



THE  
**DIE-HARDS**

*The Journal of*

THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

*(Duke of Cambridge's Own)*

**September 1946**

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# The Die Hards

## THE JOURNAL OF THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)



VOL. VII. No. 9

SEPTEMBER, 1946

PRICE 1/-

### THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE'S OWN)

(37)

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

"Myers," "Seringapatam," "Albuhera," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajoz," "Vittoria," "Pyrenees," "Nivelle," "Nive," "Peninsular," "Alma," "Inkerman," "Sevastopol," "New Zealand," "South Africa, 1879," "Relief of Ladysmith," "South Africa, 1900-02."

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

#### Regular and Militia Battalions.

1st Bn. (57th Foot). 2nd Bn. (77th Foot).

5th Bn. (Royal Elthorne Militia).

6th Bn. (Royal East Middlesex Militia).

Depot—Mill Hill. Records Office, Ashford, Middx.

Pay Office—90, Brompton Road, Knightsbridge.

#### Territorial Army Battalions

1/7th Bn. 2/7th Bn. 3rd Bn. 4th Bn.

5th Bn. (— L.A.A. R.A.).

1st and 2nd Bns. Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment.

1st, 2nd and 3rd Independent Coys.

No. 1 Heavy Support Coy.

#### Affiliated A/A Units of the Territorial Army

— (7th City of London) Searchlight Regiment R.A.

— (St. Pancras) Searchlight Regiment R.A.

#### Allied Regiments of Canadian Militia.

The Prince of Wales Rangers (Peterborough

Regiment) (M.C.) . . . . . Peterborough, Ontario.

The Wentworth Regiment . . . . . Dundas, Ontario.

The Middlesex and Huron Regiment . . . . . London, Ontario.

#### Allied Battalion of Australian Infantry.

57th Bn. . . . . Preston.

#### Allied Regiment of New Zealand Military Forces

The Taranaki Regiment . . . . . New Plymouth.

#### Colonel of the Regiment:

Colonel M. Browne, M.C., D.L., J.P.

#### Officer Commanding Depot:

Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E.

Agents—Lloyds Bank Limited, Cox's & King's Branch.

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### NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS.

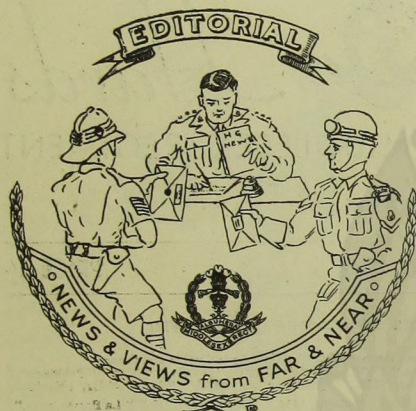
"The Die-Hards" is published in March, June, September and December, and copies may be obtained by application to the Editor, enclosing 1/- for each copy, plus 2d. postage.

All Contributions intended for publication should reach the Editor not later than the 1st of the month previous to that of issue. CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE TYPED IN TRIPLICATE, AND BE ON ONE SIDE OF THE PAPER ONLY, and signed, stating whether it is desired to publish the contributor's name or not. Rejected manuscripts, etc., will only be returned if accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope. The Editor will thankfully receive Contributions from past or present members of the Regiment or others interested, but necessarily reserves to himself the right of publication. All communications concerning the paper, including Advertisements, should be addressed to the Editor, "The Die-Hards" Journal, The Middlesex Regiment, Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, London, N.W.7.

Subscriptions should be forwarded to the Editor, "The Die-Hards" Journal, to whom all Cheques and Postal Orders should be made payable and crossed "— & Co."

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION 5/- (Post Free)





Editor: Bt.-Major G. W. Kempster.

The success of a Regimental magazine must depend largely on the quality of the contributions sent in for publication. Unless these are numerous enough and of sufficient general interest its circulation must necessarily suffer. We are fortunate at present, in as much that the columns of the Regiment's Monthly News Letters are at our disposal, and, too, that contributions from our remaining Battalions maintain a high standard of excellence. Nevertheless, we should welcome the assistance of any of our readers who would care to write for us.

What a wealth of knowledge and experience of the Regiment must exist amongst our fairly numerous readers. Why should it not be placed at our disposal, to stimulate interest in the Journal, and to help form an historical record of the Regiment?

We are informed that persuading members of the Regiment to write for THE DIE-HARDS has always been difficult. Soldiers, perhaps, are not as a rule writers, and for this reason may be shy of contributing. Our own view is that if an article contains the required Regimental interest, its literary style is of very secondary importance; and if any of our readers care to respond to this invitation to write for us please will they send their writings to The Editor, The Die-Hards, at Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, N.W.7. Any news bearing on the county of Middlesex will be particularly acceptable.

A number of our readers have been slow to renew their subscriptions. We hope they will fill in the inscript contained in this magazine, if they have not already done so. We want not only to maintain our circulation, but to increase it, so the more readers advertise the Journal the better. A high circulation means greater profits, and in this connexion we have not done so badly in the past—though we aim to do better in the future. It also means that more members of the Regiment remain in touch with us.

We would like secretaries of "Die-Hards" Clubs to give our Journal the same wide publicity we are giving their own Clubs, now in most cases, firmly established and growing in strength with the passage of time.

We desire to acknowledge the magazines sent to us by contemporary Service journals, and to all who contributed to these pages.

Finally, please send us your contributions if you do feel disposed to write for us.

#### OFFICERS' CLUB NOTES

##### Golf Meeting

The first post-war meeting took place at Hendon Golf Club on May 17, 1946. The attendance was not a good one, due to the fact that some were prevented from coming by their military duties and, in a few cases, by sickness. Friday, the 17th, was the one fine day in the week so in that respect we were fortunate.

During the luncheon interval the customary annual general meeting was held and the following committee elected: Colonel G. L. Browne (Chairman), Major G. B. Anderson and Bt.-Major G. W. Kempster.

It was decided to hold an Autumn Meeting at Hendon on October 10, to play for the two challenge cups, the competitions to be as for the Spring Meetings, viz., medal round in the morning (scratch and handicap competitions), and in the afternoon foursomes against Bogey. It is hoped that we shall have a better attendance next time. Our regular members have already been circularised, and in some cases they have replied.

As regards the play it was, of course, influenced by lack of practice, and not up to pre-war standard as regards consistency. Two holes were out of action so the scores as given below are rather misleading. The course was in excellent condition, and Mr. Greenshields, as usual did as much for us as he possibly could.

In the morning Colonel G. I. Browne won the scratch competition with a 72. This was for sixteen holes. A five at the short fifth and a six at the sixth spoilt his card rather, but all things taken into account it was a good performance. Lieut.-Colonel J. W. A. Stephenson returned a 73. He ruined his chances by taking a seven at the tenth. Lieut.-Colonel Phillips took 74. He started badly by dropping five shots at the first two holes, and even a two at the fifth and some pretty consistent play failed to put him in the running again.

Lieut.-Colonel South won the handicap prize with a nett 65. It was good to see him in such good form again, and to make the acquaintance of Mrs. South, who accompanied him, and who recently gave a dance in aid of the Regimental Association which resulted in a substantial sum enriching our coffers.

Major G. B. Anderson and Major D. Patisson won the foursomes in the afternoon. They tied with Lieut.-Colonel Phillips and Lieut.-Colonel South. The former pair were adjudged the winners as they did the best first nine holes.

There was nothing very remarkable about the scores in this competition, five down winning, but it is seldom that good scores are returned. Perhaps it is because the average player does not play well in foursomes. However, everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves, which was all that really mattered.

The scores are given below:—

	MORNING	Adjusted Handicap	
Colonel G. L. Browne	72	7	65
Lieut.-Colonel T. South	75	10	65
Lieut.-Colonel S. W. A. Stephenson	73	7	66
Lieut.-Colonel C. T. Pain	80	14	66
Major G. B. Anderson	84	15	69
Major D. Patisson	69	10	69
Lieut.-Colonel H. Phillips	74	4	70
Major C. T. Whinney	76	5	71
Major R. C. H. Bellairs	87	14	73
Captain L. A. W. St. George	85	11	74
Lieut.-Colonel W. H. Samuel	86	12	74
Mr. G. P. Hunt	94	15	79

##### AFTERNOON

Major G. B. Anderson (18) and Major D. Patisson (12)	5 down
Lieut.-Colonel H. Phillips (6) and Lieut.-Colonel T. South (12)	5 down
Colonel G. L. Browne (8) and Lieut.-Colonel J. W. A. Stephenson (6)	8 down
Major R. C. H. Bellairs (16) and Lieut.-Colonel C. T. Pain (16)	8 down
Captain L. A. W. St. George (13) and Major C. T. Whinney (5)	10 down
Lieut.-Colonel W. H. Samuel (14) and Mr. G. P. Hunt (18)	10 down
Colonel G. L. Browne winner of scratch prize.	
Lieut.-Colonel T. South winner of handicap prize, Committee ruling.	
Majors Anderson and Patisson beat Lieut.-Colonels Phillips and South on best first nine holes.	

##### The Officers' Club Dinner

A hundred and sixty-eight serving and retired officers of the Regiment dined at The Connaught Rooms on June 28. It was a very large gathering indeed, and the Dinner Committee, presided over by Colonel R. D. Sherbrook-Walker, had good reason to be pleased with the success that crowned their efforts, the fruits of long and anxious planning.

Colonel Browne, as Colonel of the Regiment, presided. The guest of the evening was Mr. C. W. Radcliffe, Clerk to the Middlesex County Council, and a great friend of the Regiment, who for some years now has been of enormous assistance to the Colonel in his efforts throughout the war in improving the ties which bind us to our county, and in securing for us generous and very considerable financial support from the funds of the Middlesex Sunday Entertainments Fund.

Lieut.-General Sir Brian Horrocks was present, not as a guest (he could not be as he is a member of the Club), but was certainly treated as one, and few of us who were present will forget the burst of cheering that greeted him when he rose to speak, an expression of that sense of pride that one of our foremost war commanders had once marched in our ranks and commanded our 2nd Battalion early in the first campaign in Belgium and France. To quote from the Colonel's News Letter: "First name must be that of Lieut.-General Sir Brian Horrocks, known throughout the Regiment as 'Jock,' and now resplen-

dent with five rows of war and honour ribbons. I shall not ever forget the roar of applause which greeted him as he rose to speak to us on this Dinner night, for I believe all agreed with me that he has won greater distinction than any other officer in the Regiment, not excluding the heroes of the 57th and 77th, whose names shine forth in our Regimental histories."

Major-General Ramsay, a well-known Divisional Commander of the first world war, and Brigadier-General Rowley, were two of the older generation present at the Dinner. The 1st Battalion silver, fresh from renovation at Messrs. Carringtons, adorned the tables, and the famous Albuhera Cup was placed before General Rowley. He may have wondered why. The reason for doing so was to honour the oldest Die-Hard present at the Dinner. The presence of the silver conjured up memories of the gallant Battalion who last used it before the heroic defence of Hong-Kong, and of Colonel Newnham, recently awarded the George Cross, of Colonel Stewart and his gallantry and the bravery shown by all those who served under him.

After reading a message of greeting from The King, which was read as follows: "The King sincerely thanks the officers of the Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own), dining together this evening, for their message of loyal assurances which his Majesty much appreciates," and the loyal toast which followed, Colonel Browne made, by common consent, one of the finest speeches ever to be heard on such an occasion.

Commencing by saying it was a unique occasion which justified a departure from the pre-war ban on speeches at our dinners, he spoke in complimentary terms of Mr. Radcliffe and General Sir Brian Horrocks, and the distinctions he had attained.

He welcomed General Ramsay and Brigadier General Rowley, whose Adjutant he once was, and all the honorary Colonels of Territorial Battalions, regretting that Colonel Campbell, Hon. Colonel of the Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment, was not able to be present.

Captain Renny, brother of the late Mr. Renny, who recently left £20,000 to the Regimental Association, was thanked for securing this request for the Regiment.

After a moving reference to the dead and maimed of the last war, he mentioned the Regimental Memorial for this war which will mainly take the form of a housing scheme, probably in or near the grounds of Inglis Barracks, the home of the Regiment. There it is hoped to build cottages for the use of men maimed in the last war. He told his hearers that a Committee, presided over by Colonel Beach, was busily working on this scheme and that he hoped to appeal to the county of Middlesex to aid it financially through their local authorities just as soon as the scheme was approved and final arrangements had been made.

He appealed for greater support for the Middlesex Cadets, for a still larger attendance at the next Dinner, and concluded by recording his personal appreciation at presiding over a gathering which included so many distinguished officers.

General Sir Brian Horrocks, who was greeted by loud and prolonged applause, spoke in praise of the Regiment in the strongest terms, and asked us to



cash in on the great successes we had achieved. He then simply, but eloquently, thanked Colonel Browne for devoting his whole life to the Middlesex Regiment, a motion which was heartily endorsed by all those who were present.

The General concluded with a humorous story which, though much appreciated, cannot be recorded in these pages on account of lack of space.

The health of the Regiment was then drunk in customary fashion, and the first post-war Dinner was over.

The Regimental Band played throughout. This was an innovation which was generally appreciated.

The following were present:—Colonel M. Browne (Colonel, Middlesex Regiment), Mr. C. W. Radcliffe, Lieut.-General Sir Brian Horrocks, Major-General F. W. Ramsay, Brigadier-General F. G. M. Rowley, Brigadiers O. H. Tidbury, B. B. Rackham, G. P. L. Weston, E. E. F. Baker; Colonels H. E. Smith, W. Garner, W. H. Jones, J. K. Maitland, Sherbrooke Walker, G. Beach; Lieut.-Colonels A. de Chimay, W. E. Pringle, B. L. Sutcliffe, W. H. Samuel, T. S. Wollocombe, D. Robbins, S. F. Hedgecoe, T. A. Hall, A. J. Farley, E. W. C. Flavell, H. Cook, E. T. Pain, S. H. Short, J. W. A. Stephenson, J. N. Lamont, T. South, G. L. Fox, E. W. de Salis, C. Jarrett, S. F. W. Delcourt, H. P. Lambert, A. B. Black, F. Sloane Stanley, T. L. Marks, H. Phillips, H. W. Clayden, J. J. Crook, A. M. Man, W. A. Stewart, J. Herepath, J. E. F. Willoughby, A. K. Johnson, D. C. Percy-Smith, A. S. Hewson, Gordon Parker, W. L. Roberts, W. D. Kenyon, H. A. Howell; Majors J. M. Cossar, C. J. Corbridge, H. K. Hardcastle, J. A. Hamilton, F. J. Nunn, D. V. Littlejohn, J. Harley, L. W. Griffiths, R. Wasey, R. C. H. Bellers, A. C. Dundas, R. Bare, B. Douthet, G. B. Anderson, L. H. Owen-Josephs, J. Dodge, H. S. Emery, H. A. Neal, M. C. D. King, C. F. Denton, G. D. Marjoribanks, F. A. L. Lawrence, A. Cooper, J. Unwin, A. W. F. Peal, E. F. J. Rich, R. D. Guscott, F. G. Hogg, H. T. Pennell, P. C. Sneath, A. W. Clark, J. T. Dear, A. C. Burton, A. V. Weller, H. H. Grey, N. H. B. Lyon, E. F. Thompson, G. W. P. Hodding, I. F. Campbell, E. S. M. Ayescough, T. C. Johnson, C. H. L. Travis, E. L. Heywood, G. A. H. Bower, D. A. Phillips, E. T. Patterson, F. Lockwood, A. R. Klitz, J. B. M. McKelvie, G. W. Kempster.

Captains P. K. Slocombe, W. F. Spalding, L. McCoy Hill, T. W. Heathers, S. J. Belsham, F. J. A. Spencer, C. M. Man, N. P. Weedon, J. H. S. Hudson, W. A. Ballard, J. N. Whiting, N. B. McIvor, W. A. Ellis, S. Renny, R. W. D. Sword, H. Marsh, A. Clark, W. Ashby, J. Bywaters, J. E. Pillivant, J. A. Williams, C. V. Brook, W. St. George, K. W. Attrill, L. C. W. Doidge, J. G. Stevens, J. Powell, W. R. Dawe, W. J. Denny, J. N. M. Martin, A. K. Adams, A. L. Page, G. Kent, A. F. E. Robinson, D. B. Grey, P. Hodge, W. N. Vare, C. Donaldson, R. W. Whitehead, J. G. Chiverell, R. E. Guest, J. M. Woodbridge, G. W. Flatau.

Lieutenants M. Randall, J. R. C. Riseley, D. S. Haig, K. D. V. Cole, L. Preston, J. Lowman, A. B. Carter; Messrs. B. K. Cattell, A. P. L. Blaxter, J. G. P. Hunt, H. M. Heath, R. Hammond, J. N. Billen, S. B. Dearing, V. E. O. N. Owen, J. W. Badham, E. C. Graham, C. J. Webber, B. H. Kerr, M. J. Abbott, W. E. Greyburn, P. R. Grace.

We were remembered by some who could not be present. Colonel N. P. Procter, commanding in Sierra Leone and the Gambia, cabled a message of greetings. Similar messages of goodwill were received from Colonel C. H. Pank, Lieut.-Colonel C. P. Rook, and Major J. E. Dobbs. We thank them for remembering us and hope next year they will be with us.

A gold-rimmed pocket magnifying glass was discovered on the floor which, so far, has not been claimed. Should the owner see this insertion and want it back he may have it on application to the Secretary.

Before closing this account we consider it only fitting to record our appreciation of the excellent service accorded us by the management of The Connaught Rooms. One, perhaps more, of the waiters who served at the Dinner, were old Middlesex men, anxious to know the procedure for joining the Old Comrades' Association. They were informed.

### The Cricket Week

The above heading, adhered to for the sake of continuity, is a misnomer. It should really read "The Cricket Day," for that is what our "Week" boiled down to. It was never possible, we found, to collect a side to represent the Regiment except on June 29, a Saturday, when we played R.E.M.E., the Unit at present in occupation at Mill Hill. There were numerous other difficulties that restricted play to one day, but we need not enumerate them. Next year, when we hope to be in possession of our old Messes and lines again, these difficulties should not arise, and we shall then, we hope, be able to embark on a full week's cricket, with our customary "At Home" and a tennis tournament later in the year. That, at least, is what we are hoping to do.

Our one game enabled us to see some of our younger players in action, and at least it started regimental cricket again. But it was most unfortunate that the opposition was so weak. Between arranging the game and playing it R.E.M.E. lost all their best cricketers, for in the previous year they had a very strong side. They batted first and were literally skittled out by Brigadier Weston and Lieut.-Colonel Stephenson for 22 runs. The Middlesex side then knocked up 177 (Captain St. George 47, Lieut.-Colonel Stephenson 40, Lieut. Broom 35, Lieut. Clutterbuck 28). R.E.M.E. did better in their second innings but were all out for 58 runs.

The full scores are given below:—

### MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

Capt. St. George, b Dix	47
Major May, b Dix	9
Lieut. Lowman, b Dix	2
Lieut. Clutterbuck, b Dix	28
Brigadier Weston, lbw, b Dix	1
Capt. Martin, lbw, b Tagget	1
Lieut.-Colonel Stephenson, c Garlick, b Hensby	40
Lieut. Broom, b Oates	35
Lieut. Bywaters, b Lock	0
Major Paterson, not out	1
Capt. Donaldson, c Dix, b Oates	0
Extras	13
TOTAL	177

1st Innings	R.E.M.E.	2nd Innings
Mr. Luffman, c Bywaters, b Stephenson	0	c Broom, b Martin
Mr. Tagget, c May, b Stephenson	0	b Broom
Mr. Vessey, lbw, b Weston	1	c & b Clutterbuck
Mr. Hensby, lbw, b Weston	0	b Broom
Mr. Oates, not out	13	lbw, b Broom
Mr. Shorland, b Weston	2	st Bywaters, b Donaldson
Mr. Dix, b Weston	2	b Clutterbuck
Mr. Garlick, b Stephenson	1	b Clutterbuck
Mr. Ewers, b Stephenson	0	c May, b Paterson
Mr. Wilson, b Stephenson	0	c St. George, b Donaldson
Mr. Lock, c St. George, b Stephenson	0	not out
Extras	3	Extras
TOTAL	22	TOTAL
Middlesex Officers won by an innings and 97 runs.		
BOWLING AVERAGES		
Middlesex Officers	1st Innings	Mr. Lock, 2 for 53
Mr. Dix, 4 for 44 ; Mr. Tagget, 1 for 38 ;	Mr. Hensby, 1 for 27	
Mr. Oates, 2 for 2		
R.E.M.E. First Innings : Brigadier Weston, 4 for 7 ; Lieut.-Colonel Stephenson, 6 for 12. Second Innings : Lieut. Broom, 3 for 7 ; Capt. Paterson, 1 for 12. Lieut. Clutterbuck, 3 for 10 ; Major Paterson, 1 for 4 ; Capt. Donaldson, 2 for 15 ;		

Middlesex Officers won by an innings and 97 runs.  
BOWLING AVERAGES  
Middlesex Officers. First Innings: Mr. Lock, 2 for 53; Mr. Dix, 4 for 44; Mr. Tagget, 1 for 38; Mr. Hensby, 1 for 27; Mr. Oates, 2 for 2.  
R.E.M.E. First Innings: Brigadier Weston, 4 for 7; Lieut.-Colonel Stephenson, 6 for 12. Second Innings: Lieut. Broom, 3 for 7; Capt. Martin, 1 for 12; Lieut. Clutterbuck, 3 for 10; Major Paterson, 1 for 4; Capt. Donaldson, 2 for 15.

### REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION NOTES

#### Regimental Association Meeting

The Committee met at the Middlesex Guildhall on Thursday, July 18. We were very pleased to see some of our still serving members represented by Lieut.-Col. A. E. Green, D.S.O., Major A. W. Clark, M.B.E., C.S.M. A. Hastie and Sgt. E. Fletcher. It is considered of the utmost importance that as many as possible should attend, and fully realised that they cannot always do so.

At the meeting the Secretary reported that 160 cases had been assisted during the six months ending June 30, 1946, at a cost of £793 1s. 3d., as opposed to 124 at a cost of £591 4s. 4d. during the previous six months. He stressed the increase in expenditure which, he said, showed no signs of abating. This increase only bears out what we have always said—our expenses are increasing. It is not unsatisfactory to reflect, however, that members of the Regiment, past and present, are, where necessary, being helped as far as funds permit, and we must surely see to it that this help continues for as long as it is required.

Lieut.-Col. T. S. Wollocombe and his Committee produced a draft of the Association Rules amended up to date which was duly passed by the Committee. A number of amendments had become necessary, the main ones dealing with finance caused by the acquisition of new funds notably the Renny and Prisoners-of-War Fund.

The Chairman of the 1939/45 War Memorial Committee, Colonel G. Beach, C.B., O.B.E., T.D., D.L., J.P., made his report, the result of months of meetings and hard work, with the end in view of building some cottage homes for men of the Regiment maimed or in some way incapacitated during the fighting in the last war.

The resolution of his Sub-Committee that: "They considered that in view of the changed conditions caused by there no longer being any land to build on in Frith Lane, or in Nether Court, that the Nether Court Scheme be dropped, but that a search to acquire a suitable site for the erection of houses for disabled men of the Middlesex regiment should be pursued with the utmost vigour, and that the Colonel of the Regiment should be asked to launch an interim appeal to obtain the necessary funds with a minimum target of £10,000 as soon as a site had been obtained," was passed.

Nether Court had at one time been considered a likely site. Frith Lane definitely would have been, but the authorities decided eventually we could not have it. At the time of writing a site in Partingdale Lane, which forms the northern boundary of our Depot, has been offered us subject to the Ministry of Town Planning's approval, for it is just inside the "Green Belt." This scheme is proving a tough nut to crack, but we mean to succeed eventually. As stated above, the appeal for funds has not and cannot yet be launched. When it is we hope all our readers will help us to raise the necessary funds. Already some money, acknowledged elsewhere in these pages, has been subscribed.

The Audited Accounts of the Journal showed a profit on the year ending June 30, 1946, of £257 16s. 1d. It is indeed gratifying that our Journal can contribute so handsomely towards the expenses of the Association. We should do better still if we could increase our circulation, at present about 2,000, which is low for a Regiment that once had 46 Battalions in the 1914/18 Great War. We wish our readers would help us by asking others to subscribe.

It was decided to hold Association meetings quarterly, to consider installing electric lighting in the existing cottage homes, and the Secretary was authorised to expend up to £500 during the June-September quarter on benevolence.

It was reported that two more "Die-Hards" Clubs had started at Tottenham and Ealing, and a third was, shortly due to begin at "The Ship," Elephant and Castle.

It was further reported that through the good offices of Lieut.-Col. Moss Vernon, late Commanding Officer of the 72nd S/L Regiment, the Odeon theatres in Middlesex, 31 in number, had agreed to show a slide for a fortnight advertising our "Die-Hards" Clubs. This co-operation between the county and the Regiment has since led to applications for membership, but not as many as might have been expected, and we are forced to the conclusion that the "personal touch" is still our best means of swelling the ranks of our social clubs who, by the way, are progressing satisfactorily, and fully justifying the Committee's decision to form them.

It was a long meeting lasting two-and-a-half hours, but considerable progress was made in the affairs of the Association.

### REGIMENTAL FIXTURES, 1946

(As notified at present)

October 10th.—Officers' Club Autumn Golf Meeting. See Officers' Club Notes, page 166.

Meetings of the "Die-Hards" Clubs. See page 183. It is notified, for information, that in addition to the clubs given, Mr. J. Boen's club at the "Ship," Borough Road, S.E.1, will open on Thursday, 26th September, and on the last Thursday of the following months until further notice.

### SWIMMING

The following have had the honour to be chosen to represent the Army in the Inter-Services' Swimming Championships at Aldershot from the 1st to 6th September.

High Diving: Dr. Major Holford.  
Water Polo: C.Q.M.S. Ure, Bdsnn. Hymas.  
We congratulate them and wish them success, and hope that by the time this is printed they will have achieved it.



## OBITUARY

(By courtesy of *The Times*)

## COLONEL R. F. B. GLOVER

## A GREAT REGIMENTAL OFFICER

Colonel R. F. B. Glover, D.S.O., late The South Staffordshire Regiment, who died in a nursing home at Torquay recently, had a distinguished active service career which began in Egypt at the time of the campaign against Arabi Pasha and continued through the 1914-18 war, in the course of which he commanded a battalion on the Western Front.

Robert Frederick Broughton Glover was a soldier's son, his father having been a Captain in The King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry. Born on June 30, 1859, he enlisted in the 38th Foot (now the 1st Battalion, The South Staffordshire Regiment) at the age of 20, and in 1882 was with the battalion at Alexandria while Wolseley conducted his successful campaign against the Egyptian Army. Gazetted to a commission as Lieutenant on March 26, 1884, he remained with The South Staffordshire Regiment, which took part in the Nile Expedition for the relief of Gordon at Khartoum and, being part of the River Column, fought in the action of Kibek in 1885. Glover gained the medal with two clasps and the Khedive's Star.

On November 1, 1890, he was promoted Captain, and, still with the 1st Battalion of his Regiment, he served in the South African War from April, 1900, until the peace in May, 1902. He took part in the operations for the relief of Wepner, in the fighting near Dewetsdorp and Thabanchu in April, 1900, in the actions in the Wittebergen which preceded the surrender of General Prinsloo's army, and in the subsequent operations in the Orange River Colony, and in the Transvaal. He was twice mentioned in despatches in the *London Gazette* on September 10, 1901, and July 29, 1902, and was awarded the D.S.O. He qualified for the Queen's Medal with three clasps and the King's Medal with two clasps. On August 2, 1902, he received his majority, and in June, 1907, was promoted Lieutenant-Colonel on the half-pay list. The next February, however, he was appointed to command the 3rd Battalion, The Middlesex Regiment, which he commanded in Singapore, and on July 19, 1911, came his promotion to Colonel. He completed his four years in command of the Battalion and retired on May 23, 1914. The places to which his regimental service had taken him included Egypt, the Sudan, India, Malta, and Gibraltar.

The outbreak of the war in August, 1914, brought him back again to active service, and in the September he was given command of the newly raised 12th Battalion, The Middlesex Regiment in the 18th Division of the New Army. This he held until October, 1915, by which time he had been nearly three months in France. His services were again mentioned in despatches. Glover was a great regimental officer, whose delightful personality, unruffled good temper, keen sense of humour, unselfish spirit of service, and devotion to duty gave inspiration to all. His uppermost thought throughout his service was for the men he led and the regiment he served.

In 1886, while still a subaltern, he married Frances Alice de Courcy, daughter of the late Colonel and the Hon. Mrs. Stretton, and had one son, who is

Major-General Sir Guy de Courcy Glover, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C., Colonel of The South Staffordshire Regiment.

Colonel H. A. Cartwright, C.M.G., M.C., represented the Regiment at the funeral, and laid on his grave our wreath. Colonel Browne received a thankful letter from his son, Major-General Sir Guy de Courcy Glover, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C.

Writing of the late Colonel Glover, Colonel Browne says: "Colonel Glover brought with him to the 3rd Battalion, as Adjutant, the late Lieutenant-Colonel Willie Miller, C.M.G., D.S.O., who predeceased him towards the end of this war. Both served in the South Staffordshire Regiment. Colonel Glover was a very well beloved C.O. Even at the age of 80 he was a very fit man, and I remember many years ago him taking part in a great Regimental Rally on the Horse Guards Parade prior to marching past the Cenotaph. The late Lord Rochdale, as Lord Lieutenant of Middlesex, carried out the inspection, and the parade afterwards marched to the Duke of Yorks H.Q. at Chelsea. Colonel Glover was in the foremost ranks, and carried out the whole parade and march."

## THE LATE MR. MICHAEL J. DONOGHUE

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Michael John Donoghue, aged 63, caretaker of the Rookeryway Drill Hall, who died in Redhill Hospital after a short illness.

Mr. Donoghue had served as a regular in the Middlesex Regiment (known as "The Die-Hards") for over 23 years, and won the Military Medal during the 1914-18 war.

When the Home Guard was formed at the commencement of the late war he joined as a permanent staff instructor, and later as instructor to the Army Cadet Force.

He was an active member of the Hendon Branch of the Old Contemptibles' Association, and took charge of the Drill Hall during the recent war. He had lived in Hendon Borough for twenty years.

The funeral took place at Hendon Park Cemetery. Family mourners were: Mrs. M. Donoghue (widow), Miss Donoghue (daughter), Captain and Mrs. James (son-in-law and daughter), Mr. and Mrs. A. Donoghue (brother and sister-in-law), Miss P. Donoghue (daughter-in-law), and Lieut. G. F. White (nephew), Capt. James, who has been serving in the Middle East for four years, arrived home in time for the funeral, but unfortunately Captain John Donoghue, R.A. (son), was unable to obtain leave. He is stationed in Burma.

Others present were: Mr. and Mrs. J. Cobb, Mr. and Mrs. E. White, Major and Mrs. Denton, Mr. R. Buckle, Mr. Jack Saunders, Mr. G. Kerswell (representing Middlesex Regiment Association), Sergt. Fletcher (representing the Middlesex Regiment), Lieut.-Colonel Birnie, M.C. (23rd Middlesex Battalion Home Guard), and a party representing the Hendon Old Contemptibles. The coffin was draped with the colours of the Hendon Old Contemptibles, who also formed a guard of honour.

Floral tributes were from: His sorrowing wife; Flora; Kitty and Jimmie; Phyl and John; Annette and Rosalind; George, Gladys and family; Emily and niece Betty; Blanche, Harry and family; Brother and Sister (Bert and Till); Jean and Harry; Babs and Jim; Mr. and Mrs. Batty and family; Sally; Mr. and Mrs. Tayler and Joyce; Mac;

Charlie, Aggie and family; Mr. and Mrs. Fox and Elsie; Nellie, George and Fred; Jack and Francis; Mr. and Mrs. Sawyer and family and Mrs. Williams; Mrs. Ottaway, Ann and Gill; Mr. and Mrs. Cobb and family; Dorothy and Alf; Ernest, Lily, David and Ruth; Hendon Branch, Old Contemptibles' Association; Chairman, Committee and Staff, T.A. and R.A.F. Association, and Cadet Committee of the County of Middlesex; Members of the 10/23 Club; "A" Platoon Old Comrades; Regimental Association, Middlesex Regiment. Many others were laid at the graveside.

Mrs. Donoghue and family, of Drill Hall, Rookeryway, desire to thank all who expressed sympathy by word, letter and floral tributes in their recent sad bereavement. Thanks are also expressed to the nurses and staff of Redhill County Hospital for their unstinted kindness and attention given to the late Mr. Donoghue.

## 1st BATTALION MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)

The Battalion continues to play its part in the garrisoning of the Guards Division area in Schleswig-Holstein, which has proved to be a much less troublesome duty than a similar responsibility in the Lubeck region. Fortunately it is no longer true to say that the lack of officers and other ranks has made undue strain on the Battalion; in fact, several large drafts, notably from the R.N.F. and K.O.S.B., have succeeded in bringing us almost up to strength. The chief problem at the moment seems to be the restoring of cadre tradesmen, as in the main the Battalion consists of young soldiers without the preliminary qualifications necessary for their upgrading to higher classifications. This, no doubt, will be achieved in the very near future, so that before long it should be possible to report the situation as being normal.

Meanwhile, whatever the difficulties regarding personnel may be, the Battalion grows from strength to strength in the sporting and athletic world. To wind up the winter season's activities the boxing team succeeded in finishing runners-up in the B.A.O.R. Championships, being defeated in a very creditable match by the East Lancashire Regiment. After the presentation of prizes, the G.O.C.-in-C. 1st Corps remarked that it was not surprising to see the Middlesex Regiment reaching the finals as during the whole of his experience the Regiment had been renowned for its boxing prowess. It is gratifying to know that, in the eyes of others, we are maintaining the standards expected of us.

In the athletic sphere the Battalion has scored notable successes, carrying off the R.A. Brigade Shield, and representing the Brigade in the Divisional Sports at Lubeck. In the latter we were narrowly defeated by the Irish Guards and Grenadier Guards, but the athletics were not checked there, as individuals, entering for the Divisional Championships, secured five places—two firsts, one second, and two thirds. Of these, Pte. Salmon, lately joined from the R.N.F., claimed first place in the 5,000 metres, and Pte. Barnard third place in the 110 metres hurdles in the Corps Championships.

The 135th anniversary of the Battle of Albuhera was celebrated in the traditional manner. The main feature being a six-a-side inter-Mess soccer using a

rugger ball and the players wearing slippers. The officers won a decisive victory over the Sergeants in the morning, but were unable to do very much about the overwhelming form of the Corporals, who won by 6-0. The junior N.C.O.s and men held their own celebration in the Albuhera Club where justice was done to the beer, tea and cakes provided by the P.R.I., and at lunch time the officers were entertained in the Sergeants Mess.

Coinciding with Albuhera Day came the cricket season. Up to date the 1st XI has acquitted itself well, having won nine matches, drawn two, and lost six. Although there is only one grass wicket in the area it is true to say that the standard of play has been high. Our own ground is well appointed and the fact that there is a mat pitch in no way detracts from the enjoyment derived from Battalion and Company matches. Recently the officers defeated the Sergeants in a match full of excitement and surprises, by ten runs.

The Battalion has also been actively engaged in swimming, representing the R.A. Brigade in the Divisional meeting at the famous Bahrenfeld arena in Hamburg. Considering that relatively poor facilities were at the disposal of the team for training, the fact that the team were only narrowly beaten by the Irish and Welsh Guards in no way weakens the Battalion's sporting record. Lieut. D. S. Sach was selected to represent the Division in the Individual Gala, obtaining fourth place in the 200 metres free-style.

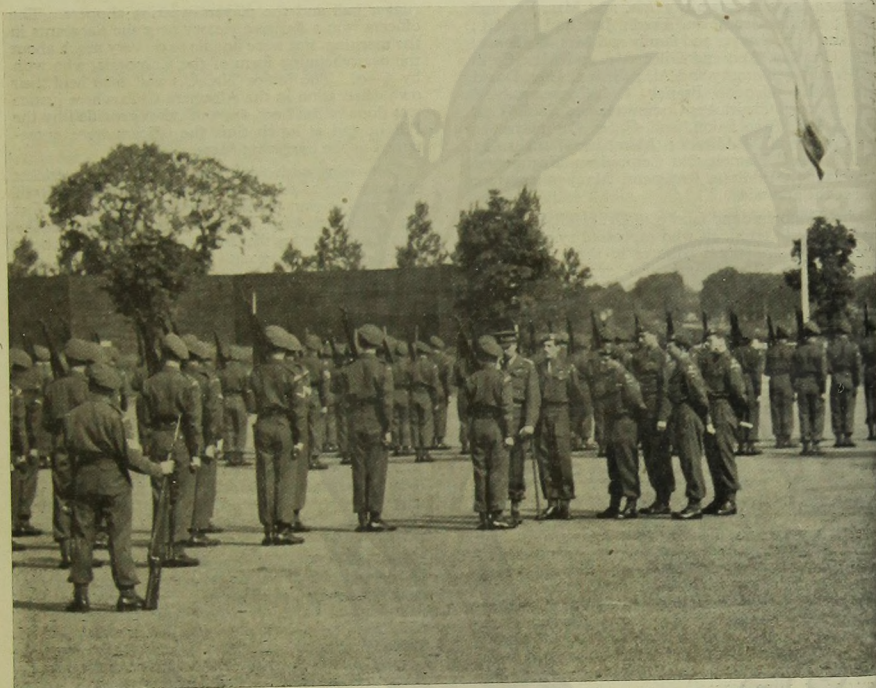
Riding has featured strongly amongst the sporting activities of the Battalion, and every opportunity is seized to enter all gymkhanas. There have not been exactly great successes in this field, but it must be said, in all fairness to entrants, that the standard of riding within the Division is very high indeed. Capt. P. C. Barclay obtained a third in the Hamburg District Gymkhana, that so far being the only place. Major R. W. D. Sword, M.C., was unfortunate enough to sustain a fractured arm when his horse refused, but he is now completely recovered, and is able to tackle his duties as Second-in-Command unhampered.

Sailing, too, has taken a large slice of the off-duty hours of many officers, there being a very fair selection of small craft available on the River Eider close by. Since the opening of the season, several officers have passed out as helmsmen, qualified to take charge of open boats and dinghies within two miles of the shore and in enclosed waters. Racing takes place several times a week and in both the team and individual tables the Regiment shows a very high average.

After a lapse of seven years the Albuhera Shield Competition has been reinstituted, almost every conceivable form of sport being included. The positions to date are as follows:

Company	Cricket League	Swimming Meeting	Water Polo	First Athletic Meeting	Tug-of-War	Rifle Meeting	Points so far	Position
"H.Q."	9	2	1	6	3	2	21	5
"A"	6	6	3	4	1	2	28	3
"B"	10	5	8	2	10	37	37	1
"C"	8	4	10	4	4	34	34	2
"D"	9	4	2	5	0	28	28	4





*Brigadier's Inspection. Brigadier The Lord Tryon, D.S.O., inspecting the 1st Battalion at Eider Barracks, Rendsburg, May, 1946*

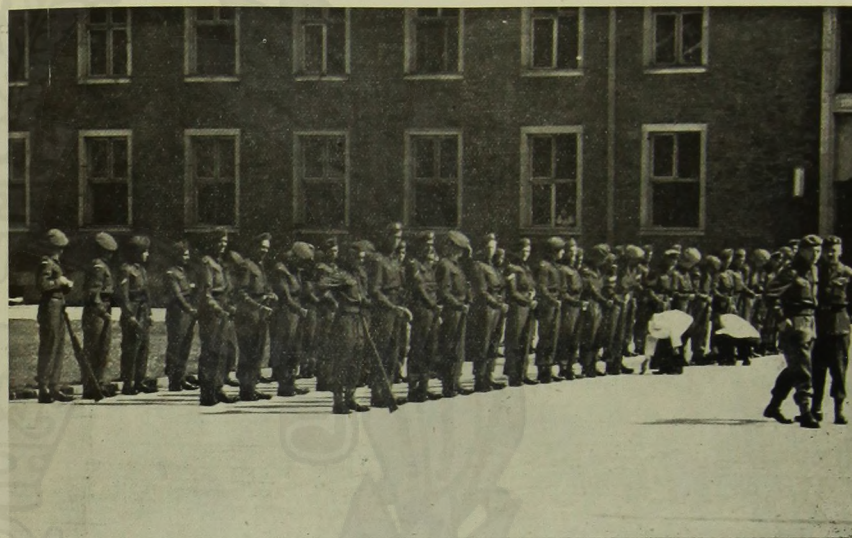
At the end of May the Battalion was inspected by the Commander, 5th Guards Brigade, Brigadier the Lord Tryon, D.S.O. After the formal inspection, the Brigadier saw the Companies in various forms of dress and at different types of training. Junior officers were tested in drill, and afterwards were questioned on Military Law and pay problems. Everyone saw to it that there should be no question as to the fitness of the Battalion to take its place in company with the elite of the Army.

The Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Colonel A. E. Green, D.S.O., has been on leave in the U.K. for the past month and in his absence the Battalion has been commanded by Major R. W. D. Sword, M.C.

Congratulations are due to the following who have been Mentioned in Despatches: Capt. K. B. Torrens-Spence, C/Sgt. Mackenzie, W., Sgt. Fromenton, H., and Sgt. Skoyles, W. Sgt. Stone, W., has been awarded a C-in-C's certificate.

To give a full list of all who have left the Battalion during the last three months would fill a page of the "Journal," but mention must be made of R.S.M. H. Marshall's leaving us to become Sergeant Major at 146 Brigade H.Q. We welcome in his place

R.S.M. McCloughlin who has come to us from the Irish Guards. From Headquarter Company have gone C/Sgt. Scarfe and Sgt. Tricker, to whom we wish every success in civilian life. Capt. L. J. Delaney has now become P.R.I. having handed over command of the Company to Capt. E. D. L. Thomas, who has lately joined us after seeing service in S.E. Asia Command. In "B" Company the long succession of commanders seems to have come to an end with the arrival of Major G. O. Porter. We also welcome Capt. T. I. Mather from the R.N.F., who takes over as second-in-command, "B" Company. To Capt. L. C. Chamberlain has been attributed financial stability, and for some time the communications of the Battalion, but his name must be added to those who have left us for civilian life. Other old "B" Company members to leave recently include L/Cpl. Barham, six years Company Clerk, Sgt. Clarke, and Cpl. Roberts. To "C" Company are welcomed Lieuts. D. F. Cutts, G. H. Shaw, and J. Frith. C.S.M. Webb has also joined us recently, and has already proved himself an eager sportsman. It is regretted that ex-C.S.M. Bignell has had to leave the Company, but he is now happily installed as C.Q.M.S. in "H.Q." Company.



*Boots being polished just before C-in-C's inspection of 1st Middlesex Guard of Honour at Kiel, July, 1946*



*Marshal of the R.A.F. Sir Sholto Douglas, C-in-C Germany, inspecting Guard of Honour provided by 1st Middlesex at Kiel, July, 1946*





Middlesex Regimental Officers' Club in the Connaught Rooms, 28th June, 1946.





Kiel Parade, April, 1946. Major G. H. Townsend commanding 1st Middlesex

"D" Company has undergone changes other than in personnel in that they have moved to another barrack block some hundreds of yards away. Their losses have been considerable. Capt. G. H. Gerrard, M.C., Capt. S. Coulson (who for so long did such sterling service as Welfare Officer at Lubeck), and many other ranks who saw service during the campaign in N.W. Europe. In their place have arrived Capt. J. de Gaye and Lieut. T. Tarmey, both from the R.N.F. A great loss to the Company and to the Battalion is the impending departure, on release, of Sgt. L. Compton, although for several months past his services have been mainly given to the B.A.O.R. soccer team. From "A" Company have departed, amongst many others, Cpl. Bruce, L/Cpl. Deadman, and Pte. Longman. A new officer (another having seen service in India), Lieut. P. Calvin, is welcomed, and also Pte. Salmon, who arrived just in time to help the Company to third place in the inter-Company athletic meeting. We are still faced with the eternal problems of released personnel and their replacements, but the strain is generally easing and soon, it is hoped, arrivals and departures will be down to a more workable figure.

#### 2nd BATTALION MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)

##### "H.Q." COMPANY

Since our last publication of notes, we have changed our abode from the land of mud and trouble, to the land of the Pharaohs. So once more we see plenty of sand and ships that pass through the Canal night and day.

We had quite a good journey down, being fortunate in stopping at a transit camp on the first night of the move. It was much hotter on this trip than on the previous one, but we were fortunate in arriving at our final destination at an early hour, enabling us to have plenty of daylight in which to settle down.

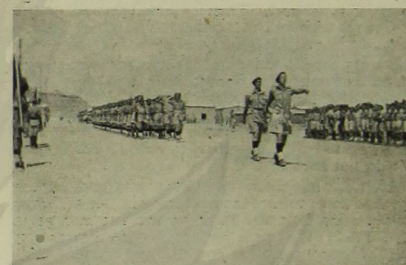
Soon after arrival at Fayid, members of the Company started to depart for civil life, and others on leave. To all and sundry we wish them good luck on their return to civilian life, or wish them a good leave, as the case may be.

Our C.O. and Company Commander have left us for new spheres, and to them we say good luck, good hunting, it was a pleasure to have served with you.

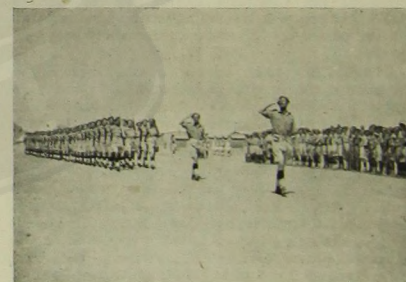
#### KING'S BIRTHDAY PARADE FAYID, EGYPT, 12th JUNE, 1946



Capt. Baxter, M.C., and Lt. Waite leading column.



2nd Middlesex column led by Adj.-Capt. Taverner and R.S.M. Weller, M.M.



Capt. Jones and Lt. Robertson leading second part of 2nd Middlesex column.

We welcome the new C.O., whom many have had the pleasure of serving under in the early years of the war, and we hope his stay will be a long and pleasurable one. We welcome our new Company Commander, for "A" Company's loss is our gain, and hope his stay will be a pleasant one. We congratulate him on obtaining his majority, and say "Well done."

We had quite a nice, if rather unusual type of Albuhera Day, a sports meeting was held, more of a bank holiday affair than a military one. There were races on the most obstinate of all animals, the mule, all sorts of funny races, sideshows, such as "All the fun of the Fair," and refreshments available on the sports ground. At the finish of the day we had prize-giving in the dining hall, a band concert was given in the Naafi, and a good time was had by all.

Towards the end of May we had a very pleasant surprise, for Brigadier G. P. L. Weston visited us while en route for U.K. Many of us had the pleasure of serving under him when he commanded the Battalion. He had a word for all the members that are still here and who served under him. We are positive that he managed to catch the boat at Port Said.

Major Orr, M.C., and Captain Rowberry, have now left us to take over O.C. and Second-in-Command "D" Company. Our loss is "D" Company's gain and we wish these officers the best of luck in their new Company.

L.I.A.P. is now in full swing, and quite a number of the lads are already back. We think it a good show they have kept faith, and returned, but they impress upon us others the austerity conditions at home so we are prepared for the worst.

Palm Beach, the new holiday camp, is apparently the topic of the moment, and we are eagerly awaiting the comments of those who will have been by the time these notes appear in print.

Since our C.S.M. has returned from leave we have been delving into the realm of the sports field. We have had many games of basket ball and cricket, and we think it a good omen for the future. We welcome the C.S.M. to our fold and hope that his stay will be a long and pleasant one.

Up to the present the Company have played two cricket matches in the Battalion Cricket League, having beaten "C" Company and lost to "B." We congratulate the Signal Platoon on reaching the semi-final of the basket ball knock-out.

Our social side is beginning to look up, thanks to the C.S.M. We held a darts tournament against "D" Company. The lads threw very well and had to do so to beat "D" Company. It was a very enjoyable evening, and we eagerly look to further meetings. Our thanks are due to Danny Hanlon, and to the representatives of "D" Company for their co-operation, and to the C.Q.M.S. for performing the duties of scorer. We anticipate that we shall be able to give the Sergeants a good game tomorrow night.

The sports N.C.O., L/Cpl. France, is busy making a running track, so we expect some kind of meeting is in the air; the R.S.M. has been seen in shorts (other than K.D.) recently, so it looks as though something is happening. The fact that the R.Q.M.S. was heard asking for the shove-halfpenny positively denotes happenings of a sort.

In conclusion we hope that members of the past will read these notes and hope that the Journal will achieve the object of being a medium between the past and present, for we like to hear how everyone is progressing.



**"A" COMPANY**

The month of April came along bringing with it joy and happiness to "A" Company, also to the other Companies of the Battalion, due to the fact that they were moving from Palestine back to Egypt.

Finally, we arrived back in Egypt, everyone quite pleased with himself, knowing that things to come would normally go back as before, and not to be carried on from where we left off in Palestine.

A few days passed by as we had expected them to, then came the day that we had to shake hands with 28 Group, as they were departing from the Battalion, also the Army, to start life once again in Civvy Street. It was heart-breaking for those people who were left in the Company, who had fought with them in action and had seen life and sport together for the past two years, but after the first week or so everybody settled down again, knowing that one day their turn would come along.

During the previous three months N.C.O.s and men of the Company were going on L.I.A.P. or getting demobbed. It was a very nice feeling for those personnel going to either of these places but not so good for those left in the Company, as the guards and fatigues came round more frequently.

The Company strength was quite good, or at least within reason up to the day when 28 Group went their way to Civvy Street. Then it seemed that 29, 30 and 31 Groups all went out together. The month of May certainly passed by quickly.

During the last week of May rumours were going round that one of the Companies was to be split up, to reinforce the other Companies until other reinforcements came to the Battalion. The time came for this rumour to come true and thus "A" Company had to be the Company to be split up. Why? We do not know.

After joining their new Companies and settling down to new routines the next thought was of Group 32 departing from the Battalion and also men going on L.I.A.P. Up to the present day the remnants of "A" Company are keeping up their spirits.

**"B" COMPANY**

During February and March "B" Company was stationed with the Battalion at Jalama Camp, near Haifa, in Palestine. Captain Binney continued to command the Company during the absence of Major McLean, who was acting second-in-command, and the period proved to be an extremely busy one for us.

A certain amount of training was carried out but in the main it consisted of range work, rifle and Bren on the classification ranges and M.M.G. field firing. In addition to this several demonstrations were given in conjunction with the Mortar Company, to the Middle East School of Infantry and the Divisional Training School. These made a pleasant change, but proved rather nerve racking on one occasion when bullets dropped very short on a flanking demonstration shoot and ricochets brought back unpleasant memories of past experiences to the spectators. The cause was found to be faulty barrels and these had to be exchanged complete throughout the Battalion.

Our main occupations, though, were the eternal guards and "flaps," which proved very tiring and wearing. It was quite amazing how trouble always seemed to brew up on the nights when "B" Com-

pany was on duty, and in the end we came to take it almost for granted that we would be called out. However, everyone responded magnificently to the call made on them though we were very relieved when the time came to quit Palestine for Egypt once more.

The other outstanding event was when Group 27 left us for home and made a very big hole in the ranks. We were very sorry to lose so many old faithfuls and wish them the best of luck in civilian life.

The beginning of April saw us back in Egypt, this time at a much better camp at Fayid. Major McLean had, by this time, returned to the Company and shortly afterwards Captain Binney was released with Group 27 officers, Lieut. Naish being promoted to take his place.

During April and May we lost, in rapid succession, more of our original members in Groups 28-31, including Lieut. Hawley and this, together with a very liberal L.I.A.P. allotment, brought the effective strength of the Company down to a very low level, and caused many headaches over replacements.

However, everyone seemed to much prefer the new location and, in particular, the swimming and sunbathing facilities, which are being made full use of. Football ended with 4 Platoon just losing to 12 Platoon of "D" Company in a very hard-fought game in the final of the Inter-Platoon Knockout Cup. Cricket has started and we have already got together a Company team inspired by the prowess of Pte. Hayton.

Albuhera Day was celebrated in the traditional manner finishing with a very hectic party in the camp N.A.A.F.I. The end of the month sees us struggling for reinforcements which do not seem likely to materialise, and the next few months look like being a difficult period, but no doubt we shall come through and manage to keep the old flag flying. It has been found necessary to temporarily disband "A" Company and we offer a hearty welcome to those of its members who have come to join us.

**"C" COMPANY**

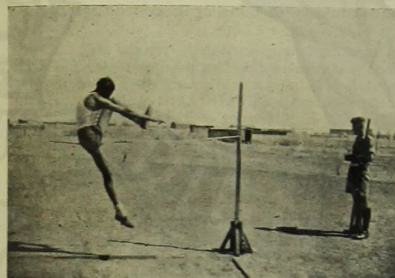
Once again we find ourselves in Egypt, encamped at Fayid, not so very far from our previous location at Geneifa. The move from Palestine, early in April, was carried out in a similar fashion to that of last December but in the opposite direction.

It would not be exactly true to say that "Charlie" Company is much the same as ever. In many ways, however, that is so, and life is inclined to be a trifle on the tedious and monotonous side. We are rather depleted in numbers in spite of the recent influx from "A" Company (for the moment disbanded), so guards and duties are a heavy burden. After Palestine we all thought things might be a good deal easier, but although we have had no "flaps" here yet, a detachment of ours is with "D" Company at Suez.

As always the Company maintains its high standard in all sporting activities. In the inter-Platoon football, No. 9 Platoon very nearly carried off the championship. Our experience at basket ball was almost identical, as Company H.Q. were defeated in the final after a keen game. At present we are settling down to some cricket, and we have several members in the Battalion XI. As the days become hotter and hotter, swimming is even more popular. The early morning parade often consists of a dip in the Bitter Lake, and many enjoy a pleasant afternoon at the Lido, which is close at hand.

**2nd BATTALION MIDDLESEX ATHLETIC MEETING, FAYID, EGYPT**

JULY 16-17th, 1946



Winner of High Jump, Pte. Rogers, H.Q.



Lt. Waite jumping, Maj. Dawson, M.C. judging



Lt. Waite "Swinging the Hammer"



Capt. Bird half-way round first lap of 3-mile



Lt. Burnett high-jumping, Maj. Dawson, M.C. judging



End of all ranks 100 yards. Capt. Raindle finishing last



Finally, "demob" has taken its ration from us. 28 Group meant farewell to Captain Smith and many more. L.I.A.P., too, saps our strength. Major Clayden has recently returned, whilst another party are about to be dispatched. As usual there are divers rumours in the air, but we sincerely hope the next few months will find us substantially stronger.

#### "D" COMPANY

"Flaps," guards, patrols, road blocks and cadres were the order of the day for "D" Company, on detachment at Ramat David, in February. Then came the news that leave was about to start, great news to those of the Company who were eligible. It also gave a major headache to Major Marjoriebanks and Captain Ramsbottom, who had the job of working it out, and with our 27 Group marking time for their day of departure, were the first party of L.I.A.P., the whole bunch getting a tremendous send off. The smiling faces of all our old comrades were a joy to behold. Before the 27's went, on the evening of March 4, a great farewell party was held. It must be said that the next morning saw them leave with heads not exactly as light as the proverbial feather.

Major Orr, M.C., took over the Company, just in time for another big move back to Egypt again, this time to quite a pleasant camp at Fayid. We were relieved by the 2nd Cheshire's, who had but recently joined the 1st Division. After a hot and weary journey by rail and road, we reached our destination, which is situated on the main Suez-Ismalia road. Accommodation is quite good, we have a fair-sized N.A.A.F.I., and the various messes are quite ample. And, as the Battalion magazine so aptly put it, "No flaps." Recreation consists mainly of swimming in the Great Bitter Lake with its excellent Lidos. The early morning swims put a good edge on your appetite. We are also once more back into our K.D., which is much more comfortable than the battle-dress we were wearing in Palestine. Albuhera Day was celebrated under a blazing sun, in a typical bank holiday atmosphere. The Company took quite a prominent part in the day's events, including the mule race.

We have had further changes in the Company, and Captain Jones is now Company Commander, with Captain Frazer as his second-in-command, and once again we have made a move, this time to Suez where the Company is helping the Highland Light Infantry to do dock guards.

#### 1st BATTALION PRINCESS LOUISE'S KENSINGTON REGIMENT

The last three months have brought great changes in the Battalion. We have received a draft from the York and Lancaster Regiment and they were indeed most welcome. Guards and duties become more onerous every week. In fact, the men are only averaging one-and-a-half nights in bed.

After an adventurous journey around Europe, Capt. Newman, our new Q.M., arrived in May. Having taken over, he relieved Lieut. Cosgrove to take over Adjutant from Capt. Scott. The change-over brought promotion to both the latter officers and Major Scott has assumed command of "D" Company.

#### Sport

For the first time since "V.E." day, the Battalion has been able to get down to sport in a big way. Inter-platoon football and cricket competitions have taken place and produced some excellent games. The football was won by No. 11 Platoon and the latter by the Admin. Platoon. Special congratulations should go to Battalion H.Q. who reached the final of both competitions.

Our camp is only separated from the sea by barbed wire; consequently, swimming is immensely popular. Non-swimmers are lucky enough to receive instruction from C.Q.M.S. Bradbury, who is, himself, a performer of Olympic standard. At the time of writing, Major Hutchings is wrestling with the problem of making a water-polo pitch and how to anchor a forty-gallon drum in tidal waters, which cannot be removed overnight by nature or man!

As a preliminary to the Divisional athletics, the Battalion held a meeting against the 4th Battalion The Royal Norfolk. We won every event. In the Divisional sports, however, our early successes were not repeated. Pte. Phillips ran extremely well to win the individual 200 metres.

#### Training

To change over from a machine-gun to an infantry battalion is by no means easy. But all ranks have worked extremely hard and the results have been excellent. Tactical demonstrations held for the G.O.C.-in-C. and G.O.C. were indicative of the great progress made. As a culmination of platoon training, periodical flag marches are now taking place. Our old comrades in "Civvy Street" will be delighted to hear that the Kensingtons now march 100 miles through the Greek mountains, carrying 90 lbs. on their backs, and being supplied from the air!

During a recent flag march, the machine delivering the air supply drop, reported having seen the patrol very clearly; also their attendant mules! The patrol commander, by exuding charm at the various villages at which they stopped for the night, had persuaded the inhabitants to lend them sufficient mules to carry the large packs. Excellent initiative!

The Greek villagers are most courteous and kind. Not only do they refuse payment for the use of their mules, but invariably roast a goat for the patrol's dinner. It is interesting to note that the poorer the inhabitants, the greater is their hospitality. Those villages near the coast, which receive U.N.R.R.A. supplies, take far less interest in the patrols than those farther in land. It is very sad to see the pitiful condition of the country people. Ninety per cent. of the population are suffering from scabies, due to malnutrition. During their occupation, the Hun was in the habit of burning down whole villages in retribution for sabotage; now, the Greek farmers find it impossible to restore their houses, owing to the total lack of wood and cement.

A large number of young N.C.O.s have attended courses at the Divisional Training School and have all done extremely well. Not a single "C" or "Z" has appeared in their reports. This is a proof of their keenness to make the change-over a success.

At very short notice, we were called upon to produce a shooting team for a Divisional inter-unit

competition. Major Scott took charge of the team and training. Shooting facilities in Patras are prehistoric and every appliance has to be improvised. Nevertheless, with fifteen teams competing, the Battalion emerged fourth. This encouraging result has given us a great fillip for the L.F.G. meeting, which is due to take place in August.

#### Social Events

The Regimental canteen, under the able management of Sgts. Parkin and Miles, is going great guns. Perhaps our readers would like to know that we have no shortage of beer or cigarettes!

Weekly dances are held on the tennis court and they are very well attended.

The Royal Navy has descended upon us from time to time. Recently, we have been visited by H.M.S.s *Peacock*, *Mermaid* and *Maggie*. They are all sloops on the Mediterranean station. A terrific liaison has been set up between us and hospitality is lavish on both sides during their visits.

At the end of May, H.M.S. *Peacock* embarked two officers, 25 Other Ranks and five jeeps for a four days' cruise-cum-picnic excursion. The trippers returned with glowing accounts of their short Cook's tour of the Gulf of Corinth.

A Brigade rest camp has been set up on the island of Corfu and the first leave party is already there. Our pioneers have been over on the island making the camp as comfortable as possible. They did such a good job of work in our barracks after our arrival in Greece, that their fame has spread and they are always in great demand.

#### Our Future

As yet, there are no indications as to our future. A plebiscite is due to take place on September 1 to decide whether ex-King George of Greece should return or not. Should the elections pass off quietly, then it is believed that we will leave the country.

But unless we receive more reinforcements, there will only be a cadre left by October. The uncertainty of future movements adds a little spice of excitement to our life and there are many amongst us who would be more than delighted if we returned to our old hunting grounds in Austria.

#### HOW "ALBUHERA DAY," 1946 WAS KEPT BY SOME

It is a great pity that this account could not be published before owing to the time lag inseparable from a quarterly magazine.

However, it is still of considerable interest and the doings of that day certainly deserve to be recorded.

The following are extracts from letters describing them:

#### 26 M.G.T.C.

Colonel Browne and Lieut.-General Sir Brian Horrocks spent most of the day with the Middlesex portion of 26 M.G.T.C.

The usual inter-mess games, sports, dances, etc., filled up the time. The 2nd Battalion Band was present and much appreciated.

Colonel Browne met many old friends and visited and spoke to the men of our Regiment at midday

dinners and to the members of the Sergeants' Mess after dinner in the Officers' Mess.

Lady Horrocks presented the prizes after the sports. The weather was fine, although not very warm.

The General was able to tell the members of the Sergeants' Mess how splendidly all our Battalions have done during the war, almost all units having served at one time or another under his personal command as a Corps Commander in North Africa, Sicily and N.W. Europe.

#### 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.)

The 1st Battalion celebrated "Albuhera Day" in traditional style, though details are not available. Doubtless, they will appear in their own notes. Capt. R. Cummins, the Adjutant of the Battalion, drafted a most excellent order of the day referring to the Battle of Albuhera and the part the 57th Foot played in it. Lack of space, unfortunately, precludes us publishing it.

#### 2nd Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.)

The extract given below from the *Egyptian Mail* of May 16, 1946, concerns the 2nd Battalion's activities:

"To-day, May 16, the 2nd Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own) is celebrating the 135th Anniversary of the Battle of Albuhera in the Peninsular War, at which The Middlesex Regiment won its famous title of *The Diehards*. In recognition of The Regiment's superb gallantry in the face of overwhelming odds, the name 'Albuhera' and a silver laurel wreath were incorporated in the regimental badge. 'Albuhera Day' is being observed by the 2nd Battalion in traditional style as a holiday with a programme of sports and sideshows in their camp at Fayid. Among the attractions of the day will be athletics, mule racing, and motor cycle novelty events."

#### 11th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.)

Sampson Clark Building,  
57, 59, 61 Mortimer St.,  
London, W.1.

Dear Major,

You asked me for some notes as to "those present," but here follows the matter in rather more detail.

The 11th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment have held since the first world war a series of luncheons varying in frequency to which the ex-officers come to renew old associations. At one time it was held quarterly but, latterly, only on two occasions in each year—one being "Albuhera Day" which occurs on a weekday and the other at some mutually agreed date in the autumn.

Those present on this occasion (May 16, 1946) were: Colonel G. Brown, Colonel H. Peplow, Lieut.-Col. W. H. Samuel, Bt. Major G. W. Kempster, Major G. B. Anderson, Capt. A. Regan, Major C. T. Whinney, Capt. H. J. Strong, Capt. A. Robinson and Messrs. C. Spalding, T. Sewell, A. P. L. Blaxter and J. G. P. Hunt.

The next meeting has been provisionally fixed for Wednesday, October 9, at the Connaught Rooms, 12.30 p.m. for 1 o'clock.

Yours sincerely,  
JOHN G. P. HUNT.



### 2/10th Branch of the Old Comrades' Association of The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.)

The old comrades of the 2/10th Branch held their first reunion since 1940 at the "Goat and Compasses," Euston Road, on Saturday evening, May 18, 1946. (Editor—This was the nearest date to "Albuhera Day" that the 2/10th could manage.) It was primarily a business meeting to discover the views of the members on procedure and arrangements for the future. No less than 65 old comrades turned up and agreement was reached on all matters to the accompaniment of sandwiches and other refreshments. Capt. W. Bennett was in the chair and Mr. W. B. Warren was elected as his successor. The other officers and committee were re-elected *en bloc* as follows: Messrs. N. B. McIvor, B. K. Cattell, C. Rush, G. A. W. Reeves, L. Tomes, H. C. Nunn and A. H. Cumming.

It was decided that the Branch should carry on as before the war with an annual reunion near "Albuhera Day" and a church service at Chiswick Old Church—where hangs the Battalion colour—near Armistice Day, provided circumstances permit. The 2/10th Battalion was disbanded in 1918 and its Branch of the O.C.A. was formed in 1923. Its members have never previously gathered less than 100 strong and came from all parts of the country which wide dispersal precludes anything more frequent than an annual meeting. It maintains a small voluntary fund and, in the past, has always made immediate reimbursement to the parent association whenever that body has helped one of its own 2/10th comrades. Occasionally, a small surplus has also been handed to The Regimental Association. In memory of one of its commanding officers, the late Brigadier V. L. N. Pearson, D.S.O., the 2/10th Branch in 1939 presented the 1st Battalion with The Regiment's first silver drum. This drum was sent out to Hong Kong and, so far, has not come back.

#### Hounslow "Die-Hards" Club

The first of our May meetings very fortunately fell on "Albuhera Day" and the gathering that evening was, by far, the largest in our short history. There were about 90 present. We were also delighted to welcome a party of 16 who came over from the Staines Branch.

The toast of The Middlesex Regiment was proposed by Capt. Michael Ashby who also read a greetings' telegram from Dick Smith who is, at present, in Borneo. (Since returned to U.K.)

We were pleased to greet Capt. I. D. Marjoribanks who is on "demob" leave from the 2nd Battalion and Capt. J. H. L. Pennock who we were able to congratulate on his marriage. News was also received of the birth of a son to C.Q.M.S. Wheeler. Two of our members, R.Q.M.S. Woodall and C.S.M. Handman are "going back" for one day to march in the Victory Parade on behalf of the 8th Battalion.

#### Hornsey "Die-Hards" Club

A most successful and pleasant evening was held by the above branch of The Die-Hards Club at the "Nightingale," Nightingale Lane, Hornsey, on "Albuhera Day."

Approximately 130 members and their wives and friends were present.

An excellent programme of artists had been arranged and the show was compered by R.S.M. W. Knight, M.B.E.

Lieut.-Col. W. E. Pringle, M.C., T.D., welcomed the guests on behalf of the Club and thanked the artists and all those responsible for arranging the show, with special reference to the work put in by our Secretary, Lieut. J. W. Badham, M.B.E. He also thanked our host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. P. Shorten for the accommodation they put at our Club's disposal every week and for obtaining an hour's extension of licence for us on "Albuhera Day."

The evening closed with the playing of The Regimental March and the National Anthem and everybody left feeling that they had celebrated "Albuhera Day" in the real *Die-Hard* manner.

\* \* \*

We wish we could publish more accounts of this great occasion. Unfortunately, we have not heard from anyone else. In future we hope to.

### MAJOR-GENERAL T. F. C. FULLER

The Colonel of the Regiment writes in his news-letter of this officer:

"I have just found out, quite by chance, that the famous pre-war Major-General T. F. C. Fuller was the first Adjutant to our 10th Battalion when the Territorial Army (or rather Force) was first formed by Lord Haldane. He wrote a small book on training to T.A. Adjutants of which he has sent me a copy for our Regimental Museum. The Battalion was raised in 1908 and mainly recruited from the older 2nd South Middlesex Volunteers, of which he became Adjutant in 1907. In 1908 the unit had only 30 rifles (reminds me of the Home Guard in 1940-41), and yet by 1911 it was the best shooting Infantry Battalion in Eastern Command. In 1914 it was considered sufficiently efficient to proceed to India, where the Battalion remained during the Great War and, as General Fuller says, its efficiency thus prevented the Battalion seeing service in any other theatre of war. My readers will remember that Major-General Fuller was our greatest tank expert prior to this war, and his failure to reach even higher rank was due to the fact that neither post-war Army Councils nor Governments were prepared to modernise our Army and our training, and hence followed our enforced retreat to Dunkirk, driven out by the huge German armoured forces raised since the Great War, and doubtless trained on many of General Fuller's precepts."

### COLONEL LANCERAY ARTHUR NEWNHAM, G.C., M.C.

The brief account of the late Colonel Newnham's service and the citation which accompanied the posthumous award of the George Cross for his great gallantry in Japanese hands, cannot be regarded as complete without recording the fact that for eighteen months he commanded the 1st Battalion of the Regiment. He was loath to relinquish his command which became necessary on his appointment to the Staff as a G.S.O.I. He, himself, we are informed, considered this period the happiest time of his life as it had always been his ambition to command a Battalion of his Regiment.

## THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT

(Duke of Cambridge's Own)

### "DIE-HARDS" CLUBS

The undermentioned branches of the Association have now been formed, and members of the Regiment are cordially invited to come to the meetings, where they will be sure to meet many old friends. All Centres mentioned below will welcome any Old Comrade who has worn the Middlesex Badge at any time in any Unit of the Middlesex Regiment.

The Secretaries of the Branches will be pleased to answer any enquiries.

Bn.	Rendezvous	Times of Meetings	Enquiries to
The Depot.	CORPORALS' ROOM, INGLIS BARRACKS, MILL HILL, N.W.7.	Last Saturday in each month. 7 to 9 p.m.	MAJOR A. W. CLARK, O.B.E., The Depot, Mill Hill.
7th	"THE NIGHTINGALE," NIGHTINGALE LANE, HORNSEY.	Every Wednesday. 7.30 p.m.	LT. AND Q.M. J. W. BADHAM, M.B.E., 108, Sydney Road, Hornsey, N.8.
8th	"THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON," STAINES ROAD, HOUNSLOW.	1st and 3rd Thursday in each month. 7.30 p.m.	CAPT. A. L. PAGE, 50, Woodfield Avenue, North Wembley, Middx.
8th	"THE NORTH STAR," KINGSTON ROAD, STAINES.	3rd Sunday in each month. 11.30 a.m.	MAJOR M. C. D. KING, M.C., 41, Manor Road, Ashford, Middx.
8th	"RAILWAY ARMS," VINE STREET, UXBRIDGE.	1st Wednesday in each month. 8 p.m.	MR. R. F. FINCH, 18, Victoria Road, Uxbridge.
9th	—	—	MR. F. FENIMORE, 565, Kenton Lane, Harrow Weald, Middx.
9th (429 Bty.)	"BRONSBURY ARMS," NR. KILBURN STATION.	Last Friday in each month in the evening.	—
Princess Louise's Kensington Regt.	190, HAMMERSMITH ROAD, W.6.	Friday evenings from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m.	CAPT. F. J. DELBRIDGE, 190, Hammersmith Road, W.6.
8th	DRILL HALL, CHURCHFIELD ROAD, EALING.	Every Friday, 7.30—11 p.m.	MR. H. W. BARTLETT, 74, Williams Rd., W.13.
2/7th	DRILL HALL, TOTTENHAM.	Last Thursday in the month at 6 p.m.	MAJOR R. E. ROBOTHAM, M.C., 39, Cyprus Avenue, Church End, N.3.



## REGIMENTAL NEWS IN BRIEF

## Victory Day Celebrations

The Regiment was represented in this historic parade, both the Middlesex Regiment and the Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment taking part. The Middlesex Band was in the procession.

The Colours of the 2nd Battalion were carried in the March by Capt. Weedon and Lieut. Friar, and our contingent also included Major Hughes, and Major Man.

## The Band

On Thursday, June 6, the Band of the 2nd Battalion had the honour of playing for the first time at Buckingham Palace at the Royal Garden Party given to members of The Savings Movement in Great Britain. The following message was received by Major A. W. Clark, O.B.E., O.C., R.D.P.:

"I must just send you a line to tell you how very well the Band of the Middlesex Regiment played at the Garden Party at Buckingham Palace yesterday afternoon. The many thousand National Savings Workers, who were the guests of the Party, obviously thoroughly enjoyed the music which, as was to be expected, was up to the highest standard.

"Will you kindly convey to the Bandmaster, and the musicians in the Band, the Lord Chamberlain's grateful thanks.

"(Signed) T. E. G. NUGENT, The Comptroller,

"Lord Chamberlain's Office,

"St. James's Palace, S.W.1."

## Borough of Wood Green

The Colonel of the Regiment attended an historic civic ceremony at Wood Green when the two 7th Battalions were presented with the Freedom of the Borough in an illuminated Address on vellum on which was inscribed these words:

## "BOROUGH OF WOOD GREEN"

"At a meeting of the Council of the Borough of Wood Green, held at the Town Hall, on Wednesday, the 26th day of September, 1945, it was unanimously resolved 'That in recognition of their gallant services throughout the war, the Council do confer on the 7th Battalion, Middlesex Regiment, the Freedom of Entry into the Borough on all ceremonial occasions with bayonets fixed, drums beating, and colours flying."

The Document bears the common seal of the borough, and the Colours with battle honours thereon depicted. It is a very beautiful piece of work framed in oak, and was handed over to Colonel Sir Edwin King, K.C.B., C.M.G., T.D., D.L., J.P., Hon. Colonel of the two 7th Battalions of the Regiment. Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., Lieut.-Col. W. E. Pringle, M.C., Lieut.-Col. J. W. A. Stephenson, D.S.O., three former C.O.s of the 1/7th were present, and Lieut.-Col. de Chimay and Lieut.-Col. Dennis Robbins representing the 2/7th Battalion were also present.

Colonel M. Browne, M.C., D.L., J.P., Major A. J. Hughes who served with the 1/7th Battalion throughout this war, R.S.M. W. Knight, M.B.E., and L/Cpl. T. Rockall all spoke.

## Inglis Barracks

No further news of the re-opening of our Regimental home at Inglis Barracks can be given with any certainty. We have an official assurance that such is to be the case, but the actual date remains wrapped in mystery.

## Hong Kong

In the dark days of December, 1941, when the fall of Hong Kong was inevitable and imminent, the following message was sent from Army H.Q. to the Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion:

"From the General down to Other Ranks of all other units, there is nothing but admiration for the way the men of your Regiment have fought. They have upheld the traditions of the 'Die-Hards' and have relived again the glories of 'Albuhera'."

## Lieut.-Col. Douglas Parker

Lieut.-Col. Douglas Parker, to our extreme regret, has just left the 1/7th Battalion to become G.S.O.(1) as Military Adviser and Corps representative with one of the Regional Civil Commissioners in Westphalia. Lieut.-Col. Parker took over command from Lieut.-Col. Man, posted to Staff 15th Scottish Division whilst operations were in progress in N.W. Europe. As a Netheravon expert he brought to the Battalion, two-and-a-half years ago and prior to "D" Day, expert technical M.M.G. knowledge, and identified himself with our Regiment in every possible way. His command was both efficient and happy, and General Sir Brian Horrocks always spoke of the 1/7th Middlesex as one of his best Battalions, and held a high opinion of him. We look forward to seeing him at all our Regimental functions in future, and we shall not forget the service he gave to us, and his loyalty to all ranks. Lieut.-Col. Harris, a regular officer of the Royal Berkshire Regiment, has taken over from him, and Major E. J. Unwin remains with the Battalion as second-in-command.

## Other News of Officers

We hear that Lieut.-Col. F. Walden has for some time been acting as Commandant of the Heavy Weapons School at Netheravon, and that Major Ian Campbell has been on a visit as Liaison G.S.O. for this School.

Capt. (Q.M.) Newman has joined the 1st Battalion P.L. Kensingtons in Greece.

Major A. G. Hewitt was recently awarded the Staff College certificate after completing the 16th Camberley Staff course.

Lieut.-Col. W. D. Coles was still in Guy's Hospital when we last heard from him. We hope he has now fully recovered.

Major R. T. Guscott, M.B.E., is still attached to the 48th Battalion, Royal Army Pay Corps, Drogheda, as Administrative Officer.

T/Colonel M. Crawford, D.S.O., has been appointed Commandant of Haifa Base in Palestine, and Lieut.-Col. A. N. Overell is still in Cairo.

Major E. L. Heywood has been lent by B.A.O.R. to help in the administration of "The Civil Control in Germany" Exhibition in Oxford Street.

Major C. Parsons, M.M., is taking on under the Short Commission Scheme for five years.

Major R. A. J. Cheffins, M.C., is applying for a regular commission in the Regiment.

Major A. W. F. Peal, now on the War Office Staff, is engaged to be married to Miss Pedley of Danbury, Essex.

Major Ian Battye, M.B.E., is now married, we believe, to Miss Christine Mary Sutherland.

Capt. Roger Latham was still touring with "Pink String and Sealing Wax" when we last heard of him.

Col. N. P. Procter, M.C., is commanding in Sierra Leone with a fine house in Freetown overlooking the harbour.

He has several ranks of the Regiment under him including Capt. D. L. Allingham. He intended to ask them all to dinner on "Albuhera Day" and we have no doubt he did so, and they were well fed. Capt. (Q.M.) R. W. J. Smith has returned from Borneo.

We are sorry to report that Col. L. Blumfeld, T.D., has lost his left leg as a result of an operation in February. Colonel Blumfeld served in our 9th Battalion for many years and was then Hon. Colonel prior to Colonel Beach. He lives at Curdrige near Southampton.

By courtesy of the *Sunday Times* and the author

## THE NEW INFANTRYMAN

By ARTHUR BRYANT

(Written during the Campaign in N.W. Europe)

In the last resort wars are not won by weapons but by men. Human ingenuity will always find a way to defeat a machine, however powerful. But it can never permanently keep out a better man. The human element is the decisive factor.

Hence the supreme importance of the Infantryman. Whether the weapons are flint-arrows or guns, tanks and aircraft, any contest between resolute and well-matched combatants has to be decided in the end by close fighting between man and man. The would-be victor has to close for the kill or his foe will elude him. Victory can only be achieved after a forked, hairless human animal has gone forward with his personal weapons in his hands to wrinkle his enemy out of his stronghold.

There have been times in the history of war when this has been forgotten. For a while some new weapon, evolved by human ingenuity—gunpowder, the machine-gun or the tank—has given its first user an overwhelming advantage. This, however, has nearly always happened, not in the midst of a war when both combatants are resolved to see the thing through, but at the beginning when the shock or surprise of a new weapon has deprived the attacked party—not yet steeled to war—of the will to resist. The first use of gas in 1915 or the tank in 1917 made surprisingly little difference to the course of the last war. But the Blitzkrieg in 1940 broke the French Army because France had not by then really made up her peace-loving mind to fight.

## Men, Not Machines

It is when the victim continues to resist that real war begins. Then man, with his divine inner spark of courage and resource, will always rise superior to the robot:

"For heathen heart that puts her trust  
In reeking tube and iron shard"

There is always disappointment in store. The Russian armies were not crushed, as Hitler boastfully proclaimed, by the weight of German weapons in October, 1941. And the outnumbered, under-armed British, driven from the Continent in 1940, set to work behind their barrier of salt water to enable their men to finish the job in 1944 or 1945.

We are now once more seeing the vindication of that ancient law. It is men, not weapons, who have stormed the Normandy beaches and broken into France, albeit men with superbly forged weapons.

The multitudinous tanks, guns, and aircraft of the Allied Expeditionary Force, essential though these have been, could never by themselves have dislodged the desperate fanatics of Hitler's army. Without adequately trained Infantry it could never have been accomplished. For all the wonderful arms at our command are in the final analysis only instruments to enable the Infantry to do its business.

The Infantry, in General Paget's classic phrase, is the cutting-edge of the battle. The more this is realised and the sharper that edge is ground, the more effective and the less costly the victory of the attackers. In the last war, because of an obsession with the mechanical weapons with which scientific invention and an industrial age had equipped armies, attempts were made to win battles by weight of gunfire alone. The Infantry was relegated to a purely mechanical part. This resulted in casualties so appalling that the victors afterwards lost the Peace through the elimination of those who should have been their leaders in the next age. Behind titanic barrages, theoretically designed to destroy all resistance, a gallant but doomed Infantry moved forward in dense waves to occupy the enemy's positions. But when the barrage lifted it was always found that pockets of resistance still remained; then the pitiless fire of automatic weapons swept down the advancing troops, who had neither been trained nor equipped to neutralise them without the artillery's help. Miracles of courage were performed by those grim, long-suffering men, but hundreds of thousands of lives were needlessly lost. Britain and France were bled white on the Somme and Aisne and at Passchendaele. So was Germany at Verdun and in the great battles of the Eastern Front.

In 1939 and 1940 the Germans did not repeat the mistakes of 25 years before. It was the defenders, not the attackers who suffered most in the Blitzkrieg. Magnificently drilled Infantry, supported by weapons subordinated to a single purpose, went forward in a resistless combination of fire power and rapid movement, infiltrating every position, making full use of stratagem and cover, and constantly seeking to close and destroy.

## Our New Armies

This was the challenging background against which the great men who took over the training of our armies after Dunkirk—Wavell and Maitland Wilson in the Middle East, Brooke and Paget, Alexander and Montgomery at home—began their work of regeneration. Like John Moore before them, they had to make out of the raw material of their native land an Infantry which would be able to fight its way back to a conquered Continent and beat the enemy in his own tactics and on his own ground. They had to arm that Infantry for the offensive work it had to do, and they had, above all, to train it.

At that time the Infantry was the Cinderella of the Army. For 20 years a public that remembered Passchendaele had been accustomed to think of the P.B.I. as the victims, not the arbiters, of war; a kind of helpless sheep sent to the slaughter, to be avoided at all costs by every sane man. This magnified the tendency of a mechanical generation in 1939 to opt for the R.A.F., the R.A.C., or the Artillery. Walking behind the guns to be killed was thought of as a job which any fool could do.

This was not the view of those who had experienced the Blitzkrieg. The restoration of the



British Infantryman to the commanding pinnacle he had won at Agincourt, Salamanca and Waterloo was made the subject of unceasing effort. A Director of Infantry was appointed at the War Office with a Staff in every theatre of war to study the special needs of Infantry and ensure it proper weapons—a matter of life and death in close fighting. Divisional and G.H.Q. Battle Schools were established to set the standard of a new Infantry training. Superlative physical fitness, instinctive battle discipline—not rigid, but natural and flexible—an assured mastery of weapons and vehicles to give maximum fire-power while preserving maximum mobility, quick movement and quick thinking, practised use of concealment, dispersion and observation, obedience and co-operation at the slightest signal, and a spirit of individual awareness and initiative that should be proof against all mishaps on the swiftly changing battlefields of to-day, were the objectives set.

Above all, Infantry were taught how to bridge the fatal gap between the barrage and the bayonet by the combined use of their own fire and movement. The preliminary softening of the enemy's hard skin was to be achieved by a barrage of massive air and artillery power; the tanks—the cavalry of to-day—were to be at hand to assist in the assault and to exploit any success. But the Infantry was to be made the fine cutting edge of the razor without which victory against resolute opponents—above all, economical victory—was impossible.

#### Perfect Co-ordination

Visualising battles which would have to be fought by day, not on open plains and deserts, but in close country like the Normandy *boogie*, against seasoned, well-armed, and resolute defenders the Infantrymen and their subordinate leaders—the junior officers and N.C.O.s upon whom success in close fighting depends—were trained to act as individuals, avoiding all needless crowding, denying the enemy easy targets, covering each other as they advanced by skilfully directed fire, and using their initiative to infiltrate the enemy's positions and get forward under his guard—the one certain place of safety in modern battle.

All this demanded from the individual soldier qualities of the highest order and from the Infantry unit—battalion, company, platoon or section—a power of elastic combination only to be obtained by the most intensive forethought and training. To watch at the great School of Infantry on the Northern moors—the modern equivalent of John Moore's famous Camp at Shorncliffe—a unit of modern Infantrymen, with their varied weapons and vehicles, tackling an enemy position was like experiencing the unfolding of some great orchestral pattern, in which every performer fulfilled a perfectly mastered and individual part in a co-ordinated and expanding pattern. It was to realise, too, how swiftly, cunningly, and unobtrusively, and at the same time—the natural product of perfect efficiency—how beautifully men can be taught to move. The slothful, shambling, ugly gait of the pavements was left behind, its place taken by perfect co-ordination of body, mind and purpose.

It is men so trained who are fighting down the Wehrmacht to-day on the battlefields of France, Italy and Burma. Individualism, initiative, capacity for responsibility—the qualities that made England

great—these are the virtues which the training of modern Infantry has evoked in the citizen who went out from his home five years ago to win the war and who will one day come back to win the peace.

#### THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL 1939-45 WAR MEMORIAL FUND

The following donations have been received and are gratefully acknowledged. The Appeal for this Memorial has not as yet been launched, but these subscriptions were sent to us unasked:

	£	s.	d.
Mr. Conrad Abrahams .. .. .	67	18	5
The Hon. Mrs. F. Guest .. .. .	2	0	0
Major J. Dodge, D.S.O., D.S.C., M.C.	5	0	0
<b>TOTAL ..</b>	<b>£74</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>

It is of interest to note that Mr. Abrahams controlled the funds of a Trailer Pump Account operated on behalf of his fellow-residents during the late War. Inevitably it accumulated funds and when the War finished the funds were no longer required. Hearing that the Middlesex Regiment contemplated raising a War Memorial he placed this substantial sum of money at our disposal for this purpose.

#### LETTERS RECEIVED BY THE EDITOR

102nd (Res. Went.) Field Battery,  
Royal Canadian Artillery,  
Dundas, Ontario.  
April 18, 1946.

DEAR SIR,—Thank you for your letter of the 15th February, which I apologise for not having answered more promptly.

As I believe you know the old 77th Wentworth Regiment was absorbed by the 13th Regiment of Hamilton, now known as the Royal Hamilton Light Infantry (Wentworth Regiment) on December 15, 1936.

I understand that the Commanding Officer of the Middlesex Regiment expressed a wish to continue with this Artillery Unit occupying the old 77th quarters, now known as the 102nd Medium Battery, Royal Canadian Artillery (Reserve), and it will be a pleasure to exchange letters with you from time to time.

In January the 102nd Light Anti-Aircraft Battery returned from overseas and received a stimulating welcome from the Mayor and citizens of Dundas before their final dismissal in these Armoureds.

This Reserve Unit during the war has been first an 18-pounder battery, then an L.A.A. battery with 40 mm. Bofors, more recently a 25-pounder field battery and now finally a medium battery on post-war reorganization, although it is not yet clear whether 4.5 inch or 5.5 inch guns will be issued to us. At least equipment is more readily available now than during the war.

Trusting this short review will be of interest to you and with best regards,

Sincerely yours,

A. E. R. TURNER, Captain,  
Officer Commanding,  
102nd Medium Battery, R.C.A. (R.).

200, Francis Road,  
Leyton, E.10.

April 12, 1946.

DEAR SIR,—When I left the 1st Battalion on the field in Holland, having to retire from their midst owing to wounds, I left behind me the finest bunch of fighting men I ever had the great honour to serve with. No task was too great for them and when things went really tough with them—could they take it and hand it out! My experiences with them are now only a memory, but it is a memory with a lesson and one which I shall carry with me always.

R. H. OTTO,  
Ex 1st Battalion, 15th Scottish Division.

"Chartlands,"  
Limpfield,  
Surrey.

June 10, 1946.

DEAR MAJOR KEMPSTER,—Thank you for your letter of May 28, which eventually fetched up here. It was kind of Colonel Jowett to remember me and suggest my becoming a member of your Club. Were I still living in London I should be delighted to do so, but I am now permanently in the country. It is now nearly 40 years ago since I was Adjutant of first the 2nd South Middlesex, and then the 10th Middlesex, which I helped to raise, and, alas, I am afraid there are few of your members I should know, or who would remember me. Will you kindly give my compliments to Colonel Jowett and accept them yourself.

Yours sincerely,  
J. H. FULLER.

(Editor: How many of our readers know that General Fuller once served with the Regiment?)

#### 3rd CADET BATTALION THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (D.C.O.)

Lieut.-Col. S. H. Short, O.B.E., commanding the 3rd Battalion, writes to say that news has been received from 2/Lieut. Smith, Royal Fusiliers, att. 2/16th Punjab Regiment, Bannu Canton, N.W.F.P., India, and from Capt. L. C. Skuce, 8th (1st City of London) Battalion Royal Fusiliers, British Forces in Greece. Both these officers served in the 3rd Cadet Battalion. 2/Lieut. Smith has seen a good deal of India, and is anxious to know what is happening to the Territorial Army of the future. In the course of his travels he met other ex-members of his old battalion. Capt. Skuce has had a busy time with court martials and courts of enquiry in Greece, and says guard duties are very heavy. He extends his best wishes for the future to all Cadets joining the army and writes that whether they intend to make the army their career, or if they will only serve a short time, they should, with the foundation they already have and with a little initiative, go far. On his release he has offered to return to the Army Cadets, being strongly in favour of the organisation and willing to place the experience he has gained in the army at their disposal.

## HONOURS and AWARDS

Mentioned in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the field:

T/Major H. B. Williamson.

The King has been graciously pleased to approve that the following be mentioned in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in the Mediterranean Theatre:

T/Lieut.-Col. B. L. Bryar.

Major G. C. D. S. Lowe.

T/Majors J. J. Evans, A. T. Jones, M.B.E.

T/Capt. J. R. Asling, R. A. Bennett, G. J. Corbridge, S. S. Day, K. Duff-White, H. T. Edwards, R. S. Hughes, A. R. Newstead, A. F. Robertson.

Lieut. P. D. Everett.

A/W.O.II R. Hodingsworth.

Sergts. C. E. Bland, C. Bowen, E. J. Keene, F. Morris, R. Muchmore.

A/Sergt. T. B. Fitzgerald.

L/Sergt. H. C. Ford.

Cpls. A. D. Leuchars, W. Marmot.

L/Cpls. A. Dean, R. H. Taylor.

Ptes. J. A. Bowers, C. Bryant, J. T. Shearing, C. Sweeting, R. Swinson, R. Walton, F. Woods.

Mentioned in recognition of gallant and distinguished services in Burma:

T/Major T. G. Symes—killed in action.

Award of Efficiency Doc. (T.D.):

Capt. (temp. Major) J. Harley.

#### BIRTHDAY HONOURS

##### O.B.E.

T/Lieut.-Col. Arthur Kenneth Clark.

T/Col. Jack Gale Wilmot Davies.

##### M.B.E.

T/Capt. Noel Willink Chavasse, M.C.

The following were also mentioned in despatches for services during period 16th November, 1944, to 15th February, 1945:

T/Capt. C. B. Jones, S. H. Stockwell.

T/Lieut.-Col. R. T. D. Hicks.

The undermentioned Regular Officers successfully completed the 14th War Staff Course, Haifa, ending February, 1946:

T/Majors J. W. Doyle, M.C., P. D. H. Marshall.

W.O.I (Bandmaster) C. E. Dennis, 2nd Middlesex, was awarded Certificate for Good Service in connection with the King's Birthday Honours List, 1946.

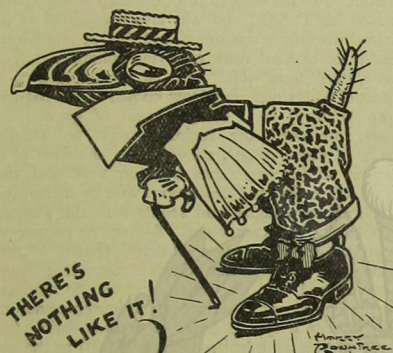
#### THE LATE LT.-COL. W. H. M. STEWART

It has been learned with the deepest satisfaction that the services of the late Lt.-Col. W. H. M. Stewart, O.B.E., M.C., have been rewarded by the posthumous award of the Distinguished Service Order.

The award is made for his gallantry during the defence of Hong Kong.

At the time of writing the full citation has not been seen. It may include a mention of the unremitting devotion to duty and heroism he displayed later which is so well known to the officers and men he served under and to the Regiment he served in with such distinction.





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