not out).

The next match, this time against Technical Wing "B" (R.A.F.), was lost by nine wickets. Once again the fielding and batting were the main faults. Sent in to bat first the Company mustered only 50 runs. The R.A.F. found no problem in getting these with the loss of only one wicket.

Scores: Rifle Company—50 (Walsh 13 not out); Technical Wing "B" (R.A.F.)—51 for 1.

On the last day of June the Rifle Company played the Gibraltar Regiment and succeeded in winning their second game of the season. In this game the bowlers excelled themselves and supported by good fielding dismissed the local side for 74. A fine innings by L/Cpl. Wittig after a good bowling performance made him the man of the match. The Company had little difficulty in passing the Gibraltar Regiment's score for the loss of only five wickets.

Scores: Gibraltar Regiment—74 (Pike 3 for 7, Wittig 5 for 33, Crawford 2 for 24); Rifle Company—76 for 5 wickets (Wittig 33 not out, Reed 15).

The local "Derby" match between Headquarter Company and the Rifle Company produced a good hard game in which Headquarter Company batting first lost two wickets for 31 runs. A stand between Sgt. Torrie and Sgt. Horder of 54 took their total past the 100 before the fourth wicket fell. Some keen fielding and relentless bowling contained the H.Q. total to 136 for six wickets after the 30 overs. After a shaky start, three wickets down for 27 runs, a partnership between Crawford and Wittig added 48 runs and at 75 for four it was anybody's game. L/Cpl. Binns however found a good length and taking a quick three wickets took command of the situation. With some alert fielding causing two run outs, the Rifle Com-

pany slumped and only just managed to pass the 100 mark.

Scores: Headquarter Company—136 for 6 wickets (Torrie 42, Horder 29, Crawford 2 for 53, Pike 2 for 41); Rifle Company—101 (Crawford 42, Wittig 32, Binns 5 for 53, Nash 2 for 34).

The last match to date played by the Rifle Company was against the Engineering Squadron (R.A.F.). In this match they were soon in trouble against a very strong bowling attack and lost six wickets for 25 runs, before Pte. Crawford, playing at No. 4, took control and supported by Cpl. Bassett and Cpl. Shearing scored 72 very good runs including nine fours before the side was finally out.

The Rifle Company started well with a heated attack and captured three wickets for 12 runs. The score gradually mounted to 45 when L/Cpl. Wittig captured the fourth wicket. The Rifle Company were in a good position but bad fielding let them down and when three catches were dropped off the same batsman (who then went on to score 60) company spirit ebbed away, and the airmen passed the total to win by five wickets.

Scores: Rifle Company—126 (Crawford 72); Engineering Squadron—127 for 5.

Headquarter Company cricket in contrast to the Rifle Company had been far more successful. Although they lost their first match to Electronics Squadron R.A.F., to date that is the only one they have lost. The R.A.F. batted first and aided by a century-maker they scored 176 for seven in 30 overs. Pte. Rahmatullah gave a fine bowling performance and showed he had not lost his touch from previous seasons. In reply Headquarter Company could only muster 81 runs, Sgt. Horder providing the only spark in a rather disappointing batting display.

Scores: Electronics Squadron R.A.F.—176 for 7 (Rahmatullah 5 for 64); Headquarter Company—81 (Sgt. Horder 26, Cpl. Berry 18).

H.M.S. *Rooke* were the next opponents at this time Headquarter Company batted first. C.S.M.I. Meadows and Cpl. O'Brien were in good form and with hard hitting pushed the score past the 100 mark. H.M.S. *Rooke* were weak in their bowling and used no fewer than seven bowlers. Good bowling by L/Cpl. Binns and Rahmatullah supported by keen fielding saw the Company win by 44 runs.

Scores: Headquarter Company—157 for 7 (Meadows 37, O'Brien 38); H.M.S. *Rooke*—113 (Binns 5 for 30, Rahmatullah 4 for 30).

The scheduled third match against Fortress H.Q. was not played as they could not raise a team and so the Company received the four points. The game against the Rifle Company as already reported gave Headquarter their third win. Administrative Wing R.A.F. was the next game played and here after losing three wickets for 13 runs C.S.M.I. Meadows and Sgt. Torrie again came to the rescue. Aggressive batting by them and later on Cpl. O'Brien took the total past 100 and encouraged with this the remaining batsmen swung the bat with much relish. In reply the R.A.F. raced away to a flying start but were soon pinned down and behind the clock due to the steady bowling

of Sgt. Torrie and Pte. Rahmatullah who bowled unchanged throughout the innings. Backed up by good fielding they finished the opposition's innings some 50 runs behind their own score.

Scores: Headquarter Company—134 (Meadows 43, Torrie 32); Administrative Wing R.A.F.—83 (Torrie 4 for 36, Rahmatullah 5 for 29).

The Royal Engineers were set a mammoth total of 163 by Headquarter Company in the next match. This was largely due to an opening stand of 76 by Sgts. Miles and Torrie. When Miles was caught behind the bowling changed and a leg break bowler played havoc for the remainder of the side until at 97 for six wickets Cpl. O'Brien batting at No. 6 opened up with some powerful hitting, racing to 50 with two sixes and five fours. He remained undefeated at the close of the innings. In reply the Sappers tried hard to go for the runs but good bowling by Bds. Nash and as usual, Rahmatullah, aided and abetted by Cpl. O'Brien behind the stumps, they slumped to a defeat by some 98 runs. Cpl. O'Brien held five catches behind the stumps and with his inspiring 60 not out, was definitely the man of the match.

Scores: Headquarter Company—163 for 9 (O'Brien 60 not out, Miles 54, Torrie 21); 1 Fortress Squadron R.E.—65 (Rahmatullah 6 for 22, Nash 4 for 10).

After the Minor Units League is finished it is the turn of the Army in the Senior League and we hope we shall be represented. Already Major Pike has played for the Combined Services and is captain of the Army side. Pte. Crawford and 2/Lt. Lowrie have also played for the Army. To both the Rifle and H.Q. Company teams one can only wish them well in the remainder of their matches.

Athletics

The athletics season has bloomed and perished like a desert flower. The Battalion held an inter-company meeting with guest entries on May 29, by June 12 the Command Meeting and the Gibraltar Amateur Meeting were through and the season had passed. We were caught rather unawares (not unusual—George!). We suddenly found that enthusiasm had to be instilled, teams selected and big problem, men trained. With various duties chaining our men at different times and places, it was difficult to get the team together for training. We decided where our priorities lay and trained in groups as much as possible. In spite of all, our teams from H.Q. and Rifle Company turned in good results.

Command Athletics Meeting—June 9-10

This was a closely fought, inter-services, minor units competition. H.Q. Company, Fortress Squadron R.E. and the R.A.F. had a very close tussle. The meeting's result rested on the final relay race. As fortune had it, the Engineers won the necessary points because Rifle Company were disqualified for an infringement. A bitter controversy raged between competitors, team captains and officials, none of whom were very sure of their ground. Oddly, H.Q. stood to win or lose, according to who raised most fur. In the event we lost, a great pity.

Gibraltar Three A's Meeting—June 11-12

This meeting was really a straight competition between individuals but was also a triangular match between the Army, R.A.F. and Calpeans, the local team. In the past the Army have dominated the meeting; this year it was a very close-run thing which the locals managed to bring off for about the first time in history. Hot on their heels were the R.A.F. and the red-faced Army took third place. All our best athletes were there but the promising up and comers, the back-bone, were not. It was the week-end, they stood small chance of winning and regrettably, few turned up.

We are fortunate in having a hard core of skilled athletes in the Battalion, who will be most useful in training up a team in Northern Ireland. The potential is there and we must make it flower in our new posting

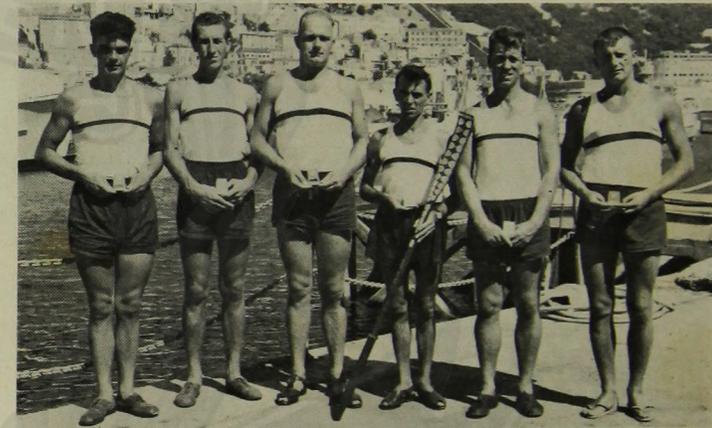
Tydemans proved keen and promising in their events. There are a host of others, some have come forward but are as yet untrained, and there are others who still remain shyly in the background, without giving it a real try.

In Ireland we will be up against stiffer opposition. We must draw the very best from the Battalion and work with them to get the best results. We need men with enthusiasm, willingness to get in tip-top condition, a little ability and plenty of courage and dash.

Rowing

Our Whaler Crew scored a decisive victory in the July Rowing Regatta held on July 14 and 15, by winning the July Oar in convincing style.

The crew consisting of R.S.M. Beale, O.R.Q.M.S.



Rowing—"July Oar Team"

From left to right: Pte. Perks, Pte. Harper, R.S.M. Beale, O.R.Q.M.S. Cripps, C.S.M.I. Meadows, L/Cpl. Jacklin

(Editor—not like the desert one I hope). The efforts of some need mention; first class results are not entirely the gift of a gracious God, but the fruit of hours of sweat and determination. Sgt. Miles has proved a very capable all-round athlete who turned his hand to long-jumping, sprinting, and throwing things. Lt. Hubert is a skilled and determined distance man, who by his regular, endless pace grinds his opponents into the dust. He won the Mile and was second in the Three Miles in the Gibraltar meeting and well-placed at the Command meeting. He was ably backed by Cpl. Foley from the Pay Office. Cpl. Foley trained very hard and deserved a greater measure of fortune. Capt. Goring trained a little for the Discus and had rather given up the Shot-Put as a bad bet. At the Gibraltar meeting he entered for the latter for fun. To his rage he came second in the Discus and won the Shot, breaking the record by a foot. No doubt he and Capt. Cheesman will get together again next year, throwing heavy, blunt objects at each other. L/Cpls. Hayes and Jacklin and Ptes. Graham and

Cripps, C.S.M.I. Meadows, L/Cpl. Jacklin, Ptes. Harper, Gore and Perks have trained hard since the beginning of May and although not given much chance of winning by many critics, fully proved that hard training is the key to success.

In the draw for the heats, which took place on July 14, the Battalion were opposed by the strong "A" and "B" crews of H.M.S. *Rooke*, the "A" crew being considered favourites for this heat. In a choppy sea and strong headwind, the Battalion crew got away to a good start and soon pulled ahead of both *Rooke* crews to a slight lead. This slight lead was maintained until two thirds of the course had been covered, then pulling very strongly, the crew opened up a gap of two lengths which they kept until crossing the finishing line. H.M.S. *Rooke* "A" crew took second place and so entered the final on July 15 with the Battalion crew, the winners of heat 2 being R.A.F. North Front, and H.M.S. *Rooke* "C". Having clocked the fastest time in the heats, the Battalion crew were confident that they stood a good chance in the final

and this confidence was well justified as events proved.

Conditions on finals day were similar to the previous day. It was obvious that the going would be difficult and no records were likely to be broken. All four crews got away to a smooth start and for the first 50 yards of the course rowed neck and neck. A change of stroke put the Battalion just ahead of their three rival crews, and by sheer hard rowing, they built up a lead by the half-way mark which proved to be a winning one, crossing the finishing line two lengths ahead of H.M.S. *Rooke* "C" crew followed by *Rooke* "A" and R.A.F. North Front.

This is indeed a sport very foreign to Infantrymen and it is much to our delight to know that 1 Mx. is the first Infantry Battalion to win the July Oar for 31 years in Gibraltar!

The crew will now continue training for the August Regatta which takes place on August 11 and 12.

Stop Press: We have now won the August Oar!

Squash

The last notes finished with a hopeful forecast about the end of season matches and championships. This was only partly fulfilled. In the Command Squash League the Army "A" team finished second to the R.A.F. "A" team, winning eight out of its nine matches. Army "B" finished a good fourth and Army "C" an honourable eighth out of the ten services teams competing.

In the Command Inter-Services Team Championship the Army team, including Major Marciandi, Major Carter and Capt. Cowing, were rather unexpected winners beating the Royal Navy 5—0, and the R.A.F. 3—2 in a match which was in the balance up to the last moment.

In the Services Individual Championship five members of the Battalion entered, Major Marciandi seeded No. 3, reached the semi-finals where he lost 1—3 to Wing Commander Crozier, the No. 1 seed and eventual champion. Major Carter won the Plate competition.

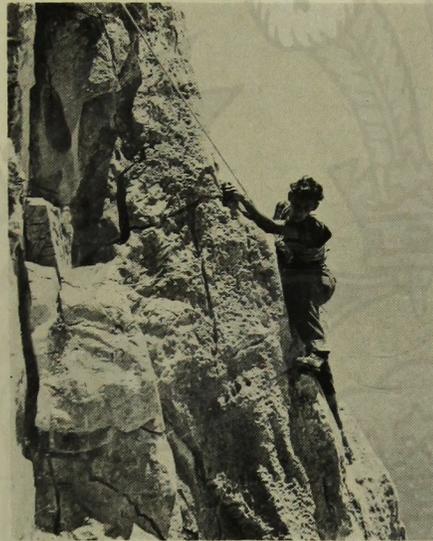
In the open Championship the same five (the other three being, Capt. Fisher, Capt. Cowing and Sgt. Miles) entered. Major Carter got to the Quarter Finals. Major Marciandi, seeded No. 4, reached the Semi-Finals, where he met the local civilian Champion who won 3—0 and went on to win the championship.

Immediately after this event most of the players on the Rock hung up their squash racquets and got their tennis kit out. A few continued to brave the steam heat in the squash courts in summertime, and we are now looking forward to our first Irish season.

Caving and Climbing

The past six months have seen steady if undramatic activity by the small band of cavers and climbers in the battalion. The most active members have been Sgt. DaCosta, Cpl. Dowsett, Capt. Lloyd, Cpl. Fordham and 2/Lt. Truman until he left for Tobruk.

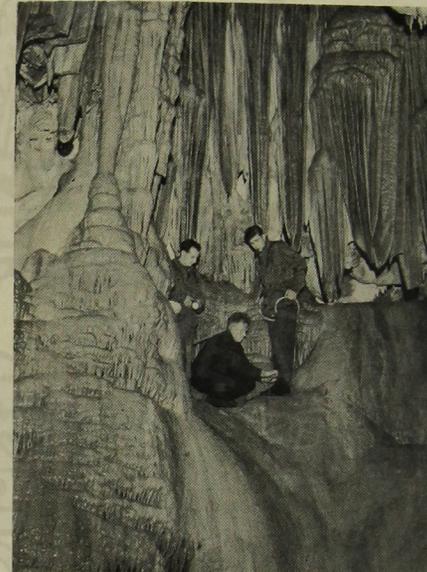
Little climbing has been done except by Cpl. Dowsett and some by Sgt. DaCosta. Cpl. Dowsett was fortunate enough to be able to spend a day climbing with Capt.



Pte. "Terry" Turner looks anxiously for a foothold before moving up. About 900 feet below the Mediterranean glistens invitingly

Reide, who was holidaying in Southern Spain with his family, and as a dedicated mountaineer could not resist the challenge of Gibraltar's rock faces. Fortress H.Q. sent him to the Battalion for advice and very soon he was fixed up with a guide in the person of Cpl. Dowsett. The sight of Cpl. Dowsett staggering home in the evening told its own story. Capt. Reide, who is a well known personality in Army Climbing circles and Cpl. Dowsett had ascended every route on the Catchment face. An experience that he would not have missed for anything in the world was Dowsett's comment.

Although they have been neglected for some time the rocks of Gibraltar have recently had their tranquility shattered by a Rock Climbing Cadre run by Capt. Lloyd with Sgt. DaCosta and Cpl. Dowsett. The students were Sgt. Willis and Pte. Herbert (55) of "B" Company and Ptes. Turner of the M.T. Platoon and Cleverly of the Signals Platoon. Unfortunately, owing to a misunderstanding between departments of H.Q. Company two members of the Recce Platoon were unable to attend. The week-long course started with a morning in the classroom but from then on every minute of the day was spent on one or another of Gibraltar's climbing areas. On the first afternoon and the following morning, work was done on some "nursery rocks" near The Hole-in-the-Wall. Here the first unsteady steps up were taken and the first frightening abseil done. All the students were complete beginners except Herbert who had done a little in North Wales and showed it by his great confidence on the Rock. After the Nursery Rocks



(Photo by courtesy of Harrow Observer)

Sgt. Da Costa assists Pte. Munns to prepare for an abseil in Lower St. Michael's Cave. Note the remarkable formations around and above them

a move was made to Buffadero Bluff overlooking Europa Sports ground; here, they came to grips with Trimming's Folly and Sweet Homes. Sgt. Willis was soon seen to be making excellent progress. He is a "natural," intelligent, fit with very good balance and strength and courage to match. If he keeps his climbing up he should reach a very high standard. Of the others Herbert is very strong and confident but is a "heart-stopping" climber; at least to the leader and instructor, he climbs very quickly and seems not to study his route at all. However, he is safe enough, as long as he stays as No. 2. Turner, after a slow start suddenly got his confidence and from then on did not look back. A safe, steady climber who, given time, will solve the hardest problems. Cleverly, last of the quartet, was a bit cautious at the start but is strong and made good progress. It must be remembered, however, that these four have packed more climbing into a week than most people do in a month and have gone from raw novice to very difficult, and above standard in this time. All the participants are to be congratulated; it took the writer many years to reach the standard that they have reached in one week.

Below the rather steep face of the rock there has also been a fair amount of activity. Sgt. Willis has now qualified as a Guide to Lower St. Michael's Cave and is heartily welcomed by the other four Battalion Guides who have been kept very busy this summer showing assorted parties the delights and wonders of this cave. The Royal Navy have provided the bulk of the visitors, but there have been many others including all the new arrivals to the Battalion in Gibraltar. Among others Major Pike went down and was suitably impressed, if somewhat relieved to see daylight again. He did not emulate his predecessor as O.C. "C" Company however and emerged from the cave still dry. Other visitors have included Col. and Mrs. I. H. Batty and Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Shipster with their sons.

Of other caves, many have been visited or revisited including Leonora's leading from St. Michael's and Bell's Back Yard which was first explored by Pte. Munns (in whose back-yard is the entrance), Pte. Watson and others of the Signals Platoon, who, having taken some "Dutch courage" are reported to have spent four hours below. It is fortunate that all the party are small and slim. This is an extensive cave but extremely narrow most of the way. Capt. Lloyd and Cpl. Fordham, both of ample proportions, were defeated very early on, but Sgts. Willis and DaCosta made a thorough investigation.

Another "new" cave visited is one which has its entrance on Windmill Hill Flats. On first inspection there was disappointment in the appearance of a large concrete building completely filling the natural cave. On further inspection, however, it was discovered that beyond a grating in the wall lay a further cave. This turned out to be of interest although partly filled in at some time in the past, probably during the First World War. A little digging in this cave might well be rewarded.

Cavers and climbers alike, (they are usually, but not always, the same people) are likely to be active in the last few months before the Battalion leaves Gibraltar. There is still so much to do and see. Alas, the work in offices, stores and platoons does not ease off either. Most of the select band of Adventure trainers are looking forward to the move to Northern Ireland where they can expand and improve on the skills learned in Gibraltar and get back to some real Mountains again. The caving enthusiast may not be so well off in Ireland but there will be plenty of scope for the mountaineer and rock climber.

Before leaving the field of Adventure Training some mention of canoeing must be made. Canoeing has been dogged with bad luck and lack of interest over the last 18 months. A canoe club has now been formed, however, and at the time of writing four canoes are fit for use. All that is now required is the enthusiasm to make it go. Now is the time to learn, in the warm water of the Harbour. Belfast Lough will be considerably more unpleasant to fall into.

INSIST ON GENUINE

Hush Puppies®

IN BREATHING BRUSHED PIGSKIN



ESCORT
for Men
75/11



Half-weight
for comfort



Flexible—and
they breathe



Brush clean
instantly

AT ALL
GOOD
SHOE SHOPS
AND
STORES

FERNET- BRANCA



... made for the morning after

COMPLETE
TREATMENT



WITH "DIEHARDS" AND "POTHOOKS" TO MOROCCO

The two Nuffield Trust Land-Rovers ("Diehards" and "Pothooks") held by the Battalion, for use by all members of H.M. Forces in Gibraltar are no strangers to Morocco. Both have spent the best part of their 40,000-mile life on the roads of North Africa.

On Tuesday, May 4 "Diehards" and "Pothooks" set out in convoy, this time carrying 11 all ranks of H.Q. Company 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment. The party consisted of the Company Commander, Major Pollard, Capt. Cowing, C/Sgt. Lagden from the Quartermaster's Staff, Ptes. Quartermaine and McGuire and six members of the Signal Platoon: Ptes. Webb, Smith, Jones, Hamill, Higgins and Ryan. All except the Colour Sergeant were visiting Morocco for the first time.

The crossing to Tangier on the "Mons Calpe" ferry proved both enjoyable and uneventful, the loading and unloading of the vehicles going particularly smoothly. As a precaution against possible starvation should some vital part of the cooking equipment or rations have been left behind a very good and inexpensive lunch was bought on board. Customs formalities at Tangier were short but attempts to buy tourist petrol coupons at the exchange counter were unsuccessful, the clerk advising us to visit the Bank in town without mentioning that these were closed for the next two hours. With the aid of a guide we made a quick tour of the banks without success. We decided to press on to the first camp site at Kenitra.

Once clear of Tangier the road proved excellent though after months of nothing more than 30 m.p.h. on the Rock 40 m.p.h. felt quite dangerous. Initially the road south follows the Atlantic foreshore and the rough blue sea looked especially inviting. At Asilah the guide book drew our attention to the old fort; this proved to be more of a walled village on the hill overlooking the rest of the town. The countryside proved unexpectedly green with a lot of cultivation. After Larache the road swung inland rejoining the coast at Kenitra. Here we stopped initially to find a bank and then the camp site. The first bank (Surete) proved to be the Police Station and after explaining that we wanted petrol coupons from a bank the Company Commander and the Colour Sergeant were directed to two different garages at opposite ends of the main street. The bank, when found, was shut, though at the back door a helpful French girl told us they didn't sell coupons anyway. It is amazing to discover in a largely French-speaking country how much German soldiers learn in B.A.O.R.!

Fed up with Kenitra and time being plentiful we decided to press on to Mohammedia just north of Casablanca where a very good camp site had been sampled over Easter by the Orderly Room Clerks. The first site proved to be the wrong one though it looked a very reasonable area and we eventually found Camping Loran further down the road. This proved excellent; we were warmly greeted by a German couple from Berlin who have been in Morocco some 15 years and now run a good a camp as found on the Continent. The site

was not crowded and we were allotted a large area in a quiet corner where we could put up our Marechal tent, for the first time, without being seen! In fact this went well in spite of the approach of dusk and thanks to our initial practice in South Barracks. With the aid of some fresh vegetables from the camp shop to supplement our tinned food we had a late but none the less welcome supper. Everyone slept well that night in spite of the odd ant invasion.

Next morning armed with a sketch map we found a bank in Casablanca and after much haggling were given a petrol card and bought some coupons. But for an old card amongst the vehicle documents we would have been unlucky as technically the names on passport and green card must be the same and the Land-Rovers are merely down as Army Welfare Buses. On returning to the camp site we found the Corps of Drums parked nearby in their two hired Volkswagen Minibuses. They were on their way North to Fez from Marrakesh. In the afternoon everyone had a swim; the two officers wading out to a reef and having to swim for their lives back again about an hour later. The swimming here was excellent. In the evening some of the party joined the Drums on a trip to Casablanca to sample the night life.

Next morning we set off for Marrakesh. On the outskirts of Casablanca the brakes of the second Land-Rover began to fade and at one intersection we nearly ended up with one very long wheel-base Land-Rover. South-east of Casablanca the country-side gets progressively more parched and less green but remains interesting. We passed one or two deserted barracks and a derelict airfield. At Benabbou we stopped for lunch by the river and in the shade—there is quite a lot of building in progress here and the road remains good. Then on to Marrakesh, passing en route the vast American airbase near Benguerir with its huge sign "Peace is our Profession!". Outside Marrakesh the countryside seemed much greener again and we passed through the palm-tree belt that rings the city. We found the camp site very easily and the Colour Sergeant was welcomed as a long lost friend.

Fortunately there is a large swimming pool adjoining the camp and as soon as the tent was up and a "brew" on we took a dip. Everyone was pretty tired that night but Ryan, McGuire and Quartermaine ventured out to see an evening display of local dancing!

"Diehards" brakes by this time were in a bad way and with the prospect of the foothills of the Atlas Mountains ahead it was decided to spend the next day sight-seeing whilst the brakes were repaired. We set off into the new part of the city and found a guide who took us to the Land-Rover agent at the second attempt. However the "patron" was away and we had to return after siesta to see him before the job was done. Meanwhile our guide took us on a tour of the principal olive groves and the Palm Tree belt. This involved visiting numerous old palaces and ornamental lakes—mostly separated by walls with archways just wide enough for a Land-Rover.

After an inexpensive lunch in a Moroccan restaurant we were shown the tanneries—quite an experience and not recommended for the squeamish as it is both primitive and odorous! From there to the Sadaan Tombs and a string of Palaces all full of magnificent cedar-wood carvings, mosaics and plaster work. Most boasted tea rooms (non-operational) and of course vast bedrooms with complicated inter-connections. At each one our guide handed us over to the local expert and this began to get costly. Eventually we managed to persuade our guide that we would like to see the market and Casbah and so wearily we set off. Everyone enjoyed the market with its colourful stalls and various departments—heaven knows how anyone ever achieves a bargain with a score of identical stalls to pick from. Here again it cost money to have a picture taken (with your own camera) with the snake charmer, water carrier, wrestler or musician. At the straw-hat department we lost the Signals Officer and one of his bodyguard but we luckily all reunited at the snake charmer! We bought very little—a set of barbecue skewers, made by a small boy on a toe-operated lathe, with “genuine cedar-wood” handles, a few woolly caps and straw hats.

At about six, somewhat exhausted we returned in “Pothooks” to the garage and found “Diehards” still on four blocks divested of all brake shoes. Apparently the original shoes were not only worn but very oily and a complete refit was necessary. About an hour later we were able to collect a rejuvenated “Diehards” but not before nearly £17 had changed hands.

This proved a temporary financial setback but a loan until the morning from the camp shop allowed the senior members a visit to the local dancers just to check on the previous night's tales.

Next morning we set off early on the longest leg of our journey north-east through the foothills of the Middle Atlas to Ifrane, a winter ski centre. Once clear of Marrakesh the scenery became pretty desolate with very little cultivation, a lot of sand and scrub and only the occasional tree or line of telegraph poles marking the road ahead. Those in the back well remember the switch-back sections well marked with the international sign “bumpy road”—a tribute to the late Marilyn Monroe?

Just before Beni Mellah we turned right off the main road into the foothills of the Middle Atlas Mountains and on to Afourer. Our aim was to inspect the vast dam at Bine-el-Quidane, lunch and have a swim. The detour was well worth while as the climb gave us magnificent views across the area which is highly cultivated. The dam is the source of a vast irrigation system and hydro-electric scheme; the lake proved a very welcome bathing place. The scenery on the return journey to the main road was breathtaking but the drivers at least were pleased to get back on the main road after so many hairpin bends. The rest of the journey to Ifrane was through some very beautiful country with the occasional long distance view of the snow-capped High Atlas peaks.

We reached Ifrane after dark and after some difficulty found the camp site in the woods on the outskirts of the town. We soon realised that we were the sole occupants

and judging from the state of the camp facilities the season had not really started! The unaccustomed nip in the air due to the height did not deter some of us exploring the town but we found it very shut with even soda water difficult to buy! We needed this to mix with our “warming medicine.”

We were away early next morning, somewhat disappointed with Ifrane out of season. We reached Fez about midday and drove around the town determined not to get too involved with “genuine 16th-century cedar-wood carvings, finest mosaics and much delightful plasterwork.” We had time, however, to admire the old wall of the city and explore a few shops—the Colour Sergeant even managed to buy a ball bearing for “Die-Hards” trafficators. We should have liked to visit Meknes and the old religious centre of Moulay Idriss but time and a shortage of petrol coupons prevented this. Instead we pressed on north towards Tetouan but somewhere took a wrong turn and found ourselves on a second-class road to Ain-Aicha.

Fortunately an attentive Signals Officer piloted us back onto the main road at Fes-el-Bali, an unusual agricultural centre, everything being laid out with military precision.

North of Ouezzane we passed through a second ex-Spanish-French frontier post at Port de Loukos. Here unlike its counterpart on the Tangier-Rabat Road we found a welcome “Coca Cola” centre. Each old customs bay now houses a vast fridge with attendant and we were able to get a few ice-cold drinks; those who had warmer drinks were convinced that the fridges were not plugged in! After a short delay to let a convoy pass we pressed on.

We reached Tetouan at dusk and decided to drive on to Martil on the coast. It was now Sunday night and we were anxious to get at least one clear day by the sea before catching the Tuesday ferry. At Martil we could not find the camp site but a friendly local suggested we pitch our tent in a wood adjoining the beach and promenade. This we did in record time, there being plenty of light. After a meal and a wash our expedition to find cigarettes returned with some of the local red wine and sardines as well. With the aid of a friendly policeman and some rather smartly dressed Moroccan men out to find a party we held a quiet but enjoyable “barbecue.” A local fisherman presented us with some more fish for breakfast next morning. After breakfast we were visited by the local police—quite unconnected with our friends from the night before—who were keen for us to move to the camp site at the other end of the town. We inspected it but were not impressed and asked to stay where we were. Our visitors then set off to find the Sheriff and later a posse arrived to say all was well. After a quiet day swimming and exploring a local bamboo plantation the “liberty boat” to Tetouan that evening was well supported though shortage of money made the visit a short one. It was at this stage that “Die-Hards” clutch began slipping.

The next morning we packed and cleared up rather more thoroughly than usual and set out on the short 38-mile drive to Tangier. However, after 12 miles on the first really steep climb “Die-Hards” ground to a halt—clutchless. The Colour Sergeant hoping it was

only oil in the plates attacked with a Pyrene extinguisher but to no avail. All available tow ropes looked somewhat feeble but a quick plaiting action by Ptes. Smith, Higgins and McGuire produced a short but reasonably strong-looking rope. With most of the load transferred to “Pothooks” we set off up the hill.

Two tow-rope breaks and about two hours later we limped into Tangier and with some relief parked on the quay. We still had half an hour in hand but decided to battle with the local vendors on the quayside rather than rush back into the town. After much haggling and some bartering we all eventually climbed aboard the “Mons Calpe” each convinced we had the best bargain.

So ended a magnificent week in which both vehicles covered over 1,000 miles. As tourists it has given us an appetite for more and taught us that Morocco is an ideal holiday centre. As an “Adventure Expedition” it was probably a little too comfortable but we did all we could with the time and equipment available. To venture further south and into the Sahara would require another week and far better equipped Land-Rovers. From a military point of view a lot was learnt about living in the field and looking after oneself in a reasonably hot climate. The drivers profited from some long tiring spells at the wheel!

Altogether a worth-while trip—and very good value at under £10 per head.

A TRIP TO SEVILLE

By CPL. G. R. BURROWS

Having read the details of the initiative test on H.Q. Company Detail I set about examining the various routes out of Gibraltar.

Air travel was the first and most obvious method but after many enquiries and a lot of co-operation from the R.A.F. at North Front I had to abandon this since there was no certain way of getting back from the various destinations offered in the time allocated without much personal expense (which is hardly a test of initiative).

Next, I examined the various sea routes but this method was too slow. The only two remaining alternatives were to go, on foot, either south or north. The southerly route entailed using the ferry and since this involved a fair expense it was discarded, leaving only one feasible route—north.

I enlisted the company of Cpl. Cousins and we set off, on foot, hoping to reach Seville. The first part was easy as we took a bus from La Linea to Algeciras “just to get started.” At Algeciras we decided to start hitchhiking but soon discovered that it was nearly impossible to get a lift and we were forced to walk the 23 km. to Tarifa.

By this time we had tried everything from the occasional thumb, at the beginning, to leaping out in the road and waving frantically, but all to no avail. We were always passed at high speed and with an icy

stare. As we reached Tarifa we were desperate enough to try hitching a lift from a passing bus, and to our astonishment, it stopped. We gratefully climbed aboard thanking the driver profusely, but, after about ten minutes, the conductor (to our dismay) demanded the fares so to save an argument we paid, and stayed on board to Chiclana.

From here we had a 6-km. walk to the arterial road from Cadiz to Seville and it was at the road junction that we met the first “Knight of the Road” who willingly gave us a lift to Jerez. Apparently it was because his wife was English that he felt sympathetic towards us.

From Jerez, we covered another 5 km. on foot, till we came upon a factory where a large transporter was about to leave. We pounced upon the driver and although he explained to carry passengers was punishable by a heavy fine, we eventually made him agree to carry us some way up the road. In fact we covered about 50 km. before he had to drop us. This time we stayed put, and some two hours later a vegetable van appeared and deciding this was a likely prey, we feigned great distress and the good man stopped and offered us a lift to Dos Hermanos, some 30 km. away. We got off in a garage where we waited for the next unsuspecting driver to stop. One more lift took us to Seville in a total of 22 hours.

We stayed in Seville only long enough to have a hasty look around and to take a short bus ride (to produce the ticket as evidence) then we set off for home.

The return journey followed much the same pattern, except that it was even more difficult to obtain lifts. However, we were reasonably successful in getting a few until we reached the turn off from the Cadiz Road. From here we had to walk another 23 km. and after trying for more than six hours to get a lift we eventually decided that as time was running out, it was necessary to return by bus.

Since the exercise was to be done on as little money as possible we spent our nights under ground sheets and ate largely from the fields and trees. Our total expenses totalled 30s. each which includes approximately £1 each for bus fares.

The total distance covered was 534 km. (341 miles) and the total distance on foot was 65 km. (40 miles).

FIFTY YEARS AGO

FROM “THE SPORTING LIFE,”

Tuesday, February 9, 1915.

Sergt. Johnny Basham arrived at Paddington on Saturday in excellent condition for his 15 rounds contest tonight with Matt Wells at the London Opera House, Kingsway. Colonel Grantham, Colonel commanding the 17th Middlesex Regiment (Footballers' Battalion), will address the spectators at the ringside and make an appeal for men to join Kitchener's Army. Mr. Eugene Corri will act as referee.

(By courtesy of the Editor)

DRUMS IN MOROCCO

The wind was favourable and the "Mons Calpe" took little more than two hours to deposit us in Tangier. Coming from Gibraltar this is only a stepping stone and our desire for adventure certainly had other objects of satisfaction.

We headed south in all due haste to Rabat via Casablanca but our destination was Marrakesh, The Red City.

Crossing the semi-desert plain of Benguerir we had our first glimpse of a truly southern scene, the sprawling palmery of Marrakesh. Our guide informed us that it is the palmery closest to the northern regions and its 150,000 trees cover an area of 13,000 hectares. Its origin he said must have been almost a thousand years ago. It is said to be the consequence of prolonged camping by conquering tribes coming from the other side of the Atlas mountains with their supply of dates—an explanation too charming to be taken seriously. The barrier of the High Atlas—with the massive Toubkal rising to a height of over 4,000 metres—forms a stunning backdrop for a panorama said to be unique in the world; the foreground an ocean of tropical greenery from which emerges a horizon of mountain peaks (glittering with snow) framed by a crisp blue sky.

Our guide, whom we had with us for two days, was full of information and informed us that Marrakesh was the second imperial city of the kingdom and is still known as the "Pearl of the South." The oldest monuments to be found date from the period of the Almohades, the dynasty which ruled the area after seizing Marrakesh in 1147. Though few in number, these monuments arouse one's interest. The most well known is the

celebrated Koutoubia mosque, whose minaret rises to almost 70 metres, and still serves as a distant signal to travellers approaching Marrakesh.

The sultans of this dynasty built many monuments similar in style to the palaces of Grenada. Of these, the most notable is to be found in Marrakesh—the medersa (school) Ben Youssef, which is admired for its mosaics, marble work, and hand-carved wood.

Our first steps took us through the extraordinary crowds swarming in the Jemma-El-Fna square, where we saw groups of story tellers, acrobats, jugglers and snake-charmers. Cpl. Dave Dawson and Pte. Roger Furlotte had the courage to have photos taken with the snakes around their necks. They informed us that it was a "snaky" experience.

Further along we came upon the maze of markets, or "souks" which offered their fascinating diversity to us. There we discovered the bounty of some 40 corporations of local craftsmen fashioning wood, leather, silver, copper, wool and camel's hair according to traditions refined over centuries; while jealously preserving the purity of their style.

All too soon our holiday was drawing to an end and we had to start back for Tangier staying one night at Mohammedia where we met Major Pollard and his party just out from Gibraltar. Many tales were told across a glass of beer that night. In all a good time was had by both parties with a cheerful sing-song, with Dmr. David Scarfe supplying the music.

We said our farewells the following morning, wishing we had just arrived and had a week to go, but we also had to get back.

A JAUNT FROM "THE ROCK"

By PTE. P. WALSH

A few months ago I (Volkers Walsh) and my friends "Tapas" Price and "Mouse" Calloway, got together and decided to hire a car and go for a weekend in Spain. Our destination was to be Almeria, about 200 miles from Gibraltar, on the East Coast. Our route took us through such well known places as Marbella, Malaga, and Torremolinos.

We arrived in Almeria on the Saturday afternoon and after a good meal went in search of a bar. "Mouse" found one in which an "essence" barmaid was serving. As the evening wore on we began to feel the effects of the wine and the sun. We decided to move on to another bar and I was despatched to bring the car from where we had parked it, to the bar.

When I arrived at the car I suddenly realised to my horror that I had forgotten to memorise the route I had taken from the bar. The effect of the sun (or was it the vino) made this more difficult. Driving around about a dozen times past the same point, both the policemen on duty and I felt quite dizzy. However, I finally found the bar, although in parking I nearly knocked a Spaniard,

who was situated on the kerbside, off his chair. (Well, who would think of sitting on the kerbside in England!)

To end a good evening we had ringside seats in a "punch-up" between two Spanish men. We bought the winner a drink (diplomatic, we reckoned). That night we slept soundly.

Being so far from Gibraltar we had to step on the gas to get back in time before the Border closed. On a certain stretch of road, with a good wind behind us, two rather frightened passengers and a gibbering driver (Volkers), sped for a few seconds towards the distant horizon at 90 m.p.h.

We stopped at Estapona for a "Tapa" and a drink. "Tapas" Price went for the sandwiches and was gone for a good half hour. We were about to organise a search party when he returned with a large package containing four gigantic steak sandwiches. These were excellent, until we learnt the price, 200 Pesetas! However, they were so good we had a short "Gonk" on the beach before proceeding on our way to Gibraltar in our usual road-hog manner. We arrived back in good time, well pleased with the break, tired, broke, but contented.

A WEEKEND IN SPAIN

By PRONTO AND PLAYTIME

This story really begins a fortnight ago, when five members of the M.T. platoon and two signallers went to Spain for a long weekend. The scenery and people were so charming that all concerned decided to accept their invitation and return. To those of the first trip who were unable to return we dedicate this story . . .

The weekend of June 4-8, being Whitsuntide and hence a long weekend, it was decided that once again a group of young "Die-Hards" would trail-blaze their way into Spain. The group consisted of L/Cpl. Toohey (M.T.) and Ptes. Saunders (M.T.), Smith (Signals), and McGlade (M.T.)—the old sweats—and Ptes. Tydeman (M.T.), Ridsdale (M.T.), Roberts (M.T.), Dowdell (M.T.), and Goodman (Rece); who, having heard so much of the last trip decided to chance their luck and join us. At various stages of the story we will come across others so it might be just as well to introduce them now: Capts. Cowing and Wild, and Ptes. Casey, Constance, Walsh and Kowatch, himself one of the original group. The scene is set, the actors introduced and so on with the story.

The vehicle was taken to the border at La Linea at 5 a.m. on Friday morning by Tydeman, who was fortunate enough to get it through the main gates before they were closed at 8.15. Even so we were 16th in the queue and obviously had a long wait ahead of us. Behind the Rover in 17th place was Casey in Capt. Wild's car. Throughout the day other members of the group arrived until all were gathered at about 1700 hrs. Unfortunately we were not due in the Customs Shed until at least 2200 hrs., that is the vehicles weren't allowed through, although we were allowed to travel freely in both directions on foot. An unofficial guard roster was immediately debated, and so each member of the expedition was able to visit La Linea for a couple of hours and the vehicles were at no time left unattended.

Much fun was had by all, and it must go on record that McGlade had twice as much fun as any of us but it cost him twice as much! The adventure training started this evening too—Ridsdale being very adventurous with three girls who were in the vehicle behind Capt. Wild's, and L/Cpl. Toohey practising his field-craft nearly as far as the Spanish Frontier Wire itself.

Once through the Aduana, however, we sorted ourselves out and after wishing the four people in vehicle No. 2 a happy hour's wait—to which we received an answer sounding suspiciously like a belch—we in the first vehicle shot off on the road to Malaga.

We had previously decided that rather than stop near La Linea we would drive on for the four hours that it took to the area that we intended to visit, Benejaraffe about ten miles east of Malaga.

After stopping for a meal (solid type food) en route and ensuring that very few plants on the road side would die of starvation or thirst we eventually arrived at our own Shangri-La at 0230 hrs. This was not before we had exhausted our fairly extensive repertoire of songs and all had sore throats, either from the "singing" or from

laughing at McGlade and Ridsdale who were performing in the back and Toohey who was performing in the front, on the occasions that he was awake.

On driving into the car park of "La Sirena" we fell out of the vehicles, rolled our blankets around ourselves and promptly staggered off to our favourite nooks and crannies for the rest of the morning to sleep.

The "next" morning we awoke at about 0800 hrs, which is our normal reveille time. As it was Tydeman made himself a fine friend by waking Smith, who was sleeping very soundly and did not need to be disturbed, and as soon as he'd gone for his morning shower promptly climbed into bed and slept until 1100 hrs. But we're getting three hours ahead. By 0830 hrs. we were all washed and dressed and those who were going to had shaved (there are always a few Marlon Brandos on these trips, according to a reliable source who was with us later in the day). Nearly as soon as we were cleaned, George, the owner of our restaurant had arrived, and he was very polite in that his face showed no sign of revulsion as he rushed across to welcome us back and be introduced to the new-comers. We all then adjourned to the bar to start the day off with a cup of coffee, and it was then that one of the nicest times of the trip was experienced. George turned to Saunders and said, "Look after the bar if anyone comes in Frank, and I'll go and get my wife to come in early to cook some breakfast." This show of trust made us feel indeed welcome! He returned within half an hour with his wife, Anne, and she was soon put to work cooking the breakfasts assisted by the two maids and Goodman and Smith, who were part-time cooks, waiters, bottle washers and barmen during the stay.

The morning was spent on the beach alternating between bathing and basking in the sun, or laughing at others being thrown about by the strong waves and current. This was all except Toohey and Tydeman who were on the patio with the girls and generally helping in the house. We returned to the restaurant for lunch, and in the early afternoon began to rest with coffee and cognac, when there was a sudden squeal of brakes, a cloud of dust and clink of bottles to announce the arrival of vehicle number two, our late friends of La Linea. The afternoon was then spent in a leisurely manner by all except Capt. Cowing and Casey and Constance, who disbelieving our stories of the breakers decided to try their strength themselves. Fortunately for two of them, no names no pack drill, Casey managed to save them from drowning or meeting any minor mishap.

It was during the latter part of the afternoon that vehicle number three of our group arrived, occupied by Kowatch and two English friends of his. As these were not expected it provided an extra surprise for us and some good company. Especially the two sailors, who were a scream and a hit respectively, but that is another story.

Towards the end of the evening some of the locals

whom we had met on our last trip arrived and invited us to the village dance. This was immediately accepted by some but others appeared to be more content to continue playing either dice or cards as we had been doing all evening or keep up the community singing as accompanied by George on his organ-electric. As it was three members went to the dance intentionally and two otherwise as they were resting in the back of the motor and were not discovered until the return a matter of hours later.

On the return of our nimble footed friends at midnight we adjourned to the beach and consumed vast quantities of screech which had suddenly appeared in the boot of Capt. Wild's car while it had been left parked in La Linea on the previous night. That's how they must have got there as nobody remembers buying them. Bed beckoned and eventually we were all asleep and/or unconscious.

On waking the next morning at the usual time we were pleased to see that Paul Walsh had arrived in his car overnight and so now the group was complete. As per usual George and Anne arrived shortly after we had surfaced and before long they were on the move cooking breakfasts, busily hindered by Toohey and Smith. That is until one of the local lads arrived to take Toohey up on his offer of the previous night—to go for a swim. This was highly amusing to the rest of us as he had no recollection whatsoever of offering nor was he in any state to go near any liquid, even sea-water. Anyway, he went off for his dip and returned with the occupants of vehicle two, Messrs. Constance, Casey, Cowing and Wild, who appear to be accustomed to rising later than the rest of us.

By mid-morning we'd all decided that it would be advisable to split up as the police reinforcements were growing and a break was necessary. Vehicle one went off to the caves at Nerja, vehicle two went to Malaga, vehicle three went to Motril and vehicle four went inland.

We can say very little of vehicle one's trip but suffice it to say that they performed and even we hardly believe some of the stories they told on their return. Vehicle three was not seen again but it is believed that all the occupants are now back in Gibraltar. Vehicle four drove along the coast road instead of inland and also visited the caves at Nerja.

These caves are about 12 miles west of Motril and contain some really impressive stalactite/stalagmite formations. At one time in the dim and distant past they had been inhabited and many relics of those days that have been unearthed are on display inside the caves. The tour itself was interesting, but Public Caves are much the same as Open Houses in Marrakesh, in that once you have seen one you have near-enough seen all the others. We were all of the same mind on this—for once, the Neja Caves are worth visiting but are by no means exceptional.

However, there was a restaurant at the top with a small bar attached and we all met there as we had been split up in the caves. This was not prearranged and it was interesting to watch each man as he came out of the cave to look about him, not see any of his friends and then immediately make a bee line for the bar. When all had assembled once again we prepared for the

evening meal by lining our stomachs. Unfortunately the tourist influence is very prominent as shown by the prices so it wasn't long before we "blew the gaff out" and down the hatch and away.

On returning to the La Sirena we encountered all the members of vehicles two and four and all had a merry tea together. This gave us the chance of company, conversation and bottles.

As to what happened to the group between tea and dinner, again I cannot say as Walsh, Smith and George went on a 50-odd mile tour of the local country away from the coast. George knowing the route it cannot be described as exactly adventurous but to me it was the most interesting part of the weekend as it was an eye-opener and introduction to the pleasanter side of the Spanish people, so seldom seen in the campo area. Our journey was punctuated by but a few stops in the most picturesque places, and we also picked up a Spanish soldier who was hitch-hiking back to camp. With George interpreting we had a pleasant little chat.

We returned to La Sirena in time for the main evening meal, but as the crew of vehicle one had already eaten we promptly sat ourselves down with the rest of the group. A friendly gesture in itself but I might also add that they had four English girl tourists with them. Within the hour everybody joined into one group again, except for Toohey and Tydeman. The evening from then on was very much a repetition of the previous evening so I will say no more and avoid any further repetition! The sole difference being that the girls were escorted home, and I will not repeat what is alleged to have happened anyway.

Morning broke again in the usual manner but the faces were a little longer this being our last day. As some of the members of vehicle one had to return early for the evening's duty it was not long before it was away, but not before some of the original passengers had scrounged seats in the other cars which were leaving later. After the Land-Rover had left we continued chatting on the patio and were for some time with an English couple who are opening a Tea House along the same stretch of road. We helped them with ideas where we could and have all been invited to their place in a few months time when it opens. Very kind of them and appreciated by us.

After lunch the last two vehicles set off and amid many parting expressions we took our leave of George and Anne—not for the last time we hope. The journey back to the Rock passed all too quickly and we arrived back far too soon for our liking, actually reaching the border at about 1700 hrs. We were then lucky in that we had a wait of only three hours before finally driving through the customs and getting back onto the Rock proper.

Free Journals

The Editor wishes to thank the following readers for their generosity in paying extra subscriptions for a year so that free copies of *The Die-Hards* can be sent to deserving Old Comrades: Miss D. Dorothy Longe, Major F. J. Nunn, and C.S.M. E. Steward.

By Appointment to  Her Majesty The Queen
Hatters

Tradition in the modern manner

H. J. are well known to all regiments as makers of fine Service caps, but not everyone may know that we also offer a range of quality soft felt hats. In fact, we are very proud of our "softs", and for many years they have been the choice of discerning gentlemen who like to feel as correctly—yet comfortably—dressed off parade as on. We supply hats to suit every occasion and taste. Why not call and see the full range? Or write for an illustrated brochure.



Dual-purpose hat, in brown, green or grey. Style 6153

**REGIMENTAL CAPMAKERS
TO:
THE MIDDLESEX
REGIMENT**

Herbert Johnson
(BOND STREET) LTD.



Civil and Military Hatters

40a LONDON RD., CAMBERLEY (Wednesday afternoons only)
38 NEW BOND ST., LONDON, W.1. Tel: MAYfair 7177

Over a Century-old Partnership...



**PARSONS
AND
PRINTING**

Like the Services, we have a tradition to uphold, at the same time taking advantage of scientific progress in this age of mechanisation, yet maintaining, through a special department, a personal and helpful link with our customers, whom we are ever willing to advise and assist in the production of their journals.

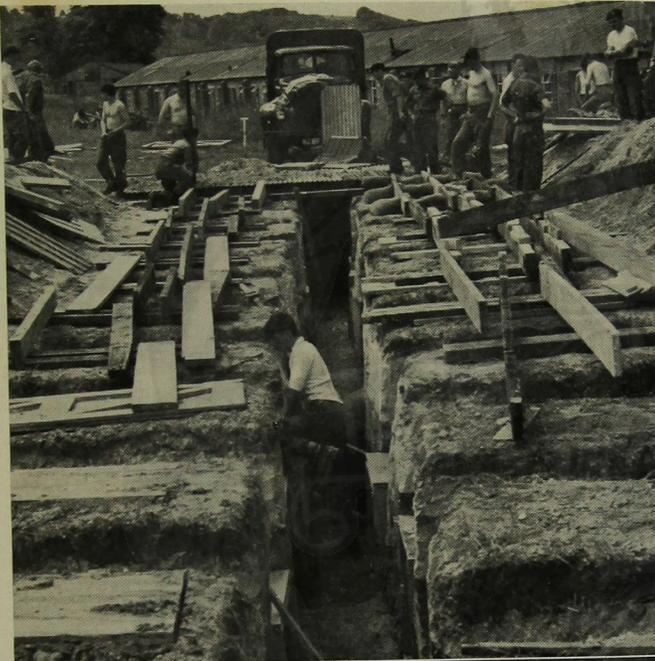
F. J. PARSONS LTD

The Adelphi, John Adam St., London, W.C.2 · Trafalgar 7151
Works at Hastings, Folkestone, Bexhill, Lewes and Seaford

THE BIG DIG

These two photographs show a stage in the construction of one of the Battalion Fall Out Shelters and one of the Finished Shelters built during the final Battalion Survival Exercise at Annual Camp Devizes this year.

A second Survival Shelter was constructed beneath the concrete floor of the hut in the background in the upper picture.



5th Battalion (T.A.) Notes

EDITORIAL

The last six months have witnessed some momentous happenings in the history of the Battalion. With Colonel Hall in command from April 1, we have witnessed the call-out of 29 of our Ever Readies for service in Aden, a complete reshuffle and promotion in Company Command structures, a first-rate camp, but overshadowing all this are the plans for the new Territorial Reserve which in one blow is to end the Battalion's short but active life. Happily, there will still be a volunteer infantry Company to be raised from Middlesex so that all our aspirations and hard work will not be in vain. If we are to provide an up to strength, highly efficient company in the Home Counties Reserve Battalion, then it will be everybody's aim to make it so before the Battalion ceases to exist. However, at the time of writing, much is not settled and plans may well alter considerably before the final solution is known.

The first Battalion event was the Signals exercise set by the Brigade. It proved only too convincingly the inevitable built-in weakness of a Battalion which for the greater part of the year operates in independent Company groups. A great many lessons had to be re-learned the hard way.

May saw the dispatch of Lt. Jock Smith and 28 of the Ever Readies to the 1st Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment in Aden. We are proud to have contributed by far the largest number to this commitment outside the Royal Sussex Regiment itself. The story is told elsewhere in the magazine. Suffice it to say here that the rest of the Battalion saw them off in some awe; it really was possible to serve in an active theatre so easily—for a mere Bounty!

Camp was a success without reservations. Almost the entire Battalion went to Devizes prepared to grin and bear home defence training with tarnished memories of Civil Defence at Millom in the minds of the more senior members.

As it was, a wealth of experience was learned by all ranks and with the climax of the "Big Dig" (where the entire Battalion dug itself beneath ground to survive a nuclear attack) almost everyone felt that here was a satisfying roll for the Battalion well learned. It made the subsequent report that the T.A. would no longer contribute to Home Defence a very bitter pill to swallow indeed. Our report from the Home Defence Centre describing us as "the best Battalion since 1964" will no doubt earmark us a place in British Military History. As the School opened in 1964 and now presumably closes because of policy changes, we presume we must be the best Battalion at Home Defence this country ever had!

BATTALION HEADQUARTERS

Change of Command wrought dire changes in Battalion Headquarters. Solar heating gave way to chemical fertilizers as the main subject of conversation other than "shop."

In fact after the initial change and a very hectic signals exercise, we set about imposing a pre-camp period of training on the Battalion. The Training Major, Geoff Norton, and the Adjutant spread alarm and despondency amongst the T.A. Centres with stories of mass destruction and death around the corner—and got thoroughly bored with each other's voices in the process (just why is that bottle of beer not radioactive?).

As camp approached a tall silent figure appeared. Subsequently at camp he remained tall but not in the least silent (as indeed all officers at least will vouch). Everybody is delighted to have R.S.M. Lyons with us. We hope he will have a thoroughly enjoyable if regrettably rather a curtailed tour of duty with us.

At the end of camp, we said goodbye to R.S.M. Boseley after three hard worked years trying to make the Battalion (and notably "D" Company) look more military than they would normally volunteer to be. We wish him and his family a very happy tour in Hong Kong.

The R.M.O. and erstwhile medical section completed a massive task over this period. After rushing the Aden-bound Ever Readies through the necessary jabs, they then dealt with the remainder of T.A.E.R. bound for training in B.A.O.R. Their appetites whetted, they descended on the rest of the Battalion at camp and blood grouped and inoculated us almost to a man.

Their hard work (but as important the co-operation of all ranks) achieved what the A.D.M.S. had thought impossible. It is not, however, true that the section is all being promoted to the rank of W.O.I R.A.M.C. (or at least we think it's not true!).

Our Padre, Father Ralph Brown, was everywhere at camp, and a tremendous boost to morale during the "Big Dig." Subsequent to camp, he has proved a determined sociologist proving amongst other things that only 57% of Territorials brush their teeth twice daily.

Of the rest of us, Mr. Howe again managed to take the longest possible route to camp. The ladies continue to "do us proud." We still can't envisage mobilisation without them. The Pay team seem to expand the whole time and may one day be able to take over the entire Penn Street team (the I.O. will surely live in the U.S.A. by then).

As these notes are passed to the Editor, the sound of size 13 (or is it 14?) boots is heard tramping towards us.

Major Lawrence is shortly to take over as Training Major and we look forward to his tour of duty with the Battalion.

EVER READY CALL-OUT

On April 17, Easter Saturday, 29 members of the Battalion received the biggest Easter "egg" of their lives—call-out notices to serve with 1st Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment in Aden. The goose that laid the "bountiful" egg had indeed come home to roost. In truth after the initial shock, every Ever Ready concerned responded magnificently and we hope their present experiences in Aden will be six months of their lives they will never wish to forget.

After a month of struggling through inoculations, kit issues and a mass of documentation frustrated by problems of a previously untried form of mobilisation, the last of three drafts arrived at Canterbury on May 31.

There they completed a whirlwind few days of hard training (mainly aimed at dispelling civilian lack of fitness) and were sent rapidly on to Aden. (A false start in the third flight saw Sgt. Graham and others drinking in "A" Company Bar when he should have been over Malta.)

Reports of them since have been all too few, despite exhortations to let us know how they have found things. Piecing together the clues, they were obviously staggered by the temporary and inevitably poor accommodation that The Royal Sussex have had to make do with. The long hours on guards and patrols seemed also to be a lot to stomach initially. However, we suspect that there will be far more "lamp swinging" than moans in the months to come.

They are certainly in the thick of the most "active" service that 1 Royal Sussex have seen for some years.



Maj-Gen. J. E. F. Willoughby, C.B.E., G.O.C., M.E.L.F., talking to five "Ever Readies" from the Battalion



Maj-Gen. J. E. F. Willoughby, C.B.E., G.O.C., M.E.L.F., watching L.M.G. practice

Lt. "Jock" Smith and his platoon have been under fire twice now at least, acquitting themselves well in an ambush patrol in the latter case where they killed four of the rebels. A report of this will be found elsewhere in the Journal.

As this article is being written news has come through that Pte. Barrett, formerly of "D" Company, has himself been slightly wounded in an ambush.

We all look forward to their return to hear their views in far more detail. The six month period of call-up is due to end in October.

Remembrance Day Service

NOVEMBER 14, 1965

INGLIS BARRACKS, MILL HILL

Report by Lt. J. J. Smith, O.C. 3 Platoon, "A" Company, 1 Royal Sussex, on ambush in Monks Field area, Radfan, on July 6, 1965.

On July 6, I was instructed to take out an ambush patrol to ambush the area GR 910003, which was a possible route in for dissidents to attack the rear of my platoon position at H10, near Monks Field in the Radfan. We had laid ambushes in this area on several previous nights, and the ground was familiar to the members of the patrol and myself.

The patrol consisted of a Corporal, a Lance-Corporal and nine soldiers in addition to myself. I organised the patrol into two groups, each with a LMG and A41 radio. Acting on the experience of previous units in the Radfan, this is good organisation, which brings out the basic principles of one group covering the other, both while on the move, and when in the ambush position. One of my groups was given the task of killing, and the other the task of covering.

Before leaving the platoon base, I registered a DF task to support the patrol with "B" Troop, Sphinx Battery, 7 R.H.A., the troop in direct support of my



(Photo: The Kentish Gazette)

The author of the Report being interviewed by Mr. Fred Mulley, Secretary for the Army, during the latter's visit to T.A.E.R. at Home Counties Brigade Depot, before departure for Aden. Another familiar "Die-Hard," Lt.-Col. C. N. Clayden, listens in

company. We then left at approximately 1930 hours, and arrived in the ambush position at 2030 hours. I organised the ambush so as to cover the track coming up from the Wadi Taym on the right. There was a half moon giving good visibility up to 200 yards.

At about 2045 hours we heard dogs barking and a donkey braying from the direction of the villages in the Wadi Taym. This alerted us all, and at about 2115 hours we heard a noise from the other side of the hill directly to our front as though someone had kicked a tin. A few minutes later we heard footsteps coming over the hill, and then, at about 2130 hours, eight or nine men came into sight over the hill.

The patrol had all heard the noises, and as the men appeared, we moved our weapons round to cover their approach. The dissidents came down the hill roughly divided into two groups about five yards apart. When they reached the open area of the track junction I gave the order to fire, and every member of the patrol opened up simultaneously. I thought the range at the time was over 100 yards, but when looked at in daylight the following morning, it was in fact about 75 yards.

Five or six dissidents appeared to be hit almost immediately, and the rest dispersed away from us and went to ground. They fired a few random shots in our direction, which were not effective. Then, very shortly afterwards, fairly accurate fire was opened at my patrol from the area of the rocks at the top of the hill. Both my LMGs immediately engaged this target, and the enemy fire ceased. Two men rushed across the track firing as they went. I switched the LMGs onto them. Suddenly there was a bang and a flash. One of them carrying a mine or grenade had blown up. I cannot be sure whether we hit the other or not. It was during this exchange that Pte. Sullivan, LMG No. 2 in the cover group was wounded in the arm.

I then reorganised my patrol by withdrawing them all to the covering position, and got them in a position of all round defence, as I thought we might have to stay there all night covering any enemy casualties. I attended to Sullivan, and gave him morphia. He had two flesh wounds in his right arm, and he was made fairly comfortable.

During the engagement my radio operators had been able to send sitreps to my Company Commander at Monks Field, and at this stage the Company Commander told me to withdraw the patrol to platoon base. I was told that artillery HF would be brought down on the area for the rest of the night to prevent recovery of casualties, and I was told to send corrections to get this fire on to the exact area. This we did, and HF was continued for the rest of the night.

We then withdrew to H10 where my platoon base was, and arrived there at about 2300 hours.

At first light the following morning we returned to the ambush area, and found the bodies of two dead dissidents in the killing area. One was still clutching a SMLE .303 rifle. We searched their retreat route, and found a 36 grenade, primed, and two bandoliers of ammo which presumably had been dropped by wounded men as they withdrew. In the position from which fire had been opened at my patrol we found about 30 empty .303 cases, struck by a Bren striker.

The bodies were photographed by a photographer sent up by 45 Commando, R.M., and we then buried them, in doing so having to blast a hole with beehive charges.

During the next two days we received several reports from tribal informers about further enemy casualties, which indicated that at least two other dissidents were killed, and two others wounded. This would make a total number of six, which tallies with the number that members of my patrol reckon were hit by our initial bursts of fire.

On debriefing the members of my patrol afterwards, the following points emerged:—

(a) The enemy party that came down the hill did not appear alert. They were chatting amongst themselves, and many had their weapons slung. They gave the impression that they were following a route well known to them as a matter of habit.

(b) My LM Gunners, Ptes. Love and Armeni, as well as the riflemen, said they found their targets very well defined and easy to aim at in the bright moonlight. Night firing practices carried out previously gave them confidence in that the situation was not entirely new. However, the targets they had to aim at—fast moving, well defined figures—were unlike any they had had to fire at on the range previously.

Change of Address

To ensure receipt of your copy,
notify the Editor
of any change of address

For all your printing and
stationery requirements

Mill Hill Printers Ltd.
and
Seabrook Stationers
Ltd.

Figtree Hill, Queensway
Hemel Hempstead, Herts.
Boxmoor 641 Hemel Hempstead 52641

H.Q. COMPANY

Personalities

Cpl. Claydon and R.Q.M.S. Vaisey are to be congratulated on their Commissions. Cpl. Claydon has left us to go to "A" Company but Ron Vaisey as the second Quartermaster has taken over the M.T.

The following are also congratulated on their respective promotions: Major Beaumont, Capt. Tett, Capt. Robertson, Sgt. Dobson, L/Cpls. Shears, Jefferys, McFarland, Gilbert, Hooker, and Jackson.

It is amazing how the numbers in the canteen rise when one man is paying!

We have sadly said goodbye to Sgt. Ashcroft who after being taken ill on a shooting weekend and spending several weeks in hospital had to be medically discharged.

He has given many years of loyal service and could always be relied upon to carry out a variety of tasks. We wish him well for the future.

Sgt. Barnes our P.S.I. left to take over at "B" Company during camp, after only a brief period of five months. I hope he enjoyed his stay as much as the Company enjoyed having him, but I am not sure that he ever fully recovered after the shock of his first weekend at Hawley Lakes and Hangmoor when he was rowed around in circles by the Company Commander in a recce boat with a slow puncture breaking up the ice at night!

C.S.M. Warner from the 1st Battalion has now settled in and is taking a very active part training the recruits in addition to normal P.S.I. duties.

The following are welcomed to the Company having joined in recent months: Ptes. Adams, Bond, Brennan, Burl, Davis, A., Davis, W. H., Hollett, Knowles, Keeth, Lake, Roberts, Thompson, Hipwell, Degener, and Patrick, Dmrs. Handscombe, Pipe, Edwards, J., and McGeary.

Camp

Despite the general feeling on Home Defence before going to Devizes, it proved a very successful and happy camp.

The "Big Dig" was the highlight in the second week, when everybody really worked hard (including the officers!) digging the nuclear shelter and command post, for Battalion Headquarters. This was no small task but everybody mucked in with a good spirit and achieved great satisfaction on finishing it with an hour or two to spare before being shut in for the night. The Adjutant and R.S.M. Lyons made a fine sight digging, but there is no truth in the rumour that the Adjutant is buying all photographs of himself digging to forward to a Body Beautiful magazine!

L/Cpl. Shears on behalf of the Junior N.C.O.s and soldiers presented R.S.M. Boseley with a fine drinking mug and spirit flask at the Company party. This was apparently an unexpected and spontaneous gesture which helped to make a very enjoyable evening, although I do not believe this helped R.S.M. Boseley's last drill parade the following morning!

The medical section, as efficient as ever, thoroughly enjoyed itself drawing blood and giving injections to



The Company Commander Major M. J. Beaumont, being presented with the Officers Shooting Cup by Mrs. Hall at the Battalion Rifle Meeting

all in sight on arrival at camp. The Padre who was always in attendance fortunately was not required.

Training

The Company has been very active at weekends which have been mostly organised on company arrangements with individual Platoon training.

The Recce Platoon went to Salisbury Plain in April on a Brigade weekend and got a very good report from the Brigade Major after giving him breakfast!

The inexperienced members of the Signal Platoon acquitted themselves very well on the Battalion exercises in April. The shooting team did not meet with the success hoped for at the Battalion Rifle Meeting but with more experience should do well next year. The only cups won were by the Company Commander in the Officers' match and the runner-up Cup by L/Cpl. Jefferys in the Sten match. The Company Commander though was heard muttering something about a cracked china cup and Cpl. Metheringham for some time afterwards!

Things are carrying on as usual despite the recent news. Everybody is looking forward to assisting "B" Company at Poole in September at their assault boat beach landing and climbing Snowdon.

Signals Platoon

Although few in number the Platoon has proved very active participating in all of the Company's activities with a great deal of enthusiasm.

Camp proved to be a great success. The first week was spent in Signal training. The Platoon was an independent unit and spent most of the time in the field on various exercises.

An instructive insight into the Regular Army Signals

set-up was provided by an afternoon's visit to Warminster where we were given a demonstration of the Army's signal equipment by S/Sgt. Ross-Gower.

The post-camp period has been highlighted by the provision of an exchange, line and telephones to assist the Automobile Association at their Annual Sports Meeting.

A tug-of-war team was entered but was unfortunately beaten. Nevertheless, we were invited to share the winners' prize—the inevitable pint of beer!

We look forward to an energetic autumn with exercises at Poole, Dorset, Snowdon and Stoney Castle.

Recce Platoon

We must start by asking why it is that radio sets in 4-ton vehicles stop working when we get them! They work for everyone else so why not us? M.T.O. and R.S.O. please explain.

We have just finished our Home Defence Training year much of which was spent monitoring, a bit confusing; some of us are still not sure whether a dosimeter shouldn't be spelt dozy, and refer to better things. Camp was good, our only bad failure was in not convincing the Gods that monitoring teams are too valuable to squander their energy in digging.

The exercises all went very well and combined good training with quite a lot of fun, so by the end of it all we were able to go home having learnt a lot and enjoyed ourselves. We hope that the Padre will read these notes and be warned that we remember his deadly aim with



Members of the Signal Platoon by the Exchange Vehicle at the Automobile Association Sports Meeting, (from left to right): L/Cpl. Shears, L/Cpl. McFarland, Lt. Tett, L/Cpl. Jefferys, Pte. Smith, Pte. Lamb, Cpl. Snowden, Pte. Richardson

little bags of oatmeal, and already our boffins are at work on an even more ultimate, ultimate weapon.

This training year is devoted to basic infantry training, and already we have had great fun watching our Sergeant playing at number one on the Bren in a section commanded by a promising young private who has not been seen since the end of the exercise. We also learned that a prismatic compass is best used in conjunction with a well signposted main road, and then to follow someone who knows the way.

We are very sorry to lose L/Cpl. Aerts and Pte. Boatwright due to the demands of their work. But we have our eyes on the recruits and have our agents.

Lastly we would like to congratulate Cpl. Claydon on the way he was discharged from the T.A. to reappear as a Platoon Commander in "A" Company, a loss to the Platoon but not to the Battalion. We hope to be able to tell you in the next edition how he likes walking instead of having a ¼-ton to ride in.

Corps of Drums

From the last time of writing we are very pleased to report that recruiting to the Corps has made a great improvement. This gave us a very good opportunity at Annual Camp to get down to some useful training. The Drummers themselves have greatly improved, particularly now with the two keen L/Cpls., Hooker and Jackson.

We were able to carry out three Retreat Beatings at Camp and the drummers who stayed for the whole 15 days, kept up the Corps' good name by digging on the Home Defence training. Knowledge and fitness were gained by all. However, we still had a busy time after camp with Carnivals and Retreat beating parades, up to the holiday period.

We are tackling the programme for the Band and Drums competition which we feel we must go forward to win. We also hope to have the present keenness in the Corps at the Snowdonia weekend in September when we can become a Corps to be proud of.

Lord Lieutenant's Appeal for Widows Flatlets Albuhera Glose Enfield

*Have you given your
contribution to this
worthy cause?*

"A" COMPANY

These last few months "A" Company has been living well up to its new motto of "A for Activity." This is now undoubtedly beginning to pay off with increasing numbers of good recruits, plus a new keenness amongst the old hands. Much of the credit for this must also go to our new Company Commander, Major Couch, with his policy of ruthless "chopping" of all the "dead wood" of the Company.

In February we welcomed Lt. Hamilton of "D" Company who showed us a film he had made for the B.B.C. on conditions of our regulars out in Borneo. This certainly dispelled any envy we may have had for anyone living under a hot sun. It was almost a relief to walk home in the cold air and not have to stop every half hour to burn blood-sucking leaches off our legs! The same month saw us shooting on the fully automatic ranges at Hythe. What a relief to have no butt party!

Another Company weekend, this time at Fingringhoe, produced a great deal of excitement. The plan was to attack defensive positions on the coast by landing from assault boats. After initial difficulties with the boat engines, we all managed to land safely; "all" that is, except the Adjutant whose "safety" boat broke down! After providing more effective battle simulations for the assault than they did workable engines, 313 Field Squadron R.E. the next day gave us a demonstration of cratering a cross roads with 40lb. of explosives. It was whilst looking down the huge hole afterwards that we very nearly lost Lt. "Jock" Smith!

May brought the Battalion Rifle Meeting, and no prizes for guessing which Company won yet again! However, "A" Company came a good second and, in fact, won the main event, the China Cup. Three of our best shots, Cpls. Bird, Kavanagh and Garrity, managed to take part on the Sunday after a feverish dash from deplaning after their two week stay as "Ever Readies" in Germany. Lt. Brown did well in the Officers' Competition in coming second.

A farewell party to those of the T.A.E.R. posted for six months to Aden was voted the best "do" the canteen has ever seen. The highlight of the evening was the entrance of a young lady with clothes and the exit of the same young lady, without clothes! Our thanks to Capt. D. Jones for arranging such an evening. The "Ever Readies" we said goodbye to were: Lt. "Jock" Smith, Sgt. Graham, Sgt. Aldridge, Cpl. Braime, Ptes. Greenwood, Bonner and Enever.

From May onwards our Tuesday training evenings became increasingly devoted to Home Defence training in preparation for camp. On Thursday evenings, however, we have enjoyed talks by Capt. Jones on the "History of the British Army," played basketball and, for those interested, .22 shooting. Mention must be made of the fine achievements of our .22 shooting team organised so well by Sgt. Graham. Under his leadership, himself, Cpl. Garrity, Cpl. Davis, Cpl. Kavanagh and Pte. Assing won both the Battalion and the Brigade Harmonization Competitions. Also, a team of Lt. Brown, Sgt. Graham, Sgt. Stone, Cpl. Garrity, Cpl. Davis, Cpl. Kavanagh, Cpl. Bird and Pte. Assing easily won the inter-Company .22 Competition. New features

"A" COMPANY



1. Communal wash at Annual Camp, (left to right): Cpl. Davis, Pte. McIntyre, Pte. Assing.
2. About to blow up the cameraman! — Pte. Mortlemans.
3. All ready for the assault boats; Cpl. Davis on Fingringhoe weekend.
4. Here's where we nearly lost Lt. "Jock" Smith.
5. Capt. Jones's car negotiates some rough ground. Foreground, Cpl. Davis, Cpl. Slack.

enjoyed on a Thursday evening are Battle P.T. run by Major Couch, and Judo organised by Capt. Jones.

And so to camp, which, despite some pessimistic murmurings, turned out to be one of the best ever. The first week was taken up with first aid training, riot drill, rescue operations and internal security work. Cpl. Davis, ever to the fore, led his section well to win a competition involving rescue operations. An extremely efficient fall out shelter was built by the whole battalion during the second week of camp. This was perfect except for one "small" detail; someone piled layer upon layer of hessian over the air intake of the shelter, all but suffocating all the inmates!

Another Company weekend training, again with the Support Platoon on the electronic ranges at Lydd showed us we had a very useful addition to the Company. This recent addition is 2/Lt. Claydon whom we are delighted to welcome to "A" Company. Once seated at the piano he was in his element; now, at least, we'll know if we're singing out of tune or not!

The Company is delighted to welcome back Pte. Stone and to extend a warm welcome to Ptes. Bushby, Hartley, Townsend, Ockwell, Ruggles, Bratley, Foster, Williams, Goodbourn and Roper.

"B" COMPANY

Three major events stand out in the mind since the last issue of the Journal. Firstly, 11 of our best chaps were called up for their "Ever Ready" service, barely a month before Annual Camp. The few weeks before they left were crowded with activity, new kit, jabs, and bags of advice from the "old sweats," including those who had never seen sand. On the last Drill night prior to their departure we had a small party to wish them Godspeed and a safe return. So far, sitreps have mentioned sand, sand and sand, but recent reports have indicated that they have settled down well, some promotions have occurred, action has been seen and it looks as if that lamp is going to swing more than ever in November. Whilst we missed them at Camp we are proud to have contributed the highest number from any Company in the Brigade.

In addition to the 11 we lost to Aden, we lost a further 15 to various Battalions in B.A.O.R., some having a rather dull time whilst others had enjoyable Camps with the regulars who took pains to ensure that the training was of good value. So it was rather a depleted "B" Company which went to the Army Home Defence School at Devizes and we combined with "C" Company. The training was a new conception of the role of the T.A. at home and it turned out to be more interesting than the survivors of Millom had anticipated. During the second week Capt. Henshaw commanded a composite Company made up from the Battalion and "B" Company Platoon became a pack of moles burrowing away under an old hut with a concrete floor. The dig was sufficiently complete to enable the "Platoon" to spend the night underground and the school was very pleased. Needless to say, some were very glad to see the light of day if only to enjoy a decent smoke at last.

The third event had been talked about for some time but it was still a shock when it came. The changes in the role of the T.A. obviously necessitate the closing down of many Drill Halls, but until the actual day arrives we are carrying on, in fact, it's "Business as usual" for us and after a couple of near misses this year we are going all out for certain competitions next year.

We were very sorry to lose W.O.2 Adkins after over two years with the Company giving us so much of his time and really making his mark in the story of "B" Company. But we are very pleased that he has been commissioned as Q.M. and we look forward to seeing him again in his new role with the Battalion.

We welcome Sgt. Barnes as our new P.S.I. and we hope he enjoys his stay with us.

"C" COMPANY

"C" Company has been progressing steadily during the past few months; our members however have not increased to any great extent. One of our number, Pte. Barton, joined the regular Battalion, presumably finding the T.A. life too hard. Pte. Ballard signed on with the Merchant Navy and is at the present time waiting to join his ship. We wish them both good luck and hope to see them from time to time. We had four new recruits join us just before camp—Ptes. Hull, Jakob, and Robertson (all having done regular service), and Pte. Grice, all of whom have settled down well with the Company in the short time they have been there.

The training has been frequent and varied from a Company weekend with "A" Company in which beach landings and night attacks were practised, to individual compass and map reading competitions, range work, and field firing. It is pleasing to see such a large percentage of our strength turning up on these weekends.

Six of our T.A.E.R. members went to Germany with the 1st Battalion The Warwickshire Fusiliers for their fortnight's training and one with the 1st Battalion The Black Watch. All found it a very interesting period but all without exception felt they could have been worked much harder. (They say that now anyway!)

Four T.A.E.R. members are certainly not complaining as far as hard work is concerned; these are serving their six months with The Royal Sussex in Aden. They are L/Cpl. Smith, Ptes. Edwards, Deane and Wain. By now they must certainly have got sand in their boots.

On receiving his call-up papers one of these happy wanderers thought his final destination was Canterbury. He was more than a little surprised when he learnt otherwise. We understand he has now recovered from the shock. From all accounts they are doing well there and we look forward to their return to hear more fully of their experiences.

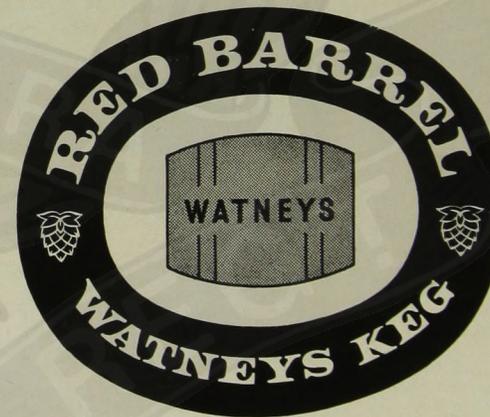
Camp this year was at Devizes for "Home Defence" training. We combined with "B" Company during camp making a strong company despite the losses both companies had due to T.A.E.R. training away from the Battalion. The Camp was of great interest and if we learnt nothing else we certainly learnt how to dig.

T. Jones (Harrow) Ltd

Builders & Contractors

Telephone Nos. Harrow 5678 & 5722

TRUST



Britain's
first
and most
popular
keg bitter.
Always clear,
always in
perfect
condition.

"D" COMPANY

Although thunder clouds seem to be forming over the T.A., recruiting is going great guns at "D" Company. We welcome the arrival of 2/Lt. Robert Scott from The Royal Welch Fusiliers, and Ptes. Bakewell, Hobbs, Johnson, Locke, Crane, Peacock, Osborne, White, McMahon, Whordley, Brereton, Gilmour and Gillow.

We sent L/Cpl. Malcolm Hart, Ptes. Roger Hart, Ray Jones, Steve Hurley, Dannie Horton and "Plonker"



Prior to their departure for Aden, our Ever Readies were dined out by the Company, (from left to right): Pte. R. Hart, Pte. S. Hurley, Pte. R. Jones, L/Cpl. M. Hart, Pte. D. Horton and Pte. "Plonker" Barratt

Barrett out to Aden to "help out" 1 Royal Sussex. We expect to welcome them back to the fold round about the beginning of November.

Whilst training at Redfern Camp, our Ever Readies met the G.O.C. Middle East Command, the distinguished "Die-Hard", Major General J. E. F. Willoughby. And while those in Aden were "sunning themselves" in that vast paradise, Cpls. Derek Smyth, Paul Hart, Mick Joyce, Mick Enright, "Matt" Dillon and L/Cpl. "Hoss" Davies attended a very damp annual camp in B.A.O.R. with 1st Battalion The Black Watch. Who was the man seen sneaking in at 0400 hrs.?

Congratulations to "A" Company on winning the "China Cup" at the Battalion Rifle meeting on May 22-23. Through the valiant leadership of Sgt. Gordon Young and the efforts of the "D" Company team we managed to collect the following trophies:

Individual matches

Sten M.G.: Winner, Sgt. G. Young.
Sten Young Soldiers: Winner, Pte. A. Drinkwater; Runner up, Pte. G. Hills.
L.M.G. Pairs: Winner, Ptes. D. Strawson and A. Drinkwater; Runner up, L/Cpls. P. Long and M. Joyce.

Corporal and below: Winner, Cpl. E. Humes; Runner up, Pte. M. Phillips.

Best Soldier: Winner, Pte. G. Oliver; Runner up, Pte. J. Wood.

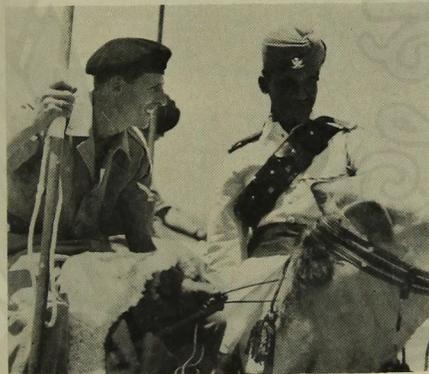
Warrant Officers and Sergeants: Winner, Sgt. G. Young.

Team competition

S.M.G. Match, L.M.G. Match, Rifle Match, Section Competition, and Falling Plate Match.

Congratulations are due to Cpl. Ted Humes for once again winning the Corporals and below, and Pte. "Olly" Oliver and Pte. Barry Wood for "showing the way" in the Young Soldiers' match.

For the rest of "D" Company, less the above mentioned Ever Readies, annual camp was held at A.H.D.C. Devizes from June 19 to July 3. This proved a most interesting and worth-while camp. The survival exercise during the second week found us all digging a large hole. Landscape gardener Pte. Geoff Hobbs was in his element. C/Sgt. Henry Rea did his bit with a constant supply of hot delicious food, but was not forgiven for trying to sabotage Mick Ward's revetting. Lt. Hamilton's platoon kept busy swinging and singing



L/Cpl. Malcolm Hart, one of the six members of the Company serving with 1 Royal Sussex Regiment in Aden, talking to a member of the Federal Regular Army Camel Troop

to the beat of "pop" from the pirate Radio London.

Since Cpl. Tom Tridall's promotion to Sergeant, I understand that the Sergeants Mess have had to lay in a special supply of "Worthington." Other promotions include, L/Cpls. Mick Enright, Mick Joyce and John Raby to Corporal, congratulations to them all.

When the company parades for weekend training on September 11/12, it is their avowed intention to hold a "one minute silence" for Company 21C Mike Doran, who has at last finished "cooking the company books" for audit.

OFFICERS MESS

On May 21, we held the Albuhera Dinner in the Mess at Edgware and took this opportunity to say farewell officially to Col. Geoffrey Webber. On this occasion we were pleased to welcome a number of officers of the Regiment who were posted in the London area, and able to dine with us. Col. Webber presented the Mess with a magnificent photograph album as a parting gift.

At camp at Devizes we had a very well equipped mess. Lt. Fred Hamilton ably assisted by W.O.2 Medlock A.C.C. ensured that a high standard of messing was maintained throughout camp. We were pleased to have Col. Walden, Col. Gluckstein and Col. Clayton with us on our Guest Night and to see Col. Desmond Ellis who paid us a brief visit at the end of camp.

Congratulations to Lt. (Q.M.) Ron Vaisey and 2/Lt. Richard Clayton on their appointments to commissions in the Regiment. Congratulations also to Geoff and Audrey Young on the birth of twin boys on Albuhera Day.

After camp we had a spate of promotions—Majors Beaumont, Couch and Henshaw, and Capts. Jones, Tett, Robertson and Parkinson.

The final social event of the period was the Beating of Retreat at Dene Court, Harrow, which was followed by a curry party. Once again we were indebted to Capt. and Mrs. Don Jones for permitting us to use their home for this function.

SERGEANTS MESS

We must begin by congratulating W.O.2 Berry (R.A.P.C.), Sgts. Dobson and Hall (R.A.M.C.) on their respective promotions and welcome the latter pair to the mess. The sales of whisky at camp do indicate that they both felt at home and ready to take their full part in mess life. We also welcome W.O.1 Lyons as R.S.M. and W.O.2 Warner and Sgt. Barnes as P.S.I.s and hope that their stay with us will be a happy one.

Recently, we were presented with a silver cigarette box by the 102 Wentworth Regiment, Royal Canadian Artillery. This unexpected and most welcome gift has caused a certain amount of speculation as to how one of us can get over to Canada in order to return the compliment. A very thorough perusal of T.A. Regulations has not brought to light any method of obtaining free passages to the dominions. Perhaps "Whipper" Sills can arrange for a London Transport Bus to be made available.

Camp this year was held at the A.H.D.C. Devizes, and proved far more interesting than most of us had expected. Certainly some members picked up some knowledge, for it is noticeable that bootlaces are now being tied with reef knots and clove hitches. Indeed a remarkable selection of knots was used one evening to lash a certain Sergeant to a post outside his bunk. The "Big Dig" did not produce the expected crop of blisters, although on average most members managed to shed about six pounds in weight. The I.S. operation at the end of the second week may have changed Sgt. Harwood's ideas about being an infantryman as he is now practising hard at falling off the back of fast moving Land-Rovers.

The mess night during the first week was very successful. Once again excellent entertainment was provided by Drum Major Holdford and C/Sgt. Rae on drums and piano respectively; the whole evening being well directed by Sgt. Ward as M.C. We were visited by W.O.1 Dodkins, R.Q.M.S. Da Costa and W.O.2 Stewart on this occasion and very pleased we were to see them.

This opportunity must not be missed of mentioning the magnificent food which we enjoyed throughout our stay at camp and of recording our appreciation for the good work carried out by the mess staff, ably led by W.O.2 "Paddy" Abell (A.C.C.). Other catering experts who helped to make camp so successful were W.O.2 Medlock (A.C.C.) who was gainfully employed in the Officers Mess and will be remembered by many of the 1st Battalion; also W.O.2 Banks (A.C.C.) who looked after all the ravenous appetites in the men's cookhouse.

We said goodbye to R.S.M. Boseley at camp by towing him round camp in a Land-Rover preceded by the corps of drums and also presented him with an inscribed watch as a token of our esteem. We wish him and his family a pleasant and enjoyable tour of duty in Hong Kong.

W.O.2 "Charlie" Banks was seen in the mess this year which seems to denote that he enjoyed camp. One person whom we saw only a couple of times and then he was either just arriving or just leaving was R.Q.M.S. Vaisey; this was the only camp since the formation of the T.A. which he has not attended in full. Our congratulations are offered to him on his recent promotion to a Quartermaster commission; we hope that he will still visit the mess from time to time. Our congratulations are also offered to Sgts. Barnes and Stone, the former for successfully avoiding accidents during his driving instruction and the latter for holding the appointments of O.C. Company—C.S.M.—C.Q.M.S. and Platoon Sergeant during the 14 days at Devizes.

Finally we wish Sgts. Graham and Aldridge the best of luck in Aden and hope to see them back at the end of October.

Our Advertisers

It would be greatly appreciated by the Editor if readers would mention "The Die-Hards" when corresponding with or purchasing from firms who advertise in this Regimental Journal.

HOME COUNTIES BRIGADE DEPOT NOTES

The Depot has had a successful summer from the recruiting angle but the weather has remained more like winter here all the time. The number of recruits passing through Training Company in the first half of this year was more than ever before. All Die-Hards are in good heart and looking forward to seeing more of the Battalion when they return to Northern Ireland in October.

As usual, Albuhera Day was celebrated by a service in the Buffs' Chapel in Canterbury and it seems a very fitting place for this ceremony.

At the beginning of June we had to deal with the call-up of the T.A.E.R. At least 30 recruits came from The 5th Battalion under command of Lt. J. Smith. They spent about two days training on the rifle, L.M.G. and becoming fit doing P.T., and then were whisked off amid much publicity to join the 1st Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment in Aden. They are still serving there now, and, from all reports received, doing extremely well.

Sport has been much hampered this year by the weather. However, the Brigade Cricket Week went off with much success and next year it is hoped to have a match against the Royal Marines at Deal. Also the Brigade Golf Meeting at Tandridge on May 26 was an extremely enjoyable event but unfortunately we had great difficulty in finding a team of four players.



Drums at Southwark

The Junior Soldiers' Company now comprises three streams—Band, Drums and Privates. For all of us this has been a most vigorous period in shaking off our classroom cobwebs and starting to get out and about on our flat feet. During the term we have had boys cycling in Belgium, canoeing in Norfolk, sailing in Devon/Dorset and walking in Scotland. The Band has played at a Fete in Chartham and the Drums performed in Southwark and Dover. We have played together at Canterbury, carried out a re-badging Parade for the Royal Corps of Transport at Regents Park Barracks, London. The Junior Privates have been solving their teething problems and are now beginning to look quite respectable. They prefer the gay night life and the air particularly in and around Old Park Training Area.

In retrospect this has been a most successful term and everyone in the platoon is in high spirits and looking forward to joining the 1st Battalion.

At this moment, straining at the leash to join the 1st Battalion we have Bds. Slater, Drms. Smith and Hunt who should arrive late in October or early in November in N. Ireland.

The Depot is always seeing people from the 1st Battalion, past and present, either coming to join the Permanent Staff or dropping in to see an old friend and have a meal. Amongst them have been Capt. Pike, who left us after having been in the Brigade Recruiting Office for three months, to take up a job in civilian life; Capt. Griffiths, who is still with the 4th Buffs but has spent most of his time away living a life of gay frivolity; Major Allott came over for a party and C.S.M. Kendrick called in, and C.S.M. Warner came through with Cpl. Stopp on a recruiting tour. Recent arrivals at the Depot have been Sgt. Williamson, Sgt. Meacock, Cpl. Clarke, and curiously Cpl. Jamieson, who has found a niche for himself in the Q.M.'s department.

We say goodbye to C./Sgt. Ford and Sgt. Stevens to the 1st Battalion and to Sgt. O'Gorman to the Queen's Own Buffs and we wish them well.

Personalia

C./Sgt. Ford joined the Army at Mill Hill in June 1952 and after finishing his training he was posted to Warley Barracks in Essex.

He then moved with the Battalion to Austria where he soon reached the Sergeants' Mess and after leaving the Army in June '55 he re-enlisted again early in the following year. He served in Cyprus, Germany, Lydd, Crete and finally came to the Depot. He has had a variety of jobs here including Training Platoon Sergeant, W.T. Specialist—Hythe style! and A./C.S.M. Training Company.



C/Sergeant R. Ford

Sport has always played a great part in his Army life and he has represented the Battalion in soccer, cricket and boxing. Also at the Depot he has done extremely well in soccer and cricket and he has been asked to play for a Command side in both games. We wish him and his family all the best on their return to the 1st Battalion.

Special Recruiters

It is not often that the work of the Special Recruiters is mentioned but without them the Depot would certainly not be able to obtain the number of recruits that pass through our gates every month. The following are at present engaged on this very important work:

C./Sgt. P. Dive	Hounslow
C./Sgt. C. Shinn	Wembley
Sgt. J. Lead	Marble Arch
Sgt. S. Speakman	Tottenham
Sgt. A. Burford	Acton
Sgt. W. Kerr	Finchley

History of the Army in Canterbury

We are entering upon the production of a booklet which will outline the history of the Army in Canterbury from its first existence. This, it is felt, is particularly important in the not too distant future, as both Old Infantry and Wemyss Barracks will disappear. If any reader has any maps, articles or personal knowledge of any sort on the Barracks from the 18th century to 1939 it would be appreciated if he would let the Adjutant of the Home Counties Brigade Depot have it. The research and study has already been started by Lt. Richard Murphy of the Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment.

ROGERS, JOHN JONES

LTD.

(Military Outfitters)

(Incorporating Foster & Co., London)

Hosiery and Club Colour Specialists since 1827

Military Dress Experts since 1815

DRESS WEAR SPECIALISTS

SPORTING TAILORS

BREECHES MAKERS

For over a century—Uniforms and mufti created by us have been the choice among Officers who appreciate the importance of being smartly, comfortably and, at the same time, correctly and economically dressed.

PAYMENT BY SUBSCRIPTION ARRANGED

33 BRUTON STREET,
LONDON, W.1

Phone: MAYfair 7303/4 Grams: EQUIPMENTS, WESDO

OUR REPRESENTATIVES VISIT ALL
MESSES AND DEPOTS

183 Clarets

and the choice of Hocks, Burgundies and other wines is almost as dazzling! Saccone and Speed make a point of offering you a truly magnificent variety of wines, spirits and cigars. The range and quantity may surprise you—the superb quality will not—that's something you can always expect from Saccone & Speed. May we send you our price list? **SACCONO & SPEED LTD**
32 Sackville St, London W1. Tel. REGent 2061
Wine Merchants to H.M. Services since 1839

THE INFANTRY JUNIOR LEADERS BATTALION

Thinking back on my service with the Battalion I realize the mis-apprehension I laboured under in relation to the Junior Leader. Lt. Monypenny's article on The Infantry Junior Leaders' Battalion in the April 65 Issue of THE DIE-HARDS should be carefully read and assimilated by all junior officers in the Battalion.

The product of this establishment leaves here with high hopes for the future, a first rate background knowledge of basic Infantry tactics and aligned subjects and finally a regard for the past and present traditions of his chosen Regiment. This must be realized by his Platoon Commander before the Junior Leader can become an asset to his platoon. He is, on joining the Battalion, passing through the transition stage between Junior Leader and Young Soldier, well equipped with practical knowledge but lacking in experience and self confidence. He needs both firm treatment and careful understanding if the full potential is to be made use of, for he is not just "another boy soldier."

To continue, the number of Die-Hards in residence is steadily rising with three new additions this term—J/Pte. Hebden, "Z" Company, and to the Permanent Staff Cpl. Stevenson and Pte. Lamphire from the 1st Battalion—hence a list of Permanent Staff and Juniors:

Permanent Staff

Lt.	P. J. Monypenny	Assistant Adjutant
Lt.	J. B. Hawkins	External Leadership Wing Instructor
Sgt.	J. Young	Drill Wing Instructor
Cpl.	Stevenson	P.T. Wing Instructor
Pte.	Lamphire	External Leadership Wing Driver

Junior Soldiers

J/Sgt.	Bartle
J/Cpl.	Walker
J/L/Cpl.	Broad
J/L/Cpl.	Batey
J/L/Cpl.	Reardon
J/Pte.	Elliot
J/Pte.	Hebden
J/Pte.	Nickless

Visitors since the last issue of THE DIE-HARDS have been Major-General J. E. F. Willoughby, C.B.E., on the first occasion to take the Passing Out Parade at the end of the Winter Term and finally during his farewell visit to all stations under his Command as G.O.C. 48 Div. (T.A.)/West Midland District, both times accompanied by his A.D.C., Capt. J. G. Lofting. We have also had visits from the Brigade Colonel, Colonel I. H. Battye, M.B.E., B.A., Colonel F. Walden, D.L., The Regimental Secretary, and Lt.-Colonel J. N. Shipster, D.S.O., prior to his taking



Albuhera Day Parade, Mill Hill

Left to right from front to rear: J/Pte. Nickless, J/L/Cpl. Broad, J/Pte. Elliott, J/L/Cpl. Reardon, J/Sgt. Bartle

command of the 1st Battalion. The Recruiting Team with Sgt. Shinn, a past instructor on the Drill Wing, and Sgt. Leat paid a fleeting visit. It may be seen that representatives of "The Die-Hards" have been much in evidence during the last few months.

Albuhera Day saw all Middlesex members at the I.J.L.B. setting off for Mill Hill to attend the Albuhera Day parade. A visit to The Regimental Museum and Regimental Headquarters took place on the Friday; the party then dispersed for their respective homes, except J/Pte. Nickless and J/Pte. Elliot, who spent the evening at R.H.Q. Albuhera Day saw our small contingent on parade under Sgt. Young together with the Old Comrades and the "Ever Readies." The "Ever Readies" were just about to fly to Aden on active service, with The Royal Sussex Regiment. A memorable occasion for all those who attended, but why does it always rain?

With the end of term come the examinations. J/L/Cpl. Reardon should be congratulated on having completed and passed his Senior Certificate of Education and all the other juniors have passed their Intermediate Certificate of Education with an average of two subjects of Senior behind them. Cpl. Walker is to be congratulated on winning the Intermediate Education prize. Sgt. Bartle and J/Cpl. Walker are spending their leave hiking down the Rhine. The others are taking a well earned rest.

J. B. HAWKINS.

BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
GOLDSMITHS & CROWN JEWELLERS, GARRARD & CO. LTD., LONDON

Silver Trophies...

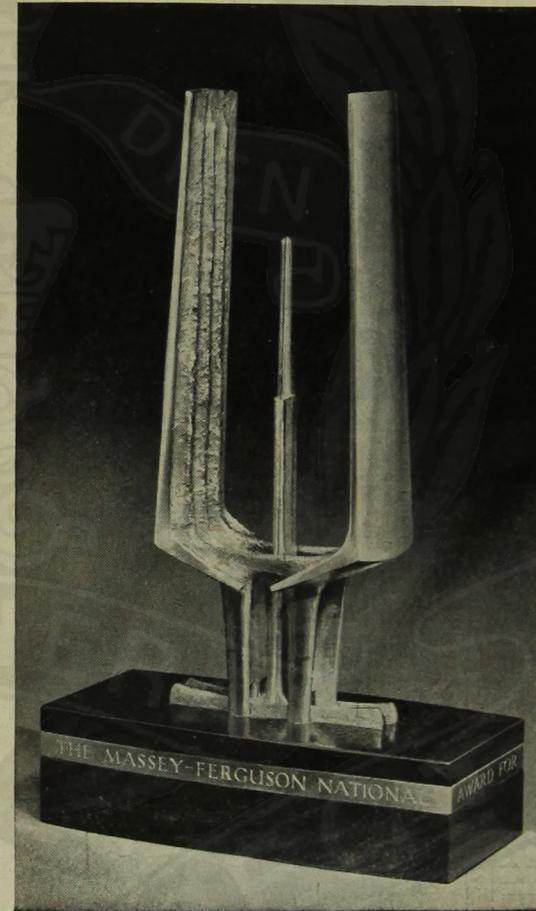
by **GARRARD**

The reputation which Garrard have achieved for silver trophies is built upon long experience and craftsmanship of the highest order.

Garrard prize winning designer, Mr. A. G. Styles, is familiar with research into local tradition, enabling him to produce designs which are heraldically accurate and of high artistic merit.

Designs and estimates are submitted without charge and experienced advice is freely available at your request.

The Massey-Ferguson National Award for Services to United Kingdom Agriculture. A growing plant between two cupped hands.



GARRARD The Crown Jewellers

112 REGENT STREET W1 • REGENT 7020

FAMOUS DRINKS IN YOUR MESS		
 RUTHERFORD & MILES Old Trinity House BUAL MADEIRA	 DRY SACK THE SHERRY THAT PLEASES EVERY PALATE	 Benedictine DOM La Grande Liqueur Française
 VINTAGE PORT MATURED IN THE WOOD NOVAL 61	These and all other famous drinks are obtainable through N.A.A.F.I.	 CROWN OF CROWNS a Langenbach wine
 Drambuie THE LIQUEUR YOU PREFER TO BE OFFERED	LEMON HART JAMAICA RUM. LAMB'S NAVY RUM. Tia Maria COFFEE LIQUEUR	 Carlsberg
 DUFF GORDON EL CÍD AMONTILLADO SHERRY	 BIANGO CINZANO RED · DRY	SOUTH AFRICAN WINES The luxury you can afford for every occasion

Send home happiness with your gift of **FLOWERS**

at the posting of a coupon
 For birthdays, anniversaries or just to express your kindest thoughts—send freshly cut hothouse flowers, with your greeting, simply by sending this coupon. Flowers arrive, direct from our own nurseries, beautifully fresh on the day of your choice—at any address in Great Britain or Northern Ireland.

- *****
CARNATIONS
 seasonal price (minimum 1 doz.)—17/-
 2 doz. —30/-
ROSES seasonal price (minimum 1 doz.)—17/-
 2 doz. —30/-
CHRYSANTHEMUMS
 year round spray (minimum 9 stems)—17/-
GIFT BOXES £2, £3, £4, £5.
 Please add 2/6 for postage and packing
 If we are unable to supply the flowers you request, we guarantee to execute the order with flowers of, at least, equal value.
FOURACRES POSTAL FLOWERS LIMITED
 Roydon, Harlow, Essex Telephone: Roydon 2202

SO EASY—JUST FILL IN THIS COUPON
 Include your personal message—leave the rest to us and we are sure you will be satisfied.

Please send	1st pref.	price
Flowers	2nd pref.	price
(add 2/6 for postage and packing)		
To: NAME	ADDRESS	
Date to arrive	My Cheque/P.O. enclosed for:	
MY NAME	ADDRESS	
BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE, and kindly enclose your personal message or greeting, which will be forwarded with your flowers.		
Post to: FOURACRES POSTAL FLOWERS LTD., Roydon, Essex, England Telephone: Roydon 2202		



For the flavour of real home-cooking... always add a cube of Oxo



NOTES FROM THE CADETS

72 (HOUNSLOW) CADET COY.

We are proud to record that the Hounslow Unit has produced another Group Commander. Captain Canning left the Unit to take over the supervision of five other County Cadet Units in April. The present Officer Commanding was appointed while he was attending a Youth Service Course at University College, Swansea. In this task he was ably assisted by S.I. Willmington who not only maintained the Unit, but trebled its strength, largely through an Open Night which was held on May 14.

"Many schoolboys have a keen interest in the activities of the Army and at the Drill Hall on Friday night many of them saw what the Army Cadet Force can offer a would-be man in khaki.

"Every aspect of Army life for the schoolboy was on show at the 'Open Night,' and the display of the A.C.F.'s varied activities earned many more new recruits.

"There was an impressive list of displays, including weapon training, map reading, fieldcraft, uniforms and sports.

"The rifles attracted many admirers from the dismantled .303's to the military rifle range for all visitors.

"The most unusual aspect of the displays was the uniforms section where cadets paraded in the smart uniforms of past and present."

(Middlesex Chronicle report)

In the past twelve months we have had an almost complete change of both adult staff and cadets. We are now engaged in welding the Unit and building it up to the proportions which accompanied its past successes. Already we have won the Group Basketball Cup, and were able to enter a team in the County .22 shooting competition. This is just a start in putting the Unit which bears the new Borough of Hounslow's name, ahead.

75 (STAINES) CADET COMPANY

Great changes have taken place at this particular outpost over the past months. For some time we enjoyed having sole use of the Drill Hall—with its caretaker—but this unique facility went when the Education Authority moved in to convert the Drill Hall into a sports hall. The loss here has been compensated by our expansion into the three huts alongside. Their complete redecoration has given us a fine headquarters.

Recently, our biggest event has been the part we played in the Staines Youth Week. It was originally planned to have a display by the three pre-service units. Unfortunately, despite their brand new premises, and wealth of cadets, the A.T.C. dropped out. Nevertheless, the final outcome, laid on by our Cadets, and those of the Sea Cadet Corps was described as "highlight of the week." The tournament was held during the evening of May 21. After weeks of worry and chaos which accompanies such a project we were gratified to see a crowd of about 700 to watch our efforts. Highlights of the evening included the S.C.C. Corps of Drums; a display of continuity drill and an assault course competition by our own cadets. The finale consisted of a combined services cliff assault. Amidst clouds of smoke, and a deafening hail of blank, the thirty foot "cliff" was assaulted, the attack ably led by the Unit Commander.

Our record of sending cadets into the regular army continues to be one of the best in the County. It was very pleasant to see six Junior Leaders paying return visits to the Unit on the same evening. Now the trend has even extended to the adult staff. After eight months of helping us, Mr. Avery was enlisted.

We are proud that the Middlesex Regiment is still represented in Staines. We have already noted the loss of the Drill hall. More than this, however, is the loss of the County. In the reorganisation we now find ourselves in Surrey... tous ça change!



Open Night, May 14—Cadets in uniforms past and present

From left to right: Cadets Bancar, Mams and Chatte

Much favoured shirt

Check Viyella shirt, collar attached, single-button cuff. In blue/grey, fawn/grey, green/grey, blue/brown/grey, tan/grey/green, red/brown/grey.—69/6
Send for a copy of our Shirt Leaflet.



Gieves
LIMITED



Regimental Tailors & Outfitters to the Home Counties Brigade

1 HIGH STREET • CAMBERLEY • Telephone 3659
27 OLD BOND STREET • LONDON W.1 • Tel. HYDe Park 2276/9

Portsmouth Edinburgh Plymouth Chatham Weymouth Liverpool Bath Southampton Harrow Dartmouth Camberley Cranwell
Winchester Brockenhurst Cambridge A. G. Almond Londonderry Gibraltar Malta



MIDDLESEX REGIMENT
9 ct. gold and enamel

HOME COUNTIES BRIGADE
9 ct. gold and enamel



BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
GOLDSMITHS & CROWN JEWELLERS,
GARRARD & CO. LTD., LONDON

A fine piece of jewellery, artistically designed, makes a charming gift. Produced by the house of Garrard in gold and enamel, a badge brooch can be a token of lasting value. Designs and estimates for gem set brooches are supplied free at your request. Please address all enquiries to the military department.

The Regimental and Brigade Badges

GARRARD & CO. LTD. Crown Jewellers

112 Regent Street • London • W.1 • Telephone: REGENT 7070 (11 lines)

OBITUARY

Lt.-Col. R. H. Epps, M.B.E., M.M.

As we go to press notification has been received of the death on August 12, 1965, of Reginald Herbert Epps, after a short illness, at the age of 70.

He had been a member of the Regimental Association and the Officers' Club for some years.

It is hoped to publish a full obituary notice in the next issue of *The Die-Hards*.

Major Alan D. Buckland-Nicks, T.D.

Alan Buckland-Nicks was educated at Berkhamsted School where he achieved academic distinctions in addition to being an accomplished athlete. In recent years he was privileged to become President of the Berkhamsted School Society.

He joined the Shell Group of companies prior to the 1939-45 War and afterwards returned to the Group and to a very successful career with Shell Chemicals, reaching the Boardroom level in one of the subsidiary companies (Petro-Chemicals).

He was commissioned in the 9th Battalion in 1938 at the time of the Munich crisis and served until 1942 when he left to become an Instructor in Gunnery, a role in which his infectious enthusiasm could be given full rein. After the war, on the reconstitution of the Territorial Army he rejoined the 9th Battalion as a Battery Commander and it was only due to the pressure of his business commitments that, after a few years, he had to say farewell. Then we were sorry he left us, but now we mourn his passing. For all those who served with Alan Buckland-Nicks, it is difficult to realise that such a vital man is no longer with us. A fine athlete and a natural games player, yet modest, and with a characteristic charm which made him a friend of everybody. It is tragic indeed that a man so richly endowed should suffer such a grave illness which the amputation of a leg did not arrest and which led to his death on July 13, 1965, at the early age of 46.

At the Memorial Service held at St. Peter's-on-Cornhill on Thursday, July 29, 1965, the Regiment was represented by Major E. L. Heywood.

H. W. W. G. and J. T. D.

Major A. D. C. Eales

Arthur David Charles Eales was killed whilst on duty with the Hadhrami Bedouin Legion in Southern Arabia on June 14, 1965.

He enlisted in the Royal Scots as a Territorial in September 1940 and was discharged therefrom in September 1941 on appointment to an Indian Army Emergency Commission. He saw service with the Indian Army in Burma and French Indo-China until February 1947 when he was appointed to a Regular Commission in the Regiment in the rank of Lieutenant. He was promoted Captain in March 1949 and did a tour of duty at the Depot in that rank. In July 1953 he was seconded for a two-year tour with the Sudan

Defence Force, on completion of which he rejoined the 1st Battalion. Whilst serving with the Battalion in Cyprus in 1958 he applied, and was accepted, for employment with the Government of Aden as Training Officer, Eastern Aden.

He retired and was transferred to the Regular Army Reserve of Officers on December 3, 1959, but continued his employment with the Government of Aden.

The following appreciation has been written by Mr. A. P. Cumming-Bruce, an official at the Colonial Office:

"David Eales was first appointed to Aden Protectorate in 1958 as Training Officer in the Eastern Protectorate, on loan from the Army. He was one of a small team of British Army officers, based on Mukalla, perhaps one of the most beautiful towns in Arabia, to which he grew greatly attached. His job was to train and organise the purely Arab forces of the Qaiti and Kathiri States. He was promoted the following year to be Deputy Commandant of the Hadhrami Bedouin Legion in which post he was serving at the time of his death. The "H.B.L." has much in common with the Arab Legion of Jordan. It is a force of some 1,500 men with only two British officers, the Commandant and the Deputy. It is recruited from the Bedouin, to man the frontier posts and, under the control of the British Resident Adviser, to maintain internal security and political liaison in tribal areas where the writ of the States does not run. The men come from the wildest background and, with the force extended over immense distances, discipline is not easy to maintain. David was killed while on duty in the remote area of Mahra, where British influence is only now beginning to penetrate. He will be deeply missed by his many friends in Mukalla and Aden and not least by his Arab comrades."

He was buried with full military honours in Aden. Major General J. E. F. Willoughby, G.O.C. M.E.L.F., attended the funeral and represented the Regiment.

Capt. F. E. Bostock

As stated in the July Newsletter (no. 6) Francis Edward ("Bingo") Bostock died in a hospital at Haywards Heath on June 18, 1965.

He was appointed a 2nd Lieutenant in the Special Reserve of the Dorsetshire Regiment on June 10, 1915, and a few months later was attached to, and saw active service with, our 3rd Battalion in Greek Macedonia, Serbia, Bulgaria and Turkey. In March 1918 he was granted a Regular Commission in the Regiment and remained with the 3rd Battalion until it was disbanded in 1923. He was then posted to the 1st Battalion, and was serving with the Battalion when it went to the Far East as part of the Shanghai Defence Force in January 1927. He retired on July 12, 1927.

As an officer of the Regular Army Reserve he was mobilized on September 1, 1939, and shortly afterwards joined the B.E.F. in France. He ceased to belong to the Reserve on September 4, 1946, on account of ill health.

Capt. A. L. Page

Alan Louis Page died on May 14, 1965, aged 57. He joined the Territorial Army on February 14, 1930, when he enlisted into the Artists' Rifles. He continued to serve with that famous officer-producing unit until March 23, 1940, when he was granted an Emergency Commission in the Regiment as a 2nd Lieutenant.

He served with the 1/8th Battalion for the remainder of the war, and was Second in Command of "C" Company when the Battalion landed on the Normandy beaches on June 20, 1944. A few months later he took over command of H.Q. Company and, in this role, he will be remembered for the expert way in which he dealt with the various occurrences during the closing stages of the campaign in N.W. Europe.

He was released from war service on December 11, 1945, and finally relinquished his commission on March 15, 1954, with the honorary rank of captain.

The following is an extract from a letter recently received from his great friend, Captain W. J. Spears, who served with him in the 1/8th Battalion:

"Alan never lost his sense of humour. He was always alive, dashing here, dashing there, ready to do anything. And he was a great organiser. He was a most efficient and excellent officer, loved by his men, who would follow him anywhere.

"Alan was a character and I think that there are a lot of us who will be grateful for having had the opportunity of knowing him. He was not very big in stature, but in heart nobody came bigger. His passing is a loss to us all."

At his funeral, which took place at Golders Green Crematorium on June 20, 1965, the Regiment was represented by Major R. W. J. Smith.

Ex-C.S.M. A. J. Burton, D.C.M. (6188346)

With the death of Arthur Joseph ("Nunky") Burton, which occurred on March 27, 1965, the Regiment has lost one of its few members who served with the 3rd Battalion during the Boer War.

He was one of six brothers, all of whom served with the Colours during the 1914-18 War.

He enlisted at the Regimental Depot, then at Hounslow, on April 3, 1901, and the next month was posted to the newly formed 4th (Regular) Battalion, then stationed at the Tower of London.

When the other newly-formed Regular Battalion—the 3rd—was ordered overseas he was one of a large draft sent from the 4th Battalion to make it up to strength. And so began his service in the Battalion, with which he was to remain for the rest of his military life. The Battalion sailed in H.M.T. *Assaye* on March 11, 1902, and General Henry Kent, the Colonel of the Regiment, was present to bid them farewell.

Pte. Burton's first station overseas was St. Helena, where the Battalion found Guards over the Boer prisoners. In January 1904 the Battalion moved to Middelburg, Transvaal. Here he was on parade when the Colours were presented by Viscount Milner on February 5, 1904.

After well over two and a half years in South Africa he sailed with the Battalion for Hong Kong on October 30, 1906. On arrival he was a member of the detachment

of two companies detailed for duty as Legation Guard in Peking.

From China he moved with the Battalion to Singapore in 1908, and, after a three-year tour there, went to India, where he served in no less than five stations until the Battalion returned to the United Kingdom in December 1914 to mobilize for active service.

After being inspected by King George V in January 1915 the Battalion sailed to join the B.E.F. in France and, by February 1915, Sgt. Burton found himself in the fighting line in the Ypres sector.

Later on in 1915 his Company, of which he was now C.S.M., suffered severely at Frezenburg Ridge, and his conduct in this action was later recognised by the award of the French Croix de Guerre.

In September 1915 at Loos when the Germans attacked from the Hohenzollern Redoubt his conduct in action was again recognised, and he was awarded the D.C.M. The citation in the *London Gazette* stated that the award was:

"For conspicuous gallantry when, during an attack, he took up a position on a traverse and remained there. He was under shell fire and rifle fire the whole time, and by his personal courage and fine example restored the confidence of his men at a critical time."

After the Battle of Loos the 3rd Battalion was sent to the Balkans and took part in the campaign in Macedonia. C.S.M. Burton was present throughout, but he did not find active service there as exciting as on the Western front.

On the day that the Armistice was signed he sailed with the Battalion for Constantinople to form part of the Garrison of Occupation.

He returned to the Depot and was discharged to pension on April 2, 1922, on completion of 21 years service with the Colours.

After his discharge he was a staunch supporter of the Regimental Association and regularly attended Branch meetings.

At his funeral on April 2, 1965, the Regiment was represented by Major R. W. J. Smith.

Ex-Sgt. D. R. Baker (6196503)

David Reginald Baker died suddenly on March 29, 1965, at the age of 59.

He enlisted at Mill Hill on January 6, 1925 and on completion of his recruit training, was posted to the 1st Battalion where he was employed as a Pioneer. He passed his trade test as a carpenter and joined at Aldershot in August 1926, and a few months later was posted to the 2nd Battalion then stationed at Ahmadnagar, India. He remained with this Battalion as a Pioneer for the rest of his Colour service.

In December 1928 he moved with the Battalion to Madras, and again nearly two and a half years later to Khartoum.

At the end of November 1931, when the Battalion completed its foreign tour, Pte. Baker returned with it to the United Kingdom on H.M.T. *Lancashire*, arriving at Southampton on December 12, 1931. There he was entrained for Colchester, which was the Battalion's station for the next two years.

In November 1935 he moved to Portsmouth and two years later to Gosport where, in December 1938, he was promoted to fill the vacancy of Pioneer Sergeant. It was in this capacity that he went on active service with the Battalion in September 1939. He served throughout the campaign in France and Belgium, and for his conduct he was mentioned in despatches.

He returned with the Battalion to Normandy in June 1944 and took part in the fighting until New Year's Day 1945 when he returned to England with other tradesmen. He continued to serve until March 25, 1946, when he was transferred to Class Z of the Royal Army Reserve.

His funeral took place on April 2, 1965, at Sheffield, where he had lived since his discharge from the Service.

Ex-Sgt. T. Bass (L/10769)

Thomas Bass died at Romford, Essex, on June 22, 1965.

He enlisted on November 20, 1905, and served with the 1st Battalion until he was wounded during the Retreat from Mons in 1914.

In October 1915 he was transferred to the Northamptonshire Regiment and continued to serve with that Regiment until he was transferred to the Army Reserve on April 19, 1919.

The funeral took place at Corbett's Tey Crematorium on June 25, 1965, and the Regiment was represented by Major E. L. Heywood.

Ex-Sgt. C. J. Clark (6196391)

Cyril James Clark collapsed and died at Holborn Underground Station on March 23, 1965, at the age of 55.

He joined the 1st Battalion band as a boy on January 2, 1925, when he was nearly 15 years old. He developed into a first class athlete as a mile and three mile runner, and was a member of the Battalion Athletics team, which did so well each year in the Command Championships and on one occasion competed in the final of the Army Inter-unit Championships at Aldershot. In addition to athletics he was a very good hockey player and a keen boxer.

After six years service at home—first at Catterick and then at Colchester—he moved with the 1st Battalion to Palestine at the end of 1931 and again to the Canal Zone in January 30, 1933.

He was promoted Corporal on June 30, 1933, and Sergeant on December 18, 1934.

In March 1936, he left for his last peace-time overseas station, sailing for Singapore on S.S. *California*.

When the Battalion was despatched to Hong Kong at 72 hours notice in August 1937 in connection with the Sino-Japanese war he remained in Singapore as he was due to sail for the United Kingdom pending his transfer to the Army Reserve.

After leaving the Service he took employment as a professional fireman, and was so employed when he was recalled to the Colours on December 1, 1939. Serving as a member of the National Fire Service until November 1942 he was transferred to the Pioneer Corps (117 Fire Fighting Company) and remained with that unit

until August 1944 when he was posted to N.W. Europe.

In October 1945 he returned to the United Kingdom and was finally discharged on December 17, 1945.

At his funeral, which took place at Putney Vale Crematorium on March 30, 1965, the Regiment was represented by Major R. W. J. Smith, the Mill Hill Branch by Mr. R. Ferguson, and the Bandsmen and Drummers' Branch by Mr. L. Baker.

Nobby Clark with his all-embracing friendly smile and cheerful disposition will be sadly missed by many of his old comrades and friends.

Ex-Sgt. H. G. Purdue (6188355)

Henry George Purdue, one of our In-Pensioners of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, died on June 25, 1965, at the age of 80.

He enlisted into the Regiment on September 3, 1901, when he was 16 years and 4 months old, and was posted to the 1st Battalion, then serving in Secunderabad in Southern India. He was appointed a Drummer in February 1903 when the Corps of Drums were in the charge of Sergeant Drummer Jimmy Deacon, a veteran of the Zulu War. In October 1904 he moved with the Battalion to Thayetmyo, Burma, and whilst there he was appointed a Bandsman. In December 1906 he moved with the Battalion back to Calcutta from Burma, and later to Allahabad, where he was on parade at the Presentation of new Colours to the Battalion on March 30, 1908.

His first step in promotion was in November 1908 when he was appointed a Lance-Corporal. His promotion to Corporal followed in August 1912, and it was in this rank that he moved with the Battalion to Aden. On December 30, 1913, after eleven years service abroad, he returned home with the Battalion and was stationed with it at Woolwich.

On the outbreak of the War on August 4, 1914 he did not go to France with the 1st Battalion but was posted to train the recruits of Kitchener's Army. He was promoted to Sergeant on September 7, 1914.

In August 1916 he was drafted to the Middle East, and served in that theatre of war until he returned home in February 1919.

In January 1921 he became a Permanent Staff Instructor to the 9th Battalion (T.A.) holding the acting rank of C.S.M. The degree of his popularity with that Battalion is shown by the farewell arranged on his retirement to pension. After being presented with a case of pipes he was drawn round the camp on a limber decorated and arranged as a chariot. The Battalion band headed the procession, and he had an enthusiastic reception at each of the Company lines visited. He completed his 21 years service and retired to pension on September 2, 1922.

In July 1962 he was admitted as an In-Pensioner to the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. Shortly afterwards he entered the Infirmary and remained there until he died.

The funeral, at which Major R. W. J. Smith represented the Regiment, took place at Brookwood on June 29. The two other In-Pensioners of the Regiment—ex-R.Q.M.S. W. R. Carvell and ex-C/Sgt. C. M. King—were also present on this sad occasion.

Ex-Cpl. F. J. G. Barter (L/8316)

Frederick John George Barter died on March 27, 1965, at the age of 80.

He enlisted into the Regiment at Hounslow on January 1, 1903—his 18th birthday—and was posted to the 2nd Battalion, which had just returned from active service in South Africa. He joined the Band and remained with it throughout his service with the Battalion which ended in November 1911.

At the outbreak of the 1914-18 War "Boss" Barter was with the 1st Battalion when it mobilized and went overseas to join the B.E.F. in France. After taking part in the battles of Mons, Le Cateau, the Marne, the Aisne, and Loos he was sent back to England for discharge on completion of 12 years Colour service. He was discharged with the rank of Corporal on January 10, 1916, and promptly re-enlisted in the H.A.C. He was posted to the 1st Reserve Battalion, served in the Band for a year and thereafter in the Drums until he completed his current engagement in May 1919. Thirteen days later he again enlisted—this time as a Musician in the Band of the Coldstream Guards. He was discharged at his own request in May 1932, after having given nearly 29½ years service to his country.

In 1937 he was employed by the G.P.O. as a full-time postman but, on the outbreak of the 1939-45 war, being too old for military service, he volunteered for service, and was accepted, as a Warden.

In the later years of his life he was a staunch member of the British Legion, and for 13 years was chairman of the South Norwood and Woodside Branch.

At the funeral service, which took place at the Croydon Crematorium on April 1, 1965, Major R. W. J. Smith represented the Regiment.

Ex-L/Cpl. S. Gargrave (G/15996)

Samuel Gargrave was born on April 22, 1899.

By the time he was sixteen the 1914-18 War had been in progress for nearly a year and, in the intensive recruiting campaign then in progress, he enlisted on August 16, 1915 in the newly-raised 21st (Service) Battalion, by adding two years to his age.

He went to France with the Battalion in June 1916 and was soon in action at Maroc and later in the Loos sector.

Early in 1917 it was discovered that he was under age

so, not only was he transferred from active service but he also had to change his Regiment, and was posted to 2/9th Battalion H.L.I. He later was posted to 15th Battalion H.L.I. and, in the last year of the war, he served in the Labour Corps and Service Battalions of the Royal Fusiliers.

After the war he joined the Territorial Army and served with the 11th London Regt. (Finsbury Rifles) from September 1920 to September 1928.

He interested himself in British Legion activities and, until it wound up for lack of members, he ran the Mill Hill (East) Branch. He was also the Secretary of the local branch of the Hospital Savings Association.

For the last few years he had been a sick man and in June this year he was admitted to Edgware General Hospital, where he appeared to be progressing well. However, in the early hours of June 22 he died peacefully in his sleep.

He was buried at Hendon Park Cemetery on June 25 and, amongst the floral tributes was one from his old comrade-in-arms, "Pip" Connor, M.M., now living in Ontario, Canada, wish whom he had had a lively correspondence.

Major R. W. J. Smith represented the Regiment at the funeral.

Ex-Pte. R. Pimble (TF/2264)

Reginald Pimble died at Egham, Surrey, on March 19, 1965, aged 71.

He enlisted into the 8th Battalion in October 1913 at the age of 19.

On the outbreak of the 1914-18 War he went with the Battalion to Gibraltar to perform garrison duties in place of the regular troops who were sent to France. In February 1915 he returned with the Battalion to this country prior to being sent the following month to join the B.E.F. in France.

He was wounded at the Battle of St. Julian on April 24, 1915, when the 8th Battalion, after very severe fighting, lost 14 officers and 326 other ranks killed and wounded.

After his discharge from hospital he was again sent to France, and was posted as a cook to the 4th Battalion, where he remained until he was demobilised in 1919.

He was a very good footballer of Battalion standard.

Major E. L. Heywood represented the Regiment at his funeral, which took place on March 24, 1965.

CORRESPONDENCE

From: *The General Secretary, Officer's Pension Society.*

137 Victoria Street,
Westminster,
London, S.W.1.
May 6, 1965.

DEAR EDITOR,

Although this Society has more than 26,000 members, there are many retired officers and serving officers' wives who have never heard of it. Unfortunately, serving officers themselves may not become members.

Its activities have become so important to officers, and the concessions available to members so useful, that officers have suggested that Service Journals may like to invite attention to it.

I wonder if you would consider publishing a short note from time to time on the lines suggested overleaf?

Yours sincerely,
P. C. Bullock,
General Secretary.

The Editor,
THE DIE-HARDS,
The Middlesex Regiment.

(The short note referred to is published on page 183 Editor.)

From: *The British Red Cross Society.*

14 & 15 Grosvenor Crescent,
London, S.W.1.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS
Aid to Fund Raising**

The British Red Cross Society is this year sponsoring, for the first time, the sale of Christmas Cards. The growing custom of sending such greetings and the feeling, prevalent among a large majority of the public that some worthy cause should benefit, has prompted the Society to enter the market.

In such an organisation as the British Red Cross, with its numerous commitments—not only at home, but in overseas dependent countries and the International field—the raising of funds is an ever present and ever increasing problem.

To cater for a variety of tastes four different Christmas card designs are on offer. The first is a conventional subject, "The Snow Storm" reproduced from an early 19th century print; the second—"Madonna della Quaglia"—is reproduced by permission of the Museo di Castelvecchio, Verona. There is also one using a colour photograph taken at the Society's National Training Centre—"Dahlia Border at Barnet Hill" and one "Balloons" to appeal to the young at heart.

Brochures giving details are available from, The British Red Cross Society, c/o Allday Ltd., 133/137, Newhall Street, Birmingham 3 or from any branch of the Society.

E. A. BILLET,
Director, Press & Publicity

**Widely Known
Throughout the Services**

Hawkes have supplied Service uniform and equipment for nearly two hundred years. But they are equally well known as civilian tailors, modern in their methods, while traditional in their spirit. Hawkes' Department for Immediate Wear is the natural resort of men who wish to maintain the Saville Row standard without undue strain on their pocket.

- LOUNGE SUITS FROM £27/10/0
- OVERCOATS FROM £22/10/0
- SPORTS JACKETS FROM £14/14/0

ALL UNIFORMS AND SERVICE
EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED

For Bespoke Tailoring, patterns and prices will
be gladly supplied on request

Hawkes of Savile Row

Regimental Tailors and Outfitters
Established 1771

1 SAVILE ROW, W.1
(Telephone: REGent 0186)

12a LONDON RD., CAMBERLEY
(Telephone: Camberley 3829)

Cadbury's
BAR SIX

New

CADBURY'S MILK CHOCOLATE
WITH A DOUBLE CRISPY CENTRE

CADBURY'S SIX-PIECE BAR

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

Headquarters: Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex.

President: Major-General C. M. M. Man, O.B.E., M.C.

Chairman: Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L.

Vice-chairman: Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C., D.L.

Secretary: Col. F. Walden, D.L.

BRANCHES

Branch	Hon. Secretary	Meetings	Place
Ealing ..	Mr. A. Smith (<i>temp.</i>), T.A. Centre, Churchfield Road, Ealing, W.13.	Monthly, on 2nd Friday.	T.A. Centre, Churchfield Road, Ealing, W.13.
Enfield ..	Major A. T. Jones, M.B.E., T.D., 4 Morley Hill, Enfield, Middlesex.	Monthly, on 1st Saturday.	T.A. Centre, Priory Road, Hornsey, N.8.
Hong Kong ..	Capt. H. M. du V. Lohan, H.Q. Royal Hong Kong De- fence Force, B.F.P.O. 1.	Annually, during the 3rd week in January.	R.H.K.D.F. Volunteer Centre, Queen's Road, Central, Hong Kong.
Hornsey ..	Mr. A. Fisher 4 Windebrook Green, Bracknell, Berks.	Quarterly, usually on a Wednesday.	T.A. Centre, Priory Road, Hornsey, N.8.
Hounslow ..	Mr. J. Castree, 20 Heldman Close, Heath Road, Hounslow, Middlesex.	Monthly, on 2nd Friday.	T.A. Centre, Hanworth Road, Hounslow, Middlesex.
Mill Hill ..	Mr. E. C. Colebeck, Belmont, Chilton Road, Edgware, Middlesex.	Monthly, on last Saturday.	T. A. Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex.
Portsmouth and Gosport	Capt. C. H. Kennett, 35 Anthony Grove, Elson, Gosport, Hants.	Monthly, on 2nd Friday.	R.A.F.A. Club, Stoke Road, Gosport, Hants. (near White Hart Hotel)
Uxbridge ..	Mr. J. R. Bell, M.B.E., 88 High Street, Uxbridge, Middlesex.	Four per year, at irregular intervals, plus an annual dinner.	T.A. Centre, Whitehall Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex.
2/7th Battalion ..	Major R. E. Robotham, M.C., T.D., 39 Cyprus Avenue, Finchley, N.3.	Yearly, on 1st Friday in October.	Varies from year to year. Dinner Club only.
9th Battalion ..	Mr. H. J. Fisher, 180 Purves Road, Kensal Rise, N.W.10.	Monthly, on last Thursday.	T.A. Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex.
12th Battalion Home Guard	Capt. S. R. Bonnamy, 3 Claremont Road, Ealing, W.13.	Two per year, on 1st Friday in May and November.	Varies.
Bandsmen and Drummers	Mr. A. R. Drane, 11 John Dee House, Mortlake, S.W.14.	Quarterly, on the 3rd Sat- urday in March, June and September, and on the last Saturday in December.	47th Signal Regt. T.A., (Middlesex Yeomanry), Duke of York's H.Q., Chelsea, S.W.3.

**Another perk for
serving overseas! You
save full purchase tax
on the Viva**



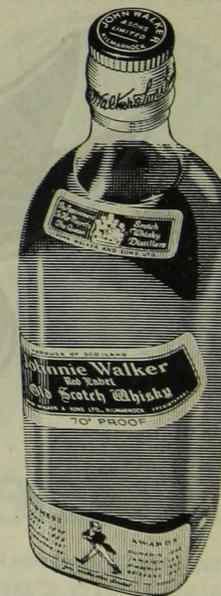
Excused P.T.! If you're being posted overseas, you pay no purchase tax on the liveliest car in the 1 litre class. And what advantages you get! Best performance: 0-50 m.p.h. in 13.3 secs. Lightest controls. Good cornering. Turning circle only 29 ft. Sports-type all synchro gears. Powerful brakes. King-size visibility. Unique suspension. More passenger space. Largest boot: 18 cu. ft. Toughest body-work finish of all—keeps shine for years without polish. Underbody seal protects in all climates. 3,000 miles oil change. 30,000 miles lubrication. Get your Vauxhall dealer to give you a test drive. Or contact Vauxhall Motors Ltd., Overseas Delivery Centre, 112-114 Wardour Street, London, W.1. (Telephone GERrad 4343.) They'll tell you more about the special advantage terms for the Services. U.K. price without P.T. £436.

In Western Germany contact the appointed Vauxhall dealers:

BERLIN
Duisburg-Garagen KG, Duisburgerstrasse 9, 1 Berlin.
BIELEFELD
Neotechnik Göthe & Prior, Herforderstrasse 110/114, 48 Bielefeld.
MONCHENGLADBACH RHEINDAHLEN
Egbert Menke, Erkelenzstrasse 8, 405 Mönchengladbach-Rheindahlen.
SOEST (WESTPHALIA)
Feldmann & Co. GmbH, Arnsbergerstrasse 7, 477 Soest (Westphalia).
Or General Motors Continental, West German Sales Department,
Antwerp, Belgium.

VAUXHALL

Say Johnnie Walker—
the world's most
popular Scotch



THE FOLLOWING FIRMS SUPPORT SERVICE JOURNALS



BARRATTS
of Manchester Ltd.
86 OXFORD STREET
MANCHESTER 1
Telephone: Central 0052
For all your musical necessities

For Your Enjoyment
Callard & Bowser's
Celebrated "Thistle Brand"
BUTTER-SCOTCH
Famous since 1837



PROTECTIVE—YET SO GENTLE

Wright's
the best soap
for all the family

SPIRE RIDGE
QUARANTINE KENNELS
MIDGHAM, Nr. READING,
BERKSHIRE
Telephone: Woolhampton 2187

Write for full particulars to:
Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. T. A. M. Twaddle



THE SAUCE THAT DOES YOU GOOD

SAMUEL GILL & SONS
Designers & Manufacturers of Jigs, Tools,
Fixtures, Gauges & Special Machines

Lythalls Lane, Coventry
Tel. Cov. 88605 Air Ministry Authority 707713/37

RIZLA
CIGARETTE PAPERS

SMITHS

have crispness

in the bag!

Smith's Potato Crisps Limited,
Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex.

The only way
to find out if
Barter & Dobson
Regal Fruit Drops and
Everton Mints taste
as good as they look
is to TRY THEM!



Smedley's
prize quality costs so little
CANNED OR FROZEN



All the richness. All the flavour.
All the freshness of just-perked coffee!

Printed in Great Britain

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Regimental Association will be held at the T.A. Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, on Saturday, October 23, 1965, at 8 p.m.

Donations

The Secretary gratefully acknowledges donations from the undermentioned to the Charitable Fund:
1st Battalion (collection at Drumhead Service, Albuhera Day), Major K. J. Carter, Mr. E. Fuller, Major E. L. Heywood, Miss Marjorie Jacobs, and Mrs. T. C. Lynell.

Lord Lieutenant's Appeal for Widows' Flatlets, Albuhera Close, Enfield

The following subscriptions to the above Appeal were received between January 1, 1965, and July 31, 1965:—

	£	s.	d.
Lt.-General Sir Brian Horrocks (share of legacy) ..	125	0	0
Capt. N. T. Neal (covenanted) ..	25	0	0
Capt. K. R. McK. Biggs ..	20	0	0
In memory of 2/Lt. Charles Clayton (second donation) ..	17	17	6
Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment (covenanted) ..	15	0	0
Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox (covenanted) ..	15	0	0
Major H. Sherwood (covenanted) ..	15	0	0
Lt.-General Sir Brian Horrocks (covenanted) ..	9	9	0
In memory of 2/Lt. Charles Clayton (third donation) ..	8	18	0
Lt.-Col. J. R. B. Worton (covenanted) ..	5	0	0
Major F. J. Bennett (covenanted) ..	5	0	0
Brigadier E. W. C. Flavell (covenanted) ..	3	0	0
Capt. P. J. T. Lane (covenanted) ..	3	0	0
Major H. Farrow (second donation) ..	3	0	0
Lt.-Col. D. Sax (covenanted) ..	2	0	0
Major J. G. Chiverall (covenanted) ..	2	0	0
Major E. A. H. Jeffcoat (covenanted) ..	2	0	0
Major M. P. Weedon (covenanted) ..	1	1	0
Col. I. R. Burrows (covenanted) ..	1	0	0
Bdsm. T. A. Barton (covenanted) ..	1	0	0
Mr. R. H. Green ..	1	0	0
Mr. G. Hurlock (third donation) ..	1	0	0
Capt. W. H. Craydon (fourth donation) ..	10	0	0
Mr. W. E. Newman ..	10	0	0
	£281	5	6
Total received up to December 31, 1964 ..	£6268	3	1
Total as at July 31, 1965 ..	£6549	8	7

Executive Committee

Under Rule 21a Major E. A. H. Jeffcoat has been nominated by the President of the Association as an ex-officio Member of the Executive Committee in place of Lt.-Col. C. N. Clayden, who has resigned.

Minutes of an Executive Committee Meeting held at Guildhall, Westminster, S.W.1, on Tuesday, June 15, 1965.

Present: Maj.-Gen. C. M. M. Man, O.B.E., M.C. (President); Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L.; (Chairman) Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C., D.L. (Vice-Chairman); Brigadier E. E. F. Baker, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., D.L., J.P.; Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D.; Major B. St. G. A. Reed, M.C.; Major E. F. Thompson, M.C., T.D.; Major M. P. Weedon, M.C.; Captain A. W. Ramsay, J.P.; R.S.M. H. Boseley; Mr. T. R. Bennett; Mr. C. Holdford, B.E.M.

In attendance: W.O.II B. Lyons, R.S.M. Designate, 5 Mx.

Apologies for not attending were received from: Brigadier A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E.; Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L.; Col. A. S. J. de S. Clayton, D.L.; Col. W. D. Ellis, O.B.E., T.D., D.L.; Col. S. F. Hedgecoe; Col. A. M. Man, D.S.O., O.B.E.; Lt.-Col. J. T. Dear, T.D.; Lieut.-Col. J. D. Robbins, O.B.E., T.D.; Major P. W. Galvin; Major Kenneth Goodacre, T.D., D.L.; Drum-Major J. Lewis; Mr. W. Knight, M.B.E.

1. At the opening of the Meeting the Chairman warmly welcomed the Colonel of the Regiment who was attending for the first time in his capacity as President of the Regimental Association, and expressed the hope that he would be able to attend other Association Executive Committee Meetings from time to time in the future.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting held on February 16, 1965, were passed and signed by the Chairman.

3. Secretary's Report

(a) Arising from para. 2 of the Report, the Chairman drew attention to the large contribution from Other Ranks of the 1st Battalion. He stated that he had written to the Commanding Officer asking him to express the Committee's thanks to all those concerned in this wonderful effort.

(b) There being no further comments the Report was adopted.



Maintain your
service to
Queen and Country
in civilian life
Join the British Legion

The Legion co-operates with your regimental association and speaks for all ex-service men and women

BRITISH LEGION, 49 PALL MALL, S.W.1

4. Correspondence

A file containing four letters of appreciation received for individual charitable grants was circulated for members of the Committee to read.

5. Finance Sub-Committee's Report

(a) The Chairman referred to the Minutes of the Finance Sub-Committee held on June 8, 1965, which had been circulated with the Agenda and formed the basis of his Report.

He stated that he would deal separately with the accounts for the year ended December 31, 1964.

(b) *Widows' Flatlets*—The Chairman stated that he had prepared some notes on finance for the Widows' Flatlets, which were self-explanatory. A copy of these notes had been issued to all present at the Meeting.

He explained that a start could be made to repay the various loans, and the first priority would be the Enfield U.D.C.

The Vice-Chairman stated that a resolution had been passed that all loans would be repaid within five years. The Chairman explained that at a previous Meeting he had expressed the view that it would not be possible to repay these loans out of income but as further moneys come in from the Appeal which is still open it would be possible to start repaying. There will be further moneys to come from the Appeal under the Covenants quite apart from any additional donations.

The Chairman said that it was particularly gratifying to know that the financing of the Flatlets had been achieved without encroaching in any way on the Association Charitable Fund.

(c) There being no further comments the Report was adopted.

6. Accounts for Year ended December 31, 1964

(a) The accounts as circulated with the Agenda were dealt with in detail by the Chairman, who explained the reason for the need to "write off" the deficit on the Journal account, as recommended in the Minutes of the Finance Sub-Committee Meeting held on June 8, 1965.

(b) Major Reed asked if we had to be tied to the Combined Service Publications Ltd. for printing the Journal.

The Secretary explained that, apart from having to give a long notice we should, if we severed our connections, lose the revenue from the advertising supplement which they supply.

After some discussion it was agreed to continue with the present arrangements.

(c) The Vice-Chairman stated that more advertisements were badly needed for the Journal and asked that the names of any likely advertisers should be forwarded to the Secretary.

(d) The Vice-Chairman asked if an explanation could be given for the decrease in subscription for 1964 to the Charitable Fund.

The Secretary stated that he could not answer this without access to the Auditors' Schedules and the matter would receive attention.

(e) There being no further comments it was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Capt. Ramsay that, subject to writing off the Journal account deficiency the accounts for the year ended December 31, 1964 be approved. *Carried.*

7. Housing Sub-Committee's Report

(a) In the absence of Brigadier Rackham, the report of the Housing Sub-Committee, based on the Minutes of the Sub-Committee Meeting held on May 3, 1965, was submitted by Major Reed.

(b) The Chairman stated that Captain Couch had produced a comprehensive report on the waste land, and he had been asked to approach the Hospital Architect with a view to finding out what use, if any, the Hospital intended to make of the small piece of waste land within their limits, or whether the two pieces of waste land—the Hospital's and ours—could be joined together with a view to development. In the meantime steps would have to be taken to keep the grass and weeds in check on our waste land.

(c) There being no further comments the Report was adopted.

8. Journal Sub-Committee's Report

The report of the Chairman of the Sub-Committee was received and adopted.

9. Budget 1965

The Secretary produced a statement of Income and Expenditure in respect of the Charitable Fund up to April 30, 1965.

10. Annual Reunion, 1965

(a) The Vice-Chairman asked if the date of the Annual Reunion could be altered so that it would take place during the period that personnel from the 1st Battalion would be on leave in this country prior to reporting in Northern Ireland.

This proposal was agreed to provided that:

i. information could be obtained regarding firm dates of the Battalion's move from Gibraltar.

ii. The Drill Hall at Edgware would be available.

Major Thompson undertook to find out and to provide the Secretary with the information asked for in i above, and R.S.M. Boseley undertook to let the Secretary have dates in October when the Drill Hall at Edgware will not be available.

(b) The Vice-Chairman asked, if the date of the Reunion could be altered, whether or not Other Ranks of the 1st Battalion could be admitted free.

This proposal was agreed.

F. WALDEN, Colonel,
Secretary.

NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES

EALING BRANCH

Still in existence we at Ealing, having been rejuvenated by quite a considerable number of senior members (i.e. First World War types) thanks to ex-Sgt. Buckner, whose letter in the local paper was taken up by Bob Williams and so encouraged about 20 to 25 fine Old Comrades to have a regular meeting place at the T.A. Centre, Churchfield Road, Ealing, W.13, a place where so many of them have so many memories. To me it is so pleasing to hear them talking over old times and even to quote "in the times when men were men and women glad of it." I would like to put on record, that as far as I can recollect, it is the one and only time that we at Ealing have been represented at the Albuhera Parade at Mill Hill, and those responsible for this achievement were Mr. C. Ife, Mr. A. White, Mr. H. Dawson, Mr. G. W. White and Mr. B. Williams. Needless to say they enjoyed themselves immensely; unfortunately the day was spoilt by rain.

A social evening is held every third month. Although this is only among themselves, you can always hear the strains of war time melodies ("a little before your time, boy") echoing throughout the Drill Hall, and you can rest assured that "Compo" is somewhere about, because he can still rattle the old ivories or blow a good tune on the piccolo or mouth-organ.

All members would like to thank Col. Walden and Major Smith for their visit on Friday, August 13, 1965, sincerely hoping that they will return to us again at a later date.

Gunner

MILL HILL BRANCH

These notes are being written on August 4, 1965, fifty-one years to the day that the "Kaiser's War" commenced. A number of those sprightly young lads who fell in to march to every battle-front on which the British army fought, still fall in each last Saturday of the month to march to the Drill Hall at Edgware to join in the monthly reunion of our branch of the Die-Hards Club. Not only those who were regular service men, but the Territorial soldiers too. We have members who wore the white metal badges as well as those whose badges were brass or gilt.

At the gathering in July, ex-S.I.M. C. S. Carey (L/14097) travelled from Canvey Island to meet men whom he had last seen at Mons, fifty-one years ago. They were Charly Ashby, Bill Bratby, Nobby Coxhill, Arthur Matthews, Ernie Rudd and Tiny Tiffen—with a banjo you could out-do "Widdicombe Fair" with those names! Fathers and sons who have served in the regiment still join and add to our membership, the latest being ex-Pioneer Sgt. A. Bennett (762686) and his son D. Bennett (23160446) who served with both 1st and 5th Battalions. Our ladies continue to give us great support

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)

BALANCE SHEET, DECEMBER 31, 1964

	Charitable Fund	War Memorial Fund
Accumulated Funds	£ 36,956	£ 38,845
Creditors	537	1,311
Bank Overdraft	1,192	
Property Reserve Account	259	
Mrs. Renny Legacy	3,098	
Site Improvement Account		107
Loan Redemption Reserve		766
Loan Account (Secured)		8,234
Lord Lieutenant's Appeal		6,214
Advance from Association		140
	£42,042	£55,617
Investments at Cost	36,741	263
(Mid-Market Value December 31, 1964) ..	(31,088)	(261)
Mortgage	1,000	
Property		53,977
Furniture and Fittings at nominal value ..	1	
Premium Bonds	25	
Stocks at Cost	272	
Debtors	113	53
Cash at Bankers and in Hand	589	770
Cash in Hand O.C.A. Clubs	63	
Mrs. Renny Legacy—Investment etc. ..	3,098	
Lord Lieutenant's Appeal—Cash at Bank etc.		554
Advance to War Memorial	140	
	£42,042	£55,617

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1964

	Charitable Fund	War Memorial Fund	Cottage Homes	Die-Hards Journal
INCOME:	£	£	£	£
Grants and Donations	599			
Subscriptions, etc.	514		56	
Interest on Investments	1,078	110		205
Income Tax Recovered on Covenants	94			
Profit on Ties, Badges, etc.	21			
Rents		353		
Maintenance Receipts		488		
Housing Grant				279
Advertisements				100
Grant from Charitable Fund				25
Officers Club				50
Colonel of the Regiment's Fund				208
Excess of Income over Expenditure	64			
	£2,970	£1,008	£56	£867
EXPENDITURE				
Grants and Allowances	1,497			
Administration Expenses	44	47	5	60
Wreaths	67			
O.C.A. Reunion	168			
Grant Die-Hards Journal	100			
Provision for deficiency Die-Hards Journal	388			
Upkeep of War Memorial Hong Kong	10			
Refreshments Remembrance Day	32			
Parade and Service of Remembrance	19			
Cottage Homes Maintenance	50			
Property Maintenance Reserve Interest	150			
Rates and Insurance	39	392	29	
Repairs and Maintenance	68	496	22	
Printing and Distribution				807
Amortisation of Loan		74		
Excess of Income over Expenditure		21		
	£2,970	£1,008	£56	£867

In the interests of economy it has been decided to print only an abridged form of the Association Accounts which has been approved by the Auditors. Copies of the full Accounts are in the hands of each O.C.A. Club Secretary and may be inspected by any member.

and to them lies the credit of gaining twenty pounds from the Bring and Buy sale I mentioned in my last notes. The stall was ably run by Mesdames Honeybun and Smith.

Many new members have joined since the last Journal notes were written and on a more sad note a number have paraded for their last muster, those being C.S.M. Burton, D.C.M., Sgts. Purdue, Bass, Baker, Clarke (91), Cpls. Barter and West, L/Cpl. Gargrave and Pte. Pimble whose obituary will be found elsewhere in the Journal.

The Albuhera Day Parade was well attended by our members, in spite of the rain, as it was by many also of our sister branches. Three members, as will be read in the special article about the parade, had positions of honour with the Association Standard, G. Hurlock (6200777) the Standard Bearer and the two escorts F. E. Wookey (6201000) and R. J. Harris (6201831).

The Association Standard had also been carried on the Anzac Day Parade, April 25, by ex-Sgt. Frank Beaker (L/13169), a member of our branch, when the veterans of the 2/10th paraded in Whitehall. On that occasion, the television cameras of the B.B.C. made a very good record, the standard showing very prominently with its three panels and embroidered badge, on each programme of the news. Quite a number of people commented on this. Elsewhere in this issue will be found an account of this parade attended by the veterans of the 2/10th Battalion.

Many old comrades are only able to meet once a year. That is at the Annual Reunion, this year being held at the Drill Hall, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, on Saturday, October 23, the anniversary of the Battle of El Alamein in 1942. It is next to impossible to meet all friends on this occasion, but many an old friendship will be renewed this year as in the past. In our own case we have the regular travellers from the North and from the South of the British Isles, all of whom will be welcomed with open arms. It is a pity our members in Australia, New Zealand, Africa, Canada and America who can only keep in touch by correspondence cannot join us at one of these functions. I'm sure they would wish to extend their stay in the Old Country if they did.

In closing these notes, I wish to extend an invitation to any member of our sister branches, and in fact, any Die-Hard who may read this article, to come and join us on the last Saturday of the month, from January to November inclusive. All will find themselves welcome.

To comrades of the Portsmouth & Gosport, Bandsmen & Drummers, Hornsey, 1/7th Battalion 1914-1918, 2/7th Battalion, Hounslow, Uxbridge, 9th Battalion and 2/10th Battalion Branches we send wishes of good cheer, increased membership and last, but by no means the least, sincere wishes for a Merry Christmas in 1965 and prosperity and contentment in 1966.

MAJOR DICK SMITH

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Full details on page 97.

There is an order form in the front of this Journal

PORTSMOUTH AND GOSPORT BRANCH

We have just completed one year as the Junior Branch—a branch which has at least 30 interested members and several ladies. Our meetings have attracted an average of 20 each month and these are held on the second Friday of each month in the Club Rooms of the R.A.F. Association, which is close to the White Hart bus stop in Gosport.

At our A.G.M. on September 10, Mr. Len (Bogey) West was re-elected Chairman, Capt. Charles Kennett, Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Peggy O'Neil, Vice-Chairman and Committee Members Mr. A. Thomas and Mr. H. Wigg. Should any other Branches wish to contact any of our members it is suggested that they write to Mr. L. C. West, Grove House, Gosport Road, Stubbington, Hants.

We shall be bringing several of our members to the Annual Reunion and there we hope once again to meet many of our old friends.

The Chairman would like to use these notes as a means of expressing his very sincere thanks to all those who have given such valuable support to him and the Branch in its first year. A special vote of thanks to those from outside this area who have given us their assistance and advice and supplied us with various addresses.

We all at Portsmouth and Gosport look forward to another enjoyable and successful year, with many more to come.

LEN C. WEST, *Chairman.*

9th BATTALION BRANCH

The Annual Dinner of the Branch was held on May 15 at The Cavendish Ballroom, High Road, Willesden, and 78 members and their ladies attended. The number present this year was disappointing to the Committee who go to great pains to make the occasion the main function of the Branch activities. Over 225 names are on the Register and it is felt that greater support should be given by members, particularly Officers, to make the Dinner the success it deserves with such a large membership. Nevertheless those who did attend enjoyed a very pleasant evening among old friends and comrades and I am sure that the ladies appreciated dancing to an excellent Band which kept everyone bright and cheerful to the end. During the evening Bob Maggs and his wife again ran a raffle on behalf of Branch funds.

The Annual Dinner in 1966 will be held on May 14 at The Cavendish Ballroom so please make a note of the date now.

The Albuhera Day service and parade at Mill Hill on May 16 was well attended by the Branch and the Regimental Association must again be congratulated on the arrangements made and for the splendid array of refreshments provided for all who went back to Edgware T.A. Centre.

I am certain that all members were greatly disappointed on reading in the National Press the decision of the Government to replace the T.A. as we know it at present. Such a decision surely means the end of voluntary service which the Country needs so much, particularly in these difficult times.

T. R. BENNETT.

1/7th (IMPERIAL SERVICE) BATTALION, O.C.A., 1914-18

The Annual Reunion Dinner of the 1/7th (I.S.) Battalion was held at Beale's Restaurant, Holloway Road, on Friday April 23, 1965. A goodly muster of about 70 attended. Several more would have been there but for sickness and most unfortunately a railway strike on the Southern Region prevented a few from being with us, especially those travelling from Kent, Sussex, and Hampshire; C.S.M.'s C. Percival and E. Dadson were among these. Colonel S. C. M. Smith was unable to come as he was indisposed.

Our Chairman this year was Colonel J. K. Maitland, who made a short speech reminding us all of our past efforts. The toast was proposed for our guests, The Regiment and The Association of the Middlesex Regt. Major Bower gave a vote of thanks to Stan Edge and his committee for their service and devotion in organizing these successful reunions. We also especially remembered our absent friends and a word of regret that Colonel F. Walden was unable through illness to be with us and wished him a speedy recovery. We were fortunate to have with us Major Dick Smith, who is very closely connected with the work of the Regimental Association and met many of his old friends. Several of our old comrades, ex-Sgt. F. Kennedy and ex-Sgt. E. J. King included, are still inquiring about the 1/7th Colours and what will happen to them. We can assure them they are still safe and well looked after and no doubt we shall know if any ceremony will take place when they are laid up.

R. H. FERGUSON

1/7th BATTALION (1939/45)

The third annual reunion and dinner took place at the T.A. Centre, Priory Road, Hornsey, on Saturday, March 27, 1965.

One hundred and seventeen members of the Battalion attended. We were honoured to have, and delighted to welcome amongst our guests, Commander P. K. Kemp, the author of the History of the Regiment 1919-52, Lt.-Col. Field, who served with much distinction with the Royal Artillery, 51st Highland Division, Capt. H. E. Couch, Commander "A" Company, 5th Battalion, Lt.-Col. D. E. Simpson and Major Percy Newman. We are most grateful to Colonel Walden, Lt.-Col. Webber, Capt. Couch and all members of their staffs who gave so willingly invaluable assistance with the organisation of the function.

There is little to write about such occasions. The gathering was an undoubted success and enjoyed by all present. There is nothing quite the same as meeting again those whose friendships were forged in the furnace of battle.

We have now established a hard core of attenders. We know there are several hundreds whom we have been unable to locate. We appeal to each one of you who reads this to take positive action to put us in touch with any members whose whereabouts you know and whom you have not yet met at one of the previous reunions.

As already announced, the Fourth Reunion and Dinner will take place at Hornsey on:

Saturday, April 30, 1966.

Make a note of the date and get your ticket in good time without too many reminders.

B. B. R.

"D" COY, 1/10th BATTALION

The 32nd annual reunion arranged by "D" Company was held at The Feathers Hotel, S.W.1, on April 10, 1965. Sgt. A. M. F. Dolley was a most capable Chairman. The 51 present came from all over the South of England. Battalion "sharpshooter" Harold Price, now retired to Feock near Truro, came up again. Three octogenarians were present. Apart from the Glee Party, the music was entirely in the hands and voice of Harry Bedford, whose songs were received with acclamation.

The speeches were of a high standard. The Company Toast was faithfully dealt with by Percy Hammett and Jimmy Marks. C. E. Williams, who left us in 1915 in Calcutta for a commission on the Western Front, proposed the toast of the Battalion. An experienced public speaker, well-known in the British Legion in the Eastern Counties, he held the reunion enthralled. The reply by L. C. Bateman maintained our best tradition. Capt. A. E. Bowker, who courageously at 80 years of age comes up from Worthing, kept us highly amused with his legal tales. The Chairman proposed "Absent Friends" at 9 o.c. The Battalion crest on the shield painted by Pioneer Sgt. H. J. Fowler in 1955 and presented to the Reunion by him, was on the table but Jimmy, alas, was very ill at home, and died on May 1. Other recent losses have been E. M. Forrest, Sgt. G. G. Hammett, one time Battalion Provost Sgt., whose service dated from the 2nd South Middlesex Militia from which the 1/10th originated; Arthur Chisman; Harry Saunders; W. Wingham and L. Manning.

We are grateful to Mrs. A. E. Davis who for 30 years as hostess, has so well looked after our Reunion. The next Reunion will be on March 26, 1966, at "The Feathers".

2/10th BATTALION, O.C.A. (1914-18)

The 37th Reunion Dinner of this Association, held on May 1 this year, had a special significance—it commemorated the 50th anniversary of the landings on the Gallipoli Peninsula on April 25, 1915. Although the 2/10th Battalion (the only unit of the Regiment to participate in the campaign) landed at Suvla Bay in August 1915, the dinner was an appropriate occasion for this observance as it followed closely on the special Anzac Day ceremony at the Cenotaph, Whitehall, on Sunday, April 25, in which a contingent of some 40 members of the 2/10 Old Comrades' Association took part at the invitation of the Australian Army Staff.

The Whitehall Ceremony on April 25 was most impressive; it included large contingents of Australian and New Zealand ex-Servicemen and of the "incomparable" 29th Division accompanied by the Royal Artillery Band—a truly joint British-Anzac operation

as in 1915. After assembly on the Horse Guards Parade, the contingents marched to the Cenotaph where the Central Band of the R.A.F. awaited the column. Wreaths were laid by the High Commissioners of Australia and New Zealand and by representatives of the formations present and many Service and ex-Service organisations. The small 2/10th Battalion group headed by the Regimental Association Standard (a gesture which was greatly appreciated) marched in a place of honour immediately in rear of the Anzacs; a wreath was laid on behalf of the Old Comrades' Association by Major Sir Arthur Lewey, one of the original officers of the 2/10th Battalion. "Last Post" and "Reveille" were sounded and the ceremony concluded with the National Anthem. Contingents then returned to the Parade Ground via Whitehall and Great George Street and were dismissed after reciprocal cheers had been given by the 29th Division Group and the Anzacs. All those privileged to be present were in no doubt that this was a memorable and stirring experience.

It is also worthy of note that early in May last a Pilgrimage to Gallipoli took place when the main cemeteries and memorials were visited. Amongst these was the Helles Memorial, a 100 ft. high obelisk dominating the approaches to the Dardanelles and commemorating by name 20,000 officers and men who fell in the fighting and have no known grave. Here a wreath was laid by four representatives of the 53rd (Welsh) Division (of which the 2/10th Middlesex formed part), including one member of the Old Comrades' Association. Battalion graves at East Mudros and Lala Baba were also visited, but Hill 10 Cemetery could not be reached as Salt Lake (dry in 1915) was flooded.

The Battalion Dinner on May 1 was well attended, some 70 members and guests being present. The chair was taken by Mr. George Cousins who made appropriate



Anzac Day 1965

Contingent from 2/10th Battalion O.C.A. about to march off Horse Guards Parade to the Cenotaph



Anzac Day 1965

Contingent from 2/10th Battalion O.C.A. drawn up on Horse Guards Parade on return from the Cenotaph

references to the events commemorated on this jubilee occasion. Amongst the guests were Major R. W. J. Smith, M.B.E., representing the Regimental Association who responded to the Toast of "The Regiment," and the Rev. G. A. Lewis Lloyd, M.B.E., B.A. (Hon. Padre to the O.C.A.) who replied on behalf of "The Guests." Also present was Flt.-Lt. B. Johnson of the R.A.A.F., who had commanded the 2/10th Battalion contingent at the previous week's Anzac Day Parade.

There will be a further opportunity of commemorating the Gallipoli Jubilee at the Battalion's Annual Remembrance Service to be held at 3 p.m. on Sunday, November 14 next, at Chiswick Parish Church, The Mall, W.4., where the Battalion's Colour is deposited and a Memorial erected. All enquiries should be addressed to the Hon. Secretary at "Cleveland," Byes Lane, Sidford, Sidmouth, Devon, who is anxious to hear from any member of the Battalion who may have lost touch over the years.

A. D. S.

Remembrance Day Service

NOVEMBER 14, 1965

INGLIS BARRACKS, MILL HILL

OFFICERS' CLUB NOTES

OFFICERS' CLUB DINNER, 1965.

The Regimental Officers' Club Dinner was held at the United Service Club, Pall Mall, S.W.1. on Friday, July 16, 1965.

Major-Gen. C. M. M. Man, Colonel of the Regiment, presided, and the guests of the evening were Major-Gen. B. P. Hughes, Honorary Colonel of the 5th Battalion, Sir William Hart, Clerk of the Greater London Council, and Mr. John Browne, Chief Constable of Nottinghamshire (nephew of the late Colonel Maurice Browne). Others present were:

Lt.-Gen. G. C. Bucknall	Major G. Parr Head
Brig. E. E. F. Baker	Major J. I. D. Pike (private guest)
Brig. B. B. Rackham	Major B. St. G. A. Reed
Col. I. H. Batrye	Major R. W. J. Smith
Col. A. S. J. de S. Clayton	Major A. E. F. Waldron
Col. W. D. Ellis	Major M. P. Weedon
Col. S. F. Hedgecoe	Major S. C. W. Weller
Col. A. M. Man	Capt. M. J. Beaumont
Col. J. W. G. Ormiston	Capt. S. R. Bonnamy
Col. J. G. E. Reid	Capt. H. E. Couch
Col. W. A. Stewart	Capt. M. J. S. Doran
Col. F. Walden	Capt. J. S. C. Flavell
Lt.-Col. C. N. Clayden	Capt. A. R. K. Hardcastle
Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox	Capt. M. V. Hayward
Lt.-Col. P. J. Hall	Capt. S. J. L. Henshaw
Lt.-Col. T. L. Marks	Capt. C. A. Lamb
Lt.-Col. F. de R. Morgan	Capt. P. J. T. Lane
Lt.-Col. P. L. Pearce Gould	Capt. K. D. Murray
Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts	Capt. P. F. Murray
Lt.-Col. D. Sax	Capt. A. W. Ramsay
Lt.-Col. D. E. Simpson	Capt. C. G. Webber
Major P. G. V. Bellers	The Rev. Ralph Brown, R.A.CH.D.
Major R. M. Cain	Lt. J. A. Birch
Major P. Collins	Lt. R. T. Douthet
Major H. J. Evans	Lt. P. M. Dubbery
Major J. D. Gunnell	Lt. D. M. Falcke
Major H. K. Hardcastle	Lt. F. K. Gladden
Major G. Hartley	Lt. E. C. Graham
Major E. L. Heywood	Lt. J. B. Hawkins
Major E. A. H. Jeffcoat	Lt. T. D. Jones
Major R. J. Leighton	Lt. P. McRae
Major Sir Arthur Lewey	Lt. P. J. Monypenny
Major P. D. H. Marshall	Lt. P. F. Packham
Major E. J. Naish	2/Lt. M. L. Muirhead
Major G. G. Norton	

9th MIDDLESEX OFFICERS' CLUB DINNER

The sixth triennial dinner of the 9th Middlesex Officers' Club was held at the United Service Club, Pall Mall, S.W.1, on Friday, March 26, 1965.

Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, Chairman, presided and the guests of the evening were Maj.-Gen. J. E. F. Willoughby, Colonel of the Regiment; Maj.-Gen. C. M. M. Man, Colonel of the Regiment designate; Maj.-Gen. B. P. Hughes; Honorary Colonel of the 5th Battalion; Col. F. Walden, Secretary of the Regimental Association; Major P. J. Hall, Officer Commanding designate, 5th Battalion; Capt. P. D. J. Clarke, Adjutant, 5th Battalion.

Others present were:—

Lt.-Gen. Sir Brian Horrocks. Cols. M. Crawford, H. W. W. Gray. Lt.-Cols. J. W. Bell, J. T. Dear, J. R. Doyle, A. G. B. Drabble, H. G. Hansen, A. S. Hewson, F. G. Hogg, P. Lloyd Williams, B. A. G. MacFadden, J. R. B. Worton. Wing Commander P. J. Cundy.

Majors P. Blair, E. P. Cook, C. W. Davies, G. N. Frankau, J. S. Gregg, H. H. Grey, H. K. Hardcastle, H. J. Hesketh, G. W. Hill, R. Hughes, T. C. R. Johnson, A. M. H. Jones, K. A. Lee-Emery, D. V. Littlejohn, W. MacGregor, F. J. Millard, H. A. Neal, L. F. E. Nichols, L. F. Shaw, H. Sherwood, B. A. Skinner, P. C. Sneath, D. C. Tomlins.

Cpts. E. Banham, C. H. T. Barber, B. T. Davis, D. E. Dowlen, W. B. Hammond, P. Hodge, L. G. Holgate, M. C. Jaffe, N. T. Neal, S. A. Owen, G. Partridge, A. G. Petrie, H. C. Sanderson, J. K. E. Slack, P. R. G. Spencer, D. G. M. Stewart, B. Wallis, Lt. T. H. Flude, D. H. S. Herriott, M. N. Jackson, T. D. Moss, G. Reeson, R. Wheatley, G. M. Wonnacott.

57th/77th Dinner

After a good deal of thought and some consultation the Colonel of the Regiment has decided to suspend for the time being the 57th/77th Annual Dinner.

GOLF

Regimental Spring Meeting

The attendance at this Meeting, which was held on Saturday and Sunday, April 10 and 11, at the North Hants Golf Club, Fleet, was, owing mainly to sickness, eventually reduced to six—the smallest entry on record for a Spring Meeting.

The results of the various competitions were:

Singles Medal Competition (18) holes Scratch and Handicap

	Gross	Hcp.	Net
Lt.-Col. T. W. Chattey (winner, scratch)	86	12	74
Lt.-Col. J. R. B. Worton (winner, handicap, and runner-up, scratch)	89	11	78
Col. M. Crawford (runner-up, handicap)	92	13	79
Capt. M. S. Gedye	93	8	85
Major D. R. Pattison	97	14	83
Lt.-Col. C. N. Clayden (divot)	108	16	92

Greensome Stableford

	Points
Lt.-Col. T. W. Chattey and Capt. M. S. Gedye (winners)	30
Col. M. Crawford and Major D. R. Pattison	25
Lt.-Cols. J. R. B. Worton and C. N. Clayden	25

Hidden Holes Competition

	Gross	½Hcp.	Net
Lt. Col. T. W. Chattey (winner)	28	4	24
Major D. R. Pattison	31	4½	26½
Col. M. Crawford	32	4½	27½
Lt.-Col. J. R. B. Worton	33	3½	29½
Lt.-Col. C. N. Clayden	35	5½	29½
Capt. M. S. Gedye	34	2½	31½

Battalion Singles and Bogey

9th Battalion (Col. M. Crawford, winner) 4 down
9th Battalion (Major D. R. Pattison, runner-up) 5 down

Other Battalions represented in this competition were:

1st Battalion (Lt.-Col. T. W. Chattey)
2nd Battalion (Lt.-Col. C. N. Clayden)
7th Battalion (Capt. M. S. Gedye)
1st P. L. Kensington Regiment (Lt.-Col. J. R. B. Worton).

Home Counties Brigade Spring Meeting

This Meeting, which was held at Tandridge Golf Club on Wednesday, May 26, 1965, was not a large one, due to three of the four regular battalions being abroad and four T.A. battalions being at annual camp, but 19 players took part.

The scores of the Regimental representatives in the various competitions were as follows:

Singles Medal and Handicap

	<i>Net score</i>	<i>Placing</i>
Lt.-Col. J. R. B. Worton	74	5th
Capt. R. D. Latham	75	7th
Lt.-Col. C. N. Clayden	79	14th
Major D. R. Pattison	80	15th

Foursomes Stableford Bogey (Greensome)

	<i>Score against Bogey</i>	<i>Placing</i>
Major D. R. Pattison and Capt. R. D. Latham	32	4th
Lt.-Cols. J. R. B. Worton and C. N. Clayden	28	6th

Regimental Team Singles

	<i>Total net Score</i>	<i>Placing</i>
Queen's Own Buffs	296	1st
Middlesex Regiment	308	2nd

Regimental Team Foursomes

	<i>Points against Bogey</i>	<i>Placing</i>
Queen's Own Buffs	67	1st
Middlesex Regiment	60	2nd
Queen's Surreys	59	3rd

KING EDWARD VII'S HOSPITAL FOR OFFICERS

Certain Press reports have given a misleading impression about changes introduced for admission to Sister Agnes's Hospital.

The position is that from January 1 this year all patients in the hospital have to be placed by their general practitioners (who can still continue to attend them) under the care of a member of the hospital's consultant staff, a list of whom will be sent to the patient's doctor on application.

The hospital remains as before for patients who hold, or have held, regular or temporary commissions, many of whom are subscribers. The hospital has only 55 beds, including 15 rooms of the small civilian wing to which wives and widows can be admitted if they qualify under the clauses as set out in the Trust governing the wing. With so many physicians and surgeons pressing to gain admission for their patients, the waiting list had extended to weeks (and at times months) and it was impossible to guarantee a bed in an emergency. Something had to be done and this was the step taken. The consultant staff consists of distinguished men in all the medical specialties, and the change in policy now brings Sister Agnes's into line with every hospital of repute in the country.

(Reproduced by courtesy of the Editor, *The Pennant*).

THE OFFICERS' PENSION SOCIETY

Attention is invited to this Society, whose President is Field Marshall Sir Francis Festing, and Chairman is General the Lord Bourne. Its objects are to procure improvements and increases in the retired pay and pensions of Officers and widows of the three Armed Services, and to promote their interests in every way.

The Society has influenced the award of many improvements and increases in retired pay and pensions, and still has a long way to go.

There are now over 26,000 members, which number is increasing every day. The annual subscription is only £1 for retired officers and serving officers' wives, and 5/- for widows. So many useful concessions are available to members that they can save far more than the cost of subscriptions. Full details can be obtained from the General Secretary of the Society at 137 Victoria Street, S.W.1.