



The Die-Hards

NEWSLETTER

No. 54

DECEMBER 1985

PRICE 25p

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THE REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

FORECAST OF EVENTS 1986

- 17 Mar Regimental Association Executive Committee Meeting at County Hall, London SE1, at 6.30 p.m.
- 19 Apr 2/10th Bn Annual Luncheon at Victory Services Club, Seymour St, London W2.
- 26 Apr 1/7th Bn (1939-45) Dinner Club at TA Centre, Hornsey N8.
- 27 Apr Housing Inspection, Albuhera Close, Enfield, Mx.
- 8 May 9th Bn Officers Club Lunch at the Royal Over-seas League, Over-seas House, Park Place, St. James's St, London SW1A 1LR.
- 9 May Middlesex Regiment Officers' Club Dinner, Cavalry and Guards Club, 127 Piccadilly, London WC2.
- 10 May Albuhera Service of Remembrance at St Paul's Cathedral, 2.30 p.m.
Annual Reunion at the Victory Services Club, Seymour St, London W2, commencing 6.30 p.m. Annual General Meeting 8 p.m.
D Company, 2/8th Bn(Resuscitated 1st Bn), Luncheon at Victory Services Club, Seymour St, London W2.
- 12 Jul Queen's Regiment Past and Present WOs and Sgts Dinner at Depot The Queen's Division, Basingbourn.
- 13 Jul Queen's Regiment Reunion at Depot The Queen's Division, Basingbourn.
- 17 Sep Regimental Golf Meeting at North Hants Golf Club, Fleet, Hants.
- 3 Oct 2/7th Bn Luncheon at Victory Services Club, London W2.
- 10 Oct Queen's Regimental Association meeting at Duke of York's HQ, Chelsea, London SW3, 11.30 a.m.
- 29 Oct Housing Sub Committee Meeting at Cadet Officers Mess, Duke of York's HQ, Chelsea, London SW3.
- 8 Nov Ceremony at Field of Remembrance, Westminster, 10.30 a.m.
- 9 Nov Remembrance Day Service at Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, at 10 a.m. followed by Reunion at TA Centre, Edgware.
7th Bn Remembrance Service and wreath laying ceremony at Church of St Mary with St George, Muswell Hill, 10.20 a.m.
2/10th Bn Remembrance Day Service at St Nicholas Church, Chiswick, at 3 p.m.

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

I am taking this opportunity to wish you all good health, a Happy and Merry Christmas together with a Prosperous New Year.

I hope that in 1986 we shall meet at the numerous functions that take place during the year. Please do your best to attend and remember bring another Die Hard. I look forward to seeing you and your family at least ONCE.

Make a note in your diary NOW of the dates shown under the Forecast of Events. Final details will be sent to you by the Secretary.

Tony Pielow

DONATIONS TO THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE FUND

The Secretary gratefully acknowledges the following donations to the Charitable Fund:

- a. A donation of £25 from members of the 2/7th Bn collected at their annual dinner.
- b. Individual donations from: Mr N. Alexander, Mr A.W.J. Brown (2/7th Bn), Mr R.A. Clarke, Capt H.A.B. Claypole, Major A.R. Cooper, Mr R.J. Driver, Mr A. Goodge, Lt-Col J.D. Gunnell, Major S.E. Honess,

Major L.F. Shaw, Mr H.F. Stillwell, Mr B.F. Thompson, Mr A.E. Tuthill, Mr L.F. Woodman, Mr John Yeowell (in memory of his father, Sgt W.O. Yeowell, killed 1 December 1917, whilst serving with the 16(Public Schools) Bn.)

FREE NEWSLETTERS

The Editor wishes to thank the following members for their generosity in donating extra subscriptions so that free copies of the Die Hards Newsletter can be sent to deserving Old Comrades:

Lt A.e. Allchorne, Mr C.C. Bradish, Mr A.W.J. Brown, Major G.A.W. Bunton, Mr D. Cavill, Major J.G. Chiverall, Mr R.A. Clarke, Capt W.H. Craydon, Mr R.H. Gilbertson, Mr A. Goodge, Mr W.E. Grice, WO1 J.P. Hamill, Major S.E. Honess, Capt W.E. Hughes, Major L.F. Shaw, Mr B.F. Thompson, Mr A.E. Tuthill, Mr L.F. Woodman.

REMEMBRANCE WREATHS

Hong Kong Liberation Day was held on Monday 26 August 1985, at the City Hall, Hong Kong and WO2 G. France, The Queen's Regiment, laid a Middlesex Regiment Badged wreath, on behalf of the Regimental Association.

A Middlesex Regiment badged wreath was laid at the Hong Kong Cenotaph on Remembrance Sunday 10 November, by WI2 G. France, The Queen's Regiment, on behalf of the Regimental Association.

On Thursday 7 November the Secretary planted a Middlesex Regiment badged cross on the Far East Prisoner of War Plot at the Field of Remembrance, Westminster.

A Middlesex Regiment badged wreath was laid at St Paul's Church, Mill Hill, on Remembrance Sunday, 10 November, by Mr L.T. Plumb, on behalf of the Regimental Association.

Major F.J. Millard, Mr Gordon Moore and Mr E. Cook, laid a wreath to the Regiment at Chipping Campden, Glos, on Remembrance Sunday.

THE FIELD OF REMEMBRANCE

The annual ceremony at the Field of Remembrance took place on Saturday, 9 November 1985, at 10.45 a.m. Owing to the continued closure of the Middlesex Guildhall an abbreviated form of service was held. Members of the regiment formed up outside the Guildhall and proceeded to the Regimental Plot led by WO2 D. Cadywould, MBE, B(Middlesex) Company 6/7th(V) Bn The Queen's Regiment, followed by Mr Alan Moody bearing the Regimental Standard, escorted by In Pensioner G. Fulton.

The service commenced with prayers by the Rev W.E.B. Jones. Lt-Col T.W. Chattey then read the Exhortation which was followed by the Two Minutes silence.

Lt-Col T.W. Chattey, President of the Regimental Association, after saying, "We plant these crosses today in memory of our fallen comrades of The Middlesex Regiment", planted the first cross.

Crosses were then planted by: The Rev W.E.B. Jones; Brigadier B.A.M. Pielow, on behalf of the Regimental Association; Maj-Gen Sir John Willoughby on behalf of the 1st Bn; Colonel A.S.J. de S. Clayton on behalf of the 2nd Bn; Colonel I.R. Burrows on behalf of the 3rd and 4th Bns; WO2 D. Cadywould on behalf of B(Middlesex) Company, 6/7th (V) Bn The Queen's Regiment; Mr C.A. White on behalf of the 1/7th Bn; Mr A. Rose on behalf of the 2/7th Bn; Colonel W.D. Ellis on behalf of the 8th Bn; Mr A. Brown on behalf of the 9th Bn; Mr A.E. Lewin on behalf of the 13th Bn; Mr R.H. Gilbertson on behalf of the Korean Club; Mr W.R. Lee and Mr L.J. Kearnes planted individual crosses.

The Chaplain concluded the service by reading the Collects of the Middlesex and Queens Regiments and gave the Blessing.

Although approximately 35 members attended as Secretary I do feel that this is a poor response to a ceremony that reminds us of our comrades and friends who made the supreme sacrifice. I look forward to seeing many more members on Saturday 8 November 1986.

REMEMBRANCE DAY SERVICE

The Regimental Remembrance Day Service was held at Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, on Sunday 10 November 1985, and commenced at 10 a.m. The service was attended by the Postal and Courier Depot, Royal Engineers, 12 Company Women's Royal Army Corps and a contingent from B(Middlesex) Company, 6/7th(V) Bn The Queen's Regiment and by members and their families of the Middlesex Regimental Association. By the kind permission of the Commandant the service was held in the Gymnasium and the congregation numbered about 600. The service was conducted by The Rev. V. Dobbin, MBE, BA, CF, Deputy Warden, Royal Army Chaplains Centre, assisted by Deaconess P.H. Masterman. Major R. Hall, TD, B(Middlesex) Company, 6/7th(V) Bn The Queen's Regiment read The Lesson. The Regimental Association Standard was carried by Mr Ron Pile.

After the church service the congregation moved to the Regimental Memorial where the Padre read the Exhortation, this was followed by the 'Last Post' and 'Reveille'. Wreaths were then laid by:

Postal & Courier Depot R.E.	Col D.L. Streatfield
Regimental Association	Lt-Col T.W. Chattey OBE
12 Company W.R.A.C.	Major S.I.F. Johncey
B(Middlesex) Coy, 6/7th Queens	Major R. Hall, TD
Mill Hill Branch	Capt W.H. Craydon
9th Bn Branch	Mr A. Brown
Korean Club	Mr D. Peck
Hounslow Branch	Major R.G.C. Thornton

At the March Past the salute was taken by Col D.L. Streatfield, Commandant Postal & Courier Depot RE, Lt-Col T.W. Chattey, OBE, President of the Regimental Association and Major S.I.F. Johncey, 12 Company Women's Royal Army Corps.

As usual former Sgt L.T. Plumb commanded the Regimental Association Old Comrades, numbering 49, on the march past and they marched with pride and precision and were a great credit to the Regimental Association.

The church collection amounted to £190 and a cheque for this amount has been forwarded to the Royal British Legion Earl Haig's Poppy appeal.

A special thankyou to Col and Mrs Aymar Clayton for travelling all the way from Yeovil, Somerset, to attend the parade.

At the end of all this activity we moved to the T.A. Centre, Edgware, where Ann and Jim Torbet had laid out a splendid spread, and which disappeared with incredible speed. A special thankyou to Tom Trebilcock who annually supplies the coach to convey our members from Mill Hill to Edgware.

Lastly a special mention must be given to Major Dick Smith who despite having spent nearly two very painful months in hospital suddenly appeared and did his little wreath laying job and then appeared at Edgware collecting subscriptions for his Mill Hill branch.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - 7th Bn MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Once again the 7th Bn Memorial Chapel at the Hornsey Parish Church of St Mary with St George was the centrepiece of the Remembrance Sunday Service held in the church on 10 November.

A number of Old Comrades of all ranks, but far too few, assembled at the church on a bright but cold day; they were supported by detachments from B Company 6/7th(V) Bn The Queen's Regiment under the command of Capt Derek Harwood, the Hornsey Company of the ACF and 16F(Wood Green and Hornsey) Sqn ATC, with their Colour.

The church was full as a large number of parishoners were present, as usual, to share our remembrances. During the Service a procession was formed of the Clergy and wreath bearers from the 7th Bn, B Company 6/7th Queens and the ATC, which proceeded to the 7th Bn Memorial Chapel. After prayers by the Rector, the Rev Geoffrey Seabrook, the Act of Remembrance was led by the recitation of the 'Kohima Memorial Lines' and Lawrence Binyon's 'To the Fallen', followed by the Last Post, the Two Minutes Silence and Reveille. Wreaths were then laid at the Chapel Altar on behalf of the 7th Bn Officers' Club by Major Malcolm Beaumont, the Hornsey and Enfield DieHards by Sgt A.E. Sills, B Company 6/7th Queens by Capt Derek Harwood and the ATC by Fl Lt Lawton. The Rector led the congregation in saying the Middlesex Regiment and the Queen's Regiment Collects. The procession then reformed and returned to their seats. The Lesson was read by Lt-Col D.E. Simpson and the Rector gave an Address.

After the Service, a very apt and concise one, the uniformed parties marched back to the Hornsey T.A. Centre, during the course of which the Salute was taken by Lt-Col Simpson, the Rector and Major Beaumont.

The Last Post and Reveille were sounded during the Service by two buglers from the ATC, and was very well done in every way; all members of the congregation found it most moving and we would all wish to thank and congratulate the buglers. The Drill Hall was open for refreshments both liquid and solid, and we were joined by a number of Old Comrades. Our special thanks are due to Major Bob Hall, the Company Commander, for making these facilities available.

Incidentally the use of the 'Kohima Memorial Lines' at our Service was first started two years ago by Lt-Col Simpson, as they were felt to be very relevant, and it was interesting to note that the night before they were used by the Royal British Legion for the first time at the Royal Albert Hall. The DieHards still lead the way.

Next year the Rector has promised the same Service, and it is hoped that more Old Comrades of all ranks of the Regiment will attend.

D.E.S.

2/10th Bn The Middlesex Regiment 1914-18 - Remembrance Service

The Old Comrades' Association of the 2/10th Bn held their customary Remembrance Service at St Nicholas' Church, Chiswick, on the afternoon of Sunday 10 November. The Service was very well attended and was conducted by the Revd Patrick Tuft, MA, Vicar of Chiswick and Honorary Chaplain to the Association. Lt-Col T.W. Chattey read the Lesson.

Among those present were Lt-Col and Mrs T.W. Chattey, Colonel and Mrs A.S.J. de S. Clayton and Major and Mrs A.E.F. Waldron. Two members only of the original battalion were able to attend due to age and travel difficulties (A.D. Scudamore, President of the 2/10th OCA and C.A. Rush, both of the battalions B Company). Poppy wreaths were placed on the memorials to the 1/10th, 2/10th and 3/10th Battalions and after the Service tea and refreshments were served in the Church Hall, when the opportunity was taken to wish 'Scudy' Many Happy Returns of his 89th birthday and a celebration cake, provided by Capt David Hawkins, was presented and enjoyed.

The 58th Luncheon Reunion of the Association will be held at the Victory Services Club, 63/79 Seymour Street, London W2, on Saturday 19th April 1986, the 72nd anniversary of the formation of the Battalion in 1914.

A.D.S.

1/7th BATTALION

The 85th Dinner of the 51st (Highland) Division Dinner Club was held at Gleneagles on Thursday 31 October 1985. The following members of the 1/7th Battalion attended: Major Alan Carter, Capt and Mrs J.O. (John) Dare, thus keeping up the tradition of a 1/7th representative always attending. Major (QM) Charles Trestain is still remembered with great affection by 1/7th members even though before you spoke he said 'NO'.

KENT EAST WAR PENSIONS COMMITTEE

At the end of 1984, your Secretary, Major A.E.F. Waldron, MBE, was appointed the Far East Prisoners of War Representative on the Kent East War Pensions Committee of the Department of Health and Social Services War Pensions Welfare Service.

HONG KONG (ARGYLE STREET) P.O.W. ASSOCIATION

On Saturday 14 September 1985, as Secretary, I had the pleasure of attending the reunion at the Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, London SW3. The following members of the regiment were present: Mrs Kitty Hedgecoe (widow of Colonel Frank Hedgecoe), Capt J.H.S. Hudson, Lt and Mrs Rothwell and family, Capt and Mrs Cliff Webber, Lt Ewan Graham and Major F.S.C. Hancock. Many members present asked me to give their regards to Maj Gen Chris Man, wishing him a speedy recovery, in particular Lt-Cols's Bill Martin and Peter Skipworth.

Prior to the reunion I had the pleasure of attending a Memorial and Thanksgiving Service in the Chapel of the Royal Hospital Chelsea. The Rev Gordon Bennett, BD, himself a POW, preached the sermon.

2/7th BATTALION ANNUAL REUNION

The Victory Club was once again the venue for our annual reunion - the 39th - on Friday 4 October 1985, when we met under the chairmanship of Brigadier E.W.C. Flavell, DSO, MC, TD, DL, and were honoured and delighted to welcome as our guests the President and Secretary of the Regimental Association.

The highlight of the evening was a short address given by Lt-Col J.D. Robbins, OBE, TD, before the dinner. This 'made' the occasion for us, and we are indebted not only to him, but also to the indefatigable Ralph Robotham for making it possible by rigging up the public address system which he brought with him all the way from Malvern. Col Robbins tells me that, all being well, he hopes next year to attend and stay the whole time.

The total attendance was 67, two up on last year, and we achieved our customary record collection, this time no less than £449.15, more than half of which was received by post from those old comrades who could not attend. Among the absentees were half-a-dozen who were either in, or just out of hospital, and we send our best wishes to all of them for speedy recoveries.

Several present had either never been before or had not been for over 35 years. They were Majors Geoffrey Bunton and Howard Bartley, RSM 'Robbie' Robertson, Tom Davis and Jim Rowe. We were delighted to see them all but special mention must be made of Robbie, very lively at 83 years old, and still keeping a sharp eye on our haircuts!

By a show of hands, those present confirmed overwhelmingly the postal vote in favour of meeting for luncheon in future rather than for dinner, so please note that you have a LUNCH DATE for Friday 3 October 1986, at the Victory Club. This will be our 40th Annual Reunion so we want a special effort from everyone to attend and so make this a memorable occasion. See you then!

R.H.T.

2/8th (Resuscitated 1st Bn) THE MIDDLESEX REGIMENT (DCO)

Due to the successful luncheon held by D Company of this Bn in May 1985, it has been decided to repeat it again on Saturday 10 May 1986 at 12 noon at the same venue, i.e. The Victory Services Club, 63/79 Seymour Street, London W2 (near Marble Arch Station).

Already support has been coming from Die Hards not only in U.K. but from Northern Ireland, Canada and U.S.A.

In order to make a firm booking members (and including their ladies) should send their cheque as soon as possible, made payable to Roy Bishop, 45 Shermanbury Road, Worthing, Sussex BN14 7HR. Roy will be well remembered as the CQMS.

The menu will consist of soup, main course, sweet, cheese board, coffee and wine at £12 per head, which includes booking of hall and all gratuities.

It is hoped that members attending the luncheon will be able to attend the Regimental Albuhera Service of Remembrance in St Paul's Cathedral.

THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT

The Battalions

The 1st Battalion, under the command of Lt-Col Mike Ball, is now nearly half way through its tour in Gibraltar. It received glowing reports following its performances at HM The Queen's Birthday Parade and the Gibraltar Tattoo and is enjoying a diverse and interesting time on The Rock. The 2nd Battalion, commanded by Lt-Col Mike Constantine, provided the detachment for five marches through 'Freedom' boroughs in May and trained in Canada all July. Lt-Col Peter Cook took over command in September and the battalion has just started a short tour in the Falkland Islands from November to March 1986. The 3rd Battalion, under Lt-Col David Beveridge, has been involved in the heavy BAOR training programme and invited Lavinia, Duchess of Norfolk as their principal guest for the Quebec Celebrations in October. They return to Canterbury in January. Our TA battalions have also maintained a heavy training schedule but nevertheless achieved commendable results at Bisley, particularly the win of the Machine Gun Trophy by the

6/7th (V) Battalion. This battalion is still under command of Lt-Col Peter Hubert but Lt-Col David Shephard handed the 5th(V) Battalion to Lt-Col Charles Joint in September.

Beating Retreat on Horse Guards.

One of the major events in this year's Regimental Calendar was the Beating Retreat on Horse Guards on 11 June by the Massed Bands of The Queen's Division, when the Prime Minister took the salute. She was accompanied by Mr Denis Thatcher wearing The Queen's Regiment tie, having accepted a few days before the invitation of The Colonel of the Regiment to be an Honorary Member of the Officers' Club in view of his wartime service with the 20th London Regiment (The Queen's Own). The steady rain throughout the performance did not affect at all the high standard of music and marching of the Massed Bands and it proved a spectacular and memorable occasion. Before the Beating Retreat, the Prime Minister met the Regimental hierarchy, including the Presidents of our four affiliated Associations and Commanding Officers, in Headquarters London District. Unfortunately, because of a State Banquet at Buckingham Palace, she was unable to attend, after the parade, the all ranks reception for 500 members of the Regiment and their guests in the Banqueting House, Whitehall. This splendid building provided a magnificent setting in which to conclude an unforgettable evening.

Grand Reunion

Many members of our affiliated Regimental Associations attended the annual Grand Reunion at Bassingbourn on Sunday 14 July. Numbers have been steadily increasing each year and this Reunion was voted the best ever by many of those present. The Drumhead Service at the start of the proceedings was taken by the Reverend Walter Evans, a former Padre of 1st Bn The Buffs and later Chaplain of The Royal Hospital Chelsea. Following the service there was a full programme of Arena Events culminating with the Beating Retreat by the TA Band and Junior Bandsman of The Queen's Division. Perhaps of even greater importance, there was ample opportunity for many old friends to meet again and exchange reminiscences.

Allied Colonels in Chief

The Colonel of the Regiment, the Regimental Secretary and the CO of the 3rd Battalion were received in Audience by HRH Princess Juliana of the Netherlands on 19 June and the Colonel of the Regiment and Regimental Secretary were received by our other Allied Colonel in Chief, HM Queen Margrethe II of Denmark, on 20 November.

The Queen's Regiment Museum

The Colonel of the Regiment has now agreed with English Heritage that the Regimental Museum will be moved from Howe Barracks, Canterbury, to Dover Castle. The 'target' date for opening there is 1987 and an Appeal is being launched towards meeting the cost of the move. This fascinating and valuable collection of exhibits will be seen by very many more visitors in its new location and will doubtless prove to be one of the main attractions in the castle.

New Illustrated History

A new short illustrated history of The Queen's Regiment, written by Major Jock Haswell, a former Queen's Royal Regiment officer, and masterminded by Lt-Col Les Wilson, will be published shortly. It will tell the story from our famous forebear regiments to the present day in an attractive and readable form which should appeal to all.

Portraits of Colonels of The Regiment

Major Guy Weymouth, the last Deputy Regimental Secretary, who is also a portrait artist, has now completed a series of excellent paintings of our three former Colonels of the Regiment and Brigadier Charles Millman. It is proposed to hang these pictures initially in RHQ.

Regimental Free Fall Team

The Regimental Free Fall Display Team, 'The Flying Dragons', gave their first display at the Grand Reunion, when CSgt Townsley, Sgt Sharp and Pte Bryne gave a breathtaking performance sky-diving into the centre of the arena. Subsequently, at the Army Free Fall Championships in August, Sgt Sharp became the overall Army Champion and Individual Accuracy champion for the second successive year. 'The Flying Dragons' will be available to give public displays starting next summer, but are still searching for a sponsor. All past and present members of the Regiment are requested to give maximum publicity to this exciting new Regimental venture.

HOUSING SUB COMMITTEE

At the meeting of the Housing Sub Committee held at the Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, on 30 October 1985, Colonel Ian Brotherton informed the committee that he felt the time had arrived for him to resign as chairman. He also said that he had retired from business and moved to Wimborne, Dorset, where he would be running a sailing school.

He proposed that Major Harold Couch, the vice-chairman should succeed him and this was agreed unanimously by the committee.

Formal ratification of this appointment will take place at the Executive Meeting on 17 March 1986.

Colonel Ian Brotherton will continue as Vice Chairman of the Regimental Association Executive Committee.

PHOTOGRAPHS

The photograph shown below was taken at Mill Hill 1933-34. The Athletic Team.

A prize of £5 will be given to the first person to name everyone in the picture. Entries to be sent to the Secretary Major A.E.F. Waldron. The LCpl is Jacko Jaques.



HOUNSLOW BRANCH VISIT 3 QUEENS

On Thursday 3 October, Gordon Young, John Raby and Mick Ward under the command of Major Richard Thornton set off to visit 3 Queens who were to commemorate the anniversary of the Battle of Quebec by Trooping their Colour and other celebrations. Mr and Mrs Jack Warner from the Central branch joined the party.

We departed from Victoria Coach Station at 1145 in the company of other old comrades from the founding regiments and within a few minutes new friends had been made and old regimental rivalries were renewed. We stopped at Canterbury to pick a further draft and with the party now up to strength we headed for the channel ports and the crossing to Calais which was executed with the minimum of fuss. Through France, Belgium to Germany and arrival at Falingbostel just before 5 a.m. (three hours early), the orderly sergeant immediately arranged for tea in the Sergeants mess and so began a really memorable weekend.

Instructions were given to various people to guide us to our accommodation and an hours sleep, shower, breakfast and off to the Corporals Mess to meet Lavinia Duchess of Norfolk who was to take the Salute. We then took up our seats to watch the battalion Troop their Colour, which was done in fine style and many compliments were expressed by old comrades from all associations and when the Royal Sussex OCA, who were in the majority, spontaneously broke into song as the battalion marched off to "Sussex by the Sea" the spectators applauded this impromptu contribution.

In the evening after the Band and Drums had Beaten Retreat, the highlight of which was a spectacular rendering of the A Team, the battalion invited us to an all ranks ball which was a resounding success with about 1000 people present. Saturday was a sportsday for the battalion, a barbeque lunch being supplied and in the afternoon we visited Celle and Belsen. A Pub social was organised for our party in the Sergeants Mess in the evening, where a fine buffet, good singing and numerous drinks were forced our way, then retirement to bed at about three o'clock. Then up for an early breakfast and departure for the U.K., after a few more drinks ask Jack Warner, why they rang the bell.

The hospitality and generosity which was shown to us by all ranks of 3 Queens was quite overwhelming, their bearing whilst on parade and their keenness at play speaks well for the traditions of the Regiment being maintained.

M.J.W.



COMRADESHIP

Private Ray Ashton (14411502) served with the mortars of D Company 2/8th(1st Bn) in the Reichswald Forest, Germany. Forty years later he told Paul Francia how he was wounded on 22 February 1945.

"We had been late. We had broken down and were half an hour late arriving at the rendezvous. The first thing we had to do was rig the radio, that was the first priority so it was unloaded and the carrier was duly parked around the edge of this field. There was a wood on one side. The mortars were dug into the middle of the field and the carriers were parked under the trees. We, who ought to have known better, dug in beside them.

We had dug down to knee level when the first shell landed about three feet away. It hit the base of a tree and fortunately for me the splinters came between knee level and up to the elbow. Poor old Purdy was hit in the head and another fellow in the kidneys.

Bill Emery was our Corporal signaller. He was in the trench with me and unscathed. But right alongside the wood where we were parked was a trailer of mortar bombs which was set on fire. Now Bill put out the fire on this trailer and – well a cordite fire on a trailer of mortar bombs – takes a bit of cool! He must have shovelled earth over it but anyway he beat it out and then went for help to get us bods away.

I remember him dashing across the field and he eventually came back with a carrier from the Jocks with a couple of stretchers on top. They put the other two lads on these stretchers and Bill carried me across his shoulders. I sat on the back of this carrier, hanging on with one good arm and off we went to the RAP. We went back by ambulance to the field hospital where we were laid outside and Purdy was covered up. They said he had gone. The other chap also. But as for Bill Emery – there's a chap I always reckoned ought to have had the M.M."

MINI REUNION

The following Diehards serving with 1 Queens in Gibraltar held their own reunion on Albuhera Day in front of our very famous picture:



Back row left to right:

Alan Rice; Blondie Barton; Steve Howick; Jed Stone; Paddy Ryan.

Front row left to right:

Barry Mason; Snowy Phillips; Barney Bains; Henry Higgins; Ray Greengrass.

PERSONAL JOTTINGS

Cyril Bartlett (6201480) tells me that he is now officially retired from the Salvation Army in which he became a Major. He was a FEPOW with the 1st Bn and now lives at Aylesbury, Bucks.

Former Sgt George Belasco (6214163). 1/8th Bn 1940-46, would be very pleased indeed to hear from any members of that Bn. He lives at 5 Montagu Road, Edmonton, London N18 2LR. Tel: 01-807 6639.

Bill Birdsey (822539), 1st Bn 1937-45, tells me that he was a member of a party from the Crowborough Branch of the RBL who attended the 40th year liberation ceremony at Montargis in France. Crowborough is twinned with Montargis.

Mr Alfie Blake, ex Hong Kong 1st Bn, tells me that he was granted a war disability pension in 1946 and is now soon to appear before the appeals tribunal regarding increased re-assessment. He regrets very much that owing to his disability he is unable to attend regimental functions.

Former WO2 H.A.E. Burroughes was a recent correspondent. It is very nice indeed to hear from members of the 9th Bn.

Colonel and Mrs Aymar Clayton recently enjoyed a touring holiday to Scotland and they met and stayed with many old friends, John Moore, Barry Reed, Chris and Topsy Man, Martha Crawford, Kenneth and Marion Mackenzie Biggs and George Freebourn.

A surprise letter was received from Sgt Norman Colley (Yagi), Royal Engineers, who was a survivor of the Lisbon Maru and in Kobe House. He was quite a character. He now lives in Swansea. He sends his regards to all his DieHard comrades.

Reg Cotton (6202683) S Company 1st Bn and a Kobe House resident sends from Queensland, Australia, regards to all his old comrades. He informs me that he is now growing mangos, paw paws and mandarin oranges. He did not mention his other hobby - Fosters coloured water.

Steve Cox (6199597) who served from 1930 to 1938 with the 1st Bn and was at Dunkirk 1939-40 emigrated to Australia last November. He lived at Herne Bay and we met on special occasions. He tells me that he is enjoying life and is planning a holiday to Singapore in 1986 where he hopes to visit Gillman Barracks, Singapore. He sends his regards to all his old friends. I have just traced an old friend of his 6199420 John Lee.

Mr Roy Stillwell a member of the Central Branch, very kindly sent me a newspaper cutting showing a photograph of five Poppy sellers on parade. One of them was P.C. Bill Duncan well known to many of us as a former bandsman of the 1st Bn. He is the branch treasurer of the Manor Park RBL. Last year Bill raised £1400 for the Poppy Appeal - he has been collecting for 15 years. At present he is not a member but will be shortly.

I recently had the pleasure of speaking to Sgt Bob Dyson (6197911) on the telephone. He tells me that he has reached the ripe old age of 77 and is keeping well. Bob was a FEPOW with the 1st Bn and now lives at Clacton on Sea.

Former Sgt Ted Fuller (14403389), Provost Sgt with the 1st Bn at Iserlohn in 1948, has retired from the Post Office and moved to Goring by Sea, Sussex.

Major Frank Gladden has recently retired.

Mr. Brian Gostick is a volunteer guide at St Paul's Cathedral and in the late 1950's was a member of the Highgate CCF and wore the Middlesex Regiment badge. He is a keen student of our regimental history and tells me that "never do my groups pass the North Transept without knowing what the regiment achieved over the years". I sold him two Ice Buckets.

I have recently received from Capt Alfred Goldman who served with the 2/7th Bn 1939-46 a booklet

depicting "A Century of Practice - Isadore Goldman and Son 1885-1985". Alfred served in North Africa, Italy and the Middle East. During his seven years in the army he enlarged his legal experience by frequently acting as defending officer at Courts Martial. Like his father, Alfred had a fanatical love of cricket, and when they were apart would communicate news or the results of cricket in cryptic telegrams. He was often a playing member at the Regimental Cricket Week held at the Depot and on looking up a Regimental Journal of September 1950 I see that Alfred scored a sparkling 59 against the Cryptics C.C. For many years Alfred has been a valued member of the Executive Committee of the Regimental Association and in his capacity of Solicitor negotiated on our behalf with the Charity Commissioners the successful amalgamation of our regimental charities. I feel that the following quote from this fascinating family history will interest all members of the regimental association:

"In 1962 an event of great importance to solicitors practising in the Holborn area took place with the formation of Holborn Law Society. Initially Alfred was dubious about the success of the venture but he was happily proved wrong and by 1964 he was a member of Holborn Law Society's committee. Eight years later, in 1972, Alfred became President and that year the Society's Annual Dinner drew a capacity gathering of 800 members and guests at the Connaught Rooms. The Law Society Gazette reported the sparkling occasion as 'A really splendid evening for Holborn'. It reported the excellent speeches made by the witty Colin Prestige, Vice President of the Society, the 'Silver tongued' Lord Salmon and the President, Alfred Goldman's 'truly magnificent display of wisdom, wit and logic.' Today, when increased size is often tacitly accepted as commensurate with increased skill and service, Isadore Goldman and Son has neither merged nor amalgamated.

Former Sgt Fred (Mutt) Hazlewood (6198709), now aged 70 years was admitted to the Royal Hospital Chelsea as an In Pensioner on 29 July 1985. Fred joined the regiment as a boy soldier on 12 September 1928 and served continuously until 26 November 1956. He was a FEPOW with the 1st Bn 1941-45. He also served with the Band of the Coldstream Guards 1960-64. On leaving the service he worked for Boosey and Hawkes at Edgware. Since being admitted to the Royal Hospital he has suffered ill health and recently underwent a major operation in the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Woolwich. I am pleased to tell you that he is making a good recovery.

Colonel Tony Hewitt, now retired and living in Queensland, Australia, tells me that he is writing a book about his escape from Hong Kong in 1941, with two companions. The book will be titled 'Bridge with Three Men'. The publishers will be Jonathon Cape Ltd., and the probable launching date September 1986. Further details will follow. Col and Mrs Hewitt will be attending the Battlefield Tour in Hong Kong in December.

Lt-Col Joh Hewson, MC, retiring in early 1986, has found employment with the Game Conservancy based at Fordingbridge, as Assistant Membership Member. His boss will be Robin Bucknall, son of the late Lt-Gen G.C. Bucknall. This fact only came to light during the interview. John recommends that all Diehards should join this worthwhile charity and he will be delighted to accommodate them. The next newsletter will probably include some literature.

I am in possession of the current issue of the Royal Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers) Regimental Journal. If you would like to read this very interesting magazine just drop me a line.

Former Sgt Frederick William Howick (14798061), was admitted to the Royal Star and Garter Home on 9 July 1985. He served with the 2/8th (1st Bn) in Europe from 29 June 1944 until he was transferred to the Manchester Regiment on 30 June 1945.

A recent correspondent was CSgt John Humphries who served with the 1st Bn in Iserlohn and still lives there with his wife. He also served with the 1st Bn in Korea and was with C Company. Every year he asks me to go out for a holiday. One of these days I will find the time and give him a surprise.

Nick Hutley accompanied by his wife re-visited Korea in October. Nick was with C Company. Not his first visit by any means.

The grand-daughter of Lt-Col and Mrs Roy Hutchings was baptised in the Regimental Chapel of St Paul's Cathedral on Saturday 21 September 1985. This privilege is open to any member of the regiment – just drop me a line – and I will be very pleased to make the arrangements.

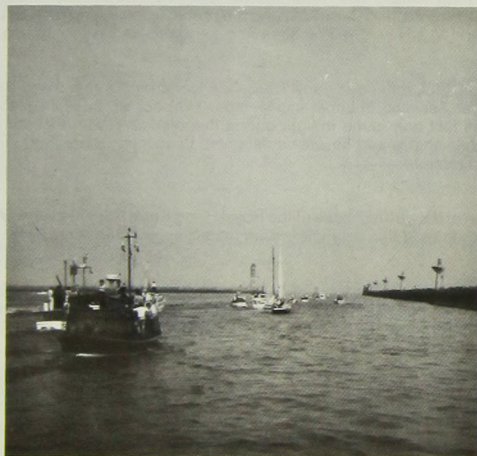
Jacko Jaques is under the doctor who happens to be Sir Roger Bannister. He keeps Jacko on the move, for the first time for 60 years, who will feel better with a bit of luck, even if he isn't. A slight amendment delete 'under' insert 'in care of'. I remember 'Jacko's pigs at the Depot – they used to smile when they saw him.

Captain Douglas Kidd, 2/7th, suffered a severe stroke and we are very pleased indeed to hear that although he is still in hospital he is making progress.

On 21 June 1985 a party of war widows visited Hong Kong (sponsored by MOD and RBL) and attended a service of remembrance at Little Sai Wan Cemetery. One of the widows was Mrs Kifford whose husband Bandmaster W.E.J. Kifford was killed on 25 December 1941. WO2 G. France, The Queens Regiment, our representative in Hong Kong, laid a Middlesex badged wreath on behalf of the Regimental Association.

On 4 November I received a very interesting letter from Bert Lee, now 93, who after working with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission for many years retired to Richebourg in France. He was on board the SS Tyndarius with the 25th Bn en route for Hong Kong when on 6 February 1917 the ship struck a mine after leaving Durban South Africa. There were no casualties and the Bn was transferred to another ship and carried on to Hong Kong. He sent me a photograph of the Tyndarius.

Stanley Lewis, 1/7th Bn, as a Dunkirk veteran, was invited by his local G.P. (owner of the ex Yarmouth lifeboat which made 6 trips to and from the beaches in 1940 – the boat, not the doctor) to join in the 45th anniversary "Little Ships" celebrations. Stanley states "For me it was a most enjoyable event, a nostalgic trip down memory lane – somehow it isn't quite the same thing when returning to the scene of the crime – one needs the old faces around to make it real".



Sunday 26 May – Some of the 'little' ships leaving Dunkirk harbour for the wreath laying ceremony off La Parne.

Major Ian Lloyd is now serving with CIST HQ BAOR and has been joined by Jane and daughter Alice.

A recent correspondent was Mrs Peg Reece, widow of WO2 Bert Reece who died in 1975. During the war Bert served with the 2/8th (1st Bn) and fought with them in the BEF and NWE. I first met him at Rendburg in 1947. Mrs Reece has been a member of the Royal British Legion for 27 years serving as standard bearer for 20 years. She has also received several awards for Poppy Appeal collections. She now lives in the Canton district of Cardiff and will be pleased to hear from old friends. Just ask me for her address.

Lt Roger Rothwell a POW with the 1st Bn in Hong Kong wrote two poems during February 1944 whilst he was in the Bowen Road Hospital recovering from a combined attack of malaria, dysentery and ber-beri. These poems were titled 'A prayer for food' and 'Another prayer for food'. They were published by Dent in a book of Poems of the Second World War and launched at the Imperial War Museum to coincide with V.E. Day. I hope to include them in a future edition of the newsletter. Roger also placed in the Daily Telegraph on the 15 August the following 'In Memoriam' notice – 1st Bn Middx Regt – Remembering my many comrades who died in Japanese hands. Hong Kong 1941-45. In commemorating Hiroshima let these not be forgotten.

All Diehards will I am sure wish Major Dick Smith a speedy recovery from a very distressing illness. He has just spent seven weeks in hospital but is now back home. He is required to go into hospital shortly for another operation.

Former Sgt Alf Stone (6584906) 1931-55 tells me that he had a spell in hospital in July and nearly died, but like a true Diehard bounced back for an extension.

Ken Sutton so badly wounded with the 1st Bn in Korea wrote to say he missed attending the reunion this year owing to being in Scotland on holiday.

Former Sgt Reg Warner (6205138), 1/7th Bn, carried the standard for the Bury St Edmunds branch of the Dunkirk veterans at their 1985 Pilgrimage.

Mrs Rose Weller, widow of Major Sam Weller, informs me that she has a new grandson who is to be named 'Sam' after his grandad.

Since the issue of the June 1985 newsletter the following have joined the Regimental Association:

WO2 N. Alexander (6205456), C Company 1/7th Bn. 1938-50. Served BEF, Middle East, North Africa and N.W. Europe.

Private G.T. Boswell (6213459), C. Company 1st Bn, 1940-46. Wounded right ankle. Far East POW. Lisbon Maru.

Private P.J. Coleman (22038750), 1st Bn, 1948-50. Guard duties Buckingham Palace and Hong Kong.

Sergeant R.J. Driver (6202076), 9th Bn, R.A. and Glider Regiment, 1939-51. France and Germany. Wounded 50% disability pension.

Sergeant J. Glover (--), B & C Company 1st Bn and then 3 RRF, 1963-73. General Service Medal.

Private B.E. Good (23276228), A Company 1st Bn Cyprus, 1956-58.

Private N.H. Heliadis (6202746), C and D Companies 1st Bn, 1935-46. Far East POW. Lisbon Maru.

Corporal V.J. Herbert (23937974), 1st Bn, 4 Queens, 2 Queens. 1962-71. General Service Medal.

Private W.S. Jeffries (6209955), C and D Companies 1/8th Bn. 1939-46. Battle of Caen, wounded right thigh.

Private S. Light (6205428), HQ Company. Enlisted 24 Jan 1939 but transferred to 6th Bn Cheshire Regt 31 Oct 1939. Discharged 1946.

Private W.A. Lynes (14201511), 2nd Bn 1942-44. Invalided out.

Corporal 'Snowy' Phillips (—), Signal Pl 1st Bn 1962-70. Now CSM TA with HQ 1 Wessex at Warminster.

Lt/Corporal C.W. Quickenden (6208249), A Company 1st Bn 1939-46. Far East POW, Lisbon Maru.

Private D.B. Williams (23129962), A Company 1st Bn Cyprus.

Staff Sergeant J.W.B. Young (22997362), 1st Bn 1954-56, Depot Mill Hill 1956-58, 1st Bn 1958-63 Junior Leaders Bn 1963-65, Depot Queens 1965-66, 1 Queens 1966-76.

REGIMENTAL GOLFING SOCIETY

An excellent day's golf was enjoyed by everyone when the annual Golf Meeting was held at the North Hants Golf Club at Fleet in Hampshire on the 3 September. The weather was good and we had a splendid entry of 16 members and five guests which was most encouraging. Also a number of supporters, including Colonel John Worton who for many years was a keen playing member, joined us for lunch and to watch the afternoon play. All those who took part thoroughly appreciated the really fine playing conditions on this top class course.

In the morning M. Quinn won the stableford scratch competition for the Transvaal Cup with 26 points and P. Carson, a guest player, was the runner-up with 22 points. The stableford handicap for the Darjeeling Cup was won by Major Neve with 33 points, although P. Carson with 35 points took the sweepstake and special prize. In the afternoon D. Miles partnered by M. Tarrant, a guest player, won the stableford handicap foursomes competition with 31 points, and the combination of C. Stevens with D. Matthews won the Jay Cup. Brigadier Pielow was awarded the Divot prize. Mrs Jean Clayden very kindly presented the prizes.

Next year's meeting has been arranged for Wednesday 17 September. The Golf Meeting is the oldest and last remaining sporting fixture in our Regimental annual calendar of events and we request the support of everyone, particularly the playing members of course, to keep going. So everyone please make a special note now in your diary for next year.

OBITUARY

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the following have died:-

BAKER — On 9 November 1985, former Private Jack Benjeman Baker (6201138), aged 68 years. He enlisted at Mill Hill on 9 March 1934 and on conclusion of his recruit training was posted to the 2nd Bn at Colchester. In late 1935 he was a member of the 'Save Egypt' draft to Moascar and joined the 1st Bn. He moved with the Bn to Singapore in March 1936 and to Hong Kong in August 1937. At the fall of Hong Kong on 25 December 1941 he was taken POW and was a member of the first draft of prisoners to be moved to Japan and was incarcerated in Shinagawa Camp. On return to UK in October 1945 he was medically discharged in September 1946. Years of ill health followed. He was a staunch Die Hard and very proud of his regiment. He will be remembered by members of the 1st Bn as groom to Lt-Col T.W. Chattey, our President. Mr H.J. Mellor very kindly attended the funeral and represented the Regimental Association.

BISHOP — On 8 August 1985, Mrs Gwynneth Bishop, wife of former C/Sgt Roy Bishop, D Company, 2/8th (resuscitated 1st Bn).

BLAIR — On 11 October 1985, Major Peter Blair, TD, aged 65 years. Major Peter Blair was commissioned into the Middlesex Regiment on 17 June 1939 and joined the 9th Bn at the Drill Hall, Pound Lane, Willesden. Peter Blair was an expert on Radar and during 1940 was posted to a staff appointment with 69 A.A. Brigade. This was followed by further staff appointments and service with S.H.A.E.F. in Paris until the end of the war. He was involved in one very interesting episode — Peter had the job of flying to America with the first V.1 rocket which landed in U.K. intact and had a profitable meeting with General Marshall. He was later awarded the American Bronze Star. He was demobilised in May 1945.

BONHAM-CARTER — On 3 September 1985, Major Jocelyn Henry Bonham-Carter. I have no details of his service except that he was serving with the 2nd Bn, temporarily in command, and

was relieved on 10 February 1943, by Lt-Col J.E.F. Willoughby.

BROOKS — On 15 September 1985, former Private Stephen Ernest Brooks (6205093), aged 70 years. He commenced his service with the 8th Bn in March 1939 and joined the 1/8th Bn on its formation and was posted to A Company. He went with the Bn to France in November 1939, returning at the end of May 1940. He was posted to the 1/7th Bn in June 1940 and joined B Company serving with this Bn in North Africa and North West Europe. He was demobilised on the 15 August 1946. Sadly he only joined the regimental association early 1985.

DOWNS — on 16 June 1985, former Private Albert Edward Downs (6208268), aged 79 years. He served from 28 November 1939 to 3 June 1945 and saw service with the 2nd Bn in 1940 and with the 1/7th Bn in North Africa and Italy. He was wounded in the right thigh and was in receipt of a disability pension.

ELLIOTT — On 3 November 1985, Major Philip Russell Hallen Elliott, TD, aged 82 years. Major Philip Elliott was gazetted to the 8th Bn in July 1924 but in order to conquer the civilian exams which he was required to pass reverted to the TARO in August 1928. He rejoined the 8th Bn from the TARO as a Lieutenant on 16 August 1938 and was posted to B Company. On the doubling of the T.A. in August 1939, Philip Elliott was given the job of forming HQ Company of the 2/8th Bn. With the arrival of many regular retired officers he was in 1940 posted as B.T.O. to the 72 Independent Infantry Brigade which went to Ireland for two years. He returned to the 2/8th (1st Bn) in 1943 and came under the age axe and was then given a Town Major unit in Normandy and finished up at Rotterdam on Armistice Day and took over the town from the Germans. In a letter I received from him in 1983 he told me that on the date of his release in 1945 the officer that said farewell to him was Colonel H.W.W. Gray, 9th Bn, then R.A. He later joined him at Westminster Bank, Piccadilly. Colonel Gray's rise in the Westminster Bank was rapid and distinguished and he became Staff Controller. Philip Elliott's interest in the regiment never wavered and he took a great interest in all our activities and also became a regular correspondent. Colonel W.D. Ellis very kindly attended the funeral and represented the Regimental Association.

FRANCOMB — On 28 July 1985, former Private Arthur Woodland Francomb (6213440), aged 71 years. 'Chunky' Francomb arrived in Hong Kong on 10 April 1941 and was posted to D Company of the 1st Bn. He was taken POW on 25 December 1941 and was imprisoned in Shamshuipo and Argyle Street Camps in Hong Kong. He returned to the U.K. in October 1945 and was demobilised in November 1945.

FREEBURNE — On 11 June 1985, former Private Albert Edward Freeburne (G/42100), aged 91 years. Paddy Freeburne served with the 13th (Service) Bn from 1916-18 and fought at Ypres and Passchendaele. He lived in Scarva Craigavon, County Armagh, and was a great character in the village.

LOWE — On 22 July 1985, former Sgt Alfred Lowe (6197310), aged 74 years. Lofty Lowe enlisted in the regiment as a boy soldier on 15 June 1926 joining the 2nd Battalion, serving in India until 1931 when the Bn returned to the U.K. He was a keen boxer and fought at Fly and Bantam weight representing the Bn regularly and the Army on a number of occasions. He went with the 2nd Bn to France with the BEF in 1939 and was evacuated from Dunkirk in May 1940. Home postings followed until he once again joined the 2nd Bn during their tour of Palestine 1946-47. After the amalgamation of the 1st and 2nd Bns at Mill Hill in 1948 he was employed at the Depot on various duties. He had a short spell in BAOB in 1951. During 1952 on completion of his pensionable service he took his discharge and became a bus conductor. Lofty was a great little character and a very loyal Die Hard who was very proud indeed of his regiment. His displays of courage in the boxing ring are well known to members of the 2nd Bn, he even taught his sons to lead with the left. Very sadly the youngest died at the age of 36 years whilst serving with the RAF. The last years of his life were blighted with continuing illness of a very distressing nature but Lily, his faithful wife nursed him throughout this long period and very bravely coped. Mr and Mrs Corner together with Mrs Doris Tarrant attended the funeral and represented the regimental association.

PEGGEM — On 16 September 1985, former Cpl Ernest Edmund Peggrem (6216961), aged 61 years. Cpl Peggrem enlisted during May 1942 and after completion of his training at the MGTC Chester joined the 70th Bn until March 1943. He was then posted to the 2/8th (1st Bn) serving through Belgium, Holland and Germany. In August 1945 he was posted to the 2nd Bn and demobilised in August 1946. He then became a print room operator with the London Transport Executive. He was a long standing member of the Central branch of the regimental association.

POWELL – On 2 July 1985, Major Peter Douglas folliott Powell (39483), aged 77 years.

Major Powell was granted a regular commission in the regiment on 2 February 1928, joining the 1st Bn on 28 March, with whom he served continuously until 1 March 1938, seeing overseas service in Egypt, Singapore and Hong Kong. He was then reverted to the home establishment joining the Depot at Mill Hill where he remained until 13 March 1940. He was a great sportsman and represented the Army at Rugby during 1931 and 1932. He was also a great athlete and was a member of the 1st Bn team that were Army Championship winners in 1930 and 1931. In 1930 he won the 220 yards and in 1931 the 100 yards. He also represented the army in Inter Service Championships during 1929, 1930 and 1931. A short spell with 2 PLK in 1940 was followed by 2 years at the MGT C Chester. He was with the 2/8th (1st Bn) from February 1943 to March 1944. This was followed by numerous staff appointments home and overseas until his retirement on 6 March 1957. Sadly in the latter years of his life he suffered many years of ill health.

SAWYER – On 21 July 1985, former Private J. Sawyer (4129389).

Served in the regiment from December 1939 until June 1946, seeing service in North Africa and Italy. No other details available – information from Mr R. Paternoster.

SHEPPARD – On 12 June 1985, former WO2(QMSI) Percy Sheppard (5569012), Army Physical Training Corps, aged 70 years.

Percy Sheppard commenced his service in 1934 with the Wiltshire Regiment. During the 1939-45 war he became attached to the 2/8th Bn (1st Bn) as the physical training instructor. Best known as 'Muscles' he was the backbone of the battalions sporting and physical fitness activities. Unbeaten wherever we went at football and boxing, it was he that captained the football team and trained the boxers. He had a great affection for the regiment and in point of fact was one of us. When I told Vic Barley he spoke of him as 'the man to have on ones side' and a person who maintained a very high standard himself of physical fitness. He served at Home, the Middle East and N.W. Europe during the war. On retirement he became an Educational Welfare Officer in the Chippenham–Malmesbury area but he continued playing football for such teams as Trowbridge, Warminster and Salisbury City. He will be remembered with sincere regard by all who knew him. His wife, Mrs Joan Sheppard, continues to live at 11A Shaw Hill, Melksham, Wilts SN12 8EL.

W.D.E.

TAGGART – On 14 October 1985, Mrs Kathleen Taggart, aged 81 years, widow of the late Lt-Col E.L. Taggart, MC, who served with the 2nd Bn, and died on 28 January 1976, aged 79 years.

Kathleen Taggart was a keen supporter of the regiment who greatly appreciated the regimental newsletter which she read avidly.

WATSON – On a date in July 1985, former Private Donald Walter Watson (6199513), aged 74 years.

He commenced his service with the 7th Bn on 6 February 1930 and was with B Company 1/7th Bn in France and Belgium during 1939-40. On 29 November 1940 he was transferred to Class W(T) Army Reserve. He lived in Enfield and often visited Albuhera Close, Enfield.

YATES – On 28 September 1985, former Private Norman Sidney Yates (22180434), aged 54 years.

He was a National Serviceman with the 1st Bn from 1949-51 and served in Korea with the Assault Pioneers, S Company. Very sadly he died whilst preparing to come from his home in Stourport-on-Severn, to attend the Korean Club reunion. Mr Ron Girdler attended the funeral.

2/10th Bn.

The following members of the 2/10th Bn Gallipoli men, who shared the presentation at the Victory Services Club last May have died.

Ex CSM A.J. Dean, ISO, aged 93 on 24 September 1985

R.A. Bailey, aged 92, on 24 September 1985.

G.E. Hone, ISM, aged 89, on 16 October 1985.

A.E. Wintle, aged 89, on 23 November 1985.

Only 12 members of this Bn now survive.

THE EX-SERVICE FELLOWSHIP CENTRES

The Ex-Service Fellowship Centres run two residential homes for ex-servicemen and ex-merchant seaman and their widows. New Belvedere House in Stepney, East London, can take 29 residents. Hollenden

House in Bexhill-on-Sea, East Sussex, can take 52. Residents, who must ordinarily be of pensionable age, have their own rooms in comfortable buildings. They are not nursing homes and residents on admission must be capable of looking after themselves, though some help, for example with bathing, can be given. Those interested should apply to:

The Administrator, Ex-Service Fellowship Centres, 8 Lower Grosvenor Place, London SW1W 0EP.

TREATMENT FOR WAR PENSIONERS AND CERTAIN OTHER EX-SERVICEMEN WITHIN THE NHS

The note below briefly outlines the rights accorded to war prisoners and certain other ex-servicemen for hospital treatment of war disabilities. These rights have existed since 1953 but bodies such as the Royal British Legion who represent the interests of war pensioners have drawn attention to recent cases in which war pensioner status has not been noted or acted upon.

A. Priority for War Pensioners.

All war pensioners should receive priority if requiring examination or treatment for any necessary out-patient consultation or in-patient admission at an N.H.S. hospital for their accepted war disablement. This priority is subject only to the needs of emergency and other urgent cases which must take precedence. To ensure that priority is given to war pensioners, on referral GPs should indicate that the condition requiring attention is connected with the pensioned disablement. The receiving hospital must also recognise the priority status which this implies.

Private Medical Treatment for Exceptional Reasons.

If a doctor considers that for some exceptional reason private treatment is necessary, he should get in touch with the Department's Senior Medical Officer, M.4 (War Pensions) at the address shown below. Pensioners are told in official leaflets that the Department is not willing to reimburse the cost of private treatment unless this has been authorised beforehand.

B. TREATMENT OF WAR PENSIONERS AND EX-SERVICE PERSONNEL IN MINISTRY DEFENCE HOSPITALS.

Arrangements exist in certain circumstances for war pensioners and other retired service personnel to be admitted to a Ministry of Defence hospital, most of which are located in Southern England. These hospitals are able to accept a limited number of patients provided that:

- i The type of case is one which the hospital is equipped and staffed to handle
- ii Accommodation is available
- iii Prolonged treatment is not required.

As with National Health Service hospitals, priority will be given – so far as practicable and subject to the decision of the medical officer in charge of the hospital – to the treatment of service disability and war pensioners but other retired service personnel will also be assisted as far as possible.

A doctor who is approached by a war pensioner about using Ministry of Defence facilities should refer the case to the Department's Senior Medical Officer, M.4 (War Pensions) at the address below who will make the necessary arrangements. If the approach is made by a retired member of the forces who is NOT a war pensioner a doctor should liaise direct with the Commanding Officer at the Ministry of Defence hospital.

C. EX-SERVICEMEN (INCLUDING WAR PENSIONERS) WHO WERE FORMERLY FAR EASTERN PRISONERS OF WAR (FEPOWs).

FEPOWs may apply with conditions arising from contact with a tropical disease. The Department's War Pensions Branch (address below) can arrange tropical disease investigations for former FEPOWs at a number of hospitals throughout the country.

The address of the DHSS Senior Medical Officer, M.4 (War Pensions) at the War Pension Branch is:

Department of Health and Social Security
North Fylde Central Office
Norcross
Blackpool FY5 3TA Tel: 0253-856123

D. FUNERAL EXPENSES

Should a pensioner in receipt of a War Disability Pension die of his pensionable complaint, or die in hospital, whilst undergoing treatment for his pensionable complaint, his relatives can apply to the Department of Health and Social Security for help with the funeral expenses. Application must be made to the nearest Pensions Office within 24 hours, excluding weekends and Bank Holidays, stating what is written on the death certificate. The Pensions Office will ring Norcross on your behalf and come up quickly with a verbal reply. At the present moment the maximum is £280. The Department will cover the cost of a hearse, one car and the basics, but they do not cover advertising, flowers, catering or the other socialising conversant with a funeral.

REGIMENTAL GOODS

The following regimental goods are available for purchase. These can be obtained by writing to the Secretary, Major A.E.F. Waldron, MBE, Lynsore Bungalow, Upper Hardres, Canterbury, Kent CT4 6EE. Cheques should be made payable to the Middlesex Regimental Association. Posting and packing is included in the price:

Badges Blazer, Middlesex	£ 6.00 each
Ice Buckets, miniature side drum with regimental emblazon	£11.50 each
Glass, Whisky tumbler engraved Middlesex Regiment badge	£ 5.00 each
Ties Regt! Old Pattern Terylene (Maroon and Old Gold)	£ 2.00 each
Ties Regt! New Pattern Terylene	£ 2.00 each
Ties Officers' Club silk	£ 4.50 each
Wall Plaques, Middlesex	£11.60 each
History 'Diehards in Korea'	£ 5.00 each
Christmas Cards Steady the Drums and Fifes	£ .20 each
We hope to have some Cap Badges Middlesex soon - probable price £1.25 each.	

EMPLOYMENT

Opportunities for employment often occur with the Corps of Commissioners. Only those with an exemplary character need apply. Applications should be made, in writing, to:

Secretary, Corps of Commissioners, 3 Cranes Court, Fleet Street, London, EC4A 2EJ.

BENEVOLENT CASES

During the period 1 January to 15 December 1985, the sum of £8262.83 (£6216.42, 1984), has been spent in assisting 99 (82, 1984), members of the Regiment.

The major function of our Regimental Association is to help those DieHards who are in need and priority and confidentiality is given to every application received. The Army Benevolent Fund is called upon to help with major cases and their help, providing it is recommended by the Regimental Association, is immediate. During the year I have called on the Army Benevolent Fund on six occasions and they have contributed the sum of £1393. It is not generally known that the Army Benevolent Fund, by the terms of their charter, are not allowed to make grants direct to individuals. They have to operate through Regimental Associations.

The majority of cases are brought to the notice of the Regimental Association by SSAFA, The Forces Help Society & Lord Roberts Workshops and the War Pensions Welfare Service of the DHSS. During the year only five cases have come from the Royal British Legion and two from our Old Comrades Clubs. The SSAFA organisation is represented in almost every town in the country and their particulars are shown in the telephone directory. Anyone needing help should make contact with the local SSAFA representative who will advise and forward your particulars to the Secretary of your Regimental Association. This method saves a lot of time and correspondence.

REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

The following items have been presented to the Regimental Museum:

Officers Sword and Scabbard which belonged to Lieut G.B. Bridges, who was killed on 23 May 1940, whilst serving with 'C' Company 1/7th Bn.

Presented by his brother Capt C.S.J. Bridges.

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The Freedom of Brussels Scroll and Seal enclosed in a commemorative box, which was presented to the late Lt-Gen Sir Brian Horrocks, on 7 September 1952, by Le Bourgmeistre ECHEVINS.

Presented by Lady Nancy Horrocks.

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Citation Certificate awarded to 3957645 WO2 H.G. Reece, 2/8th (1st Bn The Middlesex Regiment (DCO)), 43rd Division, signed by Field Marshal B.L. Montgomery on 26 January 1945.

Presented by his widow, Mrs A. Reece.

CHURCH PARADE - ROYAL HOSPITAL

A party from the Regimental Association attended the Royal Hospital Church Parade on Sunday 13 October. The party was led by our President, Lt-Col T.W. Chattey and 30 members attended, including Maj Gen Sir John Willoughby and Colonel and Mrs W.D. Ellis. Mr Ron Pile carried the Regimental Standard. Prior to the service the old comrades were formed up on parade under the command of former RSM Arthur Rose. The Inspection Officer was Colonel G.A. Allan, OBE, Adjutant Royal Hospital Chelsea. The service was conducted by the Hospital Padre, The Rev A.D. Bartlett, MA.

After the service we moved to the Ives Room of the In Pensioners Club where a buffet had been arranged. Here we met In Pensioner George Fulton - what a splendid chap, always cheerful. This year Charlie Painter was away on holiday and Mutt Hazlewood and Fred Cater were both sick. This service is always popular with our Old Comrades and for the first time for many years not one of our members from Albuhera Close could find the time to attend. Shame on you.

BATTLE OF THE SOMME

The 70th Anniversary of the Battle of the Somme will fall on 1 Jul 1986 and His Excellency The British Ambassador in Paris is arranging a commemorative service at the British War Memorial at Thiepval, which is between Amiens and Arras, on 1 July at 1100 hours. This War Memorial, after a design by Lutyens, is the largest in Europe and was dedicated by HRH The Prince of Wales in 1933. It is a magnificent setting for a commemoration of this kind. 1944 names of members of the Middlesex Regiment appear on this memorial.

His Royal Highness The Duke of Kent has provisionally accepted an invitation to be present. A welcome is extended to any veterans, widows or other members of the regiment to attend. If you are thinking of attending do let me know by 1 March 1986. I will then pass on your names to His Excellency The British Ambassador in Paris.

PICTURE - STEADY THE DRUMS AND FIFES

Reproductions of this picture may be obtained in colour, on canvas, bonded and mounted on artists stretcher ready for framing.

Prices:	12" x 10"	£21.00	24" x 20"	£48.00
	15" x 12"	£29.95	30" x 20"	£55.00
	20" x 16"	£42.00	36" x 24"	£70.00

Larger sizes available, quotation on request. Remittances and orders direct to:

Ben May, 3 Ravenscourt Road, Canterbury, Kent. Tel: 0227-464125

DO YOU REMEMBER MEETING AMERICANS DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR?

The BBC are making a documentary series about the relationship between Britain and America in this century and are interested in hearing from anyone who had contact with Americans during the 1914-18 War.

For example, did anyone train with or fight alongside American troops in France? Or go to a baseball match at Stamford Bridge in 1918? Or remember President Wilson coming to London after the War?

If so, I would be very pleased to hear from you. Please contact: Leonie Jameson, BBC, Room 1044, Kensington House, Richmond Way, London, W14 0AX.

The Board of Directors of the Company, Limited, hereby resolves that the following directors be elected to the office of directors for the year ending 31st March 1968, and that the said directors be authorised to do all such acts and things as may be necessary or expedient for the purpose of giving effect to the foregoing resolutions.

RESOLUTIONS - ORDINARY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Resolved, that at the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company, Limited, held on the 15th day of March 1968, the following resolutions were passed:

- 1. That the accounts of the Company for the year ending 31st March 1968 be and are approved.
- 2. That the dividend for the year ending 31st March 1968 be and is paid at the rate of 10% on the nominal value of the shares of the Company.
- 3. That the accounts of the Company for the year ending 31st March 1968 be and are approved.

That the Board of Directors of the Company, Limited, be and is authorised to do all such acts and things as may be necessary or expedient for the purpose of giving effect to the foregoing resolutions.

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