



Dukes War Diary



Iraq

March - July 2003

Op Telic



Foreword by Lt Col DS Bruce MBE Commanding Officer 1DWR

On taking command of the 1st Battalion I spoke about our need to be prepared for the unexpected and how we must learn to manage uncertainty. Nothing could have been more unexpected than the phone call from the Brigade Commander on 11 Mar 03 informing me that the Battalion were to deploy to Kuwait and that we were to be there by the end of the week! Similarly nothing could have been more uncertain than the 4 months that followed! The deployment is now history and accounts in this War Diary along with the photos tell the story of our War. It is designed to be light hearted and informative and to serve as a reminder of some of the incredible experiences we faced during Operation TELIC.

I am enormously proud to have commanded The Duke's on such an operation and can reflect on the incredible character, professionalism, guts and determination demonstrated by our Officers, NCOs and soldiers. You were to a man, quite simply magnificent and set a standard that few could match; your humour was infectious and the uncomplaining manner that you approached the uncertainty and difficulties of the deployment was extraordinary. You can be justifiably proud of all that you achieved in such a harsh and testing environment. The experience will remain with you throughout your careers and the Battalion will benefit from hardened, mature and professional soldiers who will be our Junior and Senior NCOs of the future.

We must also thank our families in Ossett and Yorkshire as well as the wider 'Regimental Family' for the tremendous support they gave us throughout the tour. The welcome home was a particularly moving experience and we can reflect now on our tremendous good fortune that every man and woman returned home safely.

"FORTUNE FAVOURS THE BRAVE"



The Deployment

MISSION STATEMENT

"1 DWR will deploy on Op TELIC as part of the Prisoner Of War Handling Organisation...to comprise of BG BQ and 3 x Rifle Coy's... BG to be in theatre within 1 week...."

"By failing to prepare you are preparing to fail" (Abraham Lincoln). Not so in the case of the Dukers... Unexpectedly on 11 Mar 03 the CO announced that 1DWR would deploy on Op TELIC. There would be no time to prepare!

18 hrs later the R Gp were in Kuwait with the lads close behind. The definition of a 'Fast Ball!' Camp Rhino in Kuwait would host the Bn whilst they got to grips with the task, the admin and the weather. Undoubtedly the continual threat of NBC attack coupled with very regular practices directed the minds and attentions of all ranks to the forthcoming Operation.

Quite how to rehearse establishing a PW Camp posed a problem. However it would fall to the older and bolder ranks to demonstrate the forgotten art of erecting 18' x 24' tents. Not very 'Boys Own Stories' but very useful stuff indeed.

In what had been a whirlwind of unexpected activity, the Dukers soldier now found himself facing the real prospect of going to war. 21 Mar 03, the Bn moved to Holding Area Waterloo and then early on 22 Mar 03, Corama Coy led the Dukers over the border into Iraq and the unknown.



The signal ordering 1DWR to deploy on Op TELIC

Maj Goodwin demonstrates that NBC can be fun!



Prisoner Handling



MISSION STATEMENT

"1 DWR is to provide security for the PWHO site, assist in the construction of the PWHO echelon and run the DCP IOT ensure that the PWHO can remove the burden of PW's from fuel Bde's as soon as possible."

Deploying to war on a Bedford - well it's far from ideal – but the Dukes did it. Once across the border they swung towards Umm Qasr to begin taking on their role as the Prisoner of War Handling Organisation (PWHO). This ran from 21-25 Mar 03, receiving some 938 prisoners on the 23rd alone! Initially Alma Coy formed the inner Cordon with Burma & Coranna constituting the Outer Cordon. Later Alma & Burma swapped tasks. As rumour began to spread that a move and a new job was on the cards, 12 Bty Royal Artillery began to take hold of the PWHO reins. They adopted a slightly different stance to the Dukes prompting the lads to coin the phrase, "if you want to do a runner, be guarded by a Gunner". On the evening of the 24th BG

Main & Alma Coy received a Warning Order to move forward to conduct protection operations in the Divisional Rear Area from the 25th. And so the next unexpected chapter in this whole experience began...



RANDOM THOUGHT FOR THE PAGE:

"Sadam means 'clasher' or 'one who confronts'"



Prisoner Handling



Prisoner Handling



Winds of Change



OC & CSM Almsa ready to create havoc



The changing nature of the IDWR BG. Each of the following cap badges have been part of the BG at some stage:



RPT - RM



SRHA



INT CORPS



QDG



RMP



US CDMC



US 1 ARMED DIV

The winds of change were firmly blowing in the direction of the Dukes. From the 25 Mar 03 elements of the Bn began tasking as 1 (UK) Armoured Div Troops. The night of the 25th is unlikely to be forgotten by many, as a storm of biblical proportions swept through the area of operations testing the resolve and patience of all ranks. However with PWHQ nose behind them, the Bn could begin to do some 'proper' soldiering. At Div the Duke soldier was exposed to the curious creature that is a Staff Officer. Indeed the Staff Officers could not come to terms with the speed that a Duke can dig a high quality trench, clean his rifle, eat his dinner and smoke 20 cigarettes – whilst managing to swear with every third word. By now the Dukes were beginning to establish themselves as a highly flexible, professional and robust unit capable of most things with the minimum of planning and preparation, CNN News obviously caught wind of this, 'ambushing' some of the Almsa lads in Suwayn, or maybe it was the female reporters that let the lads be 'ambushed'??

As dramatic events began to unfold around Basra it came as no surprise that a move and probably a new mission would be on the cards. 01 Apr 03 (not an April fool!) BG BQ received the Warning Order to begin moving to An Zubayr (AZ). Thus in the space of a week, the DWR BG had changed from theatre troops to Div troops onto 7 Arm'd Bde troops. 03 Apr heralded the end of the beginning – an established 'patch' to begin the tricky and dangerous start to Peace Support Ops. AZ had seen some fierce fighting and resistance from Iraqi units - the atmosphere amongst the narrow and confusing streets of the market town was tense and highly charged. This became very evident as unrest was never very far away especially at water and oil distribution points. As the Bn got immersed in reconstructing the stability of AZ both under 3 Cdo Bde and the Desert Rats, a gust from the winds of change would establish a dramatically enlarged area of responsibility. From 02 May to 28 Jun 03 IDWR would be responsible for 9500 Sq kilometres of Iraq including the towns of AZ, Suwayn, Umm Qasr, southern Iraq's GOSPS and other key oil infrastructure sites. A formidable challenge!

'Iraq means 'firmly rooted country'



AZ

MISSION STATEMENT

"I DWR is to conduct detailed clearance and stabilisation ops within Idrys IOT consolidate gains and prevent regime re-establishment and control over the population."

The Hearts



The Minds



The AZ Town Council

The US chairs the Town Council meeting

The Finds



THOUGHT FOR THE PAGE:

'Mesopotamia - The Greek name for Iraq means 'land between the 2 rivers'.'





AZ – The Priorities



- ✓ Secure the Town
- ✓ Empower Local Population
- ✓ Restore Basic Amenities
- ✓ Facilitate Basic Humanitarian Aid
- ✓ Restore Law and Order
- ✓ Develop Amenities
- ✓ Develop Humanitarian Aid



*"Zabahr is a traditional picnic spot just outside Baghdad."
(Travelers Guide to Iraq)*



AO Expansion & Reconstruction

MISSION STATEMENT

"I DWR is to provide a safe and secure environment within AO IOT enable GS operations and retain the support of the Iraqi population."



IDWR home,
Khor Az Zubayr Port



IDWR AO

"The Final Chapter". With effect from 02 May 03, IDWR was responsible for 9500 sq kms of Iraq. A staggering progression from the original mission. The primary tasks were searches, "eagle" VCP's, patrolling, anti-smuggling ops, the security of the oil infrastructure, long range desert patrols, point security and supporting the Iraqi police. Khor Az Zubayr Port was home for the majority of the Ducks with Barma situated in AZ and sub units dotted all across the country at key sites. Almsa were responsible for Umm Qasr, Safwan, Umm Khayyal and the Petro-Chemical plants in the area. Barma Coy focused their efforts in Az Zubayr & neighbouring settlements. While Carriago's AO included Ar Rumaylah, and other key oil infrastructure sites in the vast western desert. J Bay MBIA (attached) concentrated on Alna Al Khawth and the Al Faw peninsula. It was quite a feat to crack on with such a demanding work load under difficult, dangerous and harsh climatic circumstances for not too many toddlers to have been thrown from the pram. A tremendous amount was achieved; USSA days gained returning home as bronzed Gods, lessons learnt, lots of growing up done.

An unforgettable experience for all.
Probably to be repeated – Stag On !

Remember:
"VIRTUTIS FORTUNA COMES"

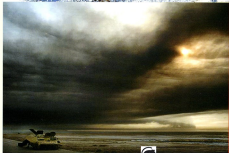




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ALMA EVENING STANDARD

SUPPORTING OUR BOYS ON THEIR FRONT LINE / GATE



ALMA ARMED FOR ACTION



MUMMY'S SPECIAL LITTLE SOLDIER

Whilst out in Iraq on Op TELIC there have been a number of proud mothers who have felt it their duty to let the people of Yorkshire aware just how proud they are of their son's doing such a fine job during and after the conflict. Coupled with the heart wrenching stories of bravery, camaraderie and outstanding achievements that have been sent home in fictional blogs and spurious phone calls home, the local papers have been producing some interesting reads! None more so than Pte 'Killer' Tomlin's letter home to his mother recounting the story of his close quarter encounter with the enemy, not to worry apparently he got the bastards cap badge! Whatever! The best photo award goes to CSM 'Chad' Childs, the self acclaimed 'Berserk Barry' was pleased to see that of all the pictures his mother could have put in the local rag showing him she decided on one showing of his 1970's porn tash, very fetching I think all you readers will agree.



LOCAL LASSES TURN WET IN THEIR MASSES

The men and women of Al Zuhrah have been turning out in their thousands to receive water aid from soldiers of the elite Alma Company 1 DPWR at a number of water drop off points throughout Al Zuhrah. The water, supplied from Kuwait by UNICEF, was brought in on tankers that were initially mobbed by thousands of desperate men, women and children all trying to fill their containers with the comparatively fresh water. However with the hard work and determination of Alma Company the men and women eventually formed separate queues allowing all who quashed the chance to leave with vital water for their washing, cooking and drinking. A spokesman for Alma Company said, "It's great to be able to help out in these difficult times, the locals seem to really appreciate our efforts which makes being here all the more worthwhile."



WEATHER FORECAST

It will be mainly ridiculously hot for the next few days. Our advice is to do as little as possible for the foreseeable future.

TOURIST NGE RATES

\$1 = 4 cans of pop
£1 = nothing
250 Dinar = 1 block of ice

WANTED...

Have you seen Saddam?
Large reward for information leading to arrest. Contact Ed on Parnigan 48637282



BREAKING NEWS

ALL BABA AND HIS 400 THIEVES OVER RUN UN COMPOUND

The UN compound in Umm Qasr was over run by around 400 looters shortly after Alpha Company soldiers left the location under the guard responsibility of locally trained security guards. The looters entered camp just as soon as coalition soldiers were out of sight, one eye witness said it was like 'flies around s***', they were after anything and everything and nothing was going to stop them. That was until Alpha Company kicked into action though, a quick response from the elite 1 EWR soldiers meant that law and order was quickly restored and a number of arrests were made, Cpl 'Scouse' Scott was the first on scene he said it was, 'like a scene from Armageddon' when he first arrived however his training took over and his men dealt with the situation in a professional way. It is without doubt that if it were not for the quick responses of Alpha Company this incident could have turned very sour. The trial of those arrested continues.

DESPERATELY SEEKING... PEN PALS



These five men will form a queue.



These men aren't afraid to try and bribe you.



They'll show you a really good time.



All have deluxe bucker pads.

TORNADO ROCKS THE DIVISIONAL SUPPORT GROUP

Alpha Company was left damp and dirty but still in high spirits after a sudden and torrential storm hit their location in the barren desert of southern Iraq. The fresh weather hit just as Alpha arrived in their new stop location on their continual push north towards Basra. Winds blew up to 120 mph and rain fell relentlessly throughout the night. Poncho's and tents were blown away along with anything that wasn't tied down. Sgt 'Big' Sheehan, a Platoon Sergeant, was doing his best to help his lads and shelter from the storm when he heard a cry from Lt 'Fish' Cataldo ordering him to stop moving as he was protecting him from the rain! Thankfully there were no casualties or injuries from the storm, but Alpha soldiers will always remember that just because your in the desert this doesn't mean the weather will be hot and dry!



Pte Ayre with his best mates

FACTS & FIGURES

9792 SHOWER
BAGS USED

73,448
CIGARETTES
SMOKED

25,978 LITRES OF
SWEAT
PRODUCED

29,376 CANS OF
POP DRUNK

20,140 SETS OF
PLASTIC
CUTLERY USED

8823 LOCAL
SECURITY
GUARDS
TRAINED

UNKNOWN
NUMBER OF
VISITS TO
LATRINES

53,760 TEXT
MESSAGES SENT

ALL THE ABOVE ARE
APPROXIMATE
FIGURES FOR ALPHA
COY ALONE

SENIOR NCO LOOKS FOR ONLY WAY OUT

Sgt Jason Barclay was shifted out of theatre soon after the conflict had started with a shot wound to the leg. SIR investigations are still ongoing however he was heard asking Pte 'Bliss' Goodwin the night before the incident, "Just a graze is all I need, think you can manage it?" Unfortunately Pte Goodwin managed it all too well and put a 5.56mm shell straight through Sgt Barclay's leg. Pte Goodwin has been released having made a large donation to charity.



An Artists impression
of the defendant,
Pte Goodwin.



Burma At War

"It's the not knowing that keeps us going..."

26 Mar 03

Following a Night at the Races.
The morning after chasing prisoners in Umm Qasr.



30 Mar 2003

Pvt Lane releases in his Shell
wraps in PWTB



25 Mar 2003

The advance from Kuwait was evident to say the least, it was broken up by two days where we had to protect ourselves by deploying an NBC suit as well as normal ground protection whilst everyone dug shell scrapes for protection against indirect fire. It was whilst in one of these shell scrapes being briefed by the PI Commander, that he trumped loudly whilst noting several of the four soldiers present were wishing they had donned respirators as the smell was overwhelming. The PI Commander was giggling like a school girl and forced out another whilst still the previous was too loud. The smell was worse than a Wafat Kipper market at midday. As he started to leave, one of the boys pointed out that he was moist and a little stoned around the back end. The PI Commander did the dab test and to his disbelief and amusement he found he had 100% his pants. More giggling ensued and whilst falling back into his shell scrape on his stomach squabbling the offending boys down his legs. Needless to say he was at the front of the queue when the CQMS handed out army issue apple-scratchers (instead of the front of the shell scrape for a change!).



WANTED

20 Mar 2003

In the early days of OP TELIC back in Kuwait all the NBC companies were on an NBC lesson. The lesson had been running for about an hour and the instructor was going through all the drills like how to decontaminate etc.... He was on the last words of the lesson "well guys to sum it up...." we all heard a whistling sound, everybody looked up to see where it was coming from. By this stage the instructor shouts "GAS, GAS, GAS!" but most people were still looking in the air for the noise. Then BOOM!! About 800m away the whistling thing landed. Everyone started panicking trying to get their NBC suits on while still wearing their whistling. One guy just threw everything on the floor and dived into cover. All the commanders were trying to find their sections, but didn't have a prayer. After about 10 minutes we had all managed to get into hard cover and started to decontaminate. All the way through the day and night we were in and out of NBC kit as we kept getting attacked. That was the scariest time of my life.

Pvt Scarborough describing the MORTAR attack on Camp Rhino Kuwait

Cpl Eileen F. See S PI





1 May 2003

Ass Tasking....

Once upon a time whilst on patrol Maj Vallage stumbled upon a feral and decrepit donkey that had been abused by a small boy for many months. The OC took pity on the Donkey and decided to adopt it. The donkey was named

"Copenhagen".....
One day on QRF the OC came screaming out of his office, shouting to heads for QRF. The lads scrambled for their kit as I went for a brief "FIND MY F****ING DONKEY!" was the QRF's. We bolted from the building deciding to search the camp first - he wouldn't go far, he knew which side his bread was buttered..... to his knees and he held there he was needed beside the command tent there he was needed beside the commander. We dragged him back to the base and released. We dragged him into Copenhagen telling CSM Wilson that a burst into Copenhagen telling him how naughty he was.... The OC was later heard whispering into the donkey's ear "Don't ever scare your daddy like that again". The OC and CSM are so attached to him we are all wondering how he'll get back through OP

Lt Col Stuart

15 May 2003
 Controlling a water drop for the locals of southern AZ



20 May 2003

Lt Col Smith secures a house on a dawn raid against the 'al-Qa' party numbers in AZ



10 Apr 2003

Sgt Goddard on patrol with six Platoon takes a break from the heat in Az Zubayr

23 Jun 2003
 Maj Vallage goes native during the farewell party to Burns Company thrown by the locals.



Southern Iraq

AZ ZUBAYR

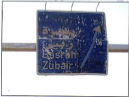
UMM QASR



SAFWAN



Southern Iraq



CORUNNA COMPANY

AT WORK AND PLAY



Corunna have become experts at interacting with the local Iraqi, being able to carry out person and vehicle searches while maintaining the 'hearts and minds' perspective.



Corunna Company troops providing force protection for Explosive Ordnance Teams to clear unexploded ordnance.



Sgt Paddy Walsh, the Company Civilian/Military Liaison Officer for Ramaylah assisting in a Day/Vehicle Search Operation.



The Company enjoy a rare opportunity to cool down in a plunge pool located within a Gas and oil Separation Plant called 'Marwick'.



Sgt. Nakhmanov prepares for an Urban patrol of Az Zubayr.

CORUNNA'S OP/TELIC CALENDAR

12 March 02 - 0C: Maj Nigel Goodwin, arrived in theatre with the Battalion Recon Group.

16 March 02 - Corunna Company: complete, with the exception of the CQMS' party who were delayed in Azerbaijan and UAE. Initial tasking was the provision of security to one half of the POW Holding Area, planned to be constructed some 2 kms West of Umm Qasr.

20 March 02 - Air war started.

21 March 02 - Corunna Company was ordered forward to Holding Area Waterloo at 0700hrs Zulu. The Battalion moved North, led by Corunna Company. Initial orders were for the Company to move to an assembly area South of the Bremer and just 5 kms short of the border. After digging in and providing local security, it became apparent that 15 Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), who were clearing Umm Qasr, had taken 250 POWs and needed assistance whilst they continued to clear the town.

Eventually, after 40 minutes notice, Corunna Company led the Battalion up to the assembly area. After 3hrs of listening to several briefings and the gain of 20 Commando Regiment, orders were given to cross the border. The Company deployed to the eastern perimeter and dug in. **22 March - 4 April 02 - Operations in POW Holding Area.**

6 April 02 - Orders were given to return to the Battalion in Az Zubayr. The Area of Operations (AO) consisted of a large rural area, a platoon sized guard task and two urban areas. The platoon task was the security of an oil and gas storage facility and a Gas and Oil Separation Plant (GOSP). Urban patrolling was conducted in a residential area, nicknamed Barroby.

14 May 02 - Corunna Company inherited a Brigade size Area of Operations that equated to the same size as Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cumbria combined) including the strategically vital Ramaylah Oil Fields and processing plants as CF vital ground. Corunna Company deployed a Platoon permanently in the town of Ramaylah to dominate the urban area and provide a CS focus, whilst also deploying 3 day Long Range Patrols to patrol the 800 square kilometre in depth. Corunna Company has made over 100 arrests and seized over 80 weapons and 35 vehicles. The Company has also trained some 750 Iraqi Oil Security Guards to take over the key point protection of the Oil Infrastructure (handing responsibility for Iraq back to the Iraqis).

27 June 02 - Corunna Company return to Osanabrick.



Cpl Roberts and Lt Nelson assist in the continued restructuring of the town of Ramaylah by the use of a locally employed interpreter.



9 Platoon prepare for an Urban foot patrol, under the command of Cpl Campbell.



Pvt Dumbrovis covers the rear of his Section during a 3 day desert patrol.



Regardless of the heat and occasion, one must always be aware of the continued threat against Coalition Forces. A joint illustrated by Sgt 'RECON' Leddingham during a Corunna BAP in the desert.



Dettingen PI

THE DREAM TEAM



No plan is without a map...



The Battle for Basrah



Dettingen PI base, Basrah Palace



Cpl Oddie with his Stear



LCpl Pears with the rest of Bamsey's supporters



Cpl Shatt with a joint road with B Coy



Lark from Basrah Bay with Coast 7 Armed Bde HQ Cpl



Helicopters with 7 Armed Bde HQ



Dettingen PI with WIMICs in Al Zubayr

Dettingen PI could be remembered as the most diversely employed PI on TELIC. Initially deploying with 7 Armcd Bde HQ then with HDWR as a "Recon" PI, Fatigue Party, Guard Force and Holiday Rops. Drawn from across the Bn they were the self assembled "Dream Team". The PI saw action at AZ, Basrah, Shalibah & Burger King and Pizza Hut. An internal Sunbathing Café was run with all soldiers being awarded distinctions. A World record attempt to use as many road wheels as possible in 5 months was made. Results to follow as 50kg kit venture on to the property market saw the PI acquire a nice detached pad in Basrah Palace grounds worth £1.5 million on UK market. An experience not easily forgotten but the old saying... **NEVER EVER VOLUNTEER IN DUKES... is true!**



The Desert Tortoise



DUKES
FORWARDING BUSINESS





DUKES
FORGIVING WARRIORS

Hook

BGHQ OP TELIC

Special features Editor: Sgt Tim Morgan

When we were back in Osanabrück doing our respirator checks and NBC revision we never thought that a week later we would putting the same drills in practice for real this time. Shortly after the first Scud alarm we were hit by a sea dart. There was a loud explosion followed by an outbreak of major panic. No one knew what it was and where it had landed. By now we had mastered the 'mask in mine' drill and got it off to a fine art.



The Adjt (Capt Palmer) becomes unpopular after publishing the Orderly Sergeant's Process.

The Bn then moved north to cross the Iraq/ Kuwait border. Umm Qsar was not secure, the Bn dug hasty defensive positions only 1 km from the border, exchanges of gun and arty fire are heard in distance.



Eancy Saying That

"30 seconds to Impact" - QDG could wait for SCUD in bound.

"Gas Gas Gas" - Everyone

"It's like being in another country" - SSgt Blossfield when comparing crossing the Iraq/Kuwait Border

"The Americans are not in Baghdad" - Iraqi Information Minister

".....the wire" - Members of Corvussey Coy

"Water ... Water" - Iraqi Children

"....there are a lot of SNU's and PNU's" - Capt Payne (IO)



Moving so soon?

The odds on BGHQ and Alma Company moving north were becoming greater by the hour. After only three days in the PWHO camp the inevitable happened, we moved north to take on a new task 'Route Security', as a British soldier was killed in a RPG attack near Safwan. We went to provide security for the Div Support Group (DSG). We arrived later that evening in utter darkness, were told to 'bivv' up and use any trenches around in the event of an arty attack. That night saw the worst night of rain I have ever experienced. The next morning 4-5ft trenches were full of water, most people got wet! After we were established and the area was secure we became the first unit to patrol and VCP in berets.

Capt Payne keeping morale high:

*When does Saddam have his lunch?
When Tariq Atq!*



BGHQ



Manoeuvre from BSM Next to BSM Taylor

Hook



John CSM's POC Op at 2007



1st Sgt - Sgt Morgan



Major Holroyd, Capt Garrow & Capt Bradley - Walker 2007/2008/1



No these are real Daddy's - Sgt Fisher



CO & the 200 - ready for War



MP 100 - National Fear



1st Sgt & MP - November



The 1st Sgt



Capt Mearnsley
Puffin

MT PI



Cpl Walker & Sgt Thompson

The LAD



OC LAD trying to reverse the Iraq Plan?



MTPI in commercial jungle - 107



Cpl Stevens



Cpl Smart



Sgt Anselmy



Major James AKI CPl Mearby



If the Iraqi's can make it work, then we shouldn't have a problem ...



I like playing with consoles



Hook

QM's Dept

'The desert is a fantastic paradise but is a QM's hell'
- Lisa Ruzovskis



'Look, I know it's in theatre but I need it here!'
Maj A. Thomas
J&A gpt



The guys that make it happen



100th QM Dept



'Everybody is wearing these in Paris this season' - Capt Pigg MBE



Cpl Foster giving the best ever ride home

Sigs PI



ROK - 'OK I'm off to Hamster - it's now your problem'



Sgt Barnes never dancing at Bazaar Palace



'I'll stay you on the mobile 'air this thing doesn't work'



'The I make you funny baby?' - Cpl McGregor



Cpl Armstrong & LCpl Blair

The Chefs



The next generation of Jamie Oliver's



'Look, I'm not that angry'



The AGC Det



'No more soldier'

- Cpl Brown



The Pte Davies disappearing paper (right) with Able Assistant - LCpl Bell



Cpl Wood suffers from exposure to DU'



'Work is Baby?' - LCpl Meyer



'No Christmas for me! I'm on the drug plan' - Sgt Fulton

The Medics



The RMO finds a secret soldier



Capt 'Bomb Shelter' Miles with Sgt Scott



'Oh come on, let's try that new style of medicine'



The new initiative unit



LCpl 'Bird' Bell sniffing again



WATERLOO DAY

All Work & No Play



Maj 'wrist' Chudwick & the A&J take all corners

OP GOODEHOPE. KIA-BIA. 3000M ROW

The Mail Men



Sgt Simon hands over to Cpl Syles



BMM Taylor does some Iraqi drill

The excellent Drummers



Body Brackets



Start of BIA



Finish of KIA

'THE IRAQ PLAN'

CSE SHOW



Sgt Cameron & Ops Cpl 'Cat Minder'



Dukes worship the Quran



VOLLEY BALL COMPETITION



The Messes



'Aren't we a rugby regiment?'

THE HOT 30 FRIENDLY FOOTBALL MATCH



That ball is rock hard!



'Now I know how Leeds felt in Turkey'

CHURCH



Happy Hour



Pedro Pat



Yorkshire Pride

Q. What did Saddam Hussein have in common with Little Miss Muffin ?

A. They both had Kerbs in their way



"I would like to take the opportunity to say how much I have appreciated your support over the last few months. You have done a tremendous job. Please could you pass on my thanks to all those in the Armed Forces and in the MOD who have contributed to this team effort. I am very grateful to them all. There will be no doubt be many difficult moments ahead, but you and the MOD can be proud of all that you have done so far. Thank you."

Message from the Prime Minister.



Lo Ed Smith would certainly agree that tents have don't have a place in the modern Infantry Battalion.



The Corinna kids find their own unique way to cool off...
Push Up Challenge !!!



"...the British officers are exceptionally tall, they are said to be picked for their rugby skills as well as their military prowess".



Capt Payne is really, really missing his girlfriend.



The Ravensley Boys



Q. How is Saddam like Fred Flintstone ?

A. Both look outside and see Rabble

RANDOM THOUGHT FOR THE PAGE:

"The history of Iraq has often been a history of conflict & bloodshed"



THE GOLDEN BLANKET COMPETITION

What The Soldiers Say

The Editor has been overwhelmed by the readers response to The Golden Blanket Competition. Below are the finalists - Vote for your favourite. Winner will be published in next edition.



Maj Holroyd



Sgt Burton



Capt Patten



Commanding Officer



Lt Crawford



Sgt Burns



Pte Taylor



Iraqi Page 3 Girl



Q. 'What is the difference between a British and an Iraqi soldier?'

A. 'Don't know ? Welcome to the United States Air Force!'

Investigative Reporter - Conical Hat

INFORMATION



"I always get to the heart of the matter"

	NUMBER OF SURVIVOR TOTALS	
Li Col	1	
Maj	4	
Capt	14	
Lt	9	
LtJr	1	
WOs	8	
CSgts	11	
Sgts	25	
Cpls	26	
LCpls	61	
Ptes	214	
Total	384	



What The Soldiers Say

5 WAYS TO SMOKE OUT SAIDAM :

1. Let him spend several hours dining with the French
2. Force him to teach George W Bush English
3. Threaten to take away his monstache comb
4. Make him pay British petrol prices when filling up
5. Cast him in "I'm a tyrant get me out of here"

An Average Day for a Dukes Soldier on Op TELIC



9/11 Card School



Li Dong Nelson : A popular blonde?



Captain Competition



Possibly ?



"We  not
EXCORPORATE Saddam



Hussein for his actions. We will
Mobilize to meet this threat to
vital interests in the Persian 
until an  ble solution is reached.
Our best strategy is to  prepared.

Failing that, we **ARCO**  bring
to kick your ass."



JUST DO IT.
FOR A GUARANTEED
SCORCHED EARTH POLICY





Our US Allies



Coming Home : At last.



1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment Routine Orders, 23 July 2003.

MESSAGE FROM THE COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT,

This week part of the Bn that served in IRAQ goes on leave after its operational tour. So before you go I would like to underline the pride with which I and many others watched your progress throughout the campaign. Since your return a few weeks ago I have heard nothing but praise directed towards the Battalion. That this is well deserved is obvious but you should all be conscious of your contribution to the continued "solid" reputation of the 33rd and 76th in our nation's history. There has been much controversy in the press but nothing can detract from the exemplary fashion in which the Battalion deployed and conducted itself over the 4 months of the campaign. Well done, in fact bloody well done!!

Major General Sir Evelyn Webb-Carter KCVO, OBE
Colonel of the Regiment.



