

THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT

Introduction

On December 31, 1966, The Home Counties Brigade will become "The Queen's Regiment." It is important that all members, both serving and retired, of the new Regiment fully understand the reasons which led the Council of Colonels to recommend to the Army Board that Her Majesty approve the proposal to form a Large Regiment.

The basic and current military factors behind this decision were enumerated in the broadsheet announcing the formation of the new regiment, and will be further amplified in this article. The article will also trace briefly the evolution of the infantry of the line from their conception as regiments with territorial links up to their present status. By so doing one can view the change to a Large Regiment in its true historical perspective and not only in the light of contemporary military affairs.

Historical Background

During their early history regiments had no formal territorial links and obtained their recruits from any county they chose. It was not until 1782 that regiments were linked with various counties of their choice. These alliances were initially shallow in nature but grew stronger and were given their true meaning by the Cardwell Reforms. Under these reforms several important new concepts evolved. Regiments formed depots, some amalgamated, numerical titles were made subsidiary and county or regimental titles were adopted. Although this reorganisation, resulting in the surrender of numerical titles and changed insignia, caused indignation and disagreement at the time, the advantages

soon became apparent. In particular the new organisation allowed regiments to maintain a battalion abroad and one at home, thereby producing greater choice and flexibility in postings. Territorial bonds were cemented by further reforms when county militia battalions became part of their county regiments; and at the start of this century affiliated Volunteer battalions were also integrated and organised as the Territorial Force. The Cardwell system of linked home and overseas battalions naturally went into abeyance during the First World War but thereafter functioned satisfactorily until the 1939-45 war, when the raising of new battalions and the cross-posting of reinforcements again made it unworkable.

After the 1939-45 war the reduction of regiments to one battalion, recruiting difficulties and the necessity of reinforcing battalions according to theatre requirements led to the introduction of the group system. Under this system the seven regiments, including the Royal Fusiliers, in The Home Counties were administratively grouped together. Interposting between regiments was introduced, and certain recruit training centralised. This system, never entirely satisfactory, had by 1951 evolved into the basic organisation of The Home Counties Brigade with its own headquarters at Canterbury.

Brigade System

In 1957 National Service was abolished and the then Army Council, with a view to reducing the number of infantry battalions, ordered certain regiments to amalgamate. By the end of 1962 the present regimental structure of The Home Counties Brigade had been

REGIMENTAL DERBY SWEEPSTAKE 1967

A Regimental Sweepstake on this year's Derby is being organised in aid of The Middlesex Regimental Charitable Fund.

Tickets in books of five (price 5s. 0d. per book) have been despatched to the Regular and Territorial Battalions, and to Branches of the Regimental Association.

Any member or ex-member of the Regiment who wishes to obtain tickets and cannot get them from the above sources, should apply to Major R. W. J. Smith, M.B.E., at Regimental Headquarters (Middlesex office).

The following prizes will be awarded:

1st Prize	.. ..	20% of net proceeds
2nd „	.. ..	15% „ „
3rd „	.. ..	10% „ „

In addition 5% of the net proceeds will be divided between those who draw a horse, other than the 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize-winners.

The result of the draw and the amounts allocated to the Charitable Fund and to prize-winners will be notified to all concerned and published in Regimental Newsletter number 10 of July next.

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The Cap Badge of the Queen's Regiment

The Die-Hards

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

HALF YEARLY : APRIL AND OCTOBER
VOL. XVI No. 5 APRIL 1967 PRICE 2/6

57th
FOOT



77th
FOOT

"Mysore," "Serlingapatam," "Albuhera," "Ciudad Rodrigo," "Badajos,"

"Vittoria," "Pyrenees," "Nivelle," "Nive," "Peninsula,"

"Alma," "Inkerman," "Sevastopol," "New Zealand," "South Africa, 1879,"

"Relief of Ladysmith," "South Africa, 1900-02."

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

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

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

Regimental Headquarters (Middlesex Office)

Location: T.A. Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex.
(Tel. 01-952 2625)

R.O.II: Col. F. Walden, D.L.

R.O.III: Major R. W. J. Smith, M.B.E.

Chief Clerk: Mr. E. C. Colebeck.

Curator, Regimental Museum: Major R. W. J. Smith, M.B.E.

Officers Location Statement

(Corrected to March 10, 1967)

Serving Officers commissioned, or transferred, to The Middlesex Regiment (DCO)

REGULAR OFFICERS

Major-General	Sir John Willoughby, K.B.E., C.B.	G.O.C. MELF
Major-General	C. M. M. Man, O.B.E., M.C., M.A.	President Regular Commissions Board
Col.	A. R. Waller, M.B.E., M.C.	Colonel G.S. (Trg.) H.Q. AFCENT
Col.	A. G. Hewitt, M.B.E., M.C.	Colonel A/Q. Singapore Base Area
Col.	I. R. Burrows, O.B.E., M.A.	Colonel G.S., D.I. (M.I.) ₃ , Ministry of Defence
Col.	I. H. Battye, M.B.E., B.A.	Colonel A (Pers. & Adm.) H.Q. AFCENT
Col.	D. Sax	Colonel G.S., H.Q. FARELF
Lt.-Col.	D. C. L. Nolda, O.B.E., B.A.	Depot (H.S.)
Lt.-Col.	F. de R. Morgan, M.C.	G.S.O.1, A.S.D.1, Ministry of Defence
Lt.-Col.	P. L. Pearce Gould, M.B.E., M.A.	A.Q.M.G., H.Q. Eastern Command
Lt.-Col.	C. N. Clayden	Depot (H.S.)
Lt.-Col.	J. N. Shipster, D.S.O.	Comd. 4th Queen's
Lt.-Col.	E. A. H. Jeffcoat, M.B.E.	A.A.G., H.Q. FARELF
Major	G. C. Dawson	14 Signal Regiment, Gloucester
Major	E. F. Thompson, M.C., T.D.	D.A.Q.M.G. (Maint. and A.E.) H.Q., B.A.O.R.
Major (A/Lt.-Col.)	P. W. Galvin	A.A. & Q.M.G. (DAPS) H.Q. FARELF
Major	C. H. Mievile, M.C.	G.S.O.2 (Trg.), H.Q. 53 (Welsh) Division (T.A.)/Wales District
Major	P. G. V. Bellers	D.A.Q.M.G., H.Q. 43 (Wessex) Div./Dist.
Major	K. J. Carter	2 I.C., 4th Queen's
Major	B. A. M. Pielow	British Military Delegation, Paris
Major	H. J. A. Moore	G.S.O.2 (Ops. & Int.), H.Q. Western Command
Major	G. G. Norton	2 Para.
Major	B. K. Clayden	B.M., 127 Infantry Brigade (T.A.)
Major	J. I. D. Pike, M.C.	Camp Commandant, Cyrenaica Area
Major	B. H. Marciandi	Company Commander, R.M.A.S., Camberley
Major	C. L. Lawrence, M.C.	Training Officer, 5th Battalion (T.A.)
Major	P. A. S. Wollocombe	D.A.Q.M.G. (Maint.) H.Q. Northern Command
Major	J. S. B. Pollard	D.A.Q.M.G. (Qtg.) H.Q. Northern Command
Major	R. D. Fisher	4th Queen's
Major	M. V. Hayward	4th Queen's
Major	A. E. McManus	Technical Staff Course, Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham
Major	J. M. Hewson, M.C.	4th Queen's
Major	I. M. E. Lloyd	G.S.O.3 (Int.) H.Q. UNICYP
Capt.	W. G. A. Crumley	Adjutant, Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers)
Capt.	H. M. du V. Lohan	4th Queen's
Capt.	M. C. D. L. Gilham	Staff College, Camberley
Capt.	P. Mallalieu	Adjutant Designate, 5th Queen's
Capt.	M. D. Legg	G.S.O.3, Sultan of Muscat's Armed Forces
Capt.	P. V. Cheesman	Adjutant, 4th Queen's
Capt.	M. F. Deakin	4th Queen's
Capt.	P. D. J. Clarke	4th Queen's
Capt.	G. Bulloch	4th Queen's
Capt.	G. Goring	4th Queen's
Capt.	A. B. Cowing	4th Queen's
Capt.	R. C. Pitman	Course, Army Aviation Centre, Middle Wallop
Capt.	J. G. Lofting	4th Queen's
Capt.	F. K. Gladden	Depot (P.S.)
Capt.	P. J. Gybbon-Monypenny	4th Queen's

Capt.	B. K. Finch	.. .. .	Depot (H.S.)
Capt.	P. J. Hubert	.. .. .	4th Queen's
Lt.	R. A. Bartlett	.. .. .	4th Queen's
Lt.	P. F. Packham	.. .. .	4th Queen's
Lt.	J. B. Hawkins	.. .. .	4th Queen's
Lt.	D. J. Daniell	.. .. .	4th Queen's
Lt.	B. A. Carlston	.. .. .	4th Queen's
Lt.	M. B. Montgomery	.. .. .	Infantry Junior Leaders' Battalion, Oswestry
Lt.	D. M. Falcke	.. .. .	No. 42 Army Youth Team (Finchley)
Lt.	M. W. Deakin	.. .. .	Depot (P.S.)
Lt.	A. G. D. Lowrie	.. .. .	4th Queen's
Lt.	R. H. Graham	.. .. .	4th Queen's
Lt.	S. M. Dowse	.. .. .	4th Queen's
Lt.	J. D. Jonklaas	.. .. .	4th Queen's
Lt.	P. G. Truman	.. .. .	4th Queen's
2/Lt.	D. C. F. Gouda	.. .. .	4th Queen's
2/Lt.	R. N. Colbourne	.. .. .	4th Queen's
2/Lt.	J. S. Ward Brown	.. .. .	4th Queen's
2/Lt.	M. J. Ball	.. .. .	Depot (H.S.)
Major (Q.M.)	A. E. F. Waldron, M.B.E.	.. .. .	Depot (P.S.)
Major (Q.M.)	P. Donovan	.. .. .	Q.M., Radfan Camp, Aden
Major (Q.M.)	F. L. Griffiths	.. .. .	4th Battalion, The Buffs (T.A.)
Capt. (Q.M.)	M. Wild	.. .. .	4th Queen's

SHORT SERVICE OFFICERS

Lt.	T. I. McMillan	.. .. .	4th Queen's
Lt.	H. B. W. Barstow	.. .. .	4th Queen's
2/Lt.	S. J. Yates	.. .. .	Depot (P.S.)
2/Lt.	R. Gancz	.. .. .	4th Queen's

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

(Corrected to March 10, 1967)

Regular W.O.s and Senior N.C.O.s enlisted, or transferred, into The Middlesex Regiment (DCO)

Regt. Pos.	Rank or Appt.	Name	Unit	Regt. Pos.	Rank or Appt.	Name	Unit
WARRANT OFFICERS CLASS I				17	R.Q.M.S.	G. Simmons	4 Queen's
				22	C.S.M.	E. Stewart	H.Q. 1(B.R.) Corps
3	G.S.M.	R. Dodkins	Bulford Garrison	29	C.S.M.	D. Walters	4 Queen's
14	R.S.M.	K. Beale	4 Queen's	40	C.S.M.	R. Power	Depot
20	W.O.1.	P. Soper, B.E.M.	I.R.O. Exeter	41	C.S.M.	B. Warner	5 Mx.
WARRANT OFFICERS CLASS II				N.K.	C.S.M.	J. Martin, M.M.	3 Queen's
9	R.Q.M.S.	A. DaCosta	School of Infantry	N.K.	C.S.M.	C. Partridge	4/5 R. Sussex
13	W.O.2	S. Michel	Depot	N.K.	C.S.M.	D. Lagden	4 Queen's
15	C.S.M.	M. Eastap	4 Queen's	N.K.	C.S.M.	R. Ford	4 Queen's

Regt. Pos.	Rank or Appt.	Name	Unit	Regt. Pos.	Rank or Appt.	Name	Unit
COLOUR SERGEANTS							
1	C/Sgt.	J. Potter	School of Infantry	80	Sgt.	J. Leat	4 Queen's
3	C/Sgt.	P. Dive	4 Queen's	84	Sgt.	F. O' Rawe	4 Queen's
17	C/Sgt.	A. Nicholson	4 Div. H.Q. and Sig. Regt.	92	Sgt.	J. Barr	4 Queen's
18	C/Sgt.	W. Smith	4 Queen's	97	Sgt.	M. Quinn	3 Malaysia Rangers
25	C/Sgt.	R. Clements	H.Q. BATTKEN	98	Sgt.	R. Shave	4 Queen's
36	A/W.O.2	M. Elston	4 Queen's	102	Sgt.	R. DaCosta	5 Queen's
39	A/W.O.2	C. Shinn	4 Queen's	103	Sgt.	M. Weston	4 Queen's
41	A/W.O.2	C. Blackwell	4 Queen's	106	A/C/Sgt.	R. Scott	4 Queen's
N.K.	A/W.O.2	J. Williamson	4 Queen's	107	Sgt.	J. Dickens	4 Queen's
SERGEANTS							
4	Sgt.	M. Butler	P.S. Staff	109	Sgt.	D. Burke	5 Mx.
6	Sgt.	R. Davies	Defence N.B.C. School	111	Sgt.	J. Meacock	Depot (P.S.)
25	Sgt.	B. Tarry	4 Queen's	115	Sgt.	J. Whittle	4 Queen's
31	A/C/Sgt.	W. Argent	4 Queen's	117	Sgt.	W. Kerr	ACIO Finchley
42	A/C/Sgt.	B. Edey	4 Queen's	121	Sgt.	C. Barnes	5 Mx.
58	A/C/Sgt.	B. Pritchard	3 Malaysia Rangers	127	Sgt.	F. Potts	2 Queen's
60	A/C/Sgt.	A. Briggs	4 Queen's	128	Sgt.	J. Reynolds	Depot (P.S.)
62	A/C/Sgt.	J. Redmond	4 Queen's	132	Sgt.	P. McFaddyen	Depot (P.S.)
63	A/C/Sgt.	D. Miles	4 Queen's	138	Sgr.	A. Brumwell	Depot (P.S.)
65	Sgt.	J. Young	Inf. J.L. Btn.	141	Sgt.	F. Willis	4 Queen's
67	Sgt.	J. Kerr	4/5 RWK.	146	Sgt.	A. Stevens	4 Queen's
69	A/C/Sgt.	G. Overton	4 Queen's	147	Sgt.	A. O'Gorman	2 Queen's
				157	Sgt.	B. Mullender	4 Queen's
				158	Sgt.	J. Rogers	42 AYT
				162	Sgt.	T. Fisher	4 Queen's
				165	Sgt.	R. Seager	Depot (P.S.)
				166	Sgt.	M. Flynn	4 Queen's
				173	Sgt.	T. Pryor	Depot (P.S.)
				180	Sgt.	P. Stewart	4 Queen's
				184	Sgt.	H. Dowsett	4 Queen's
				185	Sgt.	I. Baxter	4 Queen's
				N.K.	Sgt.	D. Omered	4 Queen's
				N.K.	Sgt.	H. Ward	4 Queen's
BANDMASTER							
22	B.M.	J. McShane	4 Queen's				
BAND SERGEANT							
5	Sgt.	G. Beechey	4 Queen's				
SERGEANTS IN THE BAND							
5	Sgt.	A. Torrie	4 Queen's				
9	Sgt.	L. Routledge	4 Queen's				
DRUM MAJOR							
2	W.O.2	J. Lewis	Depot (P.S.)				
ORDERLY ROOM SERGEANTS							
N.K.	W.O.1 (Sup Clk)	G. Cripps	R.H.Q.				
4	W.O.2	P. Nash	4 Queen's				
5	C/Sgt.	A. Gibbs	1 Queen's				
ORDERLY ROOM CLERKS							
147	Sgt.	A. O'Gorman	2 Queen's				
166	Sgt.	M. Flynn	4 Queen's				

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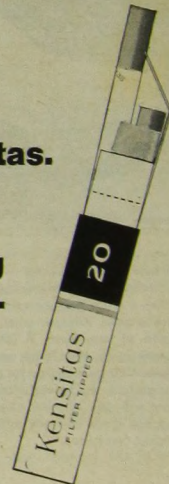
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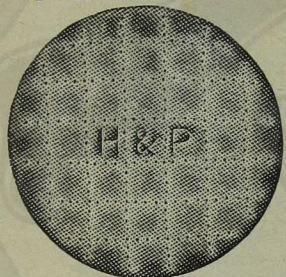
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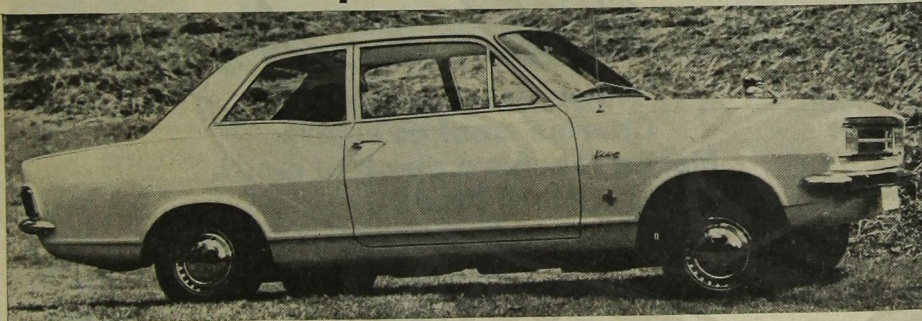
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MONCHENGLADBACH RHEINDAHLEN: Egbert Menke, Erkelenzstrasse 8, 405 Moenchengladbach-Rheindahlen.
SOEST (WESTPHALIA): Feldmann & Co. Gmbh, Arnsbergerstrasse 7, 477 Soest (Westphalia). Or General Motors Continental S.A., West German Sales Department, Noorderlaan 75, Antwerp, Belgium.

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Editor's Comments

The Large Regiment

As mentioned in the Editor's Comments in the last issue the 1st Battalion (57th/77th) became the 4th Battalion The Queen's Regiment (Middlesex) on December 31, last.

On that momentous occasion the last Colonel of the Middlesex Regiment sent his last message, which was addressed to the 1st Battalion (57th/77th) and read as follows:

"Today the Middlesex Regiment becomes part of the new Queen's Regiment. We are to join forces with those famous Regiments with whom we have been closely associated in the past. We bring to the new Regiment traditions of service second to none in the British Army and on these foundations together with those of the other three Regiments we can now look forward to an equally fine future as Queen's Men. Wishing you and your families health and happiness in the years ahead."

Reorganisation of the Reserve Army

The Middlesex Territorial unit which has succeeded the 5th (T.A.) Battalion is to be known as 10th (Territorial) Battalion The Queen's Regiment (Middlesex).

An interesting article on page 392 on the Reorganisation of the Reserve Army shows clearly how the reorganisation has affected Middlesex. This article was specially written by Colonel A. S. J. de S. Clayton, the present Secretary of the Middlesex T. and A.F.A., who, under the reorganisation, we are very pleased to know has been selected to be the Secretary of the new East Anglia T. and A.F.A. (or whatever it is to be called) which is to

control no less than eight counties—Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire, Northamptonshire, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire.

The Regimental Journal

The *Die-Hards* will cease publication with the October issue this year. Thereafter a printed Newsletter on somewhat similar lines to that now issued in January and July will be published quarterly beginning in January 1968.

The subscription to this Newsletter will be the same as for the Journal, namely five shillings per year, and, unless readers notify the Editor to the contrary, it will be assumed that they wish to continue their subscription to the Newsletter.

Patsy Edwards V.C. Fund

There has been a wonderful response so far to the appeal for this Fund, especially from the ex-members of the Regiment.

Thanks to the efforts and enthusiasm of Major Dick Smith it is confidently expected that the sum required to pay for the medal will have been received before the final issue of *The Die-Hards*, in which a complete list of contributors will be published.

"Aberdeen"

The article on page 398, taken from the book, *ALAMEIN*, will be of special interest to those readers from 1/7th Battalion who took part in the Desert campaign.

Personalia

Peter Aburrow (ex-Sgt. (Band) 22517844), who settled in South Africa after leaving the service in 1960, writes to say that he is doing well there. He mentions the names of many (mostly of the Band) who were serving with him in the 1st Battalion and would be very pleased to hear from anyone who remembers him. His present address is Calso Cape (Pty.) Ltd., Carlisle Street, Paarden Eiland, Cape.

He tells us that he now has a family of four.

In a recent letter ex-R.S.M. "Jock" Anderson, M.C., who lives at Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, states that he is keeping fairly well.

He sends best wishes to all those *Die-Hards* whom he knows.

Captain Dennis Bayton, Director of Music to the Kenya Army, writes to say that he hopes to be home next November for his inter-tour leave when he will look forward to seeing some old faces.

He is a very keen "all world" stamp collector and would gladly send used stamps of Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania to anyone who would like to swap.

At the end of last year a silver 57th shooting spoon won in 1937 by ex-Sgt. R. Burkitt (6198488) whilst serving with the 1st Battalion in 1937, was bought in a shop in "Cat Street," Hong Kong, and returned to Regimental Headquarters.

Efforts to trace ex-Sgt. R. Burkitt have so far failed.

If any reader knows of his whereabouts it would be appreciated if he would get in touch with Regimental Headquarters (Middlesex Office), Edgware, Middlesex.

Congratulations to ex-Pte. Gordon Burleigh, a 2nd Battalion veteran, who served in the 1914-18 war, on celebrating his golden wedding on March 4, this year.

Colonel and Mrs. Mervyn Crawford recently returned from a grand Caribbean Tour, which took them to Jamaica, where they stayed with Brigadier and Mrs. Roly Gwyn, Antigua, the Virgin Islands, the Bahamas and finally New York, where they were the guests of Colonel and Mrs. Jimmy Reid for a few days before flying home.

The Chairman of the Regimental Association, Colonel Desmond Ellis, who is a well known member of the Gas Council, figured prominently in the National Press last November when he was appointed Manager Conversion Executive with the important task of co-ordinating the conversion of Great Britain's gas appliances to the North Sea Gas.

Captain Frank Gladden has been posted to the Depot as Second in Command of a Training Company and paid a fleeting visit to Regimental Headquarters at Edgware on his way through by road to take up his new appointment.

Our heartiest congratulations go to Lt.-Col. Roy Hutchings on being accepted for the Administrative Class of the Home Civil Service, which provides the top management of the Civil Service and from it are drawn Permanent Secretaries, etc.

In order to achieve this success he had to take part in an open competition in which there were 1,400 candidates for 30 vacancies. The competition itself consisted of a written examination, followed by a two-day interview with the Civil Service Selection Board run on similar lines to a War Office Selection Board, and finally a grilling interview with the Civil Service Commissioners.

He started on his new work at the Ministry of Transport on March 1.

Major Maurice Leonard, who left the Regiment on transfer to the Royal Corps of Military Police, writes to say that, after three years of bliss in Malta he has now moved to Belgium for duty at Headquarters, Advanced Base, Allied Forces Central Europe, and has a delightful flat on the outskirts of Antwerp.

Congratulations to Captain Ian Lloyd on his promotion to Major which took effect from February 12, 1967.

Mr. Tom "Lofty" Lowe (ex-Pte 6193270), who has been in charge of the wine cellars at the Hyde Park Hotel for the past 20 years, has been instrumental in

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starting an Association of Wine Cellarmen, and has been elected their first Chairman. His efforts have met with considerable success and he has just been presented with a chain of office by M. Paul Bouchard, of the famous firm of Bouchard et Cie, the wine bottlers.

Two more Die-Hards are now In-Pensioners of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. They are ex-Sgt. H. G. Manders (6188507), who served with the 1st Battalion in the 1914-18 War until he was wounded at Loos in September 1915, and ex-Sgt. C. C. Shaw (6188401), a veteran of the 3rd Battalion, who will be well remembered as an expert P.T. Instructor.

The Regiment now has eight In-Pensioners in the Royal Hospital.

On completion of his Technical Staff course at the Royal Military College of Science, Shrivenham, Major Tony McManus is to be posted to 4th Battalion The Queen's Regiment (Middlesex).

Having served as a Die-Hard for 12 years—all his colour service in fact—Sgt. J. Meacock (22849055), now a member of the Permanent Staff at the Depot, is due to be posted in May to the 3rd Battalion The Queen's Regiment (Royal Sussex).

The present whereabouts of Lt. Philip Mead, a former officer of the 1/7th Battalion, are not known, and efforts to trace him have so far been unsuccessful.

If any reader can help it would be much appreciated if he would get in touch with Regimental Headquarters (Middlesex Office), Edgware, Middlesex.

Major and Mrs. Willoughby Newton have quite recently paid one of their very occasional visits to England.

900th ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDATION OF WESTMINSTER ABBEY

A Special Service for the Armed Forces of the Crown in commemoration of the 900th Anniversary of the foundation of Westminster Abbey was held in the Abbey on November 11, 1966.

Her Majesty The Queen was represented by Admiral Sir Desmond Dreyer, Chief of Naval Personnel and Second Sea Lord.

The Secretary of State for Defence, Mr. Denis Healey, and the Chief of the Defence Staff, Field-Marshal Sir Richard Hull, read the Lessons and the Bishop of Croydon, who is the Archbishop of Canterbury's episcopal representative with the armed forces, gave the address.

Many senior serving and retired Naval, Army and R.A.F. officers were present, together with contingents

He is as keen on fishing as ever and has fitted in his visit so that he can get back to Eire in time to take part in the various fishing competitions.

Many of his old comrades of the 1st Battalion, who were with him in Hong Kong and later Osaka P.O.W. Camp, were delighted to see Arthur Page (ex-Sgt. 6201260) at the February meeting of the Mill Hill Branch of the Regimental Association. This was his first visit since he had left the service, and he had come all the way from Chester to make it. We hope to see more of him at future Regimental functions.

Major Tony Pielow, on completion of his course at L'Ecole Supérieure de Guerre next June, is to be posted to the 4th Battalion The Queen's Regiment (Middlesex).

In his letter published on page 370 of the October issue of *The Die-Hards* Mr. E. W. Prosser writes to point out that "Too Kee farm" should have read "Two Tree farm." This 2nd Battalion veteran of the 1914-18 War states that this error probably arose through his bad writing!!

David Short (ex-Pte. 22843168), who served on a regular engagement with the 1st Battalion from January 1953 until January 1959, has had to give up a well paid job with the London Transport on account of ill-health, and take up lighter work.

On the termination of his staff appointment at Headquarters, Northern Command, in May Major Pat Wollocombe is to be posted to 4th Battalion The Queen's Regiment (Middlesex).

of serving men and women from each of the three Services, and representatives of ex-Servicemen's organisations.

The Regiment was represented by The Colonel of the Regiment and the following:

<i>Serving Officers and Soldiers</i>	<i>Ex-Officers and Soldiers</i>
--------------------------------------	---------------------------------

Lt.-Col. J. N. Shipster	Col. W. D. Ellis
Lt.-Col. P. J. Hall	Col. H. W. W. Gray
Capt. P. J. Gybbon-Monypenny	Messrs Ashby, A. J. Brown
R.S.M. K. Beale	Glover, Harrison, Lansdell, Meers, Stokes and Trow.
R.S.M. B. Lyons	
Junior Sgt. G. Odiam	

REORGANISATION OF THE RESERVE ARMY

General

The Reserve Army has undergone reorganisation in some form or other about every five years since the end of World War II. At midnight on March 31, 1967 will come the most drastic and far reaching reorganisation it has ever known. The Army Emergency Reserve and the Territorial Army are to be merged into the Territorial and Army Volunteer Reserve (TAVR).

This new Reserve will be divided into four categories to be known as TAVR I, II, III and IV, each with its own particular role and commitment.

Regimentally we are only concerned with Categories II and III and therefore reference to the other two Categories is omitted in the following paragraphs.

TAVR II

This will consist of units which are required to reinforce BAOR or NATO in general war, and certain other units which are required for duty in the UK or elsewhere in general or limited war. In other words the role is worldwide. Units of this category will be known as "Volunteers."

The present T.A. Battalions of Kent, Middlesex Surrey and Sussex will amalgamate to form 5th (Volunteer) Battalion, The Queen's Regiment with Battalion Headquarters at Canterbury. Middlesex will provide D Company (Middlesex) to be located at the T.A. Centre, Priory Road, Hornsey. This Company will be commanded by Major H. E. Couch, late of 5th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.).

TAVR III

Units of this category will have no overseas commitment but will be required to:—

1. Assist the civil authorities in the U.K. in the maintenance of law and order in the event of general war.

2. Assist in the defence of the U.K.

These units will be known as "Territorials" and will have a somewhat less onerous training commitment.

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WHY NOT DO SO NOW?

The Middlesex contribution to TAVR III will be one battalion of three rifle companies formed largely from 5th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (DCO) T.A. and 101 Engineer Regiment R.E. (T.A.). It is interesting to note that this Engineer Regiment was initially raised in Middlesex and if the senior R.E. unit in the entire T.A.

The Battalion will be known as 10th (Territorial) Battalion, The Queen's Regiment (Middlesex) with its Battalion Headquarters at T.A. Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware. Its first Commanding Officer will be Lt.-Col. P. J. Hall, T.D., late C.O. of our 5th Battalion.

The three Rifle Companies will be located and commanded as under:—

"A" Company—T.A. Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex.: Major R. M. Cain (late 5th Battalion)

"B" Company—T.A. Centre, Hanworth Road, Hounslow, Middlesex: Major S. L. J. Henshaw (late 5th Battalion).

"C" Company—T.A. Centre, Horn Lane, Acton, W.3 (from 101 Eng. Regt. R.E.): Major R. Craske, T.D. (late 101 Eng. Regt. R.E.)

(Note—It is most heartwarming to realise that perhaps by mere chance of geography our TAVR II and III units and subunits are to continue to occupy the old Battalion Headquarters of the 7th, 8th and 9th Battalions which is friendly territory indeed.)

Conclusion

This reorganisation can be described as extreme surgery but it is comforting to remember that good and sound surgery should inevitably benefit the patient provided that patient is in good health. Thank goodness the health of our patient is quite splendid and he is raring to get into first class fighting trim once more.

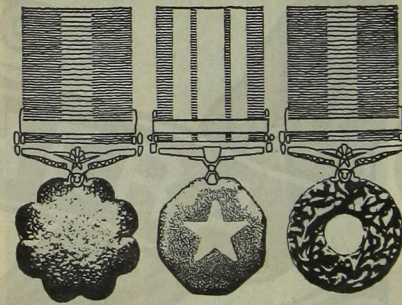
The Press has led the public into feeling that the Territorial Army and volunteering are dead and, alas, many seem to believe it. In fact it is being merely revitalised in a new form designed to meet modern requirements. We can be confident that the new T.A.V.R. will maintain all the old honoured traditions and *esprit de corps* of the Territorial Army and will blend them to their new roles. The T.A. has always prided itself in its incredible flexibility and its proven ability to tackle and conquer any task no matter the difficulties. This reorganisation is just the start of a new chapter in the long history of volunteering and provides yet another challenge to those who hold at heart the interests of their Country.

A.S.J. de S.C.

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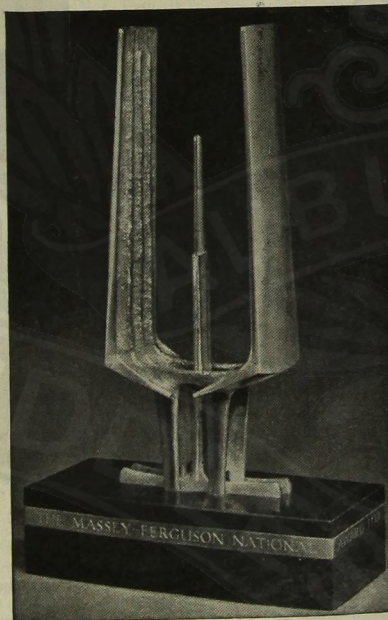
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FAREWELL TO THE COLOURS OF 7th, 8th and 9th BATTALIONS (T.A.)

As we go to press the Colours of the 7th, 8th and 9th Territorial Battalions of The Middlesex Regiment will be paraded for the last time at a Farewell Parade in Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, the old Regimental Depot.

The history of the battalions dates back to 1797 when the Middlesex Loyal Volunteer Associations were formed during the Napoleonic Wars of 1790-1820. These Associations, although broken up as definite organisations, kept alive in the form of shooting clubs until invasion was threatened after the abortive attempt was made on the life of Napoleon III. Volunteer corps were raised in 1859, a number of the personnel who joined having been members, as young men, of the Loyal Association, in the opening years of the century. Not only did they return to the volunteer body in person, but they brought their sons along to swell the ranks to resist the invader.

After amalgamation, one group of these volunteers became the 3rd Middlesex Rifle Volunteers, later renamed the 1st Volunteer Battalion, The Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment), and finally on the organisation of the Territorial Force, the 7th Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment. The first Honorary Colonel of this battalion was Lord Lawrence, "the Saviour of India," whose father, Captain John Lawrence, had been seriously wounded at Seringapatam in 1799 whilst serving with the 77th Regiment, later to become 2nd Battalion Middlesex Regiment.

Another group, after a similar history, became the 8th Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment. Both 7th and 8th Battalions date their formation as volunteers from 1859 on the introduction of the Volunteer Force.

The third Territorial unit also traces its history back to the Loyal Associations of the Napoleonic Wars and, as with the formations that eventually became the 7th and 8th Battalions of the Regiment, the 9th Battalion were raised on the introduction of the Volunteer Force in 1859, becoming the 9th Battalion of the Regiment on the organisation of the Territorial Force in 1908.

Space forbids the full story of the three battalions being chronicled here but it is of interest to read that in an ancestor unit of the 8th Battalion, The Loyal Association of Teddington, the Duke of Clarence—afterwards King William IV—served in the ranks as a private! (This does not necessarily mean that if you are good enough to be a private in the Middlesex Regiment you are qualified to be the King of Great Britain). The 9th Battalion trace their history back to the Marylebone Volunteers of 1797. This unit was a "class" corps of physicians, artists, literary men, leading tradesmen, etc.,

amongst them being Dante Gabriel Rossetti, the British poet and painter who although ranking higher as a poet than a painter, his "Meeting of Dante and Beatrice" is, amongst other works, of world-wide renown.

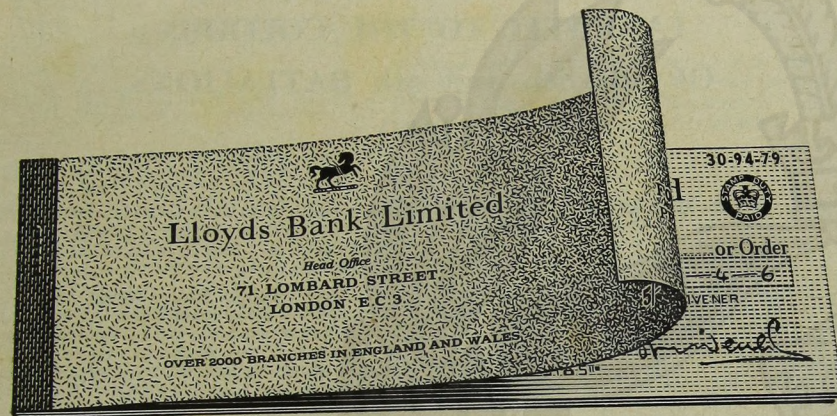
All three battalions sent volunteers to the South African War of 1899-1902 and were awarded the battle honour for that campaign. The 1st Volunteer Battalion, as the 7th were then designated, wanted to go as a battalion on the declaration of war, the whole of the unit volunteering within forty-eight hours' notice. Captain Alec Reid of this unit who during the Great War commanded the 20th (Bantams) Battalion of the Lancashire Fusiliers, was the only Volunteer Officer to receive the Distinguished Service Order (D.S.O.) in this campaign.

Two years after the formation of the Territorial Army (1908), the Territorial Force was given the opportunity of accepting additional liability of Foreign Service on mobilisation. The first two units in the whole of the army were the 7th and 8th Battalions—the 7th in February, 1911, and the 8th in May, 1912. These battalions had the words "Imperial Service" shown under their titles in the Army List and all ranks wore a silver badge on the right breast of their uniforms bearing this title.

During the war 1914-19, all three battalions saw active service, gaining honours in France and Flanders as well as Egypt and Mesopotamia. Many decorations were granted to men of these battalions including one N.C.O. who was awarded the D.C.M. after being strongly recommended for the Victoria Cross. This N.C.O. also held the M.M. and bar. Besides service in the Field, the battalions in the first months of the war garrisoned "The Rock" and stations in India. Later the 9th Battalion were to send men to the N.W. Frontier of India in 1919 during the Third Afghan War for which they were awarded the medal and bar. When the War Office Battle Honours Committee met to decide the battle honours for World War I, 24 were allocated to the three battalions, four of which appear on the Colours.

Between the two World Wars the T.A. battalions reached a high state of efficiency, the 9th Battalion having as its adjutant from 1927 to December 1930, Captain B. G. Horrocks, now Lieut.-General Sir Brian Horrocks.

When war was declared in 1939 there were two battalions of the 7th and two of the 8th all four being machine gun units, remaining as such during the war years 1939-1945. On mobilisation, the 9th Battalion role was that of a searchlight unit, later becoming a Light



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Anti-Aircraft unit. Although Gunners they still wore the cap badge and buttons of the "Die-Hards."

As machine gunners, the 7th Battalion saw more years of service in the Field than any other battalion of the Regiment during World War II, the 1/7th serving with 51st (Highland) Division—the only English unit in the Division—during the Desert War and in N.W. Europe. The 8th Battalion helped to cover the withdrawal of the force which dropped by parachute at Arnhem, playing an important role in this action. The 2/7th Battalion landed at Anzio, being machine gunners with the force under command of the American General Mark Wayne Clark. The 2/8th were renamed as the 1st Battalion after the regular battalion had been lost in Hong Kong and under this title fought in North-West Europe. The 9th Battalion, as Gunners, did excellent work in support of the Highland Division at the Lower Maas. Thirty-eight battle honours were awarded to these five units, eight of which are borne on the Queen's Colours.

As the Colours are marched off the square from their Farewell Parade and all soldiers salute and all civilians raise their head dress, the respect which all show will be heartfelt. These Colours of the battalions, which have now been merged into the new Queen's Regiment, have earned this salutation as have the men who served under them in peace and in war, many of whom will watch with pride in their hearts, albeit with tears in their eyes.

R.W.J.S.

Ceremony at Field of Remembrance, 1966

The Regiment paid its respects to the fallen at the annual ceremony in the Middlesex Guildhall and in the Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey on Saturday, November 12, 1966.

The following officials of the Greater London Council and of the old County of Middlesex also attended this ceremony as official guests of the Regiment:

Lt.-Gen. G. C. Bucknall, C.B., M.C., D.L., Assistant Lieutenant for the Middlesex Area of Greater London.

John Branagan, Esq., K.S.G., Vice-Chairman of the Greater London Council.

Robert J. Turner, Esq., Deputy Chairman of the Greater London Council.

Sir William Hart, C.M.G., Clerk to the Greater London Council, and Lady Hart.

Kenneth Goodacre, Esq., T.D., D.L., Deputy Clerk to the Greater London Council, and Mrs. Goodacre.

The Mayor and Mayoress of the London Borough of Barnet.

The Mayor and Mayoress of the London Borough of Ealing.

The Mayor and Mayoress of the London Borough of Hounslow.

Official guests, members and ex-members of the Regiment assembled at the County and Regimental Memorial in the vestibule of the Middlesex Guildhall. Official guests were ushered in by Cpl. M. D. Smith, 1st Battalion, who after announcing their names and office passed them to a uniformed officer of the 5th Battalion (T.A.) who from then onwards escorted them throughout the ceremony.

The short service at the Memorial was conducted by Prebendary G. A. Lewis Lloyd, M.B.E., Honorary Chaplain to the 2/10th Battalion O.C.A. At the end of the service the Colonel of the Regiment laid a wreath at the foot of the Memorial and read The Exhortation.

A procession then formed up in front of the Guildhall and moved off to the Field of Remembrance, headed by R.S.M. B. J. Lyons, 5th Battalion, and followed by the Association's standard borne by Mr. W. Bratby with In-Pensioners C. King and F. Worton as escorts in the scarlet uniform of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. Behind the standard was the Officiating Chaplain followed by the official guests in order of precedence.

At the Regimental Plot, the Standard and escort took up their position at the rear, immediately behind the original cross from the grave of 2/Lieut. Guy F. Romer, 13th (Service) Battalion. This relic of the battlefields forms part of our plot each year and its gaunt appearance is emphasised by the profusion of red poppies. The Colonel of the Regiment started this second part of the service to the memory of the 14,102 names on our Rolls of Honour, by planting the first cross. He then invited Her Majesty's Assistant Lieutenant for the Middlesex Area of Greater London to plant a cross. These were followed by the Chaplain and representatives of Regular, Territorial and Service Battalions, the civic dignitaries present and, finally by private individuals who had either served in, or had had relations in, the Regiment.

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ARE WEARING OUR
REGIMENTAL
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“ABERDEEN”

(Reproduced from the book *ALAMEIN* by courtesy of the author, Brigadier C. E. Lucas Phillips, and the publishers, Messrs. William Heinemann Ltd.)

On the left of the Australians, 1st Gordon Highlanders also pressed on towards their final goal, not with immediate success, in circumstances of great difficulty and vexation.

We have seen in the previous chapter how, on the first night, A and C Companies of the Gordons, penetrating a murderous barrage, secured the Black Line, which was their target and which was three-quarters of the way to the battalion's final Blue Line objective, known as Aberdeen; and we have left the other two companies and the C.O. of the battalion, "Nap" Murray, halted about a mile behind them. The two forward companies were cut off, Murray had no news of them, the shelling was heavy and continuous and the situation was brittle and precarious.

Twice Lieutenant Garry Gordon, now commanding the remnant of C Company, had sent runners back to acquaint Murray of the situation. He had seen both of them killed. Finally, he sent Sergeant-Major Thompson, telling him, "You have got to get through." This Thompson did, bringing heartening news to the anxious Murray. Accompanied by Thompson, Murray went forward himself, found the companies decimated and slightly off-course, but sitting securely on the ground they had won. On a second visit on the afternoon to plan a resumption of the attack, he was wounded in the violent exchange of fire as 10th Hussars, in 2nd Armoured Brigade, having pushed through, began the tank battle that has already been recorded. He was evacuated from the field and command of the battalion fell to Major James Hay, who that night led up the rear companies and reunited the battalion.

In order to present a consecutive narrative, we shall follow the remainder of the operations of 1st Gordons against *Aberdeen* out of their chronological order, since the sequence of events typifies the situation battalions often had to face and since there has hitherto been no little confusion about the operations on this important sector. The confusion was also only too evident on the ground itself at the time, for, on top of the inherent problems of desert fighting, the forces of two different army corps were fighting on the same soil for different objectives, neither having much knowledge of what the other was doing. We shall see more of this problem.

On the night of 24/25 October, therefore, 1st Gordons, or what was left of them, reunited under James Hay, stood on the Black Line, a short mile from their final goal. D Company, under the dour South of England Kenneth Paton, was then ordered to advance. Apparently it was

intended that they should secure *Aberdeen* itself, which, we may remind ourselves, lay on the north-eastern rim of the scarcely distinguishable Kidney feature which was so difficult to identify on the ground.

With Paton and D Company went 12th Platoon of the Middlesex Regiment, under Humphrey Wigan, with their Vickers heavy machine guns. Summoned hastily to accompany the Gordons, Wigan was led to understand that the operation was only a patrol. Patrolling was scarcely an operation on which machine gunners were ever liable to be included, but Wigan, not questioning, at once assembled his platoon in the dark and, in order to lighten their heavy loads, told his men that water, rations and small packs would not be necessary. It was the typical small mistake of one not yet experienced.

D Company of the Gordons and 12th Platoon of the Diehards advanced, traversing yet another minefield. There was some light, indiscriminate shelling and flares rose frequently from the enemy lines, causing the advancing soldiers to "freeze" in their steps every few minutes. As they negotiated some barbed wire, they heard the rumble of a tracked vehicle ahead and dropped to the ground. The vehicle stopped short of the wire barely 50 yards ahead and a voice shouted out in German, asking what unit they were. There being no reply, the vehicle swung sharply about and disappeared into the night. They had been spotted.

When they had cleared the wire about ten minutes later, it was accordingly no surprise that mortar and small-arms fire began to develop and the enemy's flares began to shoot up into the sky every few seconds illuminating the scene almost continuously. There then took place a totally unexpected encounter, illustrating what was perhaps the first of several unforeseen incidents when two formations are operating on the same ground. In the light of one of the flares, there stood revealed several British motor vehicles, apparently abandoned. Since the enemy employed a good many captured British vehicles, this occasioned no great surprise, but caution was clearly necessary and, while the Highlanders halted, a voice ahead called out loudly: "Does anyone here speak English?"

The ring of the voice was authentic and, after a little while, Paton, joined by Wigan, went forward and to their astonishment met an officer of the London Rifle Brigade (7th RB), from 1st Armoured Division. They had advanced by Sun Route through the Australian sector and had orders to deploy in support of 2nd Armoured Brigade. In deploying, their vehicles had been blown up

by mines and they had been brought to a halt by small-arms fire from positions in front of *Aberdeen*, with many casualties.

In view of the uncertain situation and of the need to be dug-in before dawn, Paton decided to halt his small force likewise, deploying the Middlesex machine guns on his left. Thus the Jocks had Cockneys to right and to left of them and not the least of the sparse comforts of the situation was the Riflemen's possession of some anti-tank guns.

The ground was solid rock and by first light on the 25th few of the trenches were more than a foot deep. The sounds of the picks must have been clearly audible to the enemy. Wigan's Vickers guns and the Vickers and 6-pdrs of the LRB were virtually on open ground. Daylight on the 25th found them in full view from the enemy and their positions were soon being "plastered" by shells, mortar bombs and streams of machine-gun bullets. They could see little of the enemy in his dug-in positions, but vigorously engaged any target offered, though thereby further revealing their positions. Two machine-gun detachments of the Riflemen were picked off man by man, one of whom had his head taken off by an anti-tank shot. The Middlesex suffered also, one gun being knocked out.

The wounded of all units endured severe trials of fortitude, lying in shallow slits in the rock under the blazing sun, scoured by flies, the Middlesex wounded being without water or food. Operational vehicles of the LRB which had not been withdrawn and which could not disperse in the minefield drew particularly heavy fire on the Australian boundary. The watching Aussies of Second-13th Battalion recorded that "the carnage was terrible to watch" and their Regimental Aid Post was swamped by wounded Riflemen, who were treated by Captain Philip Goode and a captured German doctor.

But they stayed put, stuck to their weapons and in the afternoon the Riflemen away on the right had their rich revenge as the enemy made his counter-attack of that day. A mixed force of German and Italian tanks appeared from behind the ridge. Advancing characteristically at very slow speed, with dust blown ahead of them like a rising storm, they bore down on the Riflemen near the Australian boundary, intending to drive our infantry from their newly-won positions.

The 6-pdrs held their fire until the enemy had closed to about 800 yards, the layer of each gun holding a tank in his sights as it crept on. At that killing range they opened fire and a violent action burst out in "stupendous noise." One after another the tanks were hit and several were quickly engulfed in flames and smoke, but the remainder still came on "like an irresistible steam roller." They were supported by field artillery fire which was poured in disconcertingly from German positions to the north of the Australian flank, thus appearing to the Riflemen to have come from "almost behind us." The Londoners, however, held their ground with great resolution and the enemy was brought to a halt by the guns of Lieutenant Jack Salt and Sergeant Allen at 250 yards. Obligated to withdraw, the enemy, in addition to other losses, left behind 14 smoking and blazing wrecks. This was the first infantry *versus* armour action

of Alamein and the first of several manifestations that were to follow (exemplified on both sides) of the helplessness of tanks in the face of stoutly manned anti-tank guns. It was a fine and highly significant little action that has hitherto remained in obscurity to nearly all but those who took part in it.

Meanwhile, back at 1st Gordons' battalion headquarters on the Black Line, James Hay had been preparing to reinforce Paton's little force, cut off in their precarious scrapes in the rock in the front of *Aberdeen*, that night. He set out on a reconnaissance in a Bren-carrier, accompanied by Major J. E. G. Hay (known as "Scrappy" Hay) and Major Michael Du Boulay, commanding B Company. In the belt that separated them from Paton the carrier struck a mine. James Hay took the full brunt of the detonation, being severely wounded in both legs. Scrappy Hay, though himself shaken, then took command—the third C.O. of the Battalion in 36 hours. An attempt to unite with Paton was made that night with B Company under Du Boulay: though the distance was not more than 400 yards, the attempt failed. Du Boulay was given a fallacious bearing, which brought him head-on to *Aberdeen* itself and on to the machine-guns posted in the derelict tanks. Outlined in the moonlight against strong machine-gun positions, his companies were brought to a halt. Unprepared for such opposition and unsupported by artillery fire, Du Boulay, himself wounded, very properly ordered a withdrawal.

Unaware of these misadventures, Paton's small force hung on expectantly. As the second night came on, they rose with relief from their cramped slits, did what little they could for the wounded, improved their diggings and serviced their weapons. The men in the worst case were the Middlesex, without water or food after a day of fierce heat. Wigan sent out a party to search the wrecked vehicles of the LRB, but several of them were still burning and any movement near them was observed and at once drew fire. A sergeant, however, was able to draw off some water from one or two radiators that had not been damaged and this liquid, foul though it was, averted for the while the most pressing danger. The outer casings of the machine-guns themselves, which had lost water during the day's shooting, were replenished in the traditional emergency manner.

When no relief or reinforcement came, the Jocks and the Cockneys accepted the situation with stoic cheerfulness. The idea of withdrawing entered no one's head; in his captured German diary Wigan recorded simply: "As we couldn't go forward, we stayed where we were." Lieutenant W. M. MacFarlane and six men managed to get through to them with some tins of water, but there was still no relief for the machine-gunners.

The second day, the 26th, dawned and at once both sides were in action again. Another of Wigan's guns was knocked out. The wounded of both units were grievously in need of evacuation and his own men faint from lack of water and food. Towards noon he decided that some action would have to be taken if his men were to survive. He discussed the situation with Paton in his nearby scrape and they decided that someone must attempt to get back to the battalion.

Having apparently overheard this conversation, Lance-Corporal H. Sleeth, one of Wigan's section orderlies, at once volunteered. Wigan hesitated. It was a mission of great danger and Sleeth had already been hit twice—once in the back and the second time in the arm. The young officer looked at him hard, weighing him up; Sleeth was a quiet, rather reserved man, a trifle older than the average, steady and sensible. Wigan reflected that, having been hit twice without being killed, he probably had a charmed life and, if anyone could get through, he would.

He briefed the N.C.O. as best he could. Waiting for a lull in the shelling, he sent him off. He watched him cover the first 200 yards when, entering the minefield which they had traversed two nights before, he was lost to view over the intervening swell of ground.

Entering the minefield, Sleeth was free of observation, but he was careful not to hurry, in case, by treading heavily, he set off a mine. He was tired and his mouth was very dry. The desert shimmered in the heat of the afternoon mirage and he felt dizzy. He had not gone far when the shelling opened up again. A mine, possibly

actuated by a shell splinter, blew up within a yard or two of him and flung him violently to the ground. Dazed and shaken, he got to his feet again and somehow made his way to his company headquarters, where he collapsed at the feet of Captain Michael Pearson.

A few hours later, as soon as it was dark, refusing to be evacuated, he led Pearson up to his platoon in a Bren-carrier, bringing water, food, ammunition and reinforcements.

A little afterwards, Brigadier Graham and Hay having gone up to see the position for themselves, the remainder of 1st Gordons moved up, but were spared the necessity of assaulting Aberdeen, for its garrison, having been severely shot up at dawn on the 27th by the 6-pdr. Deacons of ZZ Battery (76th Anti-Tank Regiment) and having been given a hot time by everyone else, surrendered and the Gordons occupied. Major H. A. F. Fausset-Farquhar, fourth C.O. within a week, took command.

The key-points of Kidney Ridge were all now in our hands, but it remained a very hot horizon and anyone who showed his nose above it was immediately shot up.

CEREMONY AT THE ARC DE TRIOMPHE

The annual ceremony at the Arc de Triomphe in Paris for the rekindling of the "Flame" on the Unknown Warrior's Tomb on August 4 last year had a distinctly regimental flavour for on that occasion John Taleen, late of the 16th (Public Schools) Battalion and a member of the Regimental Association was, in his capacity as Vice-Chairman of the Paris Branch

of the British Legion, selected to rekindle the "Flame."

The British and Commonwealth Embassies were represented at the Ceremony, and contingents from the Royal Navy, and military contingents from S.H.A.P.E. and Fontainebleau, were also present together with the Royal Air Force Band from Germany.



Paris, August 4, 1966
Rekindling of the Flame at the Unknown Warrior's Tomb at the Arc de Triomphe by John Taleen (late 16th (Public Schools) Bn.), Vice-Chairman of the Paris Branch, British Legion

(Photo by Shape Pictorial Section)

VICTORIA CROSS FOR SALE

(Reproduced by courtesy of The Editor, SOLDIER)

It took Mr. William French, auctioneer, just 25 effortless seconds to sell Patsy Edwards' Victoria Cross to the highest bidder. On a depressing day in a London saleroom dozens of British bravery decorations were knocked down without frill or sentiment to avid dealers and collectors.

Patsy's Victoria Cross could have joined the melancholy procession into unfamiliar hands—but The Middlesex Regiment would not and could not let it happen. Private Frederick Jeremiah Edwards' Victoria Cross now shares a glass case at his Regiment's museum with a neatly hand-written label—"Presented by the men of the Regiment." The price those men had to pay in half-crowns and hard-come-by 10 bobs was £900.

The unpalatable truth is that Victoria Crosses have become gilt-edged, highly negotiable investments, and their price is rocketing. Medal collecting generally is flourishing with new vigour. An expert puts the number of young enthusiasts at "thousands" and estimates that in Britain alone there are 200 really wealthy collectors.

Tell any of these numismatologists that bravery has no price and the answer comes "Maybe not, but the medals definitely have." Depending on the citation, date, campaign, recipient's rank, and condition of the medal, they will quote you Military Medals from £5, Military Crosses from £15 to £30 and Distinguished Service Orders from £20 upwards.

Rarity of the medal—only 1,345 have been struck—and the ambition of the medal hunters to crown their collections, have forced the Victoria Cross to the current level of £700 plus.

Paradoxically, Victoria Cross winners' regiments who see the medal as an irreplaceable part of their heritage, bid with heart rather than head and frequently set the price pace.

Although one Cross changed hands at mounting sums between 10 shillings and £125 before it was recovered by The Royal Hampshire Regiment, the really steep price rise has occurred in the last 15 years. A Cross directly comparable with The Middlesex Regiment's £900 purchase was sold in 1950 for only £98.

Other decorations are almost as hard to win, but none has captured the admiration and imagination like the Victoria Cross. A Cross displayed in a Regimental Museum is a source of pride to old soldiers and an inspiring star of courage for young soldiers to follow.

The constant hope is that families will eventually bequeath their illustrious ancestor's medal to his regiment. As time passes and prices rise this becomes less likely and more regimental headquarters staffs will meet the quandary which faced Major Dick Smith, curator of The Middlesex Regiment's museum.

One of the Diehards' 11 Victoria Crosses was coming up for sale: how to raise the money for a bid? Regimental funds were tied up but, on sounding opinion among the



(Photo: T. J. Rodgers)

The late Sgt. Patsy Edwards, V.C.

Old Comrades, Major Smith found overwhelming support for a voluntary subscription scheme.

One old soldier returned 10 shillings there and then with this note: "Well, I'm coming up 82 you know and the cold weather is coming along. Might not be here when you send, Sir."

Frederick Jeremiah Edwards, born in Queenstown, County Cork, in 1894, was a mercurial, colourful character. Unable to read or write, perpetually in and out of scrapes, he loved a fight, with or without gloves.

The moment in time that was meant for Patsy Edwards came during an attack on Thiepval in 1916. Lieutenant-Colonel Frank Maxwell V.C. had told the 12th (Service) Battalion of the Middlesex: "Don't stop and don't retire a yard. Be out to kill and get Thiepval on our Colours." As the citation shows, Edwards obeyed supremely well by storming a machine-gun post single-handed.

The Battalion won more decorations in a single day than any other. Patsy and his great friend Bob Ryder won Victoria Crosses. One Distinguished Service Order, five Military Crosses, and 31 Military Medals were also awarded.



Some past and present members of the Regiment who attended the sale. From left to right: Mr. Tim Harrison (late 3rd Bn.), Major H. E. Couch (5th Bn. T.A.), Major R. W. J. Smith, M.B.E. (late 2nd Bn.), Mr. A. E. West (late 12th (S) Bn.) (Photo: 'Soldier')

In 1928 it was discovered that Patsy Edwards had pawned his medal; the readers of a daily newspaper recovered it for him. Without telling anyone he later pawned or sold it when desperately hard up and wore a dummy medal. Until he went down with a stroke in 1954, Patsy had been serving as mace bearer to the Mayor of Holborn. One man provoked him once too often and it is said that Patsy put the mace to good use on his head.

After 10 years of dignified and cheerful suffering

under a crippling affliction, Patsy Edwards died at the Star and Garter Home in 1964. His V.C. was bought by Mr. J. D. Ferguson, of Quebec, 20 years ago and remained in Canada until this year.

The sale went better than Major Smith and the six stalwarts of The Middlesex Regiment standing at the back had dared to hope. The price was within their reach. "I thought it was a very good price" said the auctioneer. "I was in the P.B.I. for six years and I'm pleased to see these medals are being preserved."

SEVENTY YEARS ON

On December 12 last, Regimental Headquarters had the pleasure of entertaining Mr. Martin H. Butler, the youngest son of Lady Butler. Mr. Butler was the model for the small drummer boy who stands without head-dress, in the front line, encouraged by the Grenadier N.C.O.'s friendly hand, laid on his head, whilst the former exhorts them all by the words chosen as the picture's title—"Steady, The Drums and Fifes." Mr. Butler, now in his late 70's, well remembers the occasion when he and his elder brother—now Col. Patrick Butler (who was the model for the Grenadier)—acted the part of the men of Marshal Beresford's soldiers of 1811. This is the first time he had seen the painting since he was a boy and his recollections and anecdotes were of great interest to his listeners. Both Martin Butler and Col. Butler were serving in the Royal Irish Regiment in 1914. (It was from Devonport that the 4th Middlesex and 2nd Royal Irish left to take part in the Battle of Mons, August, 1914.)

Lady Butler, a gentle and attractive woman, was the greatest British painter of battle scenes in the 19th Century. Her painting "The Roll Call" caused a nation-wide sensation when it was shown in 1874 in the Royal Academy Exhibition. It was later purchased by Queen Victoria, who had it hung at Osborne. Ruskin, when he saw the painting "Quatre Bras" in 1873, called her "the first pre-Raphaelite painter of battle scenes."

Born at Lausanne in November, 1850, the daughter of J. T. Thompson, she studied painting in Florence and Rome and, as well as her well-known painting, she illustrated some of the poems of Alice M. Meynell, her talented younger sister. In 1877 she married Gen. Sir William Butler, who had already seen action in the Red River Expedition, 1870-71, the Ashanti War, 1873-74, and was later to see service in the Sudan Expedition of 1884-85. In 1898 he was in command of the British Forces in South Africa. He resigned this appointment in July 1899, holding that war with the Boers could be



ALBUHERA

2&3 Much admired at the Royal Academy and described by the artist as 'amongst those of my works with which I am the least dissatisfied', Lady Butler's *Steady The Drums and Fifes* was painted in 1896, on commission by the Regiment (above). She chose to portray the drummers because their lemon-yellow tunics (an inversion of the facings) gave her relief from the perpetual scarlet of her commissioned works. The Drums in fact suffered only one killed and three wounded and must have been less exposed than she depicts.

Major Marshman, of the Gloucesters, visited the scene in 1887, and his *The Diehards Holding the Key of the Position* (opposite) undoubtedly conveys a more realistic and accurate impression. Col Inglis is shown supported by an officer beside the colours

THE JOURNAL

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Mr. Martin Butler describing to Major Smith his mother's famous painting "Steady the Drums and Fifes."

(Photo: Hendon Times)



avoided. He was then appointed to the command of the Western District, which he held until 1905. He died on June 7th, 1910, in Tipperary, the county in which he was born.

The story of how the painting came to be executed may be of interest to new readers.

During her studies of military history, Lady Butler had always been eager to show the courage of mere lads in battle—the story of the drummer boys of Albuhera having been told to her early in these studies (Lt.-Col. Henry Butler had carried the Queen's colour of the 57th at Inkerman and had taken part in the capture of Otapawa in 1866). She felt she could not do justice to the subject as the red uniform of the British Line regiments was not colourful enough, when painted on canvas, to bring out what she wanted to express. On learning that at this period the drummers wore uniforms

of the colour of the regimental facings, with facings of scarlet, she immediately decided to paint the picture.

Lady Butler, who was always most exact and correct in regard to details of uniform, had the yellow coatee, white breeches and black leggings made specially by Sir William Butler's military tailor.

The painting became the property of the 1st Battalion, The Duke of Cambridge's Own (Middlesex Regiment), soon after its completion and is hung in the Officers' Mess of the successors of the 57th whenever the battalion is in the United Kingdom. When on foreign service, it is kept at Headquarters, and it was in the Officers' Mess at Edgware that Mr. Butler again posed for the Regiment. When he saw the boy he was, when the scene was being painted, he observed: "Well, 70 years on—I seem to have changed."

THE JOURNAL

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CRICKET, LOVELY CRICKET!

(Reprinted by permission of PUNCH)

The riots in Calcutta during the West Indies v. India Test Series are clearly the start of something big. But the game has made adjustments before, and no doubt by the time the Indians get here next summer arson and bloodshed will be just as much a part of the game as the LBW rule.

"Good morning. We welcome Light Programme listeners with the happy news that it's a truly glorious day here at Lord's. A light smoke is blowing in from the Pavilion end, out in the middle the ground staff are restacking the sandbags dislodged last night when stumps were drawn and, incidentally, rammed down the throat of umpire Charlie Elliott . . ."

"Get well soon, Charlie!"

"Thank you, Norman, I'm sure Charlie has the good wishes of us all. Yes, the ground is filling up nicely now, and, apart from some sporadic, almost capricious, small-arms fire off the Tavern roof and the shrieks and moans of less restrained members of the crowd, there's little to indicate the true excitement most of us are feeling. Wouldn't you agree, Freddie?"

"Most certainly, John. Well, the match is, as it were, poised, isn't it? At 5.30 last evening, when England were 231 for 3, just as they seemed set for a solid first innings lead, the wickets began to tumble with—what shall I say?"

"With dramatic, not to say hysterical suddenness, Freddie."

"With dramatic, not to say hysterical suddenness. First Tom Graveney went, retired maided . . ."

"The unluckiest of chances, Freddie."

"Indeed it was, John. A slow rising grenade just outside the off-stump. Then poor Basil d'Oliviera, shot down at the Nursery end and, unfortunately, well out of his crease at the time."

"The result of poor calling. I'm afraid, Freddie. Not to say inept. When the mortars started to come in from Marylebone Goods Yard, it was clearly up to Barrington to call a run to the square-leg dug-out, but they got to the middle of the wicket . . ."

"Utter confusion!"

" . . . not to say dire, Freddie, and poor Basil didn't know what hit him. What in fact was it, Ross Salmon?"

"I'm afraid an over-excited spectator garrotted the scorer, John, but the surgeon tells me he believes it to have been a Waffel-Oerlikon 77 mm."

"Thank you, Ross. And immediately after that, when Fred Titmus came in as night-watchman, instead of simply standing his ground at the bottom of his foxhole, he attempted to jump out to hit an inswinger, and ping! Not to say crack! A chance bullet, whistling in from deep fine leg . . ."

"Short fine leg I'd say, John."

"Well, sort of deepish short fine, actually, Norman—"

and there we were, 236 for 6. With Jim Parks the only chap of any stature left to come in, and his lungs still a bit dickey from the gas attack at Old Trafford."

"He'll probably have a runner, Freddie. Wouldn't you say he'll have a runner, Brian?"

"Well, I've just come from the pavilion, John, and I understand Jim will be playing from his wheelchair, and there's every likelihood that Bill Stoppard will be doing the pushing."

"Stoppard of Gloucestershire, that would be, wouldn't it? Tell me, Ross, when was the last occasion that a man in a wheelchair shared a seventh wicket partnership for England against India?"

"At Old Trafford, John, two weeks ago. Young Snow came in to join Barber, very plucky little innings. He managed to put on 0 before he was bombed."

"Splendid stuff! Well, I see the First Battalion the Middlesex Regiment is coming out to inspect the pitch, which I must say looks in pretty good shape to me, Norman. What do you think?"

"Yes, John, now all the grass has been burnt off, the batsman can get a really clear look at the craters. I'm a bit worried about our tail-enders having to cope with that shell-hole at the Nursery end, though. The spinners have been able to get a lot of movement off the bottom of it, and I noticed that Tom had a couple of uncertain moments yesterday, waiting to see which side of the hole the ball was going to fly out of."

"Quite. And there are definite signs that the wicket is likely to break up for England's second innings, now that the remains of Geoff Boycott have been dug out of the batsman's crease down at the Pavilion end. It's left a very nasty hole indeed, and I wouldn't like to say what mightn't happen if it gets a bit of wet over the week-end. But, all in all, the ground staff have done a magnificent job this morning, and apart from a few teeth and the odd—ah! They're coming out now, and the Indians are dismounting from their tanks, and, yes, here are Barrington and Parks, and, yes, you were dead right, Brian, it is Stoppard, the tall, rather gangling Gloucester left-hander who's pushing Jim Parks, pushing him with a rather jaunty action, wouldn't you say, Norman?"

"Yes, indeed, John, young Bill seems completely gnawed by his first Lord's Test, doesn't he?"

"Not to say utterly, Norman. And it's Ken Barrington to take strike, the bowler turns, comes in with a long, loping run, ten, eleven, twelve—oh, fine shot!

Magnificent!"

"Superb!"

"Yes, Freddie, truly superb! It appears to have got Ken right in the middle of the back, a beautifully clean, beautifully timed shot. And, coming from just behind us as it did, it must have been all of two hundred yards, wouldn't you say, Norman?"

GOLD MEDAL AND TRENCH GASCOIGNE PRIZE ESSAY COMPETITION, 1966

The Gold Medal of the Royal United Service Institution, together with the Trench Gascoigne Prize of 30 guineas, is awarded annually by the Council of the Institution to the author of the winning essay submitted in accordance with the rules set out below.

For the 1967 competition the subject of the essay may be chosen from either of the following which rank equally in adjudication:—

"On taking office in 1964, the present Government carried out a far reaching examination of the nation's defence needs, to shape a new defence needs, to shape a new defence posture for the 1970s. This is expounded in the 1966 Defence Review.

Discuss to what extent the predictions on which this policy was based are likely to prove valid, and prepare, in Defence Review form, your idea of what a Defence Review to be published five years hence in 1972 might contain."

"In an era of rapid scientific developments and of significant changes in British national defence policy there is a greater need than ever before for the deeper study and uninhibited discussion of defence problems. Senior officers of the three Services become ever more involved in technical and administrative routine so that there is a danger that the mechanics of their duties engage all their energies to the exclusion of independent and constructive thought.

This study, thought, and discussion can only be done in an institution which is itself unfettered by political associations and which has the prestige to attract the influential and encourage the original.

Discuss how in the future the Royal United Service Institution can meet this need and what steps, if any, should be taken to enhance its status and adapt its functions."

Rules for the competition

Competitors must be members of the Institution, or persons eligible to become members.

All essays must be typewritten and submitted complete (in triplicate). They should not exceed 6,000 words, exclusive of tables. Care should be taken to avoid classified matter. When reference is made to any work the title of such work must be quoted.

The essays must be strictly anonymous and each have a "nom de guerre." They must be accompanied by a sealed envelope with the "nom de guerre" written on the outside and the name of the competitor inside.

All essays must be sent by either registered post or recorded delivery, addressed to the Secretary, Royal United Service Institution, Whitehall, London, S.W.1. to reach him by October 16, 1967.

The essays will be submitted for adjudication to three referees chosen by the Council.

Essays will be judged on their general merits, and the

expression of views which do not conform to generally accepted opinions will not be considered to detract from their value.

Prizes

The Trench Gascoigne Prize of 30 guineas may be awarded by the Council to the writer of the essay placed first: further prizes may be awarded if the number and standard of the essays submitted justify them, but no award will be made in favour of any essay which does not attain a sufficient standard of excellence.

If the essay awarded the Trench Gascoigne Prize is considered by the Council to be of the requisite high standard, the writer will also be awarded the Gold Medal of the Institution.

Awards will be made known and prizes presented at the Anniversary Meeting, and the best essay will be printed in the Journal should it be suitable and of sufficient merit.

Official sanction will be obtained before publication of an essay submitted by a serving officer.

All essays submitted will become the property of the Council, absolutely.

For all your printing and stationery requirements

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and

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Boxmoor 641 Hemel Hempstead 52641

REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

Amongst the recent additions to the Regimental Museum and Archives are the following:

Side Drum 18th Middlesex Rifle Volunteers

Menu Card, Hong Kong, 1943.

Iron Rations, circa 1900.

Medals of the late Sgt. T. Broome.

Medals of the late L/Cpl. W. Burton.

Survivors' Roll 25th (G) Battalion and Medals of

the late Pte. A. E. Onslow.

Regimental Histories, etc.

Brief notes on each of the above items are given below:

Side Drum 18th Middlesex Rifle Volunteers.

The side drum of the 18th Middlesex Rifle Volunteers Corps (Harrow Rifles) has embossed on the brass shell the Royal Coat of Arms with the unit's title on a scroll above the badge. The coat of arms is that as used in the 60s and 70s of the last century dating the drum to the early years of the Volunteers Corps. The 18th were formed in December 1859, an ancestor to our 9th Battalion (T.A.).

The earliest names in the records are those of Edward Francis Elliott whose number was 2 on the regimental list and Duncan Mackenzie who was No. 3, both joining on 17 December, 1859 and both commissioned on the 30th of that month. The next two officers appointed were Thomas Bridgwater, No. 56, who joined as soon as the unit was open for Volunteers and was appointed Regimental Surgeon in February, 1860. His number as a Private was 56 whilst No. 81 was Frederic William Farrer (Revd.) who became the Chaplain in March 1870.

Another member who must have marched behind the drum when it was in its prime and glory was Henry Edward Maltby whose number was 334. After three years' service he was commissioned in March 1870 resigning in April 1874. A tailor in Baker Street, he made the famous Maltby overcoat. He also made a mistake and was hanged for murder.

Found in an attic in Belfast and presented by Mr. Stewart of the Royal Belfast Golf Club

Menu Card Hong Kong, 1943

The menu card of the Albuhera Dinner attended by the "Die-Hards" in Hong Kong P.O.W. Camp, May 16, 1943, is now on display in the Regimental Museum. It is mounted in a polished wood frame, glazed and on a wood base for easy viewing. The glazing and framing were arranged by Major P. F. Newman and the cost borne by him.

Originally the property of Captain R. W. H. Willoughby, the elder brother of Major-General Sir John Willoughby, it was given to the General, who presented it to the Regiment when he was the guest at the Mill Hill Branch Albuhera Dinner, held in the Cen-

tury Hotel, Wembley, in 1961. At that time he was the Colonel of the Regiment.

The back of the menu, which is a folded absorbent paper sheet, has the signatures of all "Die-Hards" who attended. These are Colonel L. A. Newnham, Majors S. F. Hedgecoe, H. Marsh, R. W. Mayer and R. T. Guscott, Captains J. H. S. Hudson, J. S. C. Hancock, G. W. Flood and R. W. H. Willoughby, Lieutenants K. D. O. Cole and R. S. Rothwell, Privates A. Woods (621306), R. Normandale (6213546), J. Jones (6201121), H. G. Winkworth (6201444), J. R. Hale (6213443), A. W. Francomb (6213440), G. A. Prince (6212994) and C. Bradley (6208194).

Although the food was of a meagre nature, there is no doubt that the instructions on the opposite page were carried out in a robust manner. These were the Toasts "His Majesty The King" and "The Regiment." A century and a half before the same toast had been drunk in York Town where the Light Company of the 57th had been amongst the British who capitulated to General Washington. Another parallel is the opinion of Lord Cornwallis, who said of these soldiers "This small body of gallant soldiers, who had ever behaved with so much fidelity and courage"; these words were applicable to those defenders of Hong Kong during the Japanese onslaught in December, 1941.

The first name on the card is that of Colonel L. A. Newnham, who was two months after to be taken away by the Japanese to be interrogated under torture, severely beaten up, starved and allowed no communication with the outside world. For his refusal to betray his comrades even in the face of death, he was awarded a posthumous George Cross. His signature on this paper was one of the last he was able to write.

Iron Rations, circa 1900

Recently presented to the Museum was an iron ration as issued to the army in the field during the Boer War and the Frontier Wars in India. This type of ration was later replaced by the "Bully beef and biscuits" so well known to the army of 1914-1918.

This older ration is in an oval tin with a tear-off tin strip at each end. The contents, of a chocolate basis, were manufactured by Bovril Ltd. and date stamped August 1905 with the India Government mark under the date. There was a variety of types during the early years of this century, one being similar to that described above, having chocolate at one end and beef tea compound at the other. The 1905 type is sufficient to make four pints of nourishing liquid and as with all instructions affecting emergency rations was not to be eaten without the authority of an officer or in extremity. If eaten in small quantities, the compound was sufficient for 36 hours for the normal individual.

Presented by W. F. Cowing Esq.

Medals of ex-Sergeant T. Broome, M.M.

The medals of Tom Broome (or Broom as it is also shown on his records) are the Military Medal, the 1915 Star, British War Medal and Victory Medal 1914-1919. A brief record of his service was published in the obituary columns of the April 1965 issue of *The Die-Hards*.

He enlisted in the 4th Battalion in July 1902, being given the Regimental number 7901. Later posted to the 3rd Battalion, he was at Peking with the Legation Guard found by the 3rd Battalion, later serving in Hong Kong, Singapore and India. On the outbreak of war in 1914, he returned to England with his battalion, going with it to join the B.E.F. in France in January 1915. In August, 1915, he completed his regular service, a total of just over 13 years, all of which had been spent in the Corps of Drums.

Re-enlisting on a "Duration of War" engagement, he was posted to the 12th (Service) Battalion with the number G/32470 and with that Battalion he was awarded the Military Medal for bravery in the Field. When the re-organisation of the B.E.F. took place in February 1918, Sgt. Broome, with many of his comrades of the disbanded 12th Battalion was transferred to the 2nd (City of London) Regiment (Royal Fusiliers) from which regiment he was discharged on May 31, 1919.

After the decease of his widow, the family unanimously decided to present his medals to the Regiment.

Presented by the family of the late Sgt. T. Broome.

Medals of the late L/Cpl. W. Burton

The medals of William Burton (L/12897) are the 1914 star and bar, the British War Medal and Victory Medal, 1914-1919.

Private Burton joined the 2nd Battalion after completing his recruit training at the Depot, Mill Hill. In September 1913, he sailed on the *H. T. Soudan* for Malta, the 2nd Battalion then being under the command of Lt.-Col. "Toby" Hayes. He was then a member of "B" Company and remained in that Company on the introduction of the "Double Company" system in the regular army on October 1, 1913.

Returning to the U.K. immediately after the declaration of war in 1914, he was with the Battalion when it mobilised and joined the British Expeditionary Force in France in November, 1914. He continued to serve with the Battalion, taking part in the Battle of Neuve Chapelle in March, 1915, and he was with the Battalion as a Lance-Corporal when it went "over the top" at the Battle of the Somme on July 1, 1916. The strength of the Battalion at 6 a.m. on the morning of July 1, was 23 Officers and 650 Other Ranks; at the Roll Call after the action only 1 Officer and 50 Other Ranks answered their names. On the Regimental Roll of Honour for those killed in action in that battle is that of L/Cpl. W. Burton.

Presented by Miss Harriett Davies.

Survivors' Roll 25th (G) Battalion and medals of Pte. A. E. Onslow

The medals of G39065, Private A. E. Onslow are the British War Medal and Victory Medal of 1914-1919.

Private Onslow served with the 25th (Garrison) Battalion in Hong Kong and later in Siberia when the Battalion was sent to aid the White Russians. He was on board the Transport *Tyndareus* when it struck a mine off the Cape of Good Hope. To commemorate this incident in the Regiment's history a special gift of a roll bearing the names of those on board was given to each survivor. It is this roll, suitably framed, which has now been presented to the Museum.

Mr. Onslow, during the 1939-45 War, served with his local Home Guard at Haslemere, Surrey, where he died at the age of 80 years.

Presented by Mrs. Fowle, sister of ex-Private Onslow.

Regimental Histories, etc.

A small box containing the histories of the 57th (West Middlesex) and 77th (East Middlesex) Regiments, plus a number of dance programmes, buttons and collar badges were recently given to the Regiment.

The books and badges were once the property of Captain Charles Paget Miller who served with the 1st or Royal East Middlesex Militia from 1864 to 1872. This unit became the 4th Battalion (Militia) of the Regiment in 1881 and renamed as the 6th Battalion (Militia) in 1900 on the formation of the 3rd and 4th Regular Battalions during the Boer War.

He began his service in 1852. As an Ensign in the 82nd Regiment of Foot (Prince of Wales Volunteers), later 2nd Battalion South Lancashire Regiment, he fought in the Indian Mutiny during the years 1857-58, seeing action at Cawnpore, the Defeat of the Gwalior Contingent, the fights at Telleha, Khodagunge, Khankur, the occupation of Furrackabad and subsequent operations until the end of the Indian campaign. For his services he was awarded the medal and bar.

He resigned his commission in 1872 when the Officer Commanding the Royal East Middlesex Militia was Lt.-Col. F. R. Aikman, v.c., who had won his Victoria Cross in India during the war in which Captain Miller was also serving.

Presented by Capt. Miller's granddaughter, Mrs. C. G. Teverson

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4th BATTALION THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT (MIDDLESEX) NOTES

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

EDITORIAL

Overseas tours of duty are usually greatly sought after and the prospect of many months' service in the United Kingdom is not often thought of as being very pleasing.

All too frequently a home posting means too little to do in an unattractive part of the country and too much time in which to do it. Fortunately, this has not so far been our lot. Ireland generally is a very pleasant country and Ulster has its fair share of interesting and even beautiful terrain.

As always the official training areas are the least inviting regions, but even these have their own peculiar advantages. However, we are by no means tied to the official areas of our training. The Royal Ulster Constabulary are extremely friendly and co-operative and the rifle companies have little difficulty in obtaining permission to run "dry" training in some of the best parts of Northern Ireland. The lakeland district of County Fermanagh and the Mourne Mountains are rapidly becoming the two favourite areas of "operations." It is in such places that one can reap the twofold benefit of getting in some really worthwhile training and also seeing some splendid scenery. In addition, for those so inclined, there is some interesting shooting to be had.

Our own "home," Palace Barracks, comprises modernised, red-brick two-storey barrack blocks, which are by no means as grim looking as they sound, and, one most important point, the central heating system, keeps all rooms almost luxuriously warm.

We find that there is no lack of entertainment here. Belfast, six miles away, although no "swinging city," nonetheless proves quite an attraction almost every evening in the week, as the local bus companies and taxi services can testify. The city is also an excellent shopping centre, rivalling many large cities in Britain.

Social events are almost non-existent in Northern Ireland on Sundays and Palace Barracks then becomes the Mecca of the local district. Every Sunday evening a dance is held in the Junior Ranks' Club. So popular is this function, not only with our own soldiers, but also with the local young ladies, that it becomes necessary to restrict entry!

In general, the Northern Irish are very friendly and pro-Army, but there still exists, based in the South, an illegal fringe element who are determined to further the aims of the old I.R.A. This group, although small, still poses a minor threat to security and peace of mind and for this reason guard duties are much more than a ceremonial task. To help us in preserving our own

security we have a war dog section; fierce, powerfully built Alsations which will behave tamely only with their customary handlers, and so provide a very real deterrent force. We all have a healthy respect for our canine sentries, but would hasten to add that "being given the option" on Company Commanders' Orders does not mean being given the choice of paying up or being thrown to the war dogs!

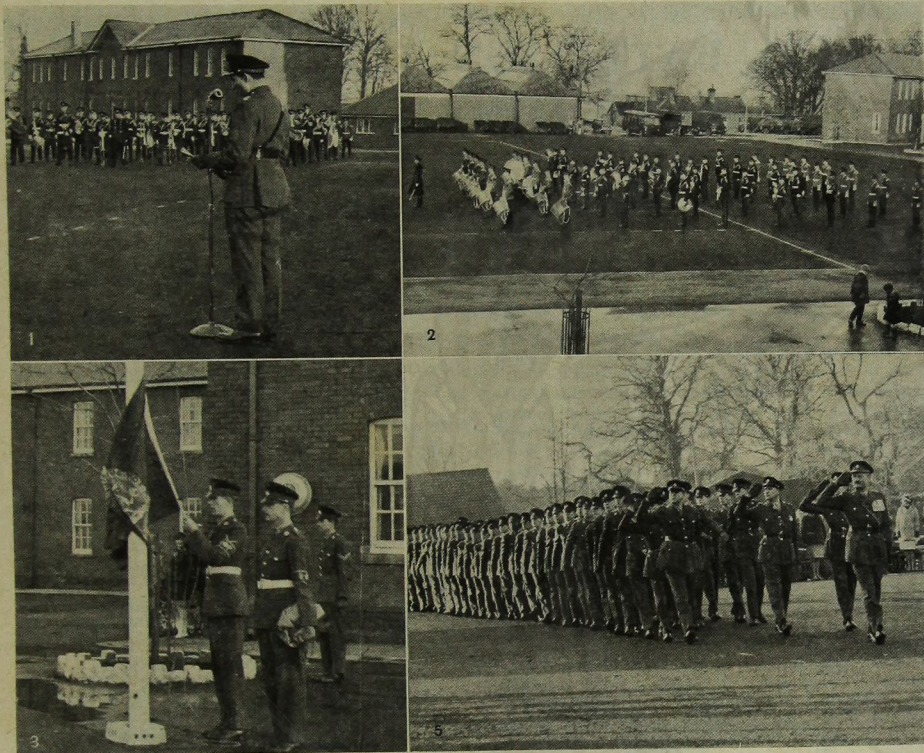
The hills behind Palace Barracks provide lots of incentive for cross-country running enthusiasts, but for those who are not they indicate another weekend of stiff legs. We have again started the practice of holding fortnightly runs for all members of the Battalion "not on essential duty," and what a shock it has been to some of us to discover that the duties which frequently keep us working into the night on weekdays are not so essential on Saturday mornings. Pale-faced and inky-fingered we emerge from the Orderly Room, P.R.I. emporium, Pay Office and stores, to gasp our way through the mud, thinking that death would be a boon and on reaching the blessed haven of the finishing line find that, wonder of wonders, we are not last home.

This training is having markedly beneficial effects, both in the Battalion and the Company teams. In a triangular match against the Royal Ulster Constabulary and the North Irish Brigade Depot, the Battalion cross-country team was beaten into second place by the police. Far from being a setback this defeat proved a spur to greater efforts and the Battalion team went on, some days later, to win the Northern Ireland Command Championship, with Capt. Hubert, Pte. Bott, Cpl. Hamill, L/Cpl. Constant and Pte. Mullinger in the first twelve. We have great hopes for their success in the Army Championships at Aldershot.

Soccer, as always, is extremely popular and despite our defeat by two goals to one by the 4th/7th Dragoon Guards in the Army Cup, enthusiasm is still there. In addition to the Minor Units Inter Company League, many "friendly" matches are played, with the result that much new talent is being encouraged and we have hopes of introducing new blood into the battalion teams next season.

Because of the dearth of courts, squash has been mainly a minority interest in the past. Although we are still rationed to a single court, we are nonetheless trying to introduce this exciting game to all ranks, and thus break the tradition of it being an "officers" game. Companies have purchased squash kit and a varied cross-section of the Battalion is "having a go!" (As evidence, see blood-spattered court floor!)

To round off the 1966/67 season there is to be a



VESTING DAY PARADE

1. The Commanding Officer reads the Order of the Day.
2. The Band and Drums drawn up on parade.
3. Raising of the flag of the Queen's Regiment by L/Cpl. Soall.
4. W.O.2 Eastap receives the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal from Brig. J. M. Strawson, O.B.E.
5. The March Past at the conclusion of the Parade.

(Official Army Photographs)



Command Individual Tournament in mid-March. The Tournament is to be divided into two parts: an Open Championship, and a Junior Championship. Entry to the latter is limited to personnel of the rank of W.O.1 and below, and we fully expect to be well represented in both parts. The honour of representing Northern Ireland Command in the Army Cup competition did not fall to us this year, although our team returned a creditable performance in winning two of their four matches.

Rugby is a most thriving sport amongst Die-Hards. A detailed account of the exploits of the warriors of the Battalion XV appears elsewhere in this section.

After some years in the doldrums, hockey is again growing in popularity and every afternoon company teams do battle on the square. From the number of sticks broken each week one suspects that some worthies are endowed with more enthusiasm than skill, but at least the enthusiasm is unfeigned.

Purposely we have left till last the most important event of the month—our transition from 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.) to 4th Battalion The Queen's Regiment (Middlesex). Saturday, December 31, 1966, dawned very cold but mercifully dry. The whole Battalion turned out for a Drumhead Service on the square. Our old flag was lowered and the new one was raised, the Battalion gave three cheers and then marched past our Brigade Commander taking the salute. Because of the weather, the service and parade were necessarily short but for all that were both moving and impressive. After the ceremonial the celebrations began. At lunch time all ranks assembled in the dining hall for drinks and the Commanding Officer proposed the toast to our new Regiment.

The evening of Vesting Day saw the climax of the celebrations. The W.O.s and Sgts.' Mess had transformed the gymnasium into a ballroom and arranged a sumptuous buffet. At around nine o'clock dancing commenced and went on to 3 a.m.

There remained but one more thing to do to set the seal on our new identity. On January 27 the Officers Mess entertained the W.O.s at the first guest night of the 4th Battalion The Queen's Regiment (Middlesex). On this occasion, there being only Queen's men present, was proposed for the first time the new toast, "Princess Marina, Duchess of Kent, our Colonel-in-Chief."

VESTING DAY PARADE

December 31, 1966 saw the official transition from 1st Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.) to 4th Battalion The Queen's Regiment (Middlesex) an occasion which was celebrated by a Drumhead Service and parade. In factual terms it was as simple as that, but of course such a step had important historical and emotional undertones. As much as we were all proud of the new name under which we were to join forces with those Regiments already closely associated with us in the past, there was also nostalgia in the air as the old 1st Battalion marched on parade for the last time.

Once the Battalion had marched on and the drums had been piled, the Colours of the 1st Battalion were received on parade. The Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Colonel J. N. Shipster, D.S.O., then read The Order of the

Day followed by messages from Her Majesty The Queen and Her Royal Highness Princess Marina, Duchess of Kent, Colonel-in-Chief the Queen's Regiment.

The stage was now set for the Drumhead Service to begin. The Chaplain, The Reverend I. H. Bull, C.F., assisted by the Reverend J. M. Lynas, O.C.F. and the Reverend S. Lowry, O.C.F., received the Colours and laid them on the Altar. The Chaplain then led the Parade in the Singing of the Hymn—"Praise the Lord! Ye heavens, adore Him," after which the Bidding and the Lord's Prayer were said.

The climax of the parade was reached as for the last time the flag of The Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own) was lowered to the sound of the Last Post and the hoisting of the flag of the Queen's Regiment was greeted by the sounding of Reveille. The Queen's Regimental Collect was then said, followed by the giving of the Address and the singing of the Hymn—"Guide me, O thou Great Redeemer." After the National Anthem and the Blessing, the Colours of the 4th Battalion The Queen's Regiment (Middlesex) were returned, and the Commanding Officer called for three cheers for The Queen's Regiment and for Her Royal Highness Princess Marina, our Colonel-in-Chief.

Our Brigade Commander, Brigadier J. M. Strawson, O.B.E., then presented W.O.2 M. P. D. Eastap and W.O.2 G. A. Simmons with the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. Our congratulations to both of them.

Finally, to the tune of "Soldiers of the Queen," the Battalion marched past, the Brigade Commander taking the salute. The weather being extremely cold no time was lost in adjourning to the Dining Hall where the celebrations began in earnest. Fortified by seemingly limitless supplies of beer, and heartened by the rousing music of the Regimental Trad Band, all ranks responded with enthusiasm to the toast "To the new Regiment" proposed by the Commanding Officer, and then tucked into the most impressive fare specially provided for the occasion. The Officers and W.O.s and Sergeants then adjourned to their respective Messes, the former to drink the cellar dry of champagne before the afternoon was over.

The celebrations did not end here, however, for the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess had organised a Vesting Day Ball. The gymnasium had been transformed into a candle-lit, imaginatively decorated ballroom which from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. echoed to the sounds of revelry and to the music of the Regimental Dance Band, The Regimental Trad Band and the Corps of Drums Steel Band. The latter also gave a performance of their Drum Fantasy which as usual was most impressive and very well received. The music and dancing were interspersed with a varied and entertaining cabaret, and after a spirited rendering of Auld Lang Syne, everyone sat down to a really sumptuous buffet which seemed to provide the necessary stamina to continue the dancing until 3 a.m.

Thus ended a memorable day in the history of the Battalion, a day which for all the nostalgia and fond memories of the past which it aroused, was nonetheless celebrated with ceremony and gaiety appropriate to the new venture which we had all just begun.

CAMBRIDGE WIVES CLUB

After the return of the Battalion from their seven-months' tour in Guyana, all the wives were entertained to an excellent dinner in the Battalion Cookhouse, very ably organised by Capt. McMillan. The Regimental Band and the newly-formed Steel Band "The Diehards," played alternately during the dinner and were greatly appreciated by all. It was a wonderful sight seeing all the waiters, who had volunteered for the job, serve so efficiently and cheerfully—together a splendid evening.

Two Christmas parties for the children were held this year, according to the children's ages. Both parties were "howling" successes.

We opened our 1967 "season" with a games evening. If this first meeting is anything to go by, 1967 will prove to be very popular. It is so heartening to see many more of the younger wives coming to the Club.

Cubs

There is a flourishing Pack within the camp. The Cubs started in Gibraltar and under Mrs. Tarry's keen guidance carried on here in Holywood. L/Cpl. Adams is proving to be a very able assistant.

Brownies

Are run by local Irish girls, who very kindly hold a meeting within the camp every Wednesday.

Kindergarten

It is felt that there is a need for a pre-school kindergarten within the barracks, Mrs. Edey and Mrs. Elston both volunteered to organise and run the school. We were fortunate in having a large room available for this purpose and very soon this room was made to look most attractive with tables, chairs, toys, a slippery dip, sandpit, climbing frames, swings and rocking horse.

There are about 30 children on the book. The hours of attendance are from 9 to 12 for five days a week and the cost per child is 7s. 6d. a week.

To help raise funds for the Kindergarten and the Cubs, a weekly Home-Tombola is run. Entry cards are sold from door to door.

Change of Address

To ensure receipt of your copy,
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of any change of address

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of Annual Subscriptions would
be very much appreciated

"H.Q." COMPANY

The 1967 look of "H.Q." Company is pleasing to members of Company H.Q. due to the decrease in posted strength. The Regimental Band and Corps of Drums "beat a retreat" to "D" Company by early January. Their posting meant the loss of many of our best sportsmen and characters but was a necessary step to stop "H.Q." Company strength reaching the ridiculous. Immigration control of individuals had failed.

This streamlining should have resulted in a lesser administrative task for us in Company H.Q., but so far this has not been so. Leave, cadres, courses and other training have been crammed into our programme of the last two to three months.

The organisation of Christmas leave for all was difficult due to a heavy commitment of duties but most of those who spent Christmas in uniform were consoled by a New Year grant in lieu. With the majority of the Company still having an entitlement to privilege leave before April, 1967, it was the start of block leave within 14 days of the New Year!

With the birth of 4th Queen's we welcome Major Hewson as our Company Commander and wish him an enjoyable stay. We are proud to announce that he may now be contacted by telephone—as Cpl. Graham has discovered, after a visit by a telephone engineer—that telephones will work if one switches on the electricity! As we welcome Major Hewson we say goodbye to Major Hayward. After relinquishing the appointment of "Space Banana—Atkinson," he became too exercise-merry for "H.Q." Company; his talents were noted and he was whisked away to command a Rifle Company. We all thank him very much for his efforts in the Company and wish him all the best in his new appointment with "B" Company.

Our C.S.M., W.O.2 Eastap, has the Q.M.'s store in a state of siege and maintains there will be no let-up until "clobber," befitting a W.O.1, is issued to enable him to depart on a posting to Woolwich.

Pte. (Lanky) Allan volunteered for the extra clerical duties of organising leave for the Company, and found himself with a full-time responsibility. From before Christmas until January 14 he could be seen (head and shoulders, anyway) above a pile of leave passes until he decided that platoons and groups of "H.Q." Company are not self administered. It was then that he showed the initiative that makes a Die-Hard. He disappeared—the only trace left of him was a leave counterfoil bearing the name Pte. Allan!

The other half of our H.Q. operates on the floor below the Company offices. The C.Q.M.S., C/Sgt. Smith, and his storemen have been busy with preparations for the Administrative Inspection which takes place early in February. With soldiers of the Company requiring more than the usual amount of "Q" services, the Company Stores is a hive of industry.

Perhaps the best summary of our recent few weeks in Company H.Q. was given by C/Sgt. Smith when he was heard to remark as he gazed at his ration roll: "With the courses, cadres, leave, exercises, detachments, attachments and postings we are suffering at the moment, I

defy anyone to get a perm on their football coupons which can better the ones on this ration roll."

Signal Platoon

Christmas is now over and the old year gone. With its going has disappeared a very arduous and tedious period for the platoon. Unpacking from Guyana and setting up in new premises was difficult enough, but coupled with ancient equipment brought back from South America, it was frustrating, as every set had to be sent to workshops to be thoroughly checked, repaired, serviced and modified. This, while normal platoon training, signal cadres, Company exercises, Brigade C.P. exercises are all going on, has caused much extra work for the platoon Sgt. Major, W.O.2 Bill Williamson, and Capt. Cowing, the R.S.O.

Christmas decorations, lighting for concerts all seem to be the signal platoon's luckless task and this year was no exception. However, most of the platoon managed to take leave over the festive season and those who were on duty have now had theirs. For the few single members who remained behind, a happy Christmas lunch was served by the R.S.O. and Sgt. Stewart.

The platoon has had detachments with the rifle Companies at both Ballykinler and Magilligan training camps. Exercises both by day and night have taken place and not signalling ability but initiative has been tested. It is the platoon policy to have at least one exercise a week and the credit for the success of these goes to Sgt. Stewart, who is coping both as Radio and Line Sgt., while Sgt. Fisher is attached to "D" Company as an instructor on the N.C.O.'s Cadre. We were delighted to see Major Hewson, who has just taken over as Company Commander, out on our night exercise and hope he will join us again.

Cpls. Barratt and Hamill have recently finished instructing a pre-Hythe Cadre and Capt. Bulloch, Cpls. Hutton and Theobald have just gone to Hythe; we wish them the very best for an enjoyable course. Cpl. Hamill has now returned to cross-country running for the Battalion and, like Capt. Cowing before Christmas with rugger and squash, we shall probably not see him around much.

Newly released from Hythe, are Lt. Bartlett and Cpl. Smith (RS147). With Cpl. Ryan (RS145), they are now running a classification cadre for new members of the platoon who have been recruited from all three rifle Companies and even "H.Q." Company. The cadre commenced on January 9 and is now in full swing. When it is over the platoon will be up to full establishment the first time for many, many years!

Recently Cpl. Ryan and L/Cpl. Reddings returned from an N.C.O.'s cadre and from their accounts this proved to be enjoyable, if hazardous. At present Pres. Higgins, Hayes and Featherstone are undergoing similar experiences and we wish them good fortune and look forward to seeing them back among us as junior N.C.O.s.

Lastly, our best wishes to Cpl. Morley, who has been elected president of the Cpls.' Mess. There is much work ahead of him and we hope he will be able to spare us some time between his new duties and his football commitments.

M.T. Platoon

The latter part of November was taken up with the platoon busily preparing vehicles for a Battalion exercise to help us prepare for a Brigade exercise which was to take place several days later. The exercise proved to be very interesting and a lot was learnt by all.

The exercise over, preparations began in earnest for the platoon Christmas activities. This involved firstly a platoon dinner and dance. Invitations were sent to the Company Commander, the C.S.M. and their ladies, together with the wives and girl friends of all members of the platoon. This turned out to be a very successful evening during which Cpl. Johnny Wells announced his engagement, which was greeted by yells and "boos" from the single element in the platoon! Remarks from the married men varied from "You're like a man with a bald head: once married, never parted" to "Another nice fellow gone to his doom!" In all sincerity all members of the platoon wish this young couple every happiness for the future.

On the following morning's muster parade it was noticed that several members of the platoon were in need of a thousand-mile service!

Once the dinner and dance were over preparations began to produce a suitable platoon skit for the Battalion Christmas concert. The star of the show was L/Cpl. "Fairy" Flowerdew, who proved that a big man can also be very dainty. It is said that the House of Dior had a representative there to obtain information on his latest hem line.

Once this was over the Christmas Draw took place; another successful evening thanks to the platoon committee. The very good prizes on display included a beauty outfit—complete with shopping bag—won by L/Cpl. "Fairy" Flowerdew.

After all these festivities had taken place, leave was once again upon us and members of the platoon left for home to spend it with their families.

Directly after this we were hit by the Vesting Day parade and rehearsals took place involving the majority of the platoon. On the day of the parade, Saturday, December 31, 1966, there were many heavy hearts as the Diehard's Regimental Flag was lowered for the last time, marking the birth of our new Regiment, "The Queen's." Over this period between rehearsals and inspections, Cpl. George Whitt was burning the midnight oil replacing and spraying over the new regimental transfers on all our vehicles. Around the one hundred mark he was heard to mutter, "I'll get the B.E.M. yet!"

We welcome into the family Cfn. Swarbrick, who joins us from S.E.M.E. Bordon, Pte. Price from the Signals Platoon, Pte. Slater from the Band and Pte. Hossack from the Officers' Mess.

Unfortunately, we had to bid farewell to a stalwart of the platoon, Cpl. Dick Croskell, who leaves us after nine years in the Regiment, five of which were spent in the M.T. Platoon. We wish him and his family the very best of luck in their civilian life.

Finally, we congratulate our Playtime Minor on his promotion to W.O.2 and Suss Mallon on his promotion to Lance Corporal.

Q.M.'s Department

There is a new sign over the door but the same old faces with the same old answers. Talking of new signs, Cpl. Jamieson, backed up by Gurr and Sutliff, has produced over 100 signs for departments so that we must by now be one of the best signed barracks in the British Army.

Continuing on "naming names," Cpls. Histed and Grant have joined us as block holders; joining also is the newly-promoted C/Sgt. Weston, who is the unit B.I.A. after having helped out so very well in Guyana when we were "wrapping up." Houghton, one of our unit armourers and newly-promoted to L/Cpl., looks like leaving us for the S.A.S. after being with the Battalion for four years.

While on "comings and goings," our strength has been increased by the arrival of Timothy, the baby son of the Q.M., duly celebrated in Guyana.

Under "surprises," we have the engagement of Pte. Jewell and the imminent, if hesitant, engagement of Froggy French. The latter is at such a pitch that he is unable to do such ordinary things as guards and drill parades; his time is fully occupied. To add to the "trials of love" the Q.M. is threatening to send him out on an exercise.

"A" COMPANY

In an attempt to recover from Christmas and the New Year, we started 1967 with two quick Company

exercises in the first week. The first of these was a follow-on from a march we had carried out about a week before Christmas in which we covered some 18 miles in six hours. This time we used an adaptation of the light scale of transport ferrying system and managed to cover 26½ miles in the same time with less effort, still keeping two platoons up. Our statistics will undoubtedly improve as those new to the Company get their feet hardened! Two days later we were in the Mourne Mountains on a map reading and endurance exercise which took us some 17 miles, mostly above the snow line. On each occasion we were very lucky in that the weather was sunny. On January 10 we set off to the Derry Hills and despite thick fog when over the 1,000ft. contour, managed a successful and enjoyable day bandit hunting on an I.S. exercise. We gleaned many lessons from this, as many of the Company had not exercised in this type of country and climate for some years. It is not a bit like Tobruk or Guyana. However, we are getting used to it and are off to Fermanagh at the beginning of next month for another exercise. We are determined to see as much of the six counties as we can whilst we are here. Judging from the depth of some of the bogs it is more than likely that this view will be both from the inside and out.

In the realm of inter-Company sport, we have started successfully in squash and won the inter-Company cross-country in a most decisive manner. Captained by Pte. Smart, the team had our "six to count" in the first 11 places and scored a total of 39 points to the 100 gained by our nearest rival.

We welcome Capt. Deakin as 2IC and wish Capt. Clarke every success as O.C. "D" Company. The mortar platoon were very sorry to see Lt. Daniell go after so long with "A" Company and we wish him and his family the best of luck in his new appointment with 42 Army Youth Team. We are pleased to see Lt. Carlston in his stead and welcome 2/Lts. Jonklaas and Ward-Brown who have taken over the rifle platoons. Lt. Lowrie is off on the Support Weapons course and Lt. Truman is at Warminster and thence to the Depot. We offer our hearty congratulations to C/Sgts. Argent and Scott and Sgt. Robinson on their promotion and are sorry to lose C/Sgt. Argent to "B" Company. We welcome back Sgt. Willis and also are glad to have Sgt. Da Costa with us for a while to learn the mysteries of mortaring so that he can pass these on to the 5th Battalion.

We wish L/Cpl. Tomlinson and Pte. Brown all the very best of luck in civilian life. Finally, we welcome all the members of the Company newly arrived from the 2nd Battalion and the Depot. These have arrived just in time to fill some of the gaps created by Regimental Signals and Junior N.C.O.'s cadres and also the new Demonstration Section for the Depot. L/Cpl. Lomas and his merry men go to Canterbury with our good wishes and our confidence that they will acquit themselves well; we look forward to seeing them again in April. We are just coming to the end of our fortnight as Duty Company; our swan song here will be the Guard of Honour for the opening of the Belfast Winter Assize. So, despite the rain, back to the square!

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"B" COMPANY

The Company has put the warm airs of Guyana behind it and at the time of writing these notes is braving the cold and windy wastes of the Weekend Training Centre at Ballykinler.

Inevitably the coming of 1967 has brought with it considerable changes in the Company. Major Norton has handed over to Major Hayward and is doing another tour with the Parachute Brigade—we are told he is getting a heavy drop Company, but it is understood there is nothing personal in this. Capt. Lofting is handing over to Capt. Goring and following his predecessor to the P.R.I. Lt. Montgomery has gone to the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion where he should be an expert in Adventure Training; no doubt many a young soldier will hear of his jungle exploits. Whether 8 Platoon will continue to be such a destructive force under Lt. Daniell remains to be seen, some would say "we hope not!" Lt. Carlston has handed over 5 Platoon to 2/Lt. Colbourne, and lastly after a period of 16 years' service with the Company, C/Sgt. Clements has handed over to C/Sgt. Argent and is going to the Kenya Army Training Team—it will be interesting to see how some of his well-known cries and words of encouragement are received by our Commonwealth brothers.

Soon after our leave Company H.Q. were busy getting the dust off the S.O.P.'s for the two Battalion signal exercises, which were a warm up for the Brigade exercise—perhaps "warm up" is the wrong term as there are not many cowsheds in Co. Down that could be made warm even with newly acquired "stoves sitting and warming." The problem of putting up the Airborne Shelter in a high wind made it easy to see how the name was selected; Ptes. Milsom and Baimbridge will vouch for this. Pte. Nagle found that being "excused boots" was not the best position to be in when most of the time was spent in mud.

The Company had its fair share of parties over the Christmas period. 5 Platoon had an excellent Sunday morning drinks party, at which presentations were made and Pte. Alexander made a speech in his own particular style. On the strength of this he was asked to appear again at the Company Commander's and C/Sgt.'s farewell—having reached this honoured position he has now left us to become the Brigade Major's orderly.

On the sports field the Company football team came third in the league, but if we had won the last match against "C" Company we would have been the league winners. Our main goal scorers were Ptes. Coulter and Travers-Hill. "A" Company were beaten at Rugby and two of our team, Cpl. Blackburn and Pte. Anderson, play for the Battalion XV. We came second in the Battal-

ion cross-country competition, in which Pte. Mullinger was placed second—a very good individual effort. On the Battalion run another soldier tried a good individual effort by overtaking the majority of the runners who were struggling up a steep hill—only he was riding on the back of a bread van! This effort was not appreciated.

As the Annual Administrative Inspection gets nearer there seem to be cadres for everything. We have our own driving cadre, but we hope that the potential drivers do not achieve anything like the record that some of our drivers have done in the past year. We cannot afford an amphibious 3-ton conversion course now even though we have two qualified instructors in Ptes. Silk and Crawford 09.

Already quite a few place names are appearing on the "Forecast of Training" notices—Otterburn and Libya for a start—and these places no doubt will give members of the Company a chance to exercise some of the many talents they developed in Guyana.

"C" COMPANY

Just before Christmas we bade farewell to Major J. S. B. Pollard, who has commanded the Company since its formation in February, 1966. We wish him and his family an enjoyable tour in York.

In addition to welcoming our new Company Commander, Major M. E. Girling, we extend a warm welcome to the Recce Platoon who, after being attached to "C" Company in Guyana, are now definitely part of us.

Christmas was enjoyed by the majority of the Company at home, but there were others who remained in camp to do the guards and duties.

There are always many comings and goings on the return from an overseas tour and the past four months have seen many. We must say farewell to Sgt. Stevens (posted to the Junior Leaders Battalion, Oswestry); Cpl. Crook (attached to Unit Pay Team); Capt. Goring (to be 2IC "B" Company). Farewell and many congratulations on his promotion to Sgt. Mclean; welcome to Capt. H. M. du V. Lohan as 2IC of the Company, fresh from the Hong Kong Regiment (The Volunteers); Cpls. Stewart and Moloney, L/Cpl. Bartle and a host of others who were attached to 1st Queen's pending our return from Guyana.

In the sporting world we won the Inter-Company football competition at the close of 1966 and provided half the Battalion rugby team, which reached the last eight in the Army Cup. We hope to win the Inter-Company Small Bore League, but feel the ancient stalwarts of "H.Q." Company are creeping up on us.

The Die-Hards

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"D" COMPANY

The Company virtually "reformed" on return from Guyana, where the administrative element had formed the second (Georgetown) Headquarters of "H.Q." Company, and the "G" staff had been the Training Cadre for the Guyana Defence Force.

Having reformed, we then received into "D" Company the Band and Corps of Drums in addition to our traditional role of being Cadre Company.

One of the benefits of this is in Battalion sports in that there are now five reasonably balanced sub-units, instead of three Rifle Companies and an over sized "H.Q." Company. We fully expect to make our entrance as a sporting Company very soon.

The first cadre was run from November 18 to December 21, 1966. This was for junior N.C.O.s promoted during the period in Guyana, and was a success. The final exercise is described in more detail below.

Exercise "Mourne Delight."

As a climax to the N.C.O.'s continuation cadre which was run in December, "D" Company girded up its loins and sallied forth to the Mountains of Mourne for exercise "Mourne Delight."

Hostile forces had invaded N. Ireland and diverted the Hydro Electric Power from the reservoir dams in

the Mournes away from Belfast and were using it for themselves. As a sign of the North's indomitable spirit a small force of intrepid resistance fighters set out to sabotage the power lines from the major dam in the area.

At 0315 hours the cadre/resistance workers were dropped at the foot of the plantation-covered western flank of the Mountains and the exercise began for them with a brisk climb through the woods on to the high ground.

This phase was executed well, apart from one group who scaled an extra mountain by the simple technique of setting a back-bearing on their compass! At the end of the first phase the raiders met up with a "local agent" and were given orders for the next phase—a cup of tea, some watery porridge and a day's rations, one live chicken per group. Most of these chickens were summarily executed on the spot.

Seven minutes were allowed at the R.V. with the agent and then the individual groups set off on their march to the firm base for the attack, through a valley heavily patrolled by the enemy both on foot and in vehicles. After some spirited pursuits several groups were captured and suffered the penalty—being taken back three miles the way they had come! The enemy, however, took pity on one group of bird fanciers who insisted on carrying their chicken live and in one incident the indignant squawking of the fowl drowned even L/Cpl. Davidson's gasping as he collapsed clutching a rather dishevelled bird to his chest.

On arrival at the base, the preparation and cooking of the (by now) tatty chicken corpses produced some wonderful sights. The days of offering burnt sacrifices, it would seem, are not over! The "meal" was followed by some rest. Orders for the attack were issued and at midnight the combined groups moved off to meet their guides for the final difficult move to the objective. All thanks to "Mountains" Da Costa and "Alpine" Argent. By this time the weather had deteriorated, with low cloud and a strong, bitterly cold wind blowing. The attacking party arrived, laid out their protection groups and the demolition party moved down to the objective. The charges were placed, but alas!—the fuse was missing. Apparently the coil of D 10 cable so laboriously humped to the dam had gone absent when L/Cpl. Dann fell down a mountain with much clatter and bruising of shins. The spare fuse had to be used, but the mission was accomplished.

Many points were brought out to both individuals and the cadre as a whole. The need for accurate navigation and positive leadership when men are cold and tired, being only two.

Finally, congratulations to L/Cpls. Tofts and Watson for winning the map-reading whiskey prize; L/Cpls. Soall and Davidson for their practical contribution to the ideals of the R.S.P.B.; and to Pte. Perks for having the courage to eat his all-in stew under difficult conditions.

OFFICERS' MESS

Almost as soon as leave was over social life began again with a swing and no sign of U.K. spirit—prices acting as a dampener. At the end of November the wives

and girl friends were introduced to the steel band and "jumping-up" after a cocktail party. This was the first of many getting-to-know-you sessions for the several new officers who had joined the Battalion in Guyana and had not met any of the families. There seemed to be a strange reluctance on the part of many husbands to appear too familiar with many of the details of "jumping-up." But by "Thirteenth Night," when a more authentic "jump-up" was held with rum at the bar, garish shirts decorated with palm trees, calypso-singing, exotic birds, and "Woe is me," most of the inhibitions seemed to have worn off. This "jump-up" was Major John Pollard's swan song. After many months of excellent service to the mess as P.M.C. he has handed over to Major Mike Hayward before moving to the breezy air of York and the Dales, to take up a staff appointment.

Christmas was celebrated in customary fashion with a family party for the officers and their wives. Lt. Dick Graham and Capt. George Goring excelled themselves when they produced Father Christmas' ridiculous prizes. This party was the last public appearance of Major Duff Jones, whose laughter and enthusiasm for a party, no matter the time of day, will be sadly missed. In his place we welcome the new doctor, Capt. Peter Bennett.

Nor has the more official side of entertainment been

neglected. A dinner night was held just before Christmas to dine out the departing Brigade Commander, Brig. Blair, and Major Dixon, his Brigade Major. The new Commander of 39 Brigade, Brig. Strawson, lunched in the Mess shortly after taking up his new command.

To mark the inception of The Queen's Regiment, the officers and their ladies were invited to the Vesting Day Ball held on New Year's Eve by the W.O.s' and Sgts.' Mess.

Major John Moore paid a weekend visit to the Battalion and gave a most interesting lecture on Zambia. Before he left he offered a number of ideas on improvements in decor to the Mess.

"Archie" the parrot, with very cockney habits, seems to have settled down happily in the kitchen where he loudly abuses the Mess staff and calls to the passers-by. He (we presume he is a male) has developed an addiction to Guinness and strong tea and seems to thrive on this diet. Finally, the Officers' Mess staff, under the able leadership of the Mess Cpl., Cpl. Rawlinson, are doing great things in the Battalion soccer league. With the cook, L/Cpl. Dempsey, in goal and the frantic efforts of the bar Cpl. (L/Cpl. Constant) they hope to end well up in the league. Silverman Pte. Reid at the moment is the team's best goal scorer.

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W.O.'s AND SERGEANTS' MESS

Although only back from Guyana a short while and still in the throes of reorganisation, an extensive Christmas and New Year's programme was organised. The highlight of course was the Vesting Day/New Year's Eve Ball held on Saturday, December 31. Planning and preparation for this had commenced as soon as we had returned from leave. The hard work involved was well worth it and the general census of opinion was that this was the best ball the Mess had ever held. Over 200 people attended and all will cherish happy memories of this auspicious occasion. Many other events, too numerous to mention, took place. One innovation, acquired in Guyana, is worthy of note, however, a "jump-up," the name given to a Caribbean-style dance, is now a regular feature of Mess life. Our steel band, 25 strong and with twice as many oil drums, almost fill the Mess on these occasions.

Recent promotions include C/Sgt. Carl Blackwell, Cliff Shinn and Bill Williamson to W.O.2; Les Weston, Billy Argent and Roy Scott to C/Sgt. and Jerry Robinson Bill McLean and John Felton to Sgt.

We have said goodbye to W.O.2 Stan Meadows, APTC, C/Sgts. Jack Potter and Clem Clements, and Sgt. Sid Hilton all on posting. W.O.2 Brian Armstrong, RAPC, S/Sgt. Derek Twitchin, APTC, and Sgt. Bob Roberts, RAPC, have all joined us and we welcome back Sgt. George Whittle from Warminster.

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CORPORALS' MESS

With the passing of another festive season we feel it only fair to say that despite little sleep and much exhaustion, the efforts of the Mess in the various Christmas functions were appreciated by all—especially the Christmas concert. It seemed to be the general opinion that the act put on by the Mess members, namely Cpls. Quilter, Butler, Terry, Jacklin, Hart, McLean, Kaye-Lesser, Toohey, Howard and Reid, with the production in the hands of Cpl. Plumb, was outstanding, although the other acts were also of a high standard.

The Mess Christmas dance and draw was a great success, especially from the R.S.M.'s point of view; he seemed to have cornered the market as far as the draw was concerned. L/Cpl. Jack Dann was hot on his trail with a fair collection himself. It must be pointed out that the fact that he was on the committee has nothing to do with his success in the draw. The R.S.M. graciously extended the bar closing time by a further hour, endearing him to the Mess for ever. Cpl. Len Robertson seemed to be the persuasive force behind this move.

As most of the members went home for the actual Christmas grant, a social on Christmas Eve was surprisingly well supported by the N.C.O.s and their ladies who were in the camp.

We hope to have more sporting competitions amongst the Messes in Holywood, as the fixtures played before Christmas were popular and well supported. Having thrashed the Sergeants at soccer, we had to bow to the weight of their hockey team, but we look forward to revenge in the coming weeks.

We welcome Cpl. Dicky Bird (formerly Queen's Own Buffs), L/Cpls. Bartle and Cook and congratulate the following on their respective promotions: L/Cpl. Mallon, Cpls. Thomas, McKenzie, Clements, Dent, Wittig, Greengrass, Cottenham, McNab and Doran. At the same time we lose Cpls. McLean, French, Felton and Robinson to the Sgts.' Mess; to these we offer our congratulations.

We close these notes with the sordid rumour that Cpl. Tom Terry was only joking and will sign on before next month... Well, Tom?

ANNUAL REUNION

October 7th

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SPORTS

RUGBY FOOTBALL

By the time the Battalion had returned from block leave after Guyana the Northern Ireland Rugby season was well in progress and it was feared that we would have difficulty in making fixtures at so late a stage. The reverse proved to be the case. At the half-way stage in the season the Battalion has had a full and exciting period both with "friendly" games against local Ulster clubs, and much more important, by getting to the Fifth Round of the Army Cup.

The Army Cup matches were all hard fought. As it was never considered that we would almost reach the U.K. quarter finals, the results were as exciting as they were unexpected. We played the 4th/7th Dragoon Guards in round 2 (having been given a bye in round 1) at Holywood. The final score of 14 points to 11 reflected the closeness of the standard of both teams. The game was never won until the final whistle. If nothing else, the game showed that if we were to go further it was necessary to get much fitter. At the same time we had to part with some of the longest serving and most staunch players and find new talent.

Circuit training, three or four very hard games against good Ulster sides and some expert coaching by Harold Jackson from the North of Ireland F.C., achieved this result.

Our next match (3rd round) against the Glosters was won after an extremely hard match. Both teams were evenly matched and, as had been anticipated, their strength lay in the use of their heavy pack supported by a long kicking fly-half. Only by matching their pack and by getting the ball to the outsides were we able to win. Two excellent tries were scored by 2/Lt. Gancz playing at centre, one of which was converted. The final score 8-0.

A bye to the fifth round put the Battalion team further up the ladder of the Army Cup competition than anyone could remember in recent years. In order to get to the U.K. quarter finals we had to beat the School of Artillery, Larkhill.

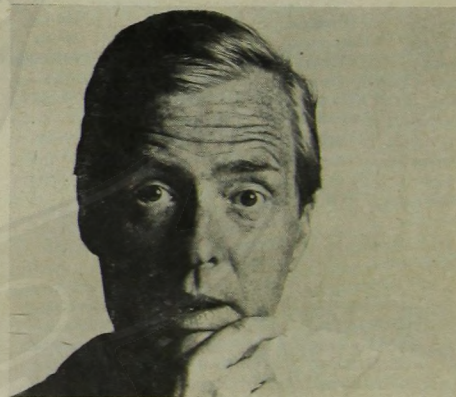
That match was played at Ballykinler on January 7 and was to result in our defeat, 3-0. The result was no discredit to the Battalion who played hard and well throughout—again the determined and fast loose play in the forwards being our greatest asset. Both teams were closely matched and a single try in the last twenty minutes was their only score.

In addition, we have had some twelve games with local teams, winning a fair number but also taking one or two heavy defeats (but a lot of useful lessons) from teams from the North of Ireland Football Club, and Queen's University, Belfast.

An increasing interest in the game within the Battalion is very encouraging. This is marked by the fact that it is no longer difficult to raise full Company teams, instead of simply seven-a-side teams. A Second XV is very much "in being," if rather limited in the number of fixtures available.



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10th (TERRITORIAL) BATTALION THE QUEEN'S REGIMENT (MIDDLESEX) NOTES

Formerly 5th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment (D.C.O.) T.A.

EDITORIAL

The foremost problem in our minds has been the reorganisation of the Territorial Army. On March 31, 1967, 5th Middlesex disbanded and formed Battalion H.Q., two Rifle Companies and the Specialist Platoons of a Territorial Unit (T. and A.V.R. III) whose title is 10th (Territorial) Battalion The Queen's Regiment (Middlesex). The third Rifle Company is formed largely from 101 Engineer Regiment, R.E., and is based at Acton. Battalion H.Q. remains at Edgware with one Rifle Company and the Specialist Platoons—the other Rifle Company is based at Hounslow.

In addition, "D" Company of the 5th Volunteer Battalion The Queen's Regiment (T. and A.V.R. II) will be formed at Hornsey and will consist basically of the Enfield and Hornsey Companies, which have already amalgamated. Other personnel from the Battalion who have undertaken the greater obligations of the T. and A.V.R. II will join this Company on April 1, 1967.

In order to facilitate the change on April 1, the Battalion has already reorganised in the new locations and the Acton Company has commenced its initiation into the mysteries of Infantry work.

"A" COMPANY

As part of the reorganisation of the Battalion, a Rifle Company was formed at Edgware with effect from November 1, 1966. Although at present small in numbers, we are determined to grow into a worthy successor to the original "A" Company at Hornsey. The new company is commanded by Major R. M. Cain, who after a year as a civilian has now joined the Battalion. Capt. T. D. Jones is company 2IC and Capt. D. O. M. Thomas and J. C. Parkinson are company officers. The C.S.M. is W.O.2 Birmingham, C/Sgt. Mortimer is our C.Q.M.S. and our P.S.I. is W.O.2 J. Warner.

In collaboration with "H.Q." Company, two teams were entered for the annual training competition and the first team consisting of Cpl. Sergides, L/Cpl. Adams, L/Cpl. Hunt ("H.Q." Company), Pte. Pitney, Pte. Thomas and Pte. Tuvey ("H.Q.") won the competition. While all credit is due to the team and to the C.S.M. and C/Sgt. Green who trained them, we also gained a number of points by being the only company naive enough to enter a correctly constituted team; for once virtue was rewarded.

On November 19 a Bounty Night wine and cheese party was held jointly with "H.Q." Company. The organisers, Capt. Jones and W.O.2 Warner, laid on an amusing cabaret with abundant food and drink, all of which were thoroughly enjoyed by a good turnout from both companies.

We look forward with confidence to taking our place in The Queen's Regiment and hope to demonstrate that the change to A.V.R. III has done nothing to daunt the diehard spirit at Edgware. We would welcome visits from other members of the Regiment when they are in the London area; perhaps we might even recruit some time-expired regular soldiers to help the O.C. Company . . . !

"B" Company

The last notes published in the October edition of *The Die-Hards* referred to the death-throes of "B" and "D" Companies of 5th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment. These are concerned with the birth of "B" Company of the new A.V.R. III Battalion.

The amalgamation of the two companies (with Major S. Henshaw O.C., Capt. M. Doran 2IC, W.O.2 Vasey C.S.M. and C/Sgt. Rea C.Q.M.S.) took place on Tuesday, November 15, when the Ealing personnel moved over to join their new comrades at Hounslow. Despite the setbacks which have befallen the T.A. in recent months, the future looks bright for "B" Company. The total strength is over 80 and there is every reason to hope that the drill night and weekend attendance will pick up to the high level enjoyed in 1965.

Both Ealing and Hounslow Companies concluded their individual training years with significant competition wins. Ealing, for the second year running and for the fourth year of its eight years life, won the Middlesex T. and A.F.A. Tough Training competition. Capt. Margand again led the successful team (five of whom had been in the 1965 team) in this contest which has steadily become more competitive year by year. The old "D" Company concluded a long run of successes by yet again winning the Champion Company competition—the Bott Cup. This trophy is, of course, the most eagerly sought-after one in the Battalion and one which we hope to retain in 1967.

We were less fortunate in the Weapon Training competition, but congratulations are due to Cpl. Sullivan on winning the Corby Cup and to Pte. Greiller on winning the Best Recruit Cup.

In conclusion, congratulations to Sgt. and Mrs. Ward on the birth of a son in November.

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"D" Company

First notes from the new "D" Company will naturally be tinged with nostalgia for the "Old Regiment," so you must excuse us if we cry "Die-Hard" occasionally.

However, with the New Year, comes the new Regiment and a great challenge for us all. The main issue will, of course, be recruiting, which must be tackled with full enthusiasm. The first weekend's training under the newly-organised battalion takes place shortly when other companies of A.V.R. III do battle with ourselves for supremacy in our skills of fieldcraft, weapon training, etc. Our honour is at stake.

Crying "Die-Hard" once, we must report that in the recent escape and evasion "Fly by Night" exercise, run by the 1st Battalion The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment (T.A.) three teams from "D" company swept the board, and out of about 100 teams, won the first unit prize, beating the S.A.S. into second place. The three teams were led by Cpl. Roger Davis, who has now suddenly become 2/Lt. R. Davis, having recently passed his "board"—congratulations. Other

members of the victorious teams were Cpl. Jakob, L/Cpl. Edwards, Ptes. Ockwell, Dodd, Bickerstaff, Wallace, Fox and Symonds.

Another addition to the chiefs has come in the form of 2/Lt. R. Crosher from the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment. 2/Lt. Crosher has taken over No. 1 Platoon from Lt. M. Muirhead, who has gained membership of that exclusive band of robbers called Support Platoon.

We are looking forward to next week's training (!) which will be in the form of a period of drill, followed by a period of T.A. bounty payment, followed by a look at, and a talk on, the Victoria Cross recently acquired by the Middlesex Regiment. The medal was won by our late member, Pte. Edwards. This will be followed by a farewell presentation to Capt. Don Jones and a long period of beer drinking.

If we recover from this strenuous activity we will be having our annual dinner and dance the week after.

More news after the Alka-Seltzer.
(N.B. Since going to press we are happy to report that we won the Battalion training trophy.)

OBITUARY

Major I. F. Campbell, M.C.

Brigadier A. E. Green, D.S.O., O.B.E., has kindly written the following:

Ian Forbes Campbell was born in Santiago, Chile, but was sent to England to be educated at Mill Hill School and Sandhurst. His parents, however, continued to live in Santiago, which entailed Ian travelling alone to and from Chile during these early years of his life. It was, I think, this that made him so self-reliant, independent and sophisticated.

He joined the 2nd Battalion at Gosport on first commission in January 1938 and it was even then that his brother-officers were struck by his maturity and savoir-faire.

We became very close friends when he and I were Intelligence Officer and Adjutant respectively to Bill Haydon at the outbreak of the 1939-45 War and later on in the Desert with the 7th Battalion when he was then Adjutant. He was badly wounded whilst serving with that Battalion as a Company Commander in Europe and very nearly lost a leg.

After the war in 1945/46 he was G.S.O.2 at the Infantry Heavy Weapons Wing of the School of Infantry, shortly after which he retired to enter his father-in-law's business, where he was never very happy.

Ian enjoyed the good things of this life and, at his best he was a gay, intelligent and amusing companion, generous to a fault.

I have lost a very good friend and my sympathy goes to his widow, Mary, and his three children.

ex-Cpl. W. Upfold (L/9537)

William Upfold died on December 30, 1966 at the age of 82.

He enlisted in 1903 and was posted to the 4th Battalion. He was with "A" Company at the Battle of Mons on August 23, 1914, where he was wounded and was carried, unconscious, out of action by his platoon commander. After his discharge from hospital he was posted to the Indian Garrison in Delhi and remained on the Indian Establishment until he was invalided home.

On account of his wounds he was discharged as medically unfit in September 1917. A souvenir which he was fond of showing was the German bullet which had lodged in his jaw during the Battle of Mons.

The receipt of a telegram from the Regiment on his 82nd birthday on December 1, 1966, gave him much pleasure during the closing days of his life.

At the time of his death he was a member of the Mill Hill Branch of the Die-Hards Club.

ex-Pte. H. E. D. Kirk, M.M. (L/16387 and 6189241).

Harry Edward Daniel Kirk died on December 28, 1966, aged 67.

He enlisted at the age of 16, taking part in the closing stages of the Battle of the Somme.

He was awarded the Military Medal for gallantry at Polygon Wood on September 25, 1917, when serving with the 1st Battalion. The award of this decoration was published before he had reached his 18th birthday.

In April 1919 he was a member of No. 1 Special Company, serving at Murmansk, N. Russia, when support was sent to the White Russians. At that time he was batman to the late Capt. (afterwards Brigadier) A. M. Toye, V.C., M.C., and with him joined the 3rd Battalion then stationed at Kronprinz Barracks, Kalk, Cologne, after the return of the Russian Expeditionary Force.

On the disbandment of the 3rd and 4th Regular Battalions in 1922 he took his discharge, and at the time of his death was a member of the Mill Hill Branch of the Die-Hards Club.

Stop Press

As we go to press it is with much regret that we have to announce the death of the following:

ex-Sgt. W. J. Rogers, late 1st Battalion.

ex-Pte. L. Gromm (G/20757 and 6191104), late 1st and 2nd Battalions.

ex-Pte. G. Grover (6201259) late 1st Battalion.

A. J. Ede, ex 1/7th Battalion.

R. Chalkley, ex 1/9th Battalion.

G. Kennard, ex-Pte., 1/9th Battalion.

J. Little, ex-Pte., 1/9th Battalion.

S. C. Smith, ex 9th Battalion.

Wherever it is possible to do so full obituary notices will be published in the October issue of *The Die-Hards*.

The obituary notices on ex-Drum Major J. G. Holmes and ex-Pte. G. E. Ford, whose deaths were reported in the October 1966 issue of *The Die-Hards* have unavoidably had to be held over.

Corrigendum

The date of the death of ex-Sgt. C. Reed shown on page 368 of the October 1966 issue of *The Die-Hards* as January 23, 1966, should read February 22, 1966.

CORRESPONDENCE

From: Major The Earl of Ancaster, L.L., J.P., T.D.
National President,
British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association

Frankland Moore House,
185-187 High Road,
Chadwell Heath
Essex.
January 26, 1967

The Editor,
"The Die-Hards"

DEAR SIR,

We believe that readers of *The Die-Hards* could and would wish to help BLESMA in our search for limbless ex-Service men and women who can benefit from our specialised services; which services are freely available to them whether or not they are members of BLESMA.

Our aim is that no limbless ex-Service man or woman should suffer undue or unnecessary hardship and we can today provide financial help where the need exists. We also help in the provision of aids and amenities within the home and our three BLESMA Homes at Blackpool, Crieff and Portsmouth are available for rest, recuperation and permanent residence. We are constantly finding large numbers of limbless ex-Service men who are not in receipt of their full entitlements of pension and allowances, and many today are benefiting from the help and advice they have received from BLESMA in their individual cases. Our help, financial and otherwise, is also available to the widows of limbless ex-Service men.

There must be many of the surviving 24,000 limbless ex-Service men who are known to your readers but who are not yet in touch with BLESMA. Would you please help by bringing the Association's services to the attention of your readers and inviting them to inform the General Secretary, BLESMA, at the above address of any former members of the Middlesex Regiment who are limbless but not in touch with BLESMA so that we can make our services available to them?

With many thanks.

Yours faithfully,
ANCASTER
National President.

From: Col. B. A. E. Maude, M.B.E.
Milocarian Athletic Club

DEAR SIR,

The Milocarian Athletic Club would be very glad to hear of any athlete or former athlete who would be willing to compete for the club or support its activities.

The Club is formed of officers of the Three Services and aims to support all forms of Athletics and Cross Country Running; in so doing the Club promotes inter service contact and friendships.

The Summer Athletic programme normally includes Meetings with most leading civilian clubs and the Service Academies. The Club also holds a small number of Cross Country fixtures.

I would be delighted to hear from any interested officer. My address is 4 Bath Road, Camberley.

Yours faithfully,

B. A. E. MAUDE

From: Capt. E. J. Owen, late 7th Battalion.
Offoxey,
Tong,

Shifnal,
Shropshire.

March 4, 1967

DEAR COL. WALDEN,

Very many thanks for the copy of the Middlesex Regimental Journal of October, 1966 which you have been kind enough to send me, and which I have read with much interest.

I feel it, indeed, an honour to have had my old weapon of the 1914-1918 war placed in the Regimental Museum, and would like to thank you most sincerely for accepting it. Lt.-Col. P. C. Kay was a young and brilliant commander and to have had the opportunity to serve under him was a great privilege. Capt. Shiel, too, was an outstanding officer so that I was most fortunate to have been posted to a regiment of such fine calibre.

With the 5th Battalion I was their Transport Officer, and I still greatly prize a group photograph of the Officers of that equally fine regiment, showing Col. Thompson, Major Willoughby, (2nd in command) and Capt. Hodding (Adjutant) taken at Clipston.

It is sad to see these fine regiments lose their old identity, but changes, I suppose, must come.

Will you kindly accept the enclosed small cheque for your funds, at your discretion. Again thanking you.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely

E. J. OWEN, Capt.

(The donation, which has been gratefully acknowledged, has been credited to the Association Charitable Fund—Editor.)



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From: Mr. H. V. Cousins

155 Pasture Road,
Goole,
Yorkshire.
January 11, 1967

DEAR SIR,

Enclosed herewith PO value 5s. as my renewal *The Die-Hard* journal for the year ending December 31, 1967. I found the October number very interesting and informative and it was a pleasure to read of the various activities of the "old mob."

Please convey to all my best wishes (rather belated) for 1967.

All the best.

Yours sincerely,
H. V. COUSINS
(late 2608 9th Middx.)

From: Mr. R. J. Weedon, late 1st Battalion.

81 Wettleton Court,
Upper Hollingdean Road,
Brighton 6,
Sussex.
March 4, 1967

DEAR SIR,

I have forwarded my 5s. for two issues of *The Die-Hards* magazine for 1967. If any more is required please let me know.

What a great pity our grand old Regiment has vanished after years of military history we old Die-Hards cherished so much. Its new name will never be the same to us who served in the old 57th and 77th Foot but, wherever we meet old comrades, the greeting will always be the same "Hullo old Die-Hard or Middy."

I remember a glorious day in June 1914 walking along Harrow Road, Paddington, in scarlet tunic, etc. of pre-1914 war days when I was hailed from across the road by another member of the Regiment also in reds, etc. Although we were complete strangers we shook hands and exchanged greetings. He asked me which Battalion; I said 1st. He said "I'm 4th Battalion from Devonport on furlough." Naturally we had a drink and went on our respective ways. Such was the spirit of comradeship in the Regiment. Little did we know that in a few short weeks later we would be fighting for our country. I hope the old pal of the glorious 4th Battalion survived and remembers this little incident.

Best wishes to all Die-Hards.

R. J. WEEDON.

FREE JOURNALS

The Editor wishes to thank the following readers for their generosity in paying extra subscriptions so that free copies of *The Die-Hards* can be sent to deserving Old Comrades—Lt.-Col. H. P. Lambert, Major C. F. Carvell, Capt. W. H. Craydon, Capt. O. G. Johnson, Capt. R. C. Riseley, and Messrs. C. C. Bradish, A. W. J. Brown, F. C. W. Hammond, G. F. Hockley, B.E.M., and P. Maloney.

OFFICERS' CLUB NOTES

CLUB COCKTAIL PARTY

The Club Cocktail Party last year was held at the Army and Navy Club on Wednesday, November 16.

A total of 158 attended, including the following official guests:—

Sir Geoffrey Eley, Sheriff of Greater London, and Lady Eley.

The Rt. Hon. the Chairman of the Greater London Council and Mrs. Ferguson

Robert J. Turner Esq., Deputy Chairman of the Greater London Council

Maj. Kenneth Goodacre, Deputy Clerk to the Greater London Council, and Mrs. Goodacre

John Barter Esq., Chairman of the Middlesex Association, and Mrs. Barter.

Lt.-General Sir Richard Craddock, Colonel Designate, The Queen's Regt. and Lady Craddock.

Maj.-General B.P. Hughes, Hon Colonel 5th Battalion, and Mr. Hughes.

Maj.-General Sir Nigel Tapp, Eastern Region Organiser, Army Benevolent Fund, and Lady Tapp.

Lt.-Col. D. M. Gluckstein, Chairman, Middlesex T. & A.F.A., and Mrs. Gluckstein

Mrs. M. Fuller, widow of former Club member.

Mrs. H. Alleyn Palmer, widow of former Club member.

J. M. Abell Esq., son of the late Maj. Abell, who was the first officer of the Regiment killed in the 1914-18 War, and Mrs. Abell.

Presentation to Major E. L. Heywood

At a reception held at Regimental Headquarters on Friday, November 11, 1966, which was attended by a large number of members of the Club and their wives, a presentation in the form of a silver statuette of an Officer of the 77th Foot of the Crimea period and a cheque, was made by the Colonel of the Regiment on behalf of past and present officers to Major "Bill" Heywood, in appreciation of 48 years of loyal and devoted service to the Regiment.

7th MIDDLESEX OFFICERS' CLUB DINNER

The 39th Annual Dinner of the 7th Middlesex Officers' Club was held at the United Service Club, Pall Mall, S.W.1., on Thursday, November 10, 1966.

Col. J. K. Maitland presided. Others present were:

Major-Gen. C. M. M. Man (guest)	Major J. D. Gunnell
Brig. H. A. D. Murray	Major A. J. Hughes
Col. W. P. M. Allen	Major R. J. Leighton
Col. W. D. Ellis	Major R. W. J. Smith
Col. J. W. G. Ormiston	Capt. M. S. Gedye
Col. W. E. Pringle	Capt. P. J. Gybbon-Monypenny
Col. F. Walden	(guest)
Lt.-Col. G. C. D. Scott-Lowe	Capt. F. Stafford Hodge
Lt.-Col. D. E. Simpson	Capt. T. D. Jones
Major M. J. Beaumont	Capt. J. K. Laurence
Major G. A. H. Bower	Lt. A. E. R. Beesley
Major Sir Harold Gillett, Bart.	Lt. J. R. Spooner
Lt.-Cdr. R. D. P. Gillett (guest)	Mr. Ian Murray (guest)
Major Hon. Sir Hildreth Glyn-Jones	

SEASON TICKETS FOR LORDS 1967

Two season tickets for use at Lords this season have been purchased and are available for the use of members of the Officers' Club.

Applications for these tickets should be made to the Secretary at least 48 hours before they are required, and must be returned to him in the stamped addressed envelope, which will accompany the tickets, at the close of play on the day on which they are used.

In the event of applications exceeding the number of tickets available for any particular day a ballot will be held to decide to whom the tickets are to be allocated.

Admission cannot be guaranteed for the Test Matches unless entrance tickets are obtained beforehand. For all other matches Special Complimentary Passes to the ground and pavilion will be sent with the season tickets, and must be returned with them.

24,000 Limbless Ex-Service Men await a word from you



A word of encouragement and a token of help—needed, now, by British Ex-Service men who have sacrificed a full life. Many of them are completely unable to help themselves. Money is urgently needed to help these men conquer their handicap—money to equip and maintain homes in which they can be given convalescence, or care and comfort in their old age. BLESMA is not aided by the State. Will you help?

Another way you can help. Do you know any British Ex-Service man or woman who has lost a limb and would benefit from specialist help and advice? Let BLESMA know.

Donations and information: Major the Earl of Ancaster, T.D., Chairman of Appeal (S.24) Midland Bank Ltd., 89, Charterhouse Street, London, E.C.1.

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THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

Headquarters: Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex.

President: Major-General C. M. M. Man, O.B.E., M.C.

Chairman: Col. W. D. Ellis, O.B.E., T.D., A.D.C., D.L.

Vice-Chairman: Lt.-Col. R. D. Hutchings

Secretary: Col. F. Walden, D.L.

BRANCHES

Branches	Hon. Secretary	Meetings	Place
Ealing	Mr. A. White, 56 Warkworth Gardens, Isleworth, Middlesex.	Monthly, on 2nd Friday.	T.A. Centre, Churchfield Road, Ealing, W.13.
Hong Kong	Capt. W. G. A. Crumley H.Q. Royal Hong Kong De- fence Force, B.F.P.O. 1.	Annually, during the 3rd week in January.	R.H.K.D.F. Volunteer Centre, Queen's Road, Central, Hong Kong.
Hornsey and Enfield	Mr. A. H. Fisher, M.M., 4 Windebrook Green, Bracknell, Berks.	Quarterly, usually on a Wednesday.	T.A. Centre, Priory Road, Hornsey, N.8.
Hounslow	Mr. J. Castree, 20 Heldman Close, Heath Road, Hounslow, Middlesex.	Monthly, on 2nd Friday.	T.A. Centre, Hanworth Road, Hounslow, Middlesex.
Mill Hill	Mr. E. C. Colebeck, Belmont, Chilton Road, Edgware, Middlesex.	Monthly, on last Saturday.	T.A. Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex.
Portsmouth and Gosport	Mr. L. C. West, Grove House, 59 Gosport Road, Stubbington, Fareham, Hants.	Monthly, on 2nd Friday.	R.A.F.A. Club, Stoke Road, Gosport, Hants. (near White Hart Hotel).
Uxbridge	Mr. J. R. Bell, M.B.E., 127 Leybourne Road, Hillingdon, Middlesex.	Four per year, at irregular intervals, plus an annual dinner.	T.A. Centre, Whitehall Road, Uxbridge, Middlesex.
2/7th Battalion	Major R. E. Robotham, M.C., T.D., 39 Cyprus Avenue, Finchley, N.3.	Yearly, on 1st Friday in October.	Varies from year to year. Dinner Club only.
9th Battalion	Mr. R. T. Meers, 87 Tudor Court South, Wembley, Middlesex.	Monthly, on last Thursday.	T.A. Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex.
12th Battalion Home Guard	Capt. S. R. Bonnamy, 3 Claremont Road, Ealing, W.13.	Two per year, on 1st Friday in May and November.	Varies.

SECRETARY'S NOTES

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Regimental Association will be held at the T.A. Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, on Saturday, October 7, 1967, at 8 p.m.

Donations

The Secretary gratefully acknowledges donations from the undermentioned to the Charitable Fund:

Mr. R. E. Booker, Mr. E. D. Malcouroune, Capt. E. J. Owen, Lt. H. J. Parnell, Mr. E. W. Prosser, Miss Emma Stanton, Mr. J. O. Taleen, Mr. K. P. This, and Mrs. F. J. Wallace.

Lord Lieutenant's Appeal for Widows' Flatlets, Enfield

The following contributions, etc., to the above Appeal were received between July 1, 1966 and December 31, 1966:

	£	s	d
Middlesex Ball (share of proceeds)	264	0	0
Inland Revenue (refund of income tax) .. .	99	17	11
Lilley Benevolent Trust	50	0	0
Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox (covenanted)	15	0	0
Col. A. S. J. de S. Clayton (covenanted) .. .	10	0	0
Col. M. Crawford (covenanted)	10	0	0
Lt.-Col. J. T. Dear (covenanted)	10	0	0
Major B. St. G. A. Reed (covenanted)	10	0	0
Lt.-Gen. Sir Brian Horrocks (covenanted) .. .	6	6	0
Bt. Col. I. D. Brotherton (covenanted)	5	0	0
Lt.-Col. H. P. Lambert (covenanted)	5	0	0
Brig. H. A. D. Murray (covenanted)	3	3	0
Capt. A. W. Ramsay (covenanted)	3	0	0
Lt.-Col. W. D. Coles (covenanted)	2	2	0
Major P. A. Mann (covenanted)	2	2	0
Lt.-Col. F. de R. Morgan (covenanted)	2	0	0
Major J. G. Chiverall (covenanted)	2	0	0
Capt. A. B. Cowing (covenanted)	1	10	0
Col. I. R. Burrows (covenanted)	1	0	0
Major G. O. Porter (covenanted)	1	0	0
Capt. E. J. Blake Budden (covenanted)	1	0	0
Capt. W. H. Craydon	10	0	0
Total ..	£504	10	11

The total sum of contributions received up to December 31, 1966 towards this Appeal now amounts to £7,953 19s. 11d.

Branch Secretaries

The following changes in Branch Honorary Secretaries have taken place:

Branch	Secretary	Vice Secretary
Ealing ..	Mr. A. White	vice Mr. A. Smith
Portsmouth & Gosport ..	Mr. L. C. West	vice Capt. C. H. Kennett

Addresses are given on the Regimental Association Title Page overleaf:—

Regimental History

All copies of the Regimental History 1919—1952 have now been sold, and no further copies are available from the publishers.

In response to many demands it has been possible to secure a number of copies of "Die-Hards in the Great War" at much reduced prices, details of which are given in the Order Form inside the front cover of this issue of the Journal.

Regimental Goods

Owing to increased costs it has been necessary to raise the prices of the following items:

Regimental cravats (Old and New Patterns) from 19s. 6d. to £1.

Officers' Club ties from 14s. 6d. to 15s. 6d.

Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders' Balaclava Dinner

Lieutenant-General G. C. Bucknall, deputising for the Colonel of the Regiment, attended the above function, which was held at the Duke of York's Headquarters on November 4, 1966, as the representative of the 57/77th and guest of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

Our Regimental telegram of good wishes, which was read out after the Queen's message, was warmly applauded.

Summer Outing

A summer outing in the form of a trip by river steamer from Windsor to Marlow and return has been arranged for members of the Regimental Association and their families on Sunday, June 25, 1967.

The cost to members will be 25s. per head, which will include the following:

Return coach fare to Windsor. Return steamer fare. Snack lunch and afternoon tea on board the steamer.

Applications for tickets, accompanied by a remittance, must be received by the Secretary by not later than Saturday, May 27, 1967.

Further details will be notified later.

Regimental Depot at Home

The Regimental Depot At Home will be held at Canterbury on Sunday, July 9, 1967, and arrangements have been made to hire coaches for members of the Regimental Association and their families to visit the Depot on that day.

The cost per head for the return journey will be 12s. Snacks or meals at the Depot will be available at N.A.A.F.I. prices.

Applications for tickets, accompanied by a remittance, must be received by the Secretary by not later than Saturday, June 24, 1967.

Further details will be notified later.

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 <p>VINTAGE PORT MATURED IN THE WOOD NOVAL 61</p>	<p>These and all other famous drinks are obtainable through N.A.A.F.I.</p>	<p>CROWN OF CROWNS <i>a Langenbach wine</i></p>
 <p>Drambuie THE LIQUEUR YOU PREFER TO BE OFFERED</p>	<p>LEMON HART JAMAICA RUM. LAMB'S NAVY RUM. <i>Tia Maria</i> COFFEE LIQUEUR</p>	 <p>Carlsberg</p>
 <p>DUFF GORDON EL CÍD AMONTILLADO SHERRY</p>	 <p>BIANCO CINZANO RED · DRY</p>	<p>SOUTH AFRICAN WINES <i>The luxury you can afford for every occasion</i></p>



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<p>The only way to find out if <i>Barker & Dobson</i> Regal Fruit Drops and Everton Mints taste as good as they look is to TRY THEM!</p>	<p>The Walsall Electrical Co., Ltd. 61 BRIDGE ST., WALSALL Electrical Measuring Instruments Switchboards, Switchgear RIZLA CIGARETTE PAPERS</p>	<p>SMITHS have crispness in the bag! <small>Smith's Potato Crisps Limited, Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex.</small></p>

ANNUAL REUNION 1966

The venue for the Annual Reunion, 1966, was the T.A. Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, the same as for 1965. Originally, it was the intention to hold the Reunion on September 24, the day before the anniversary of El Bodon in 1811 and Loos in 1915, but the return of the 1st Battalion from service in Guyana caused it to be delayed until November 12. It was a coincidence that the change of date of the Reunion two years running was due to the move from overseas of our regular battalion.

There were five bars in service, well staffed with attendants and well patronised by customers. As in each year past at this reunion there really is the unexpected reunion after many years. In one particular case this year was the meeting of a soldier with his Commanding Officer after a lapse of 48 years. Mr. Charles Mayall (PW/5049) had last seen Lieut.-Colonel (now Brigadier) E. E. F. Baker in November 1918 during the last raid by the 2nd Battalion on the German lines prior to the signing of the Armistice. Both had much to say and recapture.

During the evening, Major-General Man, the Colonel of the Regiment, in his speech, referred to the then impending changes in the title of the Regiment. After the speech, received with conflicting emotions, there was a renewed buzz of conversation as old soldiers referred with pride, to their own particular battalions—the "shiny" this, the "Scuffy" that, the "Burglar's Own," "John Ward's Navvies," "Die-Hards," "Pothooks," the "Public Schools," the "Footballers" the "Bantams" and so on, all names that are resurrected annually when the hardy veterans of the trench and desert warfare of 1914-18 meet and become young again. Also present in increasing numbers now are the veterans of 1939-45, their black locks of yester-year now tinged with grey and in some cases receding. They also have incidents to relive. "Last out and first back" claim the members who served with the 3rd, or the "Iron," Division, as they call it. Listening to these veterans were a few of the clean-looking, alert, young soldiers now serving with the 1st Battalion who still retained the tan of Guyana, the country from which they had just returned. These young soldiers had done a magnificent job in Guyana and are as good as any of their forebears have been at any time in our history. How delighted were the old soldiers to see the one or two young soldiers who came along in uniform!

As the night drew to a close there was, this year, the prospect of meeting again on the morrow at the Remembrance Day ceremonies. It was probably for this reason that the partings outside the drill hall were a little different to those of other years. Farewells did not take so long as arrangements for future meetings could be made within the next few hours.

Flying on the mast outside the drill hall was our Regimental flag. Normal procedure was not observed on this occasion and instead of being hauled down at Retreat, it was left, as was the flag at the Residency at Lucknow, to fly all night. For many it was the last view they had as they went on their way home after a convivial

evening and of growing younger as the night grew older. It will still be flying high when they return for the next Reunion, bringing with them comrades, with whom they served, to swell the numbers and pass the total of over six hundred who were present in 1966.

R.W.J.S

MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at T.A. Centre, Deansbrook Road, Edgware, Middlesex, on Saturday, November 12, 1966.

Present: Major-General C. M. M. Man, O.B.E., M.C., President; Col. W. D. Ellis, O.B.E., T.D., A.D.C., D.L., Chairman; Brigadier E. E. F. Baker, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., T.D., D.L., J.P.; Col. I. H. Battye, M.B.E.; Col. H. W. W. Gray, M.B.E., T.D.; Lt.-Col. P. J. Hall, T.D.; Lt.-Col. J. N. Shipster, D.S.O.; Major R. M. Cain; Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D.; Major E. A. H. Jeffcoat; Major G. Parr Head; Capt. S. R. Bonnamy; Capt. W. H. Craydon; Mr. W. Bratby; Mr. A. Brown; Mr. T. G. Christman; Mr. A. R. Drane; Mr. R. H. Ferguson; Mr. R. Hadley; Mr. P. Hutchins; Mr. A. W. Johnson; Mr. Kennedy; Mr. R. T. Meers; Mr. A. Todman; Mr. S. Turner; Mr. T. Wagstaff; Mr. W. A. Wright; Col. F. Walden, D.L., Secretary.

1. The Colonel of the Regiment

The Chairman said how pleased and honoured everyone present felt at having the Colonel of the Regiment at the Meeting in his capacity as President of the Regimental Association, and how grateful we were for his presence.

2. The late Chairman

The Chairman referred to the excellent work of the late Chairman, Lt.-Col. Fox, who, during his term of office which extended over the previous ten years, had done so much for the Association.

He proposed, if it was the wish of the Meeting, to write to Lt.-Col. Fox and to let him know how much his work was appreciated.

The proposal was agreed to unanimously.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting held on October 23, 1965, were passed and signed by the Chairman.

4. Accounts for 1965

There being no comments it was proposed by Mr. Meers, seconded by Mr. Wagstaff, and carried unanimously that the accounts for 1965 be received and adopted.

F. WALDEN, Colonel,
Secretary.



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MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

Minutes of an Executive Committee Meeting held at Guildhall, Westminster, S.W.1, on Monday, November 21, 1966.

Present: Col. W. D. Ellis, O.B.E., T.D., A.D.C., D.L., Chairman; Brigadier B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L.; Col. A. S. J. de S. Clayton, D.L.; Lt.-Col. J. T. Dear, T.D., Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L.; Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C., D.L.; Major R. M. Cain; Major H. E. Couch; Major R. J. P. Cummins, M.B.E.; Major Kenneth Goodacre, T.D., D.L.; Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D.; Major E. A. H. Jeffcoat; Major B. St. G. A. Reed, M.C.; Major M. P. Weedon, M.C.; Captain H. A. B. Claypole, T.D., F.C.A.; R.S.M. B. Lyons; Mr. T. R. Bennett; Mr. A. White; Col. F. Walden, D.L., Secretary.

Apologies for absence were received from: Col. I. R. Burrows, O.B.E., Vice-Chairman; Lt.-Col. T. W. Chattey, O.B.E.; Lt.-Col. P. J. Hall, T.D.; Lt.-Col. R. D. Hutchings; Lt.-Col. P. L. Pearce Gould, M.B.E.; Lt.-Col. J. N. Shipster, D.S.O.; Mr. W. Knight, M.B.E.

1. Membership of Executive Committee

(a) *Nominated Members*—The Chairman drew attention to the following changes, which had taken place since the last Meeting:—

- 2nd Battalion—Col. A. S. J. de S. Clayton, D.L., vice Col. S. F. Hedgecoe.
- 2/7th Battalion—Capt. H. A. B. Claypole, T.D., F.C.A., vice Major E. F. Thompson, M.C., T.D.
- 3/7th Battalion—Major R. M. Cain vice Capt. A. W. Ramsay, J.P.
- 2/10th Battalion—Lt.-Col. R. D. Hutchings vice Col. A. S. J. de S. Clayton, D.L.

(b) *Co-opted Members*—The Chairman stated that the name of Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox had been omitted from the list of Members of the Executive Committee circulated with the Agenda, and apologised to Lt.-Col. Fox for the error.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

- (a) The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on June 13, 1966, were passed and signed by the Chairman.
- (b) Arising from the Minutes the Chairman stated that nothing further appeared to have happened regarding the sale of silver of the former 7th, 8th and 9th Battalions, and asked the Secretary to find out the present position.

3. Secretary's Report

(a) In presenting his Report the Secretary explained that the benevolent grant made in respect of the serving member of the Regiment was to enable the parents of a soldier of the 1st Battalion, who, as the result of a very serious accident in GUYANA was paralysed and was now a patient in Stoke Mandeville hospital, to travel from London to visit him as often as the hospital authorities would allow.

(b) The Secretary stated that, of the other grants, one in particular deserved special mention, namely that made to Mr. Drane, Hon. Secretary of the Bandsmen's and Drummer's Branch, for immediate help at the time when his son met with a fatal accident in tragic circumstances.

Mr. Drane had since refunded this, together with a smaller grant made about three years ago, with his grateful thanks to the Association for their help in time of need.

(c) *Middlesex Ball* (para 6)—The Chairman said that he was pleased that, on this occasion, Major Goodacre was present, as he wished to express the appreciation of the Committee to the Middlesex Association for the sum of £764 received from the proceeds of the Ball. Major Goodacre acknowledged the thanks on behalf of the Middlesex Association.

(d) *Annual Reunion* (para 7)—The Secretary stated that, in his opinion, the drop in numbers attending was not only due to the fact that the majority of the 1st Battalion had returned from leave to Northern Ireland, but also to many other functions connected with Remembrance Day taking place at the same time, which were attended by some members of the Association.

After some discussion with regard to the merits of holding the Annual Reunion at the T.A. Centre at Edgware as opposed to the Seymour Hall or some other similar place it was agreed that this matter should be referred to the Membership and Social Sub-Committee for discussion and report back to this Committee.

(e) There being no further comments it was proposed by Major Hardcastle and seconded by Mr. White that the Report be adopted.

Carried.

4. Correspondence

A file containing nine letters of appreciation received for charitable grants was circulated for members of the Committee to read.

5. Finance Sub-Committee's Report

(a) Lt.-Col. Fox stated that the Minutes of the Meeting held on November 7, which had been circulated with the Agenda, formed the basis of his Report.

(b) *Investments* (Minute 3)—He explained the advantages of the steps taken by the Sub-Committee in regard to the changes in the investments of the Mabel Renny Legacy Fund.

(c) *Middlesex Ball* (Minute 4)—In regard to the sum of £764 received from the proceeds of the Ball held on March 10 last, Lt.-Col. Fox stated that, in accordance with the wishes expressed by the Middlesex Association, the Sub-Committee recommended that £264 should be transferred to the Lord Lieutenant's Appeal for Widow's Flatlets at Enfield.

The recommendation of the Sub-Committee was approved.

(d) *Albuhera Parade and Reunion* (Minute 5)—On the recommendation of Lt.-Col. Fox the charge to Association funds of £33 18s. 9d. for the cost of the Albuhera Parade and Reunion was approved.

(e) *Budget 1966* (Minute 7)—Lt.-Col. Fox stated that he did not foresee any over-expenditure on this year's budget.

(f) *Widow's Flatlets Appeal*—Col. Clayton asked what the present position was in regard to the Lord Lieutenant's Appeal.

Lt.-Col. Fox stated that the flatlets had cost £11,786. When the money had to be found to discharge this

liability the appeal fund had not reached the present total of £7,473 and it was necessary to provide money from other sources. This was done by:—

Redeeming the 5% Defence Bonds held in the War Memorial Account	£ 2,450
Borrowing from the Enfield Urban District Council at 6½% the sum of	2,000
Borrowing from the Mabel Renny Legacy Account the sum of	892
	<hr/>
	£5,342

It is hoped that the Appeal money and the proceeds of the Defence Bonds will eventually cover the cost of the flatlets. The position now is that:—

The Appeal stands at	£ 7,473
Defence Bond money	2,450
Balance required	1,863
	<hr/>
	£11,786

With the donation from the Middlesex Association Ball of £264 and £50 to come from a Charitable Trust this balance of £1,863 is reduced to £1,549. It is hoped that the balance of the covenanted donations to come in during the next five years and additional donations will bring in the £1,549 still required.

In the meantime it is the policy of the Sub-Committee to invest any cash available in fixed interest securities earning 7½% or more. So far it has been possible to purchase £500 7½% Deb Stock Delta Metal Company and 300 7½% Redeemable Preference Shares in the Burmah Oil Co. When investments have been purchased in this manner to the extent of £2,000 our external borrowing will be covered and then if sufficient cash becomes available the loan from the Mabel Renny Legacy fund will be repaid.

(g) *Investments*—Major Couch stated that he understood that investments in relation to their cost at present showed a loss, and asked if consideration could be given to the possibility of investing some of the Association's funds in property since, generally speaking, this produces higher yields than investments in stocks and shares.

Lt.-Col. Roberts said that this could not be done in view of a previous ruling by the Executive Committee that, after the completion of the Widow's Flatlets at Enfield, further Association funds would not be invested in property.

Lt.-Col. Fox expressed the view that, in any case, it is doubtful if the Charity Commissioners would approve of our funds being invested in leasehold property.

(h) *Middlesex Association*—Lt.-Col. Roberts asked if the Committee could be informed of the benefits which our Association would receive from our membership of the Middlesex Association.

Major Goodacre explained that all members of the Regimental Association were entitled to attend any function organised by the Middlesex Association. So far the only functions arranged, apart from the Ball, had

been one or two cocktail parties, but it was hoped eventually to hold an Annual Dinner.

Individual subscribers were circulated in regard to these events, and the Regimental Association as a body was also advised.

After discussion it was agreed that the Secretary, who was the Regimental Representative on the General Council of the Middlesex Association, would circulate information regarding events through the usual channels.

(i) *Mabel Renny Fund*—The Chairman asked why this fund was shown separately in the balance sheet as accumulated funds, and why it was not treated as normal income for charitable purposes.

Capt. Claypole stated that in the past the income from this fund had been allowed to accumulate to provide a reserve which could be used to meet any extraordinary demands. It might well be necessary in future years to bring this income into the general income account as from 1967 onwards the 1st Battalion's contribution of a day's pay per man per annum would be going to the Queen's Regiment.

It was agreed that this matter should be left as it is at present.

(j) There being no further comments it was proposed by Lt.-Col. Fox and seconded by Mr. Bennett that the Report be adopted.

Carried.

6. Housing Sub-Committee's Report

(a) Brigadier Rackham stated that his report was based on the Minutes of the Sub-Committee Meeting held on October 10, 1966, which had been circulated with the Agenda.

(b) *Obituary* (Minute 2)—Brigadier Rackham reported that the widow of Mr. Adams, who died recently, had asked to be considered for a flatlet.

(c) *Waiting List* (Minute 3)—It was agreed that the Secretary should send the letters to those, other than tenants, who had applied for flatlets.

(d) *Honorarium* (Minute 4)—Lt.-Col. Fox endorsed the Sub-Committee's recommendation that the honorarium paid to Major Jones should be increased to £75 per annum, and commented very favourably on the work carried out by Major Jones in connection with the management of the estate.

Capt. Claypole, as auditor of the accounts, also paid tribute to the work of Major Jones.

The recommendation was approved unanimously.

(e) *Surplus Land—Albuhera Close*—With regard to the surplus land in rear of the flatlets, the Committee were informed that, due to the lack of accessibility, there was little hope of the land being sold.

Various suggestions were made, and Lt.-Col. Fox said that he felt that it would be beneficial to the estate if the land were retained and grassed.

It was agreed that the use to which the land should now be put should be referred back to the Housing Sub-Committee for discussion and report.

(f) There being no further comments it was proposed by Brigadier Rackham and seconded by Lt.-Col. Dear that the report be adopted.

Carried.

7. Membership and Social Sub-Committee's Report

(a) Col. Clayton referred to the Minutes of the Sub-Committee Meeting held on November 3, 1966, which had been circulated with the Agenda and formed the basis of his report. He said that this was the first meeting of the Sub-Committee and that he felt very encouraged by the reactions of its members.

(b) *Assistance to Branches* (Minute 6)—Col. Clayton stated that the liaison between the 9th Battalion and the 5th Battalion had been fully discussed and that Lt.-Col. Hall was looking into the matter and would report back to his Sub-Committee.

(c) *Formation of New Branches* (Minute 7) Col. Clayton informed the Meeting that there was considerable hope of forming a Princess Louise's Kensington Regiment Branch, but that the matter had not yet been considered by the Executive Committee of their Association.

(d) *Ealing Branch*—With the closure of the Ealing Drill Hall the future meeting place of the Ealing Branch was briefly discussed.

Mr. White, who is Hon. Secretary of the Ealing Branch, said that, even if the Hall passes into other hands, it was most likely that Branch Meetings would still take place there.

(e) There being no further comments it was proposed by Col. Clayton and seconded by Lt.-Col. Fox that the report be adopted.

Carried.

8. Journal Sub-Committee's Report

(a) In submitting his report Col. Walden commented on the excellent notes received for the October 1966 issue from the 1st Battalion.

(b) *Future of the Journal* (para 3)—Col. Walden confirmed that *The Die-Hards* will continue publication up to and including the October 1967 issue, and that, after that date, a Newsletter on lines similar to that now published, would be issued, but at more frequent intervals. He stated that proposals would be submitted at the next Executive Committee Meeting.

(c) *The New Journal*—Col. Walden informed the Meeting that the new Journal of the Queen's Regiment is to be a monthly publication, starting in January next.

In answer to questions he stated that we had not been asked to subsidise the new Journal.

(d) *Printing Contract*—Col. Walden assured the Committee that this had been attended to.

(e) There being no further comments it was proposed by Col. Walden and seconded by Major Hardcastle that the report be adopted.

Carried.

9. Formation of The Queen's Regiment

The Chairman opened the discussion by stating that, when the Regiment forms part of the Queen's Regiment on December 31 next, as notified in the Broadsheet issued last July, this will have certain implications as far as this Association is concerned.

Major Hardcastle raised the question of the five ex-officio members who, in accordance with Rule 21 (a)

now are the Commanding Officers and R.S.M.s of 1st and 5th Battalions, and a serving Regular Officer of the Regiment nominated by the President of the Association. He stated that, after the re-organisation of the Territorial Army on April 1, 1967, four out of the five need not necessarily belong to the Regiment.

After some discussion it was agreed that a Sub-Committee, comprised as under, should be formed to consider the implications of the Broadsheet concerning the Queen's Regiment in so far as the Rules of the Association at present constituted are concerned, and to report back to the Executive Committee in time to enable a special General Meeting of the Association to be called before April 1, 1967:

Chairman: Lt.-Col P. L. Pearce Gould, M.B.E.

Members: Col. A. S. J. de S. Clayton, D.L., Lt.-Col. P.

J. Hall, T.D., Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D.

Secretary: Col. F. Walden, D.L.

Lt.-Col. Roberts asked that this Sub-Committee should include a proviso that the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Association should be past or present officers who have been gazetted into the Middlesex Regiment.

10. Formation of Regimental W.O.s' and Sergeants' Club

R.S.M. Lyons stated that he had been approached by many serving and ex-W.O.s and Sergeants of the Regiment with a view to forming a Club, and that he was sure that such a Club would be a success.

After some discussion it was agreed that a W.O.s and Sergeants' Club would be a welcome addition as a Branch of the Association, and the matter was referred to the Membership and Social Sub-Committee.

11. Anglo-Korean Society

A letter inviting the Regiment to become a member of the Anglo-Korean Society, which had been circulated with the Agenda, was considered.

It was proposed by Lt.-Col. Fox, seconded by Mr. Bennett, and unanimously agreed that the Regiment should become a Life Member on payment of one subscription of ten guineas.

F. WALDEN, Colonel,
Secretary.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

(a) During the period May 1 to August 31, 1966, the sum of £464 8s. 7d. was spent in making grants for the following purposes:

Bedding	2
Clothing	8
Convalescent Holidays	9
Extra Food	2
Fuel and Lighting	12
House repairs	2
Rent and Rate Arrears	9
Miscellaneous (mostly small which do not come under any of the above headings)	11
Total cases assisted	55

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(b) The breakdown showing the period of service of the above cases is as follows:

1914-18 War	..	..	..	32
Between Wars	..	..	..	3
1939-45 War	..	..	..	10
Since 1945	..	..	..	7
Korean War	..	..	..	2
Still serving	..	..	..	1

2. Executive Committee—Nominated Members

In accordance with Rule 21(b) the election of the following as Nominated Members in place of those shown has been approved by the President:

Lt.-Col. R. D. Hutchings vice Col. S. F. Hedgecoe.
Major R. M. Cain vice Capt. A. W. Ramsay, J.P.
Capt. H. A. B. Claypole, T.D., F.C.A., vice Major E. F. Thompson, M.C., T.D.

3. Members—Deaths

Notification has been received that the following members have died since my last Report:—

Lt.-Col. C. P. Rooke, D.S.O.
Major A. V. Weller
ex-C.S.M. W. T. Sperry, M.C., late 1st & 2nd Battalions.
ex-C/Sgt. W. J. Wigginton, late 1st and 2nd Battalions.
ex-Drum Major J. G. Holmes, late 3rd Battalion.
ex-Dmr. W. Challis, late 7th Battalion.
ex-Pte. S. J. Adams, late 13th (Service) Battalion.
ex-Pte. G. E. Ford, late 2nd Battalion.
ex-Pte A. H. Hamlyn, late ? Battalion.
ex-Pte. W. D. Wilkins, late 12th (Service) Battalion.
ex-Pte G. Richardson, late 9th Battalion.

4. Employment

The following ex-members of the Regiment have been found employment by the Regular Forces Employment Association since my last Report:—

Armstrong J. M. (28392189)—Postman.
Brown, R. G. (23683596)—Driver.
Gillham, M. (23784016)—Storeman.
King, P. W. (23802527)—Driver Salesman.
Moyle, H. J. (23785446)—Plumber.
McGargle, D. G. (23026866)—Technician.
Roylance, J. W. (23786960)—G.P.O. Technician.
Slammers, P. E. (23402221)—Postman.
Street, R. C. (23171129)—Postman.

5. Royal Hospital Chelsea

Ex-L/Cpl. W. C. Heavens (aged 68) was admitted as an In-Pensioner on September 26, 1966, bringing the total of In-Pensioners from the Regiment to six.

6. Middlesex Ball 1966

As a result of the Charity Ball organised by the Middlesex Association at Wembley Town Hall on March 10, 1966, the Regimental Association Charitable Fund has received the sum of £764 as its share of the proceeds.

7. Annual Reunion 1966

The attendance at the Annual Reunion held on November 12 totalled 612, compared with 805 last year when serving members of the 1st Battalion were invited as guests.

8. Association Standard

Since my last Report the Association Standard has been carried on the following occasions:—

(a) Ceremony at the Field of Remembrance, Westminster Abbey, on November 12.

(b) Regimental Remembrance Day Service at Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, on November 13.

9. Annual Reports—Charitable Organisations

Copies of the following annual reports have been received and are available to members on application to me:—

The Army Benevolent Fund, 1965-66.
Family Welfare Association, 1965-66.
The Royal Cambridge Home for Soldiers' Widows, 1965.
The Royal Soldiers' Daughters School, Hampstead, 1965.
S.S.A.F.A., 1965.

F. WALDEN, Colonel,
Secretary.



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MIDDLESEX REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION
Minutes of an Executive Committee Meeting held
at Guildhall, Westminster, S.W.1. on Monday,
February 13, 1967

Present: Col. W. D. Ellis, O.B.E., T.D., A.D.C., D.L., Chairman; Brig. B. B. Rackham, C.B.E., M.C., D.L.; Col. A. S. J. de S. Clayton, D.L.; Lt.-Col. T. W. Chattey, O.B.E.; Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L.; Lt.-Col. P. J. Hall, T.D.; Lt.-Col. R. D. Hutchings; Lt.-Col. P. L. Pearce Gould, M.B.E.; Lt.-Col. W. L. Roberts, O.B.E., M.C., D.L.; Major R. M. Cain; Major H. E. Couch; Major R. J. P. Cummins, M.B.E.; Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D.; Major M. P. Weedon, M.C.; Capt. H. A. B. Claypole, T.D., F.C.A.; R.S.M. B. Lyons; Mr. T. R. Bennett; Mr. W. Knight, M.B.E.; Mr. A. White; Col. F. Walden, D.L., Secretary.

In Attendance: Mr. A. H. Fisher, M.M., Hon. Sec. Hornsey and Enfield Branch.

Apologies for absence were received from: Col. I. R. Burrows, O.B.E., Vice-Chairman; Lt.-Col. J. T. Dear, T.D.; Major Kenneth Goodacre, T.D., D.L.; Major B. St. G. A. Reed, M.C.

Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

1. The Secretary informed the meeting that only one nomination had been received for the office of Chairman, namely:

Col. W. D. Ellis, O.B.E., T.D., A.D.C., D.L.
 Brig. Rackham, in proposing Col. Ellis as Chairman, thanked him for his excellent Chairmanship during the past year and expressed the hope that he would take the chair for a further term of one year.

Lt.-Col. Fox seconded the proposal, which the Committee *approved* unanimously.

Col. Ellis thereupon took the chair and, in doing so, expressed his appreciation for his election.

2. The Secretary then stated that two nominations had been received for the office of Vice-Chairman, but that one of these nominations had since withdrawn as he did not wish to stand for election. This left the following nomination only:

Lt.-Col. R. D. Hutchings.
 The appointment of Lt.-Col. Hutchings as Vice-Chairman was proposed by Brig. Rackham, seconded by Mr. Knight, and *approved* by the Committee unanimously.

Minutes of previous meeting

3. The Minutes of the previous meeting held on November 21, 1966 were passed and signed by the Chairman.

4. Arising from the minutes Lt.-Col. Hall stated that, in connection with the sale of silver, it had not yet been possible to send out invitations for the interested parties to view the silver it was proposed to sell, but this would be done as soon as possible after March 31, next.

Secretary's report

5. The Secretary stated that he had nothing further to add to his Report.

6. *Farewell to the Colours of Former T.A. Battalions* (para 4)—Both Brig. Rackham and Mr. Knight spoke of the concern of members of Branches that the Old

Comrades had not been invited to take an active part in the actual Parade, nor had they been supplied with details or consulted in any way.

Lt.-Col. Hall said that it was his intention to inform all Branches of the arrangements when complete and also to invite them to be present.

Mr. Knight stressed the fact that the Old Comrades felt that they should be allowed to take an active part in the actual ceremonies.

After discussion Lt.-Col. Hall agreed to look into this and to see what arrangements could be made to include the Old Comrades on the parade.

7. There being no further comments the Report was *adopted*.

Correspondence

8. A file containing the following letters of appreciation was circulated for members of the Committee to read:

A. For Annual Donations

- a. Letter dated December 12, 1966 from S.S.A.F.A.
- b. Letter dated December 12, 1966 from The Forces Help Society and Lord Roberts Workshops.
- c. Letter dated December 12, 1966 from the National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen.
- d. Letter dated December 12, 1966 from The Star and Garter Home.
- e. Letter dated December 13, 1966 from The Gordon Boys' School.
- f. Letter dated December 14, 1966 from B.L.E.S.M.A.
- g. Letter dated December 14, 1966 from The Royal Cambridge Home for Soldiers' Widows.

B. Six letters of appreciation for individual charitable grants.

Report of Sub-committee considering alterations to association rules

9. Lt.-Col. Pearce Gould stated that he had nothing to add to the Minutes of the Meeting held on December 13, 1966, which had been circulated with the Agenda, and were self explanatory.

10. After considerable discussion it was agreed that the following recommendations of the Sub-Committee should be amended to read as shown below:

Minute 3, b.

"*Nominated Members* should in future be called *Representative Members* and should be recommended by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman and appointed by the President."

Minute 4, b.

"In the event of the appointment of Deputy Colonel expiring, or of the holder of that office not having been gazetted, or transferred, to The Middlesex Regiment, the President should be elected by the Representative Members for a period of three years initially and eligible for re-election."

Minute 6, d.

"After the alterations to the Rules have been approved by him, the President should be asked to appoint

Representative Members, including those for the 1st. Battalion and the 5th Battalion (T.A.), who will hold office until December 31, 1967, under Rule 23."

11. There being no further comments it was proposed by Major Hardcastle, seconded by Major Weedon and carried that the recommendations of the Sub-Committee, as amended above, be *adopted*.

12. On behalf of the Executive Committee the Chairman thanked Lt.-Col. Pearce Gould and his Sub-Committee for the excellent work they had done.

13. After a short discussion it was *agreed* that the Special Meeting of the Association to confirm the alterations to the Rules, in accordance with Rule 37, should be held at the T.A. Centre, Edgware, on Tuesday, March 21, 1967, at 7 p.m.

Finance Sub-committee's Report

14. Lt.-Col. Fox stated that he had nothing to add to the Minutes of the Sub-Committee held on February 9, which had been circulated with the Agenda and formed the basis of his report.

15. He informed the Meeting that the draft accounts for the year ended December 31, 1966, had only just been received and that it would not, therefore, be possible to circulate them until the next Executive Committee Meeting. He added that the budget showing the actual expenditure for 1966, together with a budget for 1967, would also be produced at the next Executive Committee Meeting.

16. He reported that the accounts for 1966 showed an excess of income over expenditure due mainly to an unexpected grant of £214 from the Army Benevolent Fund and Middlesex Regiment Joint Appeal, and of £385 net proceeds from the Middlesex Ball held last March.

17. He stated that the War Memorial Fund also showed an excess of income over expenditure, and that it would be necessary to consider making further investments in order to build up the Fund to cover the loan from the Enfield Borough Council.

18. In reply to a question from Mr. Knight he stated that the Charity Commissioners had ruled that the Trustees of the 1/7th Battalion Trust Funds were not empowered to make a grant to the Widows' Flatlets Fund, which had been promised.

Mr. Knight asked if it would be possible to release any of the frozen funds to assist particular cases of distress. He quoted the case of an ex-soldier of the 1/7th Battalion, who had incurred debts through prolonged illness and had already received considerable assistance from the Association Charitable Fund, but was still in need of substantial financial help. He was informed that there was very little hope of these funds becoming available, and was advised to present the case to the Association, where funds were available for this purpose.

19. There being no further comments the Report was *adopted*.

Housing Sub-committee's Report

20. Brig. Rackham presented his report which was based on the Minutes of the Sub-Committee Meeting held on January 30, 1967.

21. As regards the spare land at Enfield, referred to in

Minute 8 of the Sub-Committee Meeting, Lt.-Col. Pearce Gould stated that investigations had been made and it was decided that the best use of it would be to build garages, which would be needed by the tenants. He said that advice had been taken, as a result of which it would be possible to build at present 12 garages and perhaps to increase the number later to 20. He had called for estimates which would be presented at the next meeting.

He also stated that it had been suggested that the rest of the land might be let out for horticultural purposes. This was being investigated and would be reported on later.

22. Reference was made by the Secretary to the proposed surrender to the Secretary of State for Defence of Numbers 1 and 2 Bittacy Hill, Mill Hill, comprised in a lease dated 29th day of March 1907 and of part of the property at the rear of Numbers 3 and 4 Bittacy Hill comprised in a lease dated the 28th day of July 1936; draft Deeds of Surrender were produced and approved and it was *resolved* that

Colonel Wilfred Desmond Ellis, O.B.E., T.D., A.D.C., D.L.
 Brigadier Basil Bedmore Rackham, C.B.E., M.C. D.L.

Colonel Aymar Sinclair Joseph de Satge Clayton, D.L. be appointed to execute the Deeds on behalf of the Regimental Association and on behalf of the Official Custodian of Charities.

23. There being no further comments the Report was *adopted*.

Membership and Social Sub-Committee's Report

24. Col. Clayton referred to the Minutes of the Sub-Committee Meeting held on January 12, which had been circulated with the Agenda, and stated that this was only the second meeting since the Sub-Committee had been formed, but he was very encouraged by the enthusiasm of its members and the many good suggestions put forward by them.

25. *Regimental W.O's and Sergeants' Club*—The proposal put forward by R.S.M. Lyons had been fully discussed and it was recommended that it should be proceeded with, but that it should be a Branch and not a Club.

This recommendation was *approved*.

26. *Branch Activities*—Col. Clayton reported that Branches were functioning well with the exception of the Hounslow and Uxbridge Branches, where steps were being taken to re-activate them.

27. *Amalgamation of Branches*—The reasons for the proposed amalgamation of the Bandsmen and Drummers' Branch with the Mill Hill Branch were clearly set forth in the Minutes of the Sub-Committee Meeting circulated with the Agenda and, in view of these, the proposal was recommended.

The amalgamation was *approved*.

28. *Annual Reunion 1967*—Col. Clayton stated that the date and place for this year's Reunion had been referred back to his Sub-Committee for their consideration and that, after discussion, the first choice of venue was the T.A. Centre, Edgware; the second choice was the Duke of York's Headquarters, and the date was Saturday, September 23, 1967.

It was *agreed* that the Annual Reunion this year should

be held at the T.A. Centre, Edgware, on Saturday, September 23, 1967.

29. *Association Functions*—Col. Clayton referred to the proposed summer outing in the form of a river trip and the visit to the Depot at Canterbury, and said that, as soon as details were available, all concerned would be notified.

It was agreed that these functions should be arranged and that any subsidy required should be left to the discretion of the Chairman of the Executive Committee and the Chairman of the Finance Sub-Committee.

Col. Clayton also referred to the possibility of arranging an air trip to visit the Battalion in Northern Ireland, and stated that he was making enquiries in regard to the cost.

30. There being no further comments the Report was adopted.

Journal Sub-Committee's report

31. In presenting his Report, which had been circulated with the Agenda, Col. Walden confirmed that "The Die-Hards" would cease publication after the October 1967 issue.

32. He confirmed the statement in his Report that, provided the annual Journal subscription of 5s. remains in operation after "The Die-Hards" ceases publication, a printed Newsletter could be published quarterly, and would be self-supporting.

The publication of a quarterly Newsletter as from January 1968 was approved.

33. There being no further comments the Report was adopted.

F. WALDEN, Colonel,
Secretary.

(Note—With reference to Minute 28, since the Meeting the date of the Annual Reunion has now been altered to Saturday, October 7, 1967.)

SECRETARY'S REPORT

1. Benevolent Cases

(a) During the period September 1 to December 31, 1966, the sum of £272 11s. 6d. was spent in making grants for the following purposes:—

Bedding	1
Clothing	6
Extra Food	3
Fuel and Lighting	10
House Repairs	2
Rent Arrears	5
Miscellaneous	12

(mainly small grants for out-of-pocket expenses etc. which do not come under any of the above headings)

Total cases assisted: .. 39

(b) The breakdown showing the period of service of the above cases is as follows:—

1914-18 War	21
Between Wars	3
1939-45 War	11
Since 1945	2
Korean War	2
Total:	39

2. Members—Deaths

Notification has been received that the following members have died since my last report:—

ex-C.S.M. E. R. Green, M.M., late 1st and 3rd Battalions;

ex-Cpl. W. Upfold, late 4th Battalion;

ex-Pte. H. E. D. Kirk, M.M., late 1st Battalion.

3. Employment

The following ex-members of the Regiment have been found employment by the Regular Forces Employment Association since my last report:—

Smith, R. (23762205)	Postman
Terry, F. J. (23834754)	Messenger

4. Farewell to the Colours of Former T.A. Battalion

A farewell parade to the Colours of the former 7th, 8th and 9th Battalions (T.A.) will be held by the 5th Battalion (T.A.) at Inglis Barracks, Mill Hill, on Sunday, March 12, 1967, starting at 11 a.m.

The parade will be inspected by the Deputy Colonel of 4th Battalion The Queen's Regiment (Middlesex), Major General C. M. M. Man, O.B.E., M.C.

Refreshments will be available at the T.A. Centre, Edgware, after the parade.

In the afternoon the Colours of the former 7th Battalion (T.A.) will be laid up in the Battalion's War Memorial Chapel in St. Mary's Parish Church, Hornsey, at a special service starting at 3.30 p.m. The Parade will form up in Nightingale Lane, next to the Hornsey T.A. Centre, at 3 p.m. to march to the church. There will be a contingent of the 7th Battalion Old Comrades marching with the Guard.

The Officer Commanding 5th Battalion (T.A.) cordially invites all Old Comrades to attend either, or both, of the above ceremonies.

5. Reports etc.—Charitable Organisations

Copies of the following have been received and are available to members on application to me:—

S.S.A.F.A. Conference and Annual Meeting
BLES MAG (Quarterly Journal of the British Ex-Service Men's Association.)

F. Walden, Colonel, *Secretary.*

NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES

PORTSMOUTH AND GOSPORT BRANCH

The above Branch meets monthly on the 2nd Friday of each month, alternately, starting with March 10th, at the R.A.F.A. Club, Stokes Road, Gosport (White Hart Bus Stop) and The George and Dragon, Kingston Road, Portsmouth starting Friday April 14th.

The Officers appointed for 1967 are:
Chairman, Mr. P. O'Neil (ex Transport); Vice chairman, Mr. H. Norfield (ex Signal); Hon. Secretary, Mr. L. C. West ("Bogey," ex C.S.M. "HQ" Coy. and later "A" Coy.); Hon. Treasurer, Mr. E. Lindeman (ex "C" Coy., 2nd Btn.).

The Branch is making steady progress and at our last meeting we had at least 28 members and friends present. Should anyone like to hear news of any of their old friends in this part of the world they are advised to contact the Secretary at Grove House, 59 Gosport Road, Stubbington, Hants.

All members of this Branch send very sincere wishes for the future to other Branches and extend a hearty welcome for them to visit us should they ever be in this area.

I personally would welcome news from any of my ex-colleagues especially from the concert party, the athletic, hockey or cricket, etc. teams.

BOGEY

2/7th BATTALION BRANCH

The 21st Annual Dinner of the 2/7th Battalion Branch took place at the Victory Ex-Service Club, 73 Seymour Street, London, W.2., on Friday, October 7, 1966.

There was a record attendance of 98 members, and Major Geoffrey Bower presided in the absence, through illness, of Lt.-Col. Stanley Mirams.

In accordance with the usual custom a collection was made during dinner, as a result of which the sum of £25 1s. was handed over to the Secretary of the Regimental Association for the War Memorial Fund.

This year the Dinner will be held at the same place on Friday, October 6, and any member of the 2/7th Battalion, who wishes to attend, should get in touch with Major R. E. Robotham, M.C., T.D., 39 Cyprus Avenue, Finchley, N.3 (Tel.: FINchley 1649).

9th BATTALION BRANCH

Our Branch did not forward any news to the Association for inclusion in the October issue so we report news of our Annual Dinner held on May 14, 1966.

Major H. K. Hardcastle, T.D., was elected President after the resignation of Lt.-Col. G. L. Fox, T.D., D.L.

The resignation of the last Secretary, Henry J. Fisher, was accepted with great regret. Henry had served as

Secretary for a period of 12 years. His resignation was due to increased business commitments.

During the evening Henry was presented with an inscribed clock from the Branch and at the same time, a plaque, depicting the Middlesex Regimental badge, was given to the Chairman of the Committee, Col. H. W. W. Gray, M.B.E., T.D., as a token of appreciation of his services.

An excellent meal was enjoyed by a large number of members and friends. Our numbers had increased a lot more than in previous years, and we hope this will continue.

We had the pleasure, as guests, of the Colonel of the Regiment, Major-Gen. C. M. M. Man, O.B.E., M.C.; the Association Secretary, Col. F. Walden, D.L.; Capt. P. J. Gybbon-Monypenny, the Colonel of the Regiment's A.D.C.; and Lieut. J. J. Smith, M.C., of the 5th Battalion.

Representatives of our Branch were present at the Ceremony at the Field of Remembrance on November 12, 1966 and very well represented at the Armistice Sunday Service at Mill Hill the next day.

The R.S.M. of the original 9th, Mr. L. Drinkwater, reached the age of 92 last October. We have corresponded with two other veterans of the 5th West Middlesex—L/Sgt. Sillick and C.S.M. Jack Bowles. Mr. Sillick is 87 years old and Mr. J. Bowles over 80. We wonder if there are any more.

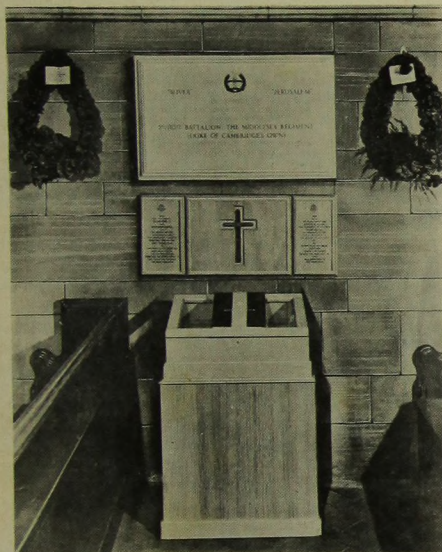
If any member of the 9th Battalion is not yet a member of the Association, we shall be delighted to hear from him.

Our Advertisers

It would be greatly appreciated by the Editor if readers would mention "The Die-Hards" when corresponding with or purchasing from firms who advertise in this Regimental Journal.

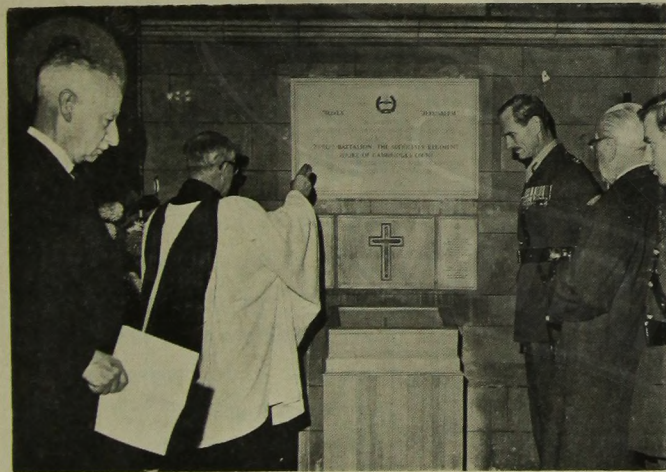
2/10th BATTALION OCA (1914-18)

The Soldiers' Cross



(Photo: Cresswell Studios)

The Memorial showing the Soldiers' Cross and the Roll of Honour



Dedication of the Memorial by the Honorary Chaplain

From left to right: Mr. A. D. Scudamore, O.B.E., Hon Sec. 2/10th Bn. O.C.A.; Preb. G. A. Lewis Lloyd, M.B.E.; Major-Gen. C. M. M. Man, O.B.E., M.C.; Lt.-Col. D. B. Watson, M.C., Chairman 2/10th Bn. O.C.A.; Capt. P. J. Gybbon-Monypenny, A.D.C. to Colonel of the Regiment

(Photo: Cresswell Studios, London, W.4)

On November 13 last a small but unique ceremony took place in the Parish Church of St. Nicolas with St. Mary Magdalene, Chiswick; an olive-wood cross was dedicated as an extension of the existing Memorial to men of the 2/10th Battalion The Middlesex Regiment who fell during the First World War. There is a story behind this ceremony.

In December 1917, this Territorial Battalion, having been on active service since July 1915 in Gallipoli, Egypt and Palestine, took part in the liberation of Jerusalem. It lay on and in the vicinity of the Mount of Olives awaiting the final enemy attempt to recapture the Holy City. When this came, it took the form of a sustained assault on positions manned by the 60th and 53rd Divisions to the north and east of the City and an encircling movement by cavalry through the rough country to the east of Bethlehem. In the defeat of this attack, the Middlesex Battalion played a not inconspicuous part, one Company receiving special mention from the Commander-in-Chief, General Allenby, for its successful defence of an isolated monastery on the extreme right flank against 700 Turkish cavalry with artillery.

The Battalion Chaplain (Capt. T. W. Taylor) inspired by his surroundings, sought the help of some of the men in fashioning a small Communion Cross of wood from the Mount of Olives. The British Soldier can turn his hand to most things, and so these men used their clasp-knives in the absence of any other suitable tools to make a rough Cross of wood from the Mount to their Chaplain's design. This simple Cross, some nine inches high was subsequently used by the Chaplain at services

in the field until the end of the War and afterwards in camps and sick rooms. The Cross was always treasured by Canon Taylor, as he became, and increasingly so with the passage of time; he was concerned, however, that it should be deposited in a safe and fitting resting place not only as a symbol of Faith but as a memorial to the men for whom it had been made and of the circumstances of its origin. Being unaware that a 2/10th Battalion Old Comrades' Association existed in London, the Canon, in 1955, caused the Cross to be mounted in the wall-panel of a credence in a chapel of his Parish Church at Eccles, and here it remained until 1966. In the meantime, the Association had renewed contact with their War-time Chaplain, and the idea of embodying the Cross in the existing Battalion Memorial at Chiswick was born. Unfortunately, before the matter could be progressed, Canon Taylor died, but the proposal was pursued with the Eccles Parochial Church Council, who, with great goodwill and generosity, agreed that the Cross should be replaced at Eccles by an olive-wood replica and the original transferred to the Association.

The Cross has now been placed in an inscribed wall panel surmounting a glazed oak casket containing a leather-bound Roll of Honour, showing the name, rank, date of death and place of burial or commemoration of each man of the Battalion who fell in 1914-1918. On the eve of the Jubilee year of the above events therefore, this Memorial extension was unveiled on Sunday, November 13, by Maj.-Gen. C. M. M. Man, O.B.E., M.C., Colonel of the Regiment, and dedicated by Preb. G. A. Lewis Lloyd, M.B.E., B.A., Vicar of Chiswick and Hon. Chaplain to the Association. After nearly 50 years this Cross, made by and for the service of the men here

commemorated, has thus been united to their Memorial and Colours, an achievement which the survivors of the Battalion have long desired and are proud to have realised.

Some 200 old comrades and friends attended the simple and impressive Service of Dedication, including Col. F. Walden and Major R. W. J. Smith from Regimental Headquarters. Wreaths of Flanders poppies were placed on the Memorials to the 1/10th, 2/10th and 3/10th Battalions of the Regiment. Copies of the Roll of Honour and of the special Order of Service (price 6s. post free) may be obtained on application to the Hon. Secretary, "Cleveland," Byes Lane, Sidford, Sidmouth, Devon.

REGULAR FORCES EMPLOYMENT ASSOCIATION

During 1966 the number of men and women from the Regular Armed Forces of the Crown placed in employment by the National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen was 11,118, which was 82% of all of those who registered at the Association's 43 Branches, which cover the whole of the United Kingdom. It is of interest that of this number 4,149 were from the Army and 19 were from the Middlesex Regiment.

The Association is part of the Regular Forces Resettlement Service, and gives all its services free.

If when you get home you have mislaid the address of the Branch of this Association in your area you should apply at any big Post Office or to your own Regimental Association. They will give it to you.

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