

No.92 April 1954



THE IRON DUKE

*THE MAGAZINE OF
THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGT
(WEST RIDING)*

THE IRON DUKE

The Regimental Magazine of

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

*Dettingen
Mysore
Seringapatam
Ally Ghur
Delhi, 1803
Leswarree
Deig
Corunna
Nive
Peninsula
Waterloo
Alma
Inkerman
Sevastopol
Abyssinia*



*Relief of Kimberley
Paardeberg
South Africa 1900-02
Mons 1914
Marne 1914, '18
Ypres 1914, '15, '17
Hill 60
Somme 1916, '18
Arras 1917, '18
Cambrai 1917, '18
Lys
Piave 1918
Landing at
Suvla
Afghanistan 1919*

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APRIL 1954

No. 92

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THE REGIMENT

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Gen. Sir Philip Christison, Bt., G.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C.

COMMANDING OFFICERS:

1st Battalion, Moorish Castle, Barracks, Gibraltar Lt.-Col. F. R. St. P. Bunbury, D.S.O.
 Regimental Depot, Wellesley Barracks, Halifax Major J. H. Davis.
 382nd Field Regiment, R.A. (D.W.R.), The Drill Hall, Prescott Street, Halifax Lt.-Col. J. F. Crossley, M.B.E., T.D.
 578th (5th D.W.R.) H.A.A. Regiment, R.A., The Drill Hall, St. Paul's Street,
 Huddersfield Lt.-Col. S. J. E. Huxley, T.D.
 673rd L.A.A. Regiment, R.A. (The D.W.R.), The Drill Hall, Arden Road,
 Halifax Lt.-Col. D. Scott, T.D.
 7th Battalion, The Drill Hall, Milnsbridge, near Huddersfield.. .. Lt.-Col. T. Haighton, T.D.
 382nd Cadet Field Regiment, R.A. (D.W.R.), The Hutments, Hunger Hill,
 Halifax Major W. S. Jamieson
 2nd Cadet Battalion (D.W.R.), The Drill Hall, St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield Major F. W. Fielding, M.C.
 673rd Cadet L.A.A. Regiment, R.A. (D.W.R.), The Drill Hall, Keighley .. Major A. Dewhirst
 4th Cadet Battalion (D.W.R.), The Drill Hall, Victoria Road, Guiseley .. Major T. Dewhirst

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION (including Old Comrades' Association):

Secretary and Hon. Treasurer: Mr. S. E. Code, M.B.E., Wellesley Barracks, Halifax.

Editorial

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The following is part of a communication sent us by the Secretary of the Officers' Pensions Society:

"All retired officers should be grateful to the Members of both Houses of Parliament for the very active interest they have taken in the important matter of the retired service pay of officers of the Armed Forces.

"A considerable amount regarding the problems of retired officers' pay has been achieved now that there is this Society to represent their interests. It was largely due to its efforts that widows' pensions were increased and reviewed with effect from December 1, 1952. Previous to this they had remained basically unchanged for over 100 years.

"Membership of the Society is open to retired officers, to wives of serving or retired officers and to officers' widows.

"Full particulars may be obtained from the General Secretary, Officers' Pensions Society, 79 Petty France, Westminster, London, S.W.1."

Since this letter was received, the Society has scored another success. The Government has retreated from the position it has held so long and stubbornly, and restored the cut in pre-war pensions. There is no doubt that these officers had the sympathy of the public in their claim that they had been shabbily treated, and this sympathy was expressed on both sides of the House. The increase in the lower pensions is very small and does not pretend to represent the change in the value of money, but at least it is a step forward. But for the efforts of the Society it is doubtful if even this small advance could have been secured.

The following dates are important:

April 24 (Rugby Cup Final Night). The Regimental Association's London Dinner at the Lord Raglan, St. Martins le Grande. (Tickets 11s. 6d.)

June 4. The Regimental Tea and Dinner at the Hyde Park Hotel.

September 18. The Regimental Association's Annual General Meeting at Halifax. A.G.M., 5.45 p.m. Dinner, 7.15 p.m.

* * * *

The following cutting from the *Yorkshire Evening Post* has been sent us by the Hon. Secretary of the 10th Battalion, O.C.A.:

"Maj.-Gen. J. V. Whitfield, Inspector of Recruiting, during his visit to the Leeds Road Recruiting Office in Bradford said (referring to the 1st Battalion in Korea): 'I have not seen a better battalion since the war years and they have left a lot of goodwill behind them. Before they left they completed their positions streets ahead of anyone else, their lines were more immaculately laid out, and they completed more football fields.'"

* * * *

There are three annual essay competitions sponsored by the Army Quarterly and the R.U.S.I. which are approved by the War Office and publicised in A.C.I.s.

In spite of the valuable prizes offered, there have been very few entries for these competitions in recent years.

Details are as follows:

1. BERTRAND STEWARD Prize Essay Competition, 1954.

Prize—£80.

Closing date—June 19, 1954.

Subject:

"For many years it has been necessary for a large proportion of the Army to be stationed in the Middle East. This has necessitated costly and extensive trooping arrangements for the relief of units and individuals and has meant that regular officers and soldiers are often separated from their families for long periods.

"It has been suggested that under modern conditions it would be more economical and better for the morale of the Army if overseas garrisons were reduced to a minimum and mobile reserves stationed in the United Kingdom with a fleet of transport aircraft permanently available to take them wherever they were required at short notice."

Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of this suggestion and say whether you think it would be practicable.

General conditions for the essay are contained in A.C.I. 683/53.

2. GEORGE KNIGHT CLOWES Memorial Prize Essay, 1955.

Prizes—First prize, £35; second prize, £15.

Closing date—January 7, 1955.

Subject:

"When, after the war, National Service was instituted as a means of filling the ranks of the Regular Army, many people predicted that it would result in serious loss of fighting efficiency, especially in distant overseas units. These fore-

bodings have proved false, and the Army has fulfilled all its commitments successfully."

Comment on the present Army system of handling, training and utilising the National Service man and the National Service officer, and make suggestions for improving existing methods. If possible, give examples from your own experience, or which are within your knowledge.

General conditions for the essay are contained in A.C.I. 625/53.

3. GOLD MEDAL and TRENCH GASCOIGNE Prize Essay Competition.

Prize—Thirty guineas and Gold Medal.

Closing date—November 15, 1954.

Subject:

"To what extent will the introduction of atomic weapons and guided missiles modify the traditional functions of the Navy, Army and Air Force; and what changes in the structure and training of the three Services will be necessary to enable them to perform their new functions?"

OR

"Rearmament and the maintenance of large land, sea, and air forces during a cold war cause national bankruptcy. Our economic position at present prohibits the support of large armed forces and, consequently, dominates our strategic policy. Discuss what strategy, in your view, should be adopted in the circumstances and what type of force, bearing in mind the need for efficiency and balance, should be maintained to implement it."

General conditions for the essays are contained in A.C.I. 102/1954.

* * * *

Lack of space has again made it necessary to hold over several articles and contributions. Among these is a list of articles which have been acquired by or presented to the Museum since May 20, 1953. We hope to publish this in the July issue.

* * * *

We welcome with great pleasure two new-comers to THE IRON DUKE's staff of talented artists. They are 2/Lt. Dowdy and Pte. Galletti di Cadillac, and drawings by both appear in this number.

* * * *

The following stationery is on sale at the Depot:	
"History of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, 1919-1952"	s. d. 16 6
Frontispiece picture from the History, 1919-1952	10 0
Regimental Colours, 1st and 2nd Battalions, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment	2 0
Diaries, 1954, reduced to	3 9
Christmas Cards, undated, reduced to:	
Plain—no ribbon or picture	each 2
With ribbon and picture—"Christmas in Barracks"	each 3
With ribbon and picture—"The Battle of Deig"	each 3

All post free.

Please send orders, with cash, to: The Business Manager, THE IRON DUKE, Wellesley Barracks, Halifax.

1st BATTALION

SUB-EDITORIAL

For the third time in our history the Battalion is in Gibraltar. It is the sort of station which one either likes immensely or detests. Although some years for the more open life of Korea and Malaya all are settling down well to pre-war garrison life. Training is necessarily restricted for reasons of space; but guards and duties, annual range classification and games fill up our time quite effectively. In addition, an intensive programme of officers' days, N.C.O. training cadres and specialist courses has been arranged. While the fleet is in, a number of visits have been made to H.M. ships and several officers and men have been to sea in frigates and submarines.

The main topic of conversation out here is, of course, the Queen's visit. It is the last visit of the long and exhausting tour and Gibraltar is determined to give Her Majesty a welcome second to none. A secondary effect of the visit is that everyone has become very self-conscious about eyesores. Old rotting Nissen huts and pieces of barbed wire are being dismantled and removed. Buildings and railings which have not been painted for years, and but for the visit would have remained in that state, are all being smartened up. The Battalion itself is responsible for keeping tidy certain areas of the Rock and the expression "Rock cleaning" figures prominently in the weekly training programmes.

On Wednesday, February 10, H.E. The Governor paid an informal visit to the Battalion to see how we were settling-in. There was no special parade, H.E. merely walked round the barracks and institutes and visited the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes. The Battalion furnished two Guards of Honour to Gen. Cuesta, the new Governor of the Campo, when he paid a courtesy call on the Governor of Gibraltar. He arrived by sea from Algeciras in an old German E-Boat. He was met at Governor's Steps by the Spanish Consul and the Deputy Fortress Commander, Brigadier Lucas. He inspected a Guard of Honour from "C" and "D" Companies, commanded by Capt. Booth. Outside the Convent he inspected a second Guard of Honour, commanded by Capt. Isles, and with the Regimental Colour carried by 2/Lt. Fordyce.

Finally, may we congratulate those members of the Battalion whose awards of Mention in Dispatches were notified too late for inclusion in the last number. May we also express our great pride and pleasure at the award to our late Commander, Brigadier Joe Kendrew, of yet another bar to his D.S.O. We look on him with more than usual affection as a real "Duke."

OFFICERS' MESS

Since our arrival in Gibraltar life has moved at a breathtaking pace. The advance party had already given a cocktail party before we arrived and Christmas was upon us almost before we had unpacked. On Christmas Eve we held a small dance to which a few outside guests were asked. On

Christmas Day the Mess was closed as usual after lunch and on Boxing Day we held the annual Ladies' Guest Night. These two occasions were a great re-union for many of our wives who had not seen each other or the Regiment for a number of years. Indeed, some of them showed a strong disinclination to go home at all.

We have held two Regimental Guest Nights at which we have entertained the Chief Justice, The Colonial Secretary, The Dean, The Air Officer Commanding, The Captain of H.M.S. *Vanguard*, and several officers of the Services. In addition, a great many private guests have dined in Mess on the weekly guest night.

On Sunday mornings we have revived the custom of ladies coming to the Mess for drinks before lunch. Another pleasant custom inherited from our predecessors is a pre-luncheon cocktail party held on the first Saturday of each month. With the Band and the fountain playing, the Mess garden is a perfect setting for this type of entertainment.

From the moment we arrived the inhabitants, both service and civilian, could not have been kinder or more hospitable. Since the Home Fleet arrived there has been a constant exchange of visits between ships and the Mess. Especially noticeable for their kindness have been H.M. Ships *Vanguard*, *Vigilant*, *Artful* and *Scorcher*. When the Mediterranean Fleet arrives as well one hopes that an infantry officer's constitution will stand up to the strain!

On Wednesday, February 10, H.E. The Governor honoured us with a visit after an informal inspection of barracks. H.E. and Lady Macmillen have both been extremely kind and hospitable since our arrival. We were also very pleased to welcome Col. Cumberlege, who flew out for a short visit of inspection. Neither he nor we were sorry that his visit was prolonged by bad flying weather.

The Mess itself is worthy of mention. The name "Arengo's Palace" has a romantic ring. Nor would a visitor be disappointed. Possibly after a stay of ten days he could point out certain imperfections, but none would deny that as officers' messes go, this one has character. We debouch from a rather sordid little back street between a large tenement building occupied by policemen's families and an open space, reminiscent of Coventry after the blitz, up a flight of narrow steps. Indeed were it not for a large notice on the wall saying "W.D. Property—Stick no Bills," no one would dream that this was the entrance to our Palace.

At the top of the steps we are confronted with a ruined cottage, no doubt once occupied by Arengo's janissaries. We do a smart right turn and pass through a scarlet and wrought-iron arched gateway. Inside are more steps. At the top of these is a garden of about fifty yards by twenty with a fountain in the centre and several large trees laden with Seville oranges. A *pavé* pathway covered by a pergola runs the whole length of the seaward side. From this path one can see right across the

roofs of the town, across the harbour to Algeciras on the far side of the bay. From the fountain there is a further broad flight of steps at the top of which is another terrace. At one end of this terrace is Arengo's cottage, with a broad patio festooned with bougainvillea. Behind the terrace rises the imposing rococo facade of the Palace. Panting for breath the visitor ascends one of the wings of the double staircase past the "grotto" which makes a perfect outside bar for a morning cocktail party. The portico is embellished by the armorial achievement of Arengo or someone or other and on the roof is a row of almost life-size classical figures clad in draperies or fig leaves. Inside is a large barrel roofed anteroom with a big open fireplace. The walls are at first sight oak-panelled and provide a good background for our "Leech" prints. At the far end double doors open into the Moorish courtyard, a somewhat incongruous apartment to lead out of the baronial-style anteroom.

An even more incongruous note is struck by a cave of solid granite lit by a dim blue light, which oddly enough is the entrance to a staircase leading to officers' quarters of varying degrees of dilapidation. At one side of the anteroom is a long card room, soon to be a billiards room, and on the other is quite an attractive, but very small dining room and the Ladies' Room. The Ladies' Room is a charming room with an attractive bow window originally covered in very dirty yellow paint. It has now been repainted and the Garrison Engineer and the P.M.C. both blame each other for the result.

Such is Arengo's Palace. Of what Messrs. Jackson, Stops and Staff would call the "usual offices" the less said the better. However, as we mentioned before, the place has character, and after a quick dekho through the atlas your scribe reckons we are very lucky to be here in Gibraltar.

SERGEANTS' MESS

Our last contribution was despatched from the middle of the Indian Ocean while we still waited and wondered what the conditions would be in the fortress of Gibraltar. We were dismayed when we came ashore to find the Mess building very old and small and sadly in need of renovation and redecoration. The Royal Engineers have looked the place over and we are pleased to record that they have promised to do their best to set things right. A team of amateur painters has already done much to repair the exterior. Some extra furniture has been wheeled out of the barrack store so that now, at least half the members can sit down, instead of the half dozen who occupied our only seats on the night of arrival. From the front windows we have a very fine view over the airfield across to Spain, and from this corner Sgt. Holmes watches anxiously each evening for the mail plane. We held small dances on Christmas Eve and on New Year's Eve. They were both well attended by our own members and wives, though we had few visitors.

The main party of wives came out within a few days of our arrival and are now well settled into the run of things. Others arrive almost daily, but we still have well over thirty dining members in

the Mess. The members who deserve our sympathy are those who live in Casemates Barracks at the foot of the hill, and must climb up to Moorish Castle for each meal, and back again to work.

We have entertained parties of C.P.O.s and P.O.s from various naval vessels either based here or calling her. Among them are the submarine *Thermopylae*, the frigate *Cygnets* and the battleship *Vanguard*, whose E.R.A.s have descended upon us.

We still await the arrival of our Mess silver and property from the Depot, as, due to some confusion, it was not sent out with the remainder of the Battalion baggage. The Mess looks very bare and empty at present with only a few pictures on the walls and no books on the shelves.

The members who remained on the *Asturias* to go home on leave have all returned. None of the bachelors of the party seem to have married, but all the married men have distinctly put on weight. Those of us who stayed behind have savoured all the entertainment the Rock seems to offer, and also made forays across the border into La Linea. This turned out to be a disappointingly dirty place, which reminded us of Pusan. In Gibraltar town, Sgt. Kirk is said to have a controlling interest in one large Honky Tonk, and most of the others, large or small, have been inspected and patronised by those who have the cash to pay the prices prevailing for drinks. Sgt. Kirk has very recently decided to stay with us. He was within twenty-four hours of flying home on release when he did so decide.

The local lottery is receiving attention from those who want either to get rich quickly or to buy a car, as most of the senior N.C.O.s of the garrison seem to have done. So far our only mobile plutocrat is the Bandmaster.

The periodic honours list came out before Christmas and we all congratulate O.R.Q.M.S. Jack Hall on his much deserved M.B.E. C.S.M. Corke and Sgt. Robins received a mention in dispatches. Tom Nowell, lately our sniper Sergeant, has received an M.M. and we send him our congratulations.

We have had no domestic changes in our membership, but we welcome W.O.2 Renton, Sgts. Whittaker, Smart and Davis of the R.A.E.C. into the fold, and also on a more temporary basis we are pleased to have Sgt. Will (R.E.M.E.) with us. He will leave us as soon as we have found out where all our anti-tank guns are.

Our Paardeburg Ball has been arranged for Friday, February 26, and we are hoping that it will be as successful as in previous years. There is a distinct shortage of feminine company of the unattached variety here, and consequently a rattling good chance for any young lady who may like to jump a plane to pick herself a husband from our band of warriors.

CORPORALS' CLUB

This is the first opportunity that the Corporals' Club has had to enter notes for THE IRON DUKE since Minden days 'way back in '52.

When we went to Korea, a Corporals' Club was an impossibility during the fighting, as the Com-

panies were widely separated most of the time and we were kept busy every night. After the truce, however, when the "Dukes" pulled back behind the Kansas Line, R.S.M. Pearce lashed us into action with his tongue to get the Club into operation as soon as possible. Thereafter it was a common sight to see Corporals and Lance-Corporals with picks or shovels in hands, wandering over to the allotted plot of waste ground whereon they hoped to set up the Club. After nine days of toiling in their own time, flattening the ground, clearing the rocks, pitching tents, erecting the bar and cutting a drive-in, the Club was finally completed. The finished result was so good, in fact, that both the Sergeants' and Officers' Messes cast envious eyes on it and most of the time we lived in trepidation in case one of those two worthy Messes should covet our Club and leave us with either of their badly-planned and badly-lighted arrangement of aged tents! When the cold weather set in, Cpl. Sanderson, who worked well behind the bar and controlled the wireless set, and Cpl. Dodds (yes, he's still with us, despite the decrepitude which has set in, according to Bill Wakefield, our buffet man) worked hard on "winterising" the Club and did a good job of laying down the floor boards, building doors and installing stoves.

The short time left to us in Korea saw the Club holding several very successful functions. On one occasion the U.S. Marines were invited down to a social evening. After a riotous time, our combat cousins took their leave.

The farewell function was also a great success; the aforementioned Bill Wakefield laid on a terrific spread. Cpl. McKenzie, M.M., put three whole roasted chickens away. L/Cpl. Pilcher wouldn't talk to anyone until he had eaten a full turkey leg. Towards closing time, tongues were loosened and praises were showered upon us in speeches delivered by Corporals representing the Royal Canadian Regiment, the Warwickshire Regiment, the Essex Regiment, and the Royal Scots. A gate-crashing Marine maintained his birthright in freedom of speech and in his "just-a-few words" placed the "Dukes" on a pedestal only just below Abe Lincoln. He, the Marine, received the longest applause of the night.

On the Rock, space, or the lack of it, seems to be the common complaint. We have two small and very cramped Clubs. The one at Moorish Castle is in a Nissen hut perched precariously atop the Privates' NAAFI and is serviced by a primitive lift contraption reminiscent of Moorish days (circa 1490), when this method was used to lift well water. Below at Casemates, the Club is perhaps the better of the two, but here again it is far too small in comparison with the clubs we have had elsewhere.

We are just beginning to feel our feet in Gibraltar, so there is little more to say at present. We hope to be able to give a more detailed account of the members and functions of the Club in the next edition of THE IRON DUKE.

"A" COMPANY

The last IRON DUKE notes left "A" Company just after embarkation on the *Austurias* in mid-

November. For most people the four-week voyage from the Far East represented a comparatively blank period at the end of which was a long-awaited return to civilisation; to home leave for some, to happy reunion with wives and families to others and to all a less rigorous mode of life under more familiar conditions than those to which we had grown accustomed in Korea. Despite periodic visits to different ports of call on the way home and the many fatigues to be carried out, time was found for a sports programme in which the Company won the potted sports competition, but lost to the officers, of all people, in the tug-of-war. Cpl. Bower and Pte. Greensmith helped to keep the Battalion fit by acting as P.T. instructors. Cpl. Miles sat for his Second Class Certificate of Education on board ship and has just been notified of his success. Mr. Watkins helped with the children's education classes and with the Sunday School.

On arrival at Gibraltar on December 10 several fortunate people went on to England in the *Austurias* for a well-earned month's leave, whilst the remainder of the Company had the privilege of leading the Battalion through the town to Grand Casemates. The fortunate people were C.S.M. Callaby, Cpls. Hall, Conroy, Miles and Cook, L/Cpls. Jenness and Duncan, and Ptes. Buglass, Blakelock, Balmforth, Baines, Cannon, Comer, Ebden, Lofthouse and Stanley. Several others followed them in a few day's time.

We now were reunited with our advance party, consisting of C/Sgt. Clark, Sgt. France and Pte. Kirk. Sgt. France had already been posted to "S" Company in anticipation of the re-forming of the Anti-Tank Platoon. Some days later a few families arrived off the *Lancashire*, among them being Major Ince's family and Mrs. Chadwick. Sgt. Arundel's and Cpl. Taylor's families arrived by air shortly afterwards. C/Sgt. Clark's family are well settled in and Cpl. Jenney expects his wife's arrival at any moment. With the *Lancashire* came also Capt. Isles, whom we welcome to the Company as 2 IC. According to popular report, Pte. Green, Major Ince's batman, welcomed the arrival of Mrs. Ince and the children. From that moment he assumed the envied position of a gentleman about town, since he lives with Major Ince in Artillery House and not in barracks.

After the Christmas holiday Mr. Dowdy, who had joined us at Pusan, left to take up the temporary duty of M.T.O. In mid-January the Battalion lost a well-trying National Service Group, the 03's, most of whom were former members of the Welch Regiment who joined the Battalion on compulsory transfer soon after it arrived in Korea. They were a most valuable and well-liked bunch of chaps and the Battalion will be the poorer without them. We therefore wish Cpl. Jones and Hammacott, of "A" Company, all the luck they deserve in civilian life after eighteen months' service in the Far East. Leitch went with them also, although he is no Welshman. We shall miss him, too. He was the last National Serviceman to have been with the Company in Germany. With him go our best wishes.

At Pusan we were the only Company that managed to play a game of football. We were narrowly beaten by a R.E.M.E. Unit (the score being 2—1), who, thinking they had beaten the Battalion side, went into unjustified raptures of delight. Since arriving at Gibraltar, Burke and Charlesworth have given added strength to the team.

In the Gibraltar Individual Boxing Championships there were three "A" Company representatives—L/Cpls. Stirland and Southwick and Pte. Greensmith. The first round saw Stirland eliminated and Southwick had to withdraw from the next round owing to injury, but Greensmith won his second fight and then went on to win the final. During the eighteen minutes boxing that it took him to win his middle-weight title, there was only a brief moment during which he was not master of the ring.

"B" COMPANY

At the present time "B" Company is well established at Casemates Barracks. A great many stayed on board H.M.T. *Asturias* last December and sailed on to England for a well-earned Christmas leave at home. These included Sgt. Fletcher, who had been a most effective acting C.S.M. for four months, Sgt. Peach and Sgt. Cranham. Capt. Evans also went on leave, but he has since been appointed as Assistant Camp Commandant, H.Q., Northern Command, and so, most unfortunately, will not be coming back. This is a great loss, and to him and the many other Korean veterans who are now leaving us we wish good luck and the success they so thoroughly deserve. It is a pity to see the "butcher's apron" becoming scarcer and scarcer in the ranks already.

Shortly after arrival Lt. Gilbert Smith, who must be congratulated on his award of the Military Cross for gallantry in Korea, sailed home in H.M.S. *Ocean*. He played a number of games for London Scottish before driving his car back here via France and Spain. This return trip was not without incident, but it is probably better to make no record here in writing. All's well that ends well. (Comment: rather typical No. 6 Platoon administration!)

No. 4 Platoon is now commanded by 2/Lt. Fordyce, who joined us in Korea, filling the gap left by 2/Lt. Miller, who we were sorry to lose when he went to "S" Company. Another welcome new arrival is 2/Lt. Pell. 2/Lt. Hedges suddenly decided to leave us for the Depot very shortly after reaching Gibraltar.

Finally, a welcome must be extended to those reinforcements who are now arriving in the Company from England. (This is in addition to the welcome they are getting from Sergeant-Major Corke.)

Everyone is now back from leave, and this month we are busy finding the Frontier Guard at Four Corners. This duty leaves time for a certain amount of W.T. revision, shooting, and P.E. tests in the mornings, and soccer in the afternoons whenever a ground is available. Every effort is being made to learn to play hockey. Soccer grounds are

scarce and in heavy demand and other games must be mastered in order that everyone can enjoy some sort of outdoor exercise.

In sport, prospects are looking up. The soccer side has at last received some new blood to replace the gaps caused by releases during the past six months. The most recent victory was against the Royal Marines of H.M.S. *Vanguard*.

Ptes. Meredith and Cadilhac entered for the Fortress Individual Boxing Competition. Meredith reached the semi-final of the lightweights and fought very well indeed.

We now have Meredith, Cadilhac and Parker in training for the Inter-Unit Competition next month.

The married members of the Company have been lucky, and everybody who wanted a quarter got one. Apparently they are not so good as the quarters in Germany, but by Gibraltar standards they are adequate enough.

"C" COMPANY

If contrast is necessary to complete enjoyment of the full life, we have had it to the full in the last four months. From Castle Hill to Moorish Castle, from Chengis Khan to Tariq Ibn Zeid, we have moved to a new station pregnant with historical associations. With Battalion Headquarters and "D" Company we share Moorish Castle Barracks. It is about a third of the way up the Rock and in the shadow of the Tower of Homage. From the barrack room verandah there is a wonderful view across the bay of Algeciras to the hills of Southern Spain. For one week we enjoyed the unprecedented sight of these hills and those of Morocco across the straits covered in snow. Even La Linea looks attractive at this range.

Grateful as we are for the view and the romantic atmosphere of our castle, there are certain disadvantages. The barrack rooms and the plumbing may be of antiquarian interest, but they are not in keeping with modern ideas of comfort. The NAAFI is reputed to have been used as a stable during the Great Siege of 1789 and obviously has not been decorated since. The worst drawback is the water. Each barrack room holds one small container of repellent drinking water, which works out at about half a gallon a man a day. All baths, washing and shaving must therefore be done in salt water. So far, the weather has been temperate, but in the summer —! The other chief drawback is the lack of amenities for games. We get an allotment of a soccer and a hockey ground at Europa for one morning a week. But this is forty-five minutes' walk away. We also share some Naval grounds when the Fleet is not in, as it is at present. Everyone gets a chance of playing at least once a week, but there is nowhere where a ball can be kicked about in the evenings. A very small square with a slope of one-in-one is a serious handicap to Sergeant-Major Randall.

From our arrival until after Christmas we did little but settle in and explore the shops, cabarets and bars. Soon civilian suits of distinction and ties of quite staggering elegance made their appearance. Christmas was observed in the customary

manner and No. 9 Platoon won the competition for the best decorated barrack-room by a short head. They also held a very enjoyable Platoon party.

Training started in the New Year and is being directed mainly towards rifle classification and P.E. tests. One of the difficulties is to find enough soldiers to train. The "administrative incubus" lies heavily on Gibraltar and although we are up to strength we find that sixty per cent. of us are engaged in administering the remaining forty per cent.

In games we have not done at all badly. Practically all games in Gibraltar are on a league basis. We took over the position of our predecessors in the Minor Units Soccer League. As they had only four batteries and we have six companies we have a joint team with "D" Company as also have "A" and "B." No. 213 Battery left us a legacy of four wins and one draw, which we have now increased to seven wins and three draws, and are as yet unbeaten. The winners will undoubtedly be the Royal Navy, who, although playing in the Minor Unit League have about a Battalion strength to draw on. Anyway, with the help of some players from "D" Company we have done quite creditably and will not be far behind the Senior Service. Senior and Waite, the latter soon to go home, have played regularly for the Battalion and L/Cpl. Ennis and Moss, a new-comer of promise, have played occasionally.

Cpl. Dawson and L/Cpl. Cawthra have been playing regularly for the Battalion XV. They were joined on his eventual return from leave by 2/Lt. Campbell-Lamerton. It proves just as disastrous to cross his path on the rugger field as it is when he is driving his car. A number of the Company have learned to play hockey and 2/Lt. Bethmann-Hollweg has qualified as a referee. Darts, snooker and basket-ball each have their leagues and their devotees. Before long swimming and sailing will be the order of the day.

We have received several reinforcements from home and from Headquarter Company. Many of the former have since left us for employed jobs. A number have left and will continue to leave us for the Territorial Army. We wish them good luck and hope they have gained something from their stay in "C" Company. Among them we lost our pay clerk, L/Cpl. Thornton, whose place has been taken by Smith (96). Cpls. Richards and Rowlands have departed to the Principality and Sgt. Kirk, with one foot on the aircraft, changed his mind and signed on for a further spell.

At last we have a typewriter, which is happily played by Pte. Wild, another new-comer. The Company Commander, C/Sgt. Lancaster and Cpl. Bastow have been joined by their families and are occasionally seen in barracks. Mr. Cowell has also secured himself an employed job with a telephone, which allows him more time for his other activities.

At the time of writing we are about to take over the duties of furnishing the Convent Guard and Sergeant-Major Randall is in his element in smartening us up. Let's hope he is successful.

"D" COMPANY

"Op" Sayonara continued on its way, and the Company embarked on H.M.T. *Asturias* on Friday, November 13, 1953, at Pusan. "Friday, 13th" or not, our luck was in, the accommodation was excellent.

Rumours of "blood, sweat and tears" were generally unfounded, and, apart from our daily dose of P.T. and our daily lecture, life passed very easily for us. C/Sgt. Nichol was usually seen leading a thirsty throng bar-wards round about noon each day.

On reaching Port Said and the Eastern Mediterranean, came a series of parties, a ship's concert and a play. Our Company Commander was, as usual, one of the chief organisers, and, as may be expected, all went with a swing.

At 0530 hours, December 10, 1953, the *Asturias* arrived at the Rock and there on the quayside was the Band to play us in, and later to lead us through the streets of Gibraltar to the strains of "The 'Dukes' are coming up the hill." This proved to be no mere understatement! When we finally arrived at Moorish Castle we all realised what difficulties Sherpa Tensing and Sir Edmund Hillary had to face. However, we soon settled in to our new hoochies and that night we inspected Gibraltar. Meanwhile Mr. Newton, Mr. Dasent, C/Sgt. Nichols and Sgt. Fenn were relaxing on board the *Asturias*, bound for Southampton on a well-deserved leave. Sadly we were soon to lose Mr. Bannerman, who collapsed in the road near the Officers' Mess and was hurriedly removed to hospital. He has since been flown home to England, where, we are happy to say, he is making an excellent recovery. It is doubtful whether we shall see him back in the Company again.

Christmas festivities were organised well and gaily. Apart from Sergeant-Major Jobling having a slight tiff with the Gibraltar customs, no member of the Company let Christmas spirit get the better of him and a good time was had by all.

At long last we persuaded our Company Commander that a spell of leave in England would not be entered as a black mark on his conduct sheet, and finally, and most reluctantly, the "Baron" left by air for a combined leave and Course of Instruction in England. We shall no doubt hear very much more about the nature of the latter upon his return.

Capt. Booth now occupies the chair and judging by the amount of paint that he has ordered, he will shortly have the Rock painted in "Dog" Company colours.

Twenty-four stalwarts from the Company formed part of a Guard of Honour for the visiting Spanish Governor of The Campo, who called to pay his respects to the Governor of Gibraltar on January 25, 1954. Judging from all reports, the standard of turnout, the bearing and drill of our contingent was of the highest, and all who took part are congratulated.

Mr. Dasent has just returned from leave, bringing with him C/Sgt. Nichols and Sgt. Fenn. All three should shortly have recovered from the effects of Christmas leave and be ready for work again.

We welcome 2/Lt. R. Aykroyd from Eaton Hall into the Company and we hope that his stay with us will be a happy one. We also hope that he will eventually manage to start his car.

The New Year is upon us and our one resolution is to keep "D" Company where it always has been—on top!

"S" COMPANY

The Company is now settled-in in Casemates Barracks. For Sergeant-Major Williams and the Sergeants this means a daily descent of some two hundred steps from the Sergeants' Mess, while for the men the undeniable attractions of Main Street are but a stone's throw away. The barrack rooms are large and each has a wireless loudspeaker. Alas, we have not yet started Platoon training, but this is not far off.

The Company soccer team is winning, thanks to the inspired leadership of Sgt. Spring. The Company also possesses a formidable hockey team. Sgt. Batty defends in goal and Major Grieve leads the forward line. Roebuck, O'Keefe, Carey and Adams are regular players. Unfortunately many of the Company are being demobilised and consequently we are eagerly awaiting new recruits. Their arrival will herald new activities, a tour of the gun positions with Sgt. France, and a few long carries led by Sgt. Batty.

3-IN. MORTAR PLATOON

We are a very small Platoon now. Gone are the days when we were fifty strong and Sgt. Batty had his independent Command. We arrived at Gibraltar to find six mortars in excellent condition and all the men are eager to start training.

Recently, L/Cpl. Mason and Ptes. Blackburn and Williams left us for home and we received in their places Ptes. Coe, Kelly and Hanley. Unfortunately, as these notes go to press, the Platoon has done no live firing and consequently there is little news.

In the sporting world Lamb started well for the Battalion soccer team, but is now in hospital. Mosley has been a regular member of the Company soccer team, whilst O'Keefe, Shelley and Baker are obtaining notoriety as the Company representatives in the Indoor games team. Ptes. Roebuck and Braithwaite are due to leave us shortly. We wish them good luck in the Territorial Army and hope they do not forget too much before the summer camp.

H.Q. COMPANY

After an interesting, but uneventful, passage on H.M.T. *Asturias*, those of us who were not fortunate enough to be going straight home on leave, found ourselves looking with expectant eyes at the massive and impressive Rock which is to be our home for the coming months.

Our long lost friends, the Band, were on the quayside to meet us and through the normal jumble of bodies, kitbags and rifles during the disembarkation, we quickly formed up to begin the march into our new station.

The route was through the centre of the town,

which gave us a good view of the place, as well as giving the local crowds who turned out in large numbers, a chance to see the first infantry on the Rock for some time.

On arrival at "Casemates," which was to be the home of half the Company, the other half was rather grieved to hear that they were faced with accommodation in Moorish Castle, entailing frequent climbs up and down some two hundred and fifty steps between barrack room and Company office or place of parade, both being at the bottom.

Our accommodation at first seemed to be not quite what we expected, due, no doubt, to our past dreams of luxury stations, but within a week we were accustomed to our surroundings and the amenities at our disposal.

We continued to settle in and explore the town, until with almost supersonic suddenness Christmas was upon us.

We were granted a generous stretch of leave in which to acquire and dispose of numerous hangovers and similar holiday ailments.

The Company Commander was kind enough to grant a small amount of money from the funds to decorate the rooms which, with the many Christmas cards on display, produced a festive setting.

On Christmas morning tea was served by the officers and Sergeants, which, considering the previous night's merriment, was considered by most to be a noble effort. Christmas dinner was, as usual, served in the dining room, again with the officers and Sergeants doing the honours in the traditional manner.

I mention here that H.Q., being divided between Moorish Castle and Casemates, had a share in both dining rooms, the food in each case being of ample quantity and excellent quality.

We were honoured during the meal by a visit from the Commanding Officer, whose health was proposed by Pte. Eaton.

After our festivities, we again began to think in terms of work, and many eyes were turned on the airfield, from whence those returning from leave would come to boost the guard rolls.

The Company was well represented in the honours list and we heartily congratulate the following on their well-earned awards: Major Kavanagh—bar to his M.C. O.R.Q.M.S. Hall—M.B.E. and M.S.M. Cpl. McKenzie—M.M. Lt. Naughton, Sergeant-Major Corke and Sgt. Robins—Mention in Dispatches. R.S.M. Pearce—M.S.M.

We conclude these notes by saying farewell to our late Company Commander, Major Austin, and to Capt. Wood, who have both returned to U.K. We also welcome our new Company Commander, Major Kavanagh and hope that his stay with us will be a happy one.

THE BAND

We must begin these notes with an apology for our long absence from these columns. Our separation from the Battalion, combined with extreme pressure of work, made it nearly impossible to remember the date by which the notes were required.

After a short spell at the Regimental Depot we were drafted to Gibraltar in March of last year. Unfortunately, this move abroad caused us to lose a number of our older members, and we take this opportunity of wishing them all the best in their new spheres. At the same time we welcome to the Band all the new-comers who have so ably filled their positions.

Our arrival in Gibraltar was the beginning of a long spell of hard work, and at one time, during the Coronation period, the only times we were free were between midnight and 6 a.m. daily.

Our stay on the Rock with the Royal Artillery was a very happy one, but we were very pleased when we were able to welcome the Battalion. After marching out our very good friends, the 78th H.A.A. Regiment, R.A., we were extremely proud to march the Battalion, fresh from their exploits in Korea, right through the centre of Gibraltar, to the strains of "The 'Dukes' are coming up the Hill." We understand, from onlookers, that it was a very impressive occasion and the Battalion looked extremely smart.

During our stay on the Rock, the services of the Band have been in great demand, from the various Regiments residing here, and the Dance Band managed to travel as far as Tangier, to play for a British Legion Ball. At the same time they managed to squeeze in an hour's broadcast on Radio Tangier. A good time was had by all, and we understand that our services will be required again very shortly.

We do not shine very brightly in the sporting world these days, but even so, we had two representatives in the 78th Regiment's soccer team, namely, Cpl. Jones and Bds. Berry. These two are also reserves for the Battalion. Jones also played in the Battalion Rugby team. Bds. Gaunt made a name for himself in the Command Athletic Meeting last year, and we hope that this year he will do even better. We also have a representative in the Battalion .22 team, but modesty forbids us to mention his name.

Again in these notes we must produce our usual plea for recruits and more recruits, particularly Boys. We are sending Sgt. Horner home in the near future, for a few months, and have great hopes that he will persuade a few boys to join our happy throng. Any old "Duke" with a son of the age required can contact him at the Regimental Depot and be assured of an effusive welcome.

We will close these notes by welcoming Major A. B. M. Kavanagh, M.C. (we remember his Dad), as Band President and assure him of our support in most, if not all, of his endeavours.

THE DRUMS

Despite the teething troubles we are now experiencing, everything augurs well for the future, much of this being due to a nucleus of old faithfuls: Drms. Welsh, Reeves, Sage, Gunning and Norman, who have been Drummers for some years.

Ably tutored by Drum-Major Alton and Cpl. Simpson, progress is rapidly being made. L/Cpl.



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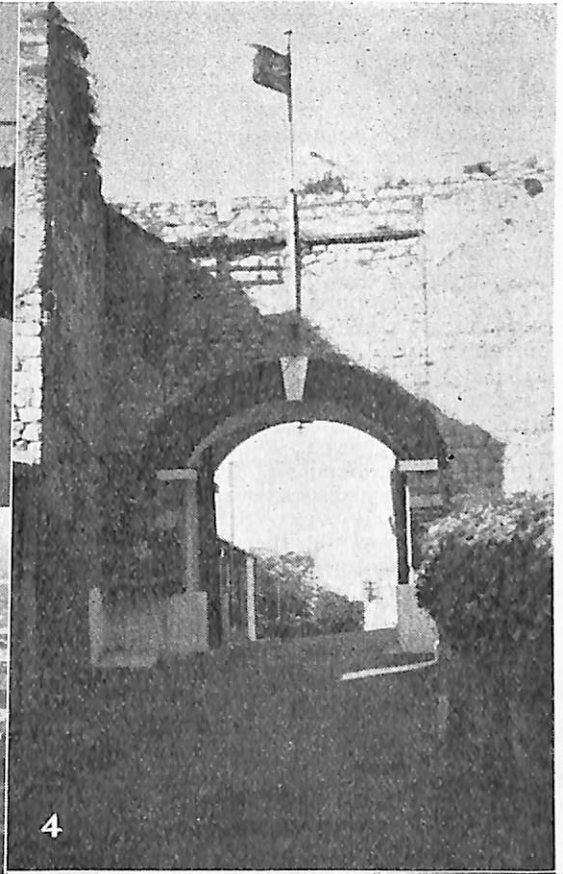
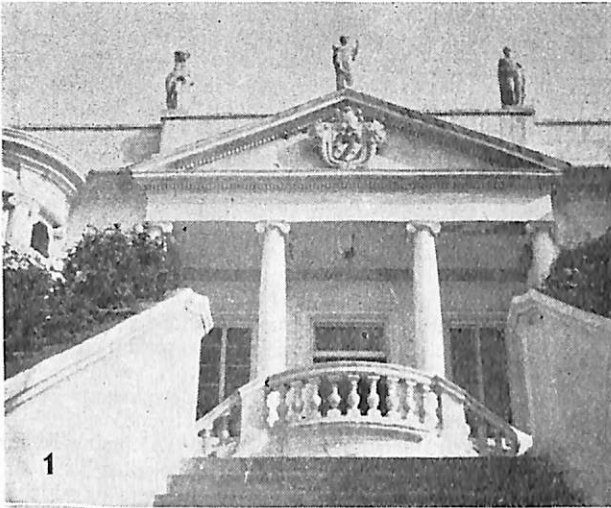
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1. Officers' Mess building, known as Arengo's Palace, Gibraltar
 2. View from Officers' Mess looking across the North Harbour. Spain in the distance
 3. Rugger in Gibraltar. The ground is in Spain and is the old polo ground
 4. Entrance to the Moorish Castle. The top barracks are occupied by the Regiment
 5. On board the *Asturias*. Back row: Majors Jones-Stamp, Austin, Ince, Lt.-Col. Bunbury, Majors Moran, Emmett, Milligan. Front row: Majors Grieve and Le Messurier

Evans assists by instructing others in the art of "skin-bashing."

Due to other Regimental activities, never a day goes by but someone is elsewhere. Despite these distractions, progress is being made.

We welcome Drms. Gunning, Godden, Chantler, Cooper and Reddy, hoping their stay with us will be a pleasant one. We also say good-bye to Drm. Hovell, who has been posted to the Depot.

Congratulations are offered to our members who have made their mark in the sporting world: Drms. Gallagher and Reddy (soccer), Cooper (Rugby) and Godden (boxing).

Great interest is being shown in our permanent invalid, with many queries as to when he will have his cast removed and become an active member of society again.

In concluding, we extend greetings to all old Drummers wherever they may be. We shall be glad to see any of them in the future.

SIGNALS PLATOON

Life in Gibraltar, we are finding, is vastly different from life in Korea. Gone are the days when we were involved in one continuous round of feverish activity—cadres, digging and operations. Now we go about our gentle tasks, never seeing a wireless set or using a pair of pliers. Although signalling is temporarily at a standstill, some of us have been given interesting jobs: L/Cpl. Gunn is a radio diffusion announcer for the Fortress Radio Network; Kirkman is a conductor on the school bus; Davison is firmly ensconced in the Company Stores, where life is particularly pleasant by all accounts; and Tuffs is almost a whole-time footballer, having played in several top-line matches, including the Gibraltar *v.* Yugoslavia one in which the opposing side was fielding seven internationals.

The Platoon has also distinguished itself in boxing, three of us, L/Cpl. Burgess, Ptes. Toal and Blakeburn, going in for the Fortress Individual contests, the first two reaching the finals and getting a winner's and a runners-up medal respectively.

On February 3 we are starting a period of intensive instruction for our N.C.O.s; Cpl. Nicholson is going on the N.C.O.s' cadre and Cpls. Cannon and Robinson, L/Cpls. Nelson, Hudson and Mallinson, and Pte. Falkingham are entering upon a Signals N.C.O. cadre, preparatory to going forth to sow the good seed in the fertile grounds of the Rifle Companies.

Lastly, we should like to congratulate Sgt. Robins on his Mention in Dispatches for services in Korea, and L/Cpl. Mallinson on his entering a Regular engagement with the "Dukes."

MOTOR TRANSPORT

We arrived at Gibraltar in the early hours of December 10 full of hope and glory. To the distant strains of the martial music of our Band, for we were last in the column, we performed the unaccustomed task of marching through the single main street of Gibraltar to the cheers of, what we now realise must have been, the entire population. So ended the glory, and hope began to fade soon after. Half the Section moved into a barrack room

at Casemates, and R.E.M.E. and members of the advance party lived up at Moorish Castle. This unfortunate split in our numbers has resulted in a certain weariness and breathlessness of some individuals on muster parade. No, Gibraltar has not lived up to our expectations. Perhaps too high hopes had been built of life on this lump of land. Conditions would suggest that the Rock had been recently captured instead of being in our hands for 200 years.

The first few days were spent in getting accustomed to the ins and outs, highways and one-way streets of Gibraltar. It is interesting to note that from Casemates to Moorish Castle you climb 222 steps straight up, whereas to go by vehicle it is a mile and a half. The M.T. yard is conveniently tucked away at the back of Casemates. It has hardly enough garage room and the M.T. office, at the present time, is like a refrigerator. We hope that it will be pleasantly cool in summer. Everyone, in these days towards the end of December, was most envious of those who had stayed on board to continue the journey to U.K. on the *Asturias*.

Christmas, however, brought out the traditional routine for that season, and everyone made it his business to enjoy himself. There were many demands for loans on the strength of Korean gratuities in order to further this aim.

Congratulations must be given to L/Cpl. Chamberlain, who has produced fine form in playing for both the Battalion soccer XI and the Combined Services. He has also had the honour to play for the latter in the game with the International-saturated Yugoslav team, Hajduk.

Before we close we would like to pay our respects and best wishes for the future to Capt. Wood, now busy at the Depot as Adjutant, and to Cpl. Curry, L/Cpl. Owens, Ptes. Beecham, Burn, Cleminson and Lamberts, who have returned home for release.

OUR BRANCHES

Three Branches of the Regimental Association recently held a combined social evening at Ossett. An account of this most festive occasion will be included in the July number.

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SPORT

RUGBY

Rugby in Gibraltar is unfortunately restricted, owing to the fact that the old ground, which used to be on the race course, is now covered by an air strip, consequently teams have to go over the border into Spain and play on a pitch at Campamento, near the golf course. This may only be used on Saturdays. This difficulty and those of getting the teams and spectators to the ground, obtaining visas and transport, limit our Rugby activity.

However, despite these disadvantages we have been able to play four very enjoyable Battalion matches against other units, although we have been unable to play inter-Company rucker.

A few of our old players, including our three active internationals, are still with us; also we have quite a number of promising players who have joined the Battalion since the 1951-52 season, when we last fielded a team.

The first match of the season was on December 19, when we played against 54 A.A. Regiment, R.A. Both teams agreed to treat the game as a trial, as at half-time both sides substituted players here and there. In this way we were able to sort out the wheat from the chaff in preparation for our subsequent matches. The result of this match was a win for us of 6 points to 3. The ground, after several days of heavy rain, was in perfect condition, which, we have since learnt, is rarely the case in this part of the world as it is generally brick-hard.

Our next match was not until January 16. Players were found to be even more unfit after Christmas and New Year celebrations than they were after the voyage from Korea. On this occasion we played a team drawn from players of the minor units on the Rock. The match was played on very hard ground, from which we had previously cleared the broken glass, stones and half-bricks, thrown there by the local urchins.

The result was another win for us by 43 points to 3, but the score bears more relation to the superiority of our three-quarters over theirs than that of the packs who were fairly evenly matched. Whenever the ball got to Lt. Hardy at stand-off half he made an opening and sent the rest of the three-quarter line through either to score or to gain considerable ground. Place kicking is still a weak point which needs attention as we cannot rely on one or two members of the team doing it all.

The following week we met the R.A.F. team, whom we defeated 26-6. Our opponents unfortunately were without several of their best players owing to a combined R.A.F. and R.N. exercise in which they were involved.

The forwards showed a marked improvement on the previous week both in the set scrums and in the line-out and our backs received more than their fair share of the ball though some of this must be attributed to Lt. Shuttleworth's presence at the base of the scrum after a little leave in the U.K., where he had been playing regularly.

After this match we really felt we had the begin-

ning of a reasonably strong, versatile and evenly-balanced team.

For our next match, which was played on the following Saturday, January 30, we were able to field a full Battalion side to meet a team from H.M.S. *Vanguard*, the last of our leave parties having returned from Christmas at home.

Recent heavy rains had made the pitch satisfactorily playable. *Vanguard* kicked off and we played with the wind and the slope for the first half. The forwards played well and got the ball back from the loose and set scrums and from the line-out, the backs made good use of this service and before five minutes had passed Cpl. Jones at centre received the ball from a quick heel and scored the first try which he converted himself.

From then on the whole team continued to play a robust game against rather harassed opponents. The next try was scored by L/Cpl. Cawthra on the left wing from a long pass from Lt. Hardy at stand-off, this try was not converted. Next, following faulty covering by *Vanguard*, 2/Lt. Dasent burst through the centre and after a strong 25-yard dash scored between the posts, which performance he repeated a few minutes later, collecting the ball as it bounced after a kick by a *Vanguard* back. Cpl. Jones successfully converted these two tries. Then Lt. Shuttleworth at scrum-half picked up the ball from a set scrum near our opponents' line and dashed over. This try was also converted by Cpl. Jones. At half-time the score was 23-0 to us.

Even with the wind and the slope in the second half the sailors did not get much chance to score though they rallied gallantly. The scoring was not quite so fast in this half, but three tries were scored for us by Lt. Gilbert-Smith and 2/Lts. Dasent and Campbell-Lamerton, each scoring one, of which Cpl. Jones converted one only. *Vanguard* narrowly missed scoring from a penalty kick. The final score was 37-0.

In this match the Battalion team played as a team and not as a collection of individuals. We now look ahead to more matches this season against the Home Fleet and possibly a foreign team or two, where we hope we shall be able to fulfil the promise already shown.

Battalion XV v. H.M.S. *Vanguard*: Cpl. Hildred; L/Cpl. Cawthra, 2/Lt. Dasent, Cpl. Jones, Lt. Naughton; Lt. Hardy, Lt. Shuttleworth; Cpl. Dawson, Lt. Cowell, Sgt. France, 2/Lt. Campbell-Lamerton, Pte. Halliday, L/Cpl. Wood, Capt. Isles, Lt. Gilbert-Smith.

The following have also played in other matches: 2/Lt. Miller, Pte. Greensmith, Pte. Brown, Pte. Davison, Cpl. Lodge, L/Cpl. Catton, Pte. Yeomans, Drm. Cooper, Pte. Balmforth, Pte. Spence and 2/Lt. Dowdy.

SOCCER

After our successes in Korea we embarked for Gibraltar in high hopes of "showing 'em how soccer should be played." Hopes heightened by

our match against a Royal Navy team in Aden, when we cantered to an easy 9—1 win.

We arrived on the Rock to find that 78 H.A.A. Regiment, R.A., had left us in a strong position, which the 1st XI promptly failed to consolidate by losing 3—1 to bottom of the league 54 A.A. Regiment. However, they soon found their feet (literally, as the pitches here have a very loose, sandy surface) after a few friendly matches, and, since that first fateful game, have preserved an unbeaten record in league games.

At the time of writing, the 1st XI are top of the Major League, leading by three points over the nearest rival and only two matches still to play. In the Minor League, composed of 14 services teams, we have "C" and "D" Companies combined, "A" and "B" Companies combined, "S" Company and "H.Q." Company holding 4th, 6th, 10th and 11th places respectively.

The following have turned out regularly for the Battalion 1st XI: Sgt. Meadows, L/Cpl. Chamberlain, Ptes. Buttle, Fogarty, Senior, Tufts, Burke, Maxfield, Whitelock and Guest. Many of these we shall be sorry to lose in the near future on completion of their National Service, but we are looking forward to next season with a strong reserve of promising "up and coming" players.

Results of games played by the 1st XI so far are as follows:

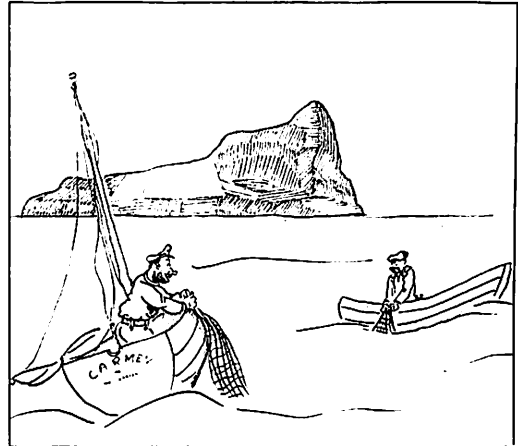
MAJOR LEAGUE				
v. 54 A.A. Regiment, R.A. . . . .	..	..	Lost	3—1
v. 28 Coast Regiment, R.A. . . . .	..	..	Drew	2—2
v. R.A.F. . . . .	..	..	Won	3—2
v. Fortress Engineer Regiment . . . .	..	..	Won	3—1
v. 54 A.A. Regiment, R.A. . . . .	..	..	Won	5—0
FRIENDLY MATCHES				
v. Britannia F.C. . . . .	..	..	Lost	4—2
v. St. Joseph's F.C. . . . .	..	..	Won	3—1
v. Combined Services (Gibraltar) . . . .	..	..	Lost	3—1

BOXING

The Battalion boxers started training the day after we landed in Gibraltar and, thanks to the unceasing efforts of Sgts. Meadows and Dickie and Cpl. McKenzie, and, of course, the truly magnificent enthusiasm of the boxers themselves, we were in good shape when the Fortress Individual Boxing Championships began on January 25. A word here to thank the Boxing Board of Gibraltar for granting us an extension of training time by putting the Championships back from January 11 to 25. It was much appreciated and made a big difference to the final results.

The entrants were as follows:

Heavyweight: Pte. Wrenn; *Light Heavyweight:* Cpl. Lodge ("S"); *Middleweight:* L/Cpl. Connor ("C"), Pte. Greensmith ("A"), Pte. Munro ("D"); *Light Middleweight:* L/Cpl. Southwick ("A"), L/Cpl. Stirland ("A"), Pte. Glossop ("A"), Pte. Blakeburn ("H.Q."); *Welterweight:* L/Cpl. Burgess ("H.Q."); *Light Welterweight:* Pte. Godden ("H.Q."), Pte. Meridith ("A"); *Featherweight:* Pte. Toal ("H.Q").



Galletti di Cadillac

"Business is wonderful, Pablo. I'm selling all the fish I can catch to the Dukes"

All the bouts were of a high standard, but especially keen and hard hitting were Glossop v. Loftus (54 A.A.), Toal v. Sweeney (28 Coast) and Greensmith v. Farr (R.A.F.). Stirland was unfortunate in coming up against a boxer of exceptional ability, who eventually won his weight, and Burgess was, again fortunately, given a walkover in the finals, having previously had only one fight.

Eventual winners of their weights were Burgess and Greensmith. Runners-up were Toal, Wrenn, Lodge and Connor. A very good result, considering the fact that we had had no training before December 14 and some of the contestants had just finished a month's home leave.

The Fortress Team Championships start on February 22 and we are in high hopes of winning it. Two officers have joined our ranks in this occasion—Lt. Cowell and 2/Lt. Campbell Lamer-ton. We wish them good luck and commend their sporting spirit.

GOLF

The Campamento Golf Club is just over the border, but, due to our fairly recent arrival, few have taken the opportunity to play golf. There are, however, a number of keen and useful players serving in the Battalion and it is to be hoped that it will not be long before they make the acquaintance of this sporting course and the very friendly and hospitable civilians who play there.

Up to the moment there is little to relate except that Charlie Grieve played in the Army team which won the Atlantic Cup, competed for by teams from all the services and the civilians in Gibraltar. He also played in the Campamento "A" team, which won the "Copa Iberia" at Torremolinos golf course. This cup is open to all golf clubs in Spain. The *Gibraltar Chronicle* records that "Major C. F. Grieve, who played

brilliantly, also won a cup for the best round of the day."

SAILING

The sailing at Gibraltar is well known to be excellent. The season starts in May and continues until September. There is also winter sailing, on a very much reduced scale, in service boats, as and when the weather is suitable.

The Royal Gibraltar Yacht Club organises racing twice a week during the season and provides excellent sailing facilities for members. The Club premises are very pleasant, and an extremely hospitable atmosphere prevails.

The season was well over even before the Advance Party arrived and no sailing has been done yet. As far as the officers are concerned, activity is centred on investigating the boat situation and on trying to decide which class to support. The choice lies between "Victories" R.N.S.A. 14-footers, R.G.Y.C. "Sharpies", and "Snipes."

For other ranks, this Unit has been allotted an "Island Class 14-footer," and it is hoped to get her ready for the water by March. In addition, there is the possibility of borrowing a "Whaler" from the Royal Navy.

If sailing proves sufficiently popular, more elaborate plans can be made.

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REMINISCENCES OF A SUBALTERN IN THE BOER WAR, 1899-1902

BY LT.-COL. M. V. LE POER TRENCH

3RD INSTALMENT

In the last instalment of these reminiscences the final paragraph was misplaced, as is clear from the context, and should have been printed at the beginning not the end—ED.

On Thursday, February 1, there was a rumour that we were to go up to Modder River, and that our Division and the 7th Division, which had only just arrived at Cape Town, were to advance from Orange River, with French's Cavalry force under Lord Roberts, to Bloemfontein. The Welch Regiment and the Notts and Derbys arrived that evening to relieve us, and some Australian M.I., a fine body of men, passed through Naauwpoort on their way to take over from the Cavalry at Colesburg.

On Friday, February 2, we struck camp and entrained at 5 p.m., the men in open trucks, but the officers in carriages. We reached Orange River station at 7 a.m. on the 3rd, and there was some delay owing to our engine running into a bullock team just after starting off from there. During the day we passed through Belmont, Graspan and Enslin, at all of which places Lord Methuen's force had fought battles earlier in the war. There were troops at all these places, Shropshires, Duke of Cornwall's L.I. and Gordon Highlanders, the last having been moved to Enslin to recoup after their heavy casualties at Magersfontein. We saw long columns of troops, which we heard were units of the 7th Division, marching up by road alongside the railway. We also saw a tall mast, which we were told was for wireless telegraphy, and was for sending messages to Kimberley; this was the first use of it in war, I believe.

At 7.30 p.m. we reached Modder River, and detrained south of the river; it was too late to pitch tents, so we bedded down in the open. The hills to the north, occupied by the Boers under Gen. Cronje, were being shelled by our guns, and clouds of dust could be seen rising from where the shells were bursting. My diary reports here: "Sunday, February 4.—No firing this morning, it being Sunday"—an amusing sidelight on war as it was then.

Our brigade, the 18th, was camped south of the river, and Lord Methuen's troops north of it. They had been there since the battle, and except for the failure to turn the flank of the Boer position at Magersfontein, had made no further attempt to advance to the relief of Kimberley. At night we used to see the searchlight from the beleaguered town flashing messages on to the sky; De Gex, who understood morse, said that they were all in cypher, except for a comic close-down, such as "Send my love to Mary." The Modder was a

sluggish, muddy stream, not very wide, flowing through very steep, sandy banks, on top of which grew a line of trees, the only ones in that desert land. The Boers had blown up the railway bridge when they retreated, and the sappers, with a large number of natives, were rebuilding it. A diversionary bridge built on rough stone piers had been put up to carry the railway across, and although a cutting down to it had been dug on both banks, the line was pretty steep, and the engine had quite a job to pull even a light load up the farther bank. Road traffic used a pontoon bridge.

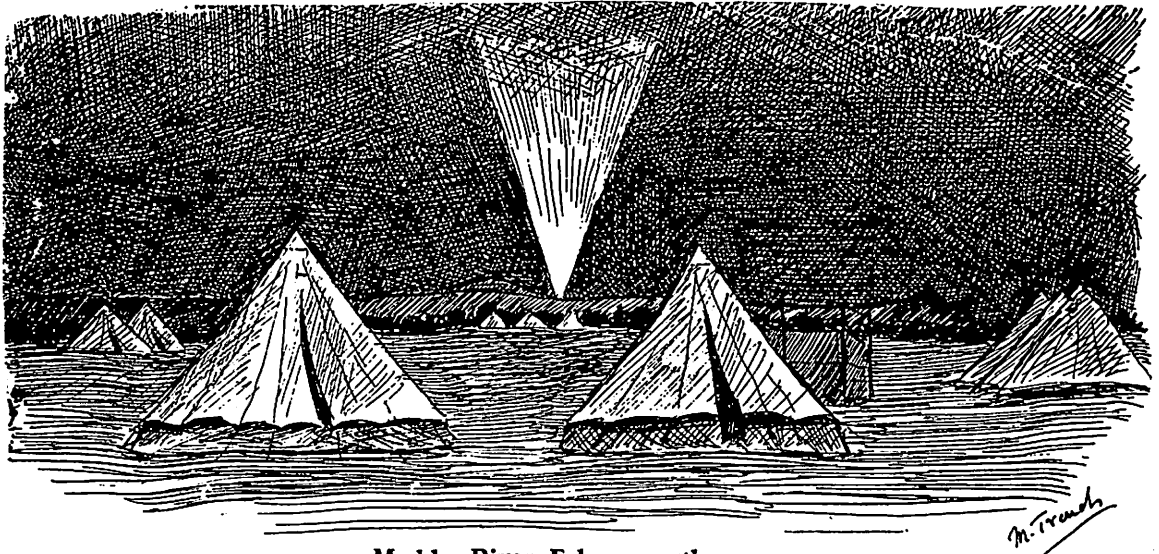
Most of our duties were fatigues, and as relaxation Companies were taken down to the river to bathe each day. Water for drinking was brought by water carts from a well allotted to our Division, and if one wanted to wash one had to have water carried in a bucket from the river. Firing by the 4.7 Naval guns went on most of the day at the Boer position seven miles away. We were told that a Boer artilleryman could be seen through a telescope standing up in full view, and knowing the time the shell took after seeing the flash of our gun he bobbed under cover just before the shell arrived.

Our camp was situated on the ground the Guards Brigade had advanced over in the battle, and little piles of empty cartridge cases at regular intervals clearly showed where the men had lain firing. One afternoon we had our first experience of a bad sandstorm. It came on suddenly with a whirlwind, nearly brought the tents down and raised the dust so thickly that one could not see five yards. Taylor and De Gex, who had been across the river, got caught in it and completely lost their way until it had passed off.

On February 7 we heard a rumour that the Highland Brigade had gone out and had had a scrap about eight miles from here, and that Lt. Tait, the golf champion, had been killed, which, alas, proved true. Propaganda was rife at that time, and one of the bits of news put out by the Boers was that Buller had been killed and Lord Roberts taken prisoner.

On Thursday, February 8, we received orders to move at 6 p.m. and struck camp. Our Brigade Major, however, had made a mistake over the latter, and we had to pitch the tents again in the dark, an irksome job. The idea of leaving the camp standing was to make the Boers think we were still there, as they were able to see the army's camps plainly from their position. We eventually entrained at 1 a.m. on the 9th, all in open trucks and very cold. Our orders had been to rail to

Continued on next page



Modder River, February 5th 1900
The Kimberley Searchlight signalling messages to the signalling station near our camp

Graspan, but on arrival at Enslin the engine driver refused to go any further, as his orders were to stop at that place. So we had to de-train and spent the day sitting in the broiling sun with nothing to do and no water to drink except what we had in our water-bottles. At 5 p.m. we were ordered to march to Graspan, five miles, and on arrival found the 7th Division assembling there. There was plenty of drinking water to refresh us there.

Next morning, Saturday, February 5, Col. Belfield* came to see us. He had only recently given up the command of our 2nd Battalion in Rangoon, and had been appointed A.A.G. on the staff of Gen. Tucker, G.O.C. the 7th Division. He gave me the latest news of my uncle, Col. S. J. Trench, who had succeeded him in command of the Battalion. We spent another boiling day here in the sun with no cover. I had had toothache the last two days, and finding there was an orderly at the field hospital in Graspan who could extract I let him have a go at the refractory tooth, half expecting to be pulled round the tent, or get a fractured jaw; however, he got it out first shot.

At 4 a.m. on Sunday, February 11, the 15th Brigade marched out with four days' rations, which looked as though things were moving, and at 9 a.m. we had orders to march back to Enslin, where we found our brigade assembled. Our Brigade Major, who was not very bright, had muddled affairs again, as we found that we should never have gone to Graspan at all.

At Enslin we were joined by Lt. R. E. Maffett†; he was a 2nd Battalion officer, who had been

*The late Lt.-Gen. Sir Herbert E. Belfield, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., K.B.E., D.S.O., Colonel of the Regiment, 1909-1934 (died April 19, 1934).

†The late Lt.-Col. R. E. Maffett, commanded 1st Battalion, 1915-20 (died August 12, 1950).

servng at the Depot, Halifax. Oakes, who had contracted enteric fever at Modder River had been left in hospital there.

RETIRED OFFICERS' FUND, THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

BALANCE SHEET, 1953

<i>Income</i>		£	s.	d.
Balance, Credit, brought forward	..	154	2	5
Donation	..	2	2	0
Officers' Subscriptions	..	29	2	6
		£185 6 11		
<i>Expenditure</i>		£	s.	d.
Gale & Polden	..	3	18	6
Officers' Families Fund	..	3	3	0
Wreath (McGuire Bate)	..	1	10	0
C.O., Central Fund, Depot	..	20	0	0
King Edward VII Hospital for Officers	..	5	0	0
Royal School, Bath	..	5	0	0
3½% Defence Bonds purchased	..	100	0	0
Credit Balance	..	46	15	5
		£185 6 11		

F. W. FRASER, Brigadier.

February 15, 1954.

LATE NEWS

Col. W. A. Hinchcliffe, Hon. Col. of the 7th D.W.R. has been appointed a Deputy Lieutenant in the West Riding of the County of York and of the city and county of the city of York.

THE REGIMENTAL DEPOT

In January we were very pleased to entertain Gen. Christison, Gen. Exham and Col. Bunbury, who were able to attend the Annual Cocktail Party on the 21st, and to extend their stay for two days. The cocktail party was entirely successful, and was attended by officers from all the Territorial Battalions and numerous civilian friends of the Regiment from the Halifax area. We were pleased to see Col. and Mrs. Cumberlege and Major and Mrs. Maclaren, who came over from York.

The "Pass Out" parade of 16th Intake took place on January 22, and Col. Bunbury very kindly consented to inspect the parade. The 17th Intake were also on parade, and considering the fact that they were then only in their second week of training, marched extremely well. Pte. R. H. Smithies is to be congratulated on receiving the Medal and Certificate of Merit as Best Recruit. Congratulations also to the recipients of the shooting prizes—Pte. Drummond (best shot, rifle) and Pte. Hudson (best shot, L.M.G.). Hudson is to be further congratulated on achieving Marksman's standard on the L.M.G. and the best combined score Rifle and L.M.G. Approximately twenty-five parents and friends of the recruits watched the parade and were afterwards entertained to tea in the NAAFI.

Since the last notes were written, the Depot shooting team, captained by the Commanding Officer, has fired in the East and West Ridings Area monthly 25-yards Range Competition. The team average for the December shoot was 82.75 per cent. and for January 88.3 per cent.

Once more in these notes mention must be made of changes in permanent staff. Capt. Wood arrived from the 1st Battalion just before Christmas, took over Adjutant's duties and then departed on leave. We have seen him occasionally since. 2/Lts. Huxtable and Hedges, also from the Battalion, are now on the permanent staff as Training Subalterns. We have said good-bye to C.S.M. O'Shea, who has retired, but, unlike his two predecessors, has not joined the W.D. Constabulary.

Sgt. Burke has left Coronna Platoon after many moons as Platoon Sergeant. We congratulate him on promotion to C.Q.M.S.

Sgts. Milton and Clarke, Cpls. Sergeant, Welsh, Sharp, Barnett, Wolstenholme and Smith are now on the training staff, and Cpls. Eastwood, Marshall and Wood have departed for the Battalion. Cpl. O'Keefe presides over the guard room as Provost Corporal, and Sgt. Pickering is acting as Sergeants' Mess Caterer. To all these N.C.O.s who have joined us from the 1st Battalion we bid welcome, and to those departing to a sunnier clime we offer our best wishes.

Mr. Lumb, who farms near Todmorden, kindly gave the Depot as many silver birch trees as we wanted, and which the Commanding Officer has planted around the two playing fields in the forlorn hope of providing some sort of wind screen.

OUR PRINTER

Our printer, Messrs. F. J. Parsons, celebrated their centenary last year and we offer them our congratulations on this notable occasion.

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THE COLOURS OF THE 4th BATTALION
382 Field Regiment, R.A. (D.W.R.); T.A., hand them over to the Depot for safe keeping on November 8, 1953

578 (5 D.W.R.), H.A.A. REGIMENT, R.A., T.A.

We must begin these notes by coming straight to our main item of perhaps sad news, which was the handing over of command from Lt.-Col. J. B. Sugden, T.D., to Lt.-Col. S. J. E. Huxley, T.D. I say perhaps sad news because "John Sug." had done so well and nobody wanted to see him go. Probably only a few people will ever know of the enormous amount of time and careful thought he has put into the job behind the scenes during his term of office—suffice it that his three years were most successful for the Regiment. Over a period of twenty years he has given service to the Regiment and it was indeed hard to see him go. At least he will now be able to turn his energies to his large family and to his many hobbies. All of us wish him well.

On February 1 Lt.-Col. S. J. E. Huxley, T.D., assumed command. We wish him every success. Major A. W. R. Brook, T.D., was appointed 2 IC, his position as Battery Commander at Mirfield being filled by Major F. R. Gadd, who was Battery

Captain in "P" Battery. Our congratulations to them both.

The Annual Prize Distribution was held on December 4 and the prizes were presented by Lt.-Col. D. P. Bryce, O.B.E., T.D., who gave us an interesting address and promises of bigger bounties to come. The official part of the ceremony was again pruned and the pace was so quick that all were enjoying refreshments within the hour.

The Annual Children's Christmas Party was again a big success and a riot of fun. We owe so much to our untiring Major Quartermaster and the permanent staff for their excellent "admin." of this party. About eighty children attended and all received a present off the Christmas tree and a new Elizabethan half-crown!

Concentrated pre-camp training began in the New Year and as much as possible is being done on Battery drill nights to train men in the jobs they will do in camp; but this is not as easy as it sounds because the attendance of N.S. men is not

as good as we would like it to be and it is individually spasmodic enough to prevent us from getting some good team work going. One week-end camp has already been held at Knostrop in the snow; some good training was done and everybody was keen enough to forget he was really cold!

Congratulations to three of our junior Subalterns—Lts. D. B. Hoyle, P. D. Dickerson and W. T. DeCort—on their second pips!

The decorating of the Drill Hall continues and although the Officers' Mess was a dump of paint pots and decorators' ladders only two days before, it was actually finished and opened at Prize Distribution. Some say the carpet is bright, but the officers will soon tone that down!

Camp this year is at Tonfanau from June 5 to 19. It will be an A.A. Brigade Camp this time.

7th BATTALION, T.A.

SUB-EDITORIAL

Once again the Battalion is thinking in terms of summer training, although as these notes are being written the snow is falling against the window panes.

With the influx of more National Servicemen, many of whom have returned from active service in Korea and Malaya, the Battalion will soon be up to full strength, although we start losing our first batch of National Servicemen, who have completed their three and a half years obligatory training as part-time soldiers with the T.A. in July.

There have been several changes amongst the permanent staff and many of the old faces have now left us.

We welcome Major P. P. de la H. Moran, who has joined us from the Ministry of Defence. He has taken over the combined duties of 2 IC and Training Officer. Capt. R. Scott-Evans, who has been our Adjutant for the last two and a quarter years, is being relieved by Capt. K. A. Brown in mid-March. Capt. Brown has recently returned from the 1st Battalion.

It is hoped that by the time the next notes are written the Battalion will have purchased Botham Hall, a large house adjacent to the Milnsbridge T.A.C. It is intended to accommodate Battalion H.Q., Q.M. Stores and the Officers' Mess in this building. When this happens it will mean that the Sergeants' Mess will at long last be able to have a home of its own, as it will take over the existing Officers' Mess at Milnsbridge T.A.C.

Fitzwilliam Street T.A.C., Huddersfield, has recently been taken over by "D" Company, which means that at last the 7th have achieved their life-long ambition of having a drill hall in the centre of Huddersfield.

OFFICERS' MESS

The main topic at the moment is the Mess cocktail party which is taking place on March 1. Thanks to the excellent co-operation of all the permanent staff, the Drill Hall is well spruced up and anyone entering the hall would not recognise it as such, it looks more like the inside of a palace. A large number of guests have accepted the invitation including the Chief of Staff, Northern Command,

and the Mayors and Mayoresses of Huddersfield and Halifax. A good evening should be had by all and Milnsbridge will no doubt be long remembered as one of the social centres of Huddersfield!

There have been one or two changes in the Mess since the last notes were written. Major Moran has joined us recently and we extend a hearty welcome to him. We should also like to welcome Lt. Mallalieu, who has just obtained a commission in the T.A., and Fl./Lt. Stallard, who we are busy converting into an infanteer.

To conclude, it is hoped to include a fuller report on the cocktail party in the next issue of THE IRON DUKE.

"B" COMPANY

The New Year has started an impetus in training; some of our N.C.O.s attending the Cadre which is being held over a period of two months at Battalion H.Q. It would appear that an added incentive to Sunday attendances at this Cadre is the excellent meal being served at lunch-time.

We are pleased to welcome to our midst 2/Lt. Mallalieu, who has taken up his duties as a Platoon Commander at Mossley. His presence is doubly welcome as he has obtained a T.A. commission.

Capt. Broadbent, with almost a score of N.C.O.s, attended the Method of Instruction Course at Catterick for two days and we hope to see a big improvement in future instruction in the Company as a result of their visit.

One of the forthcoming events of the summer will be the Northern Command Tattoo to be held at Leeds. It is hoped to include men from each Company as participants in this affair.

By the time the next notes are due the All Ranks' Dance will have been held and, we hope, proved to have been the success we anticipate it to be.

"C" COMPANY

This month "C" Company is to be split and about half our strength is to be posted to "A" Company, which is to be raised immediately at Sowerby Bridge T.A.C. We are to lose our 2 IC, Capt. J. C. Moncrieff, who will command the new Company. The bulk of our Sowerby Bridge and Todmorden personnel will go to "A" Company.

We welcome Sgt. Thrussell, who has come to us from the York and Lancaster Regiment as P.S.I., and we hope that he will be happy with us. Our best wishes for the future go out to W.O.2 (C.S.M.) F. Stringer, who has now taken up a civilian job.

Lt. C. D. Sheard has been posted to "H.Q." Company as M.T.O., and Lt. I. Thompson has been posted back to us after a spell as Intelligence Officer.

The season's training has already started in good style with an N.C.O.s' cadre at Battalion H.Q., and by all accounts those attending are enjoying the training and lunches provided each Sunday.

"D" COMPANY

The "Dogs" can now wag their tails with pleasure—at last we have a kennel of our own. By the time these notes are in print we shall have moved into new quarters at the Drill Hall, Fitzwilliam Street, Huddersfield. It is hoped that with the Company established in Huddersfield there will be a marked increase in the numbers of personnel attending for training. We are sorry to lose Major Ellam, our late Company Commander, who, through business commitments, has had to revert to T.A.R.O. As a Company we wish to extend a hearty welcome to Major Moran, the new Battalion Training Major. We feel sure his help will be in-

valuable. We also wish to welcome Sgt. Dickinson, our new P.S.I., and to C.S.M. Lamb, who has so ably filled this post in the past—many thanks.

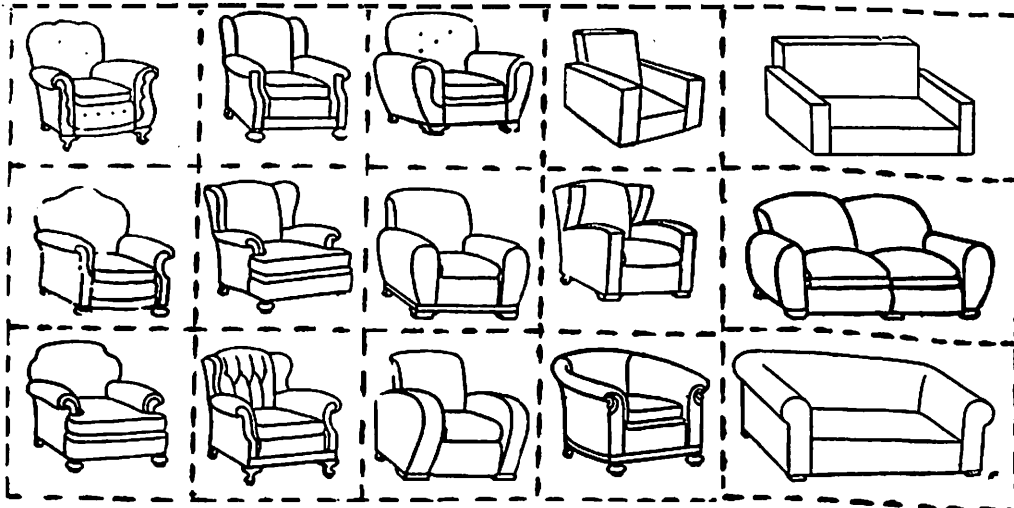
"S" COMPANY

During these winter months we have been engaged in N.C.O.s' Cadres and theory work ready for the summer camps.

We are looking forward to a most instructive and entertaining week-end firing camp at Warcop, one of the best ranges in the North, and our National Servicemen should find it reasonably enjoyable.

Though for some time Support Company have found no opposition in .22 shooting, the O.C. (Capt. D. R. Siddall) is undertaking the running of a Unit League, from which we hope to enter the National Territorial Army Competitions and to help Major Heston in finding more shots for the unit "Open" shooting VIII.

The long-awaited Support Company garages are appearing in the "offing" and then we shall have far more opportunity to give all ranks a chance to work in gun training and M.T. maintenance in reasonable comfort with elbow room. At present our drill hall, designed for a detachment of fifty Red Coats in the 1900s, is no good for 200 men and forty or so vehicles.



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Visit to Les Voltigeurs de Quebec

By BRIGADIER B. W. WEBB-CARTER, D.S.O., O.B.E.

As I happened to be in Canada last October and November visiting the Canadian Army and Air Force Staff Colleges, I was deputed by the Colonel of the Regiment to visit our affiliated Canadian regiment and convey his greetings to them and also present them with a copy of the 1919-1952 volume of the Regimental History.

My free time in Canada was limited to one long week-end—so-called—from Friday midday to Sunday evening, and I devoted this to a most interesting and enjoyable visit to Les Voltigeurs.

On November 13 I left Kingston at 1332 hours en route to Quebec, where I arrived at 2310 hours. The Commanding Officer of Les Voltigeurs—Lt.-Col. J. M. Corbett, E.D.—was good enough to board my train at Montreal about 1900 hours and accompany me for the remainder of the journey. From this moment I had the experience that is familiar to all British officers in Canada when with their Canadian brothers in arms; it became an impossibility to buy any food or drink for myself. Les Voltigeurs are happy in their Commanding Officer. He is an officer of great determination and drive with an impressive devotion to his Regiment. A business man of wide interests which involve travelling vast distances, he devotes most of his spare time to the interests of Les Voltigeurs. He is, I believe, the second British Canadian to command this French Canadian unit—the other being a Lt.-Col. Thompson, who commanded in 1865.

On arrival at Quebec we were met by Major Raymond Caron, the 2 IC of Les Voltigeurs, and I was conducted to the Citadel and deposited for the night in the Mess of the Royal 22nd Regiment—the famous “Vandoos.”

At 1000 hours on Saturday I was collected by Lt.-Col. Corbett and given a tour of Quebec, which, in my small experience, is by far the most interesting city in Canada and the one with most atmosphere. I had walked the course of Wolfe's famous battle on a previous visit, but I saw the site of the unsuccessful American assault in 1775 and also some of the impressive new buildings now being erected. We then visited the Manège Militaire, which houses the Headquarters of Les Voltigeurs as well as of two other Reserve regiments. It is an imposing castellated building and in arrangement much resembles a large Territorial Drill Hall in this country.

We there met Major Caron again and also Major Matte, an officer of a family with a long connection with the unit. As a Regiment we owe our thanks

to Major Matte as he was good enough to travel to Kingston in early October to attend the unveiling of a memorial tablet to British units who had been stationed at Fort Henry. The 76th Regiment were stationed in Fort Henry in 1818 and 1821 and Major Matte represented the “Dukes” at the ceremony which was performed by Gen. Sir Archibald Nye. As Major Matte is an officer well over 6 feet and was dressed in the full dress uniform of Les Voltigeurs, which is very like that of the 60th Rifles, few regiments—if any—had a more impressive representative on this occasion.

Our next port of call was the Quebec Garrison Club, a most pleasant and dignified building in which any member of the Rag would feel completely at home. A drive out to a winter sports resort for luncheon some miles from Quebec, the name of which escapes me, completed a crowded morning. The only mishap was that Lt.-Col. Corbett, in the course of demonstrating the powers of his remarkable motor car to me, was gonged by the local police and thus blemished a clean driving record of over 20 years.

A short rest after luncheon preceded my collection by Major Caron and a cocktail party at Lt.-Col. Corbett's flat, where I had the pleasure of meeting his wife and a large assembly of distinguished citizens of Quebec and their families. In common with most people at cocktail parties I failed to register the names of my brother guests, but was very interested to meet one lady who was a descendant of the Charles de Salaberry who raised the original Voltigeurs in 1812.

I was then entertained in princely style to dinner with a large party at the Garrison Club. I had previously met Col. Gaston Pratte, the Honorary Lieutenant-Colonel of Les Voltigeurs and he and his wife were of our party. After an excellent dinner we all went on to a reception in the Officers' Mess of Les Voltigeurs and there I met all the officers of the Regiment and their wives. It was a most happy occasion and it could be sensed that there was a very well defined *esprit de corps* and real keenness in the officer Corps.

This ended my crowded day with our affiliated unit and left me with the firm feeling that our pleasure in the connection is fully shared by this live and efficient unit. Like most black-buttoned corps, Les Voltigeurs maintain a high standard of musketry which seems in common with their pride of regiment and good name in Canadian Army circles to contribute qualities in common with our own regiment.

LOCATION LIST, D.W.R.

OFFICERS

Major-General

EXHAM, K. G., D.S.O., *Chief of Staff, Western Command.*

Colonels

BRAY, R. N. H. C., O.B.E., D.S.O. (T./Brig.), *Commandant, 29th British Infantry Brigade, Korea.*
EXHAM, R. K., C.B., C.B.E., M.C. (T./Brig.), *D.C.O.S., N.A.T.O. H.Q., Oslo.*
ORR, C. W. B., O.B.E. (T./Brig.), *Commanding 129 Infantry Brigade, Oxford.*

Lieutenant-Colonels

CUMBERLEGE, C. R. T. (T./Col.), *Brigade Colonel, Y. & N. Brigade.*
BUNBURY, F. R. ST. P., D.S.O., *Commanding 1st D.W.R.*
LAING, G., M.B.E., *A.Q.M.G., Lubbecke District, B.A.O.R.*

Majors

WOODS, F. P. A., *Commanding 275 G.S.O.(B.S.E.), B.A.O.R.*
WATHEN, A. H. G. (W.S. Lt.-Col.), *Amphibious Warfare Centre.*
FAITHFULL, C. K. T., S.O., *Southern Command P.T. Pool, Aldershot.*
EVERARD, SIR NUGENT H., *Bt.*
WALLER, W. A., O.B.E., M.C. (T./Lt.-Col.), *Amphibious Warfare Centre.*
LAUDER, B. J., *29 Command Workshops, R.E.M.E., Plymouth.*
MALLINSON, A., *Amphibious Warfare Centre.*
FALLON, J. B., *4th Army Defence Company (M.S.O.), B.A.O.R.*
MORAN, R. DE LA H., O.B.E., *2IC, 1st D.W.R.*
COUSENS, P. G. L., *D.A.Q.M.G., H.Q., Eastern Command.*
BEUTTLER, L. B. B., M.B.E. (T./Lt.-Col.), *A.Q.M.G., Q.(Ops.), War Office.*

SKELSEY, W., M.B.E., *D.A.Q.M.G., Malay Infantry Brigade.*
AUSTIN, R. E., M.C., *D.A.A.G. (A.G. 4).*
MACLAREN, C. J., *Depot, W.Y.R. and Y. & N. Brigade.*
UVJOHN, G. F. (T./Lt.-Col.), *Chief Instructor, R.M.A., Sandhurst.*
DAVIDSON, J., *1st D.W.R.*
GRIEVE, C. F., *1st D.W.R.*
DAVIS, J. H., *Commanding Depot, D.W.R.*
MORAN, P. P. DE LA H., *Training Officer, 7th D.W.R.*
SUGDEN, R. E., *2nd Battalion Nigeria Regiment.*
KERSHAW, L. F. H., D.S.O., O.C., *1st Corps Defence Unit, B.A.O.R.*
HARRIS, D. M., *D.A.Q.M.G. (Works and General), H.Q. Infantry, Hong Kong.*

JONES-STAMP, D. S. D., *1st D.W.R.*
SAVORY, A. C. S., *D.A.A.G., Lubbecke District, B.A.O.R.*
FIRTH, A. D., M.B.E., M.C., *1st D.W.R.*
INCE, R. H., *G.II, Fortress H.Q., Gibraltar.*
HALL, P. B., *Camp Commandant, H.Q., 17th Gurkha Division, Malaya.*

SIMONDS, D. N., *1st Training Battalion, R.E.M.E., Dorset.*
KAVANAGH, A. B. M., M.C., *1st D.W.R.*
BUTTERFIELD, J. E. V., *G.II, H.Q., Gold Coast District.*
ROBERTS, D. C., *1st D.W.R.*
LE MESSURIER, H. S., *1st D.W.R.*
HATCH, R. W., M.B.E., *1st Green Howards.*
MILLIGAN, J. S., *1st D.W.R.*
NICHOLSON, R. W., *Ministry of Supply Arms Research Establishment.*
EMETT, E. J. P., M.C., *1st D.W.R.*

Captains

KILNER, B. M., T.D., *Staff College, Quetta.*
TEDD, G. C., *Staff College, Camberley.*
SCOTT-EVANS, R., M.C., *Depot, H.S.*
DUNN, S. G., *Training Officer, Depot, D.W.R.*
STREATFIELD, J. L., M.C., *Depot, H.S.*
BROWN, K. W., *Adjutant, 7th D.W.R.*
ISLES, D. E., *1st D.W.R.*
WOOD, D. H., *Adjutant, Depot, D.W.R.*
BLAKEY, W., *1st D.W.R.*
ROBERTSON, W. F. C., *Eaton Hall O.C.S.*

Lieutenants

HARDY, E. M. P., *1st D.W.R.*
SHUTTLEWORTH, D. W., *1st D.W.R.*
COWELL, D. J. P., *1st D.W.R.*
HARMS, R. M., M.C., *M.E.C.A.S., Shemlar, Lebanon.*
HOPPE, P. B. L., *Attached A.B. Forces.*
NAUGHTON, J. N. H., *1st D.W.R.*
GILBERT-SMITH, D. E., M.C., *1st D.W.R.*
STACPOOLE, H. A. J. W., M.C., *Attached A.B. Forces.*
NEWTON, J. M., *Attached A.B. Forces.*

Second-Lieutenants

HUXTABLE, C. R., *Depot, D.W.R.*
DASENT, E. J. H., *1st D.W.R.*
MILLER, C. D. D'E., *1st D.W.R.*
MITCHELL, P. A., *1st D.W.R.*
PELL, J. E., *1st D.W.R.*

Quartermasters

JACKSON, N. (Capt.), *Depot, D.W.R.*
FARR, A. (Lt.).
KENCHINGTON, C. C. (Lt.), *1st D.W.R.*

REGULAR ARMY SHORT-SERVICE OFFICERS

Major

BANKS, A. R., M.B.E., *219 Group, 2212 E.A.P. Company.*

Captains

DAVIES, E., *C.R.M.P.*
CONNOLLY, P. F., *P.S.O., 5th Training Battalion, R.A.S.C., Aldershot.*
OXLEY, F. V., *1st Y. & L.*
ACWORTH, C. R. G., *Staff Captain, G.H.Q., Singapore.*
HALL, G. H., M.C., *A.P.I.U., Newnham Park, Oxford.*
WADSWORTH, G. C. (T/Major), *D.A.P.M., S.I.B., U.K.*
CULLEN, H. A. (T/Major), *D.A.Q.M.G. Q.(E.), G.H.Q., M.E.L.F.*
HOLLOWAY, T., *1st Training Battalion, R.E.M.E.*
WARNER, R., *Trucial Army Levies.*
BOOTH, D. (T/Capt.), *1st D.W.R.*
BOYES, L., *H.Q., 35 Infantry Brigade, Hong Kong.*

Lieutenants

COOK, J. (T/Capt.), *2IC, S.I.B., M.E.L.F.*
TREB, M. J., *Malaya Regiment, Singapore.*
BORWELL, D. L., M.C., *1st D.W.R.*
BROWN, K.
WOODCOCK, P., *6th K.A.R.*

Second-Lieutenants

HIND, D. A. R., *1st D.W.R.*
WOOD, C. M., *1st D.W.R.*

Quartermasters

GREEN, H. E. (Major), *M.E.L.F., Port Said.*
HELLOWELL, A. (Major), *K.A.R., Mombasa.*
MACGREGOR, W., *H.Q., Northern Army Group Ranges, B.A.O.R.*

NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICERS

Second-Lieutenants

CAMIDGE, W. D., *1st D.W.R.*
HAYES, J. W., *1st D.W.R.*
WATKINS, P. G., *1st D.W.R.*
BANNERMAN, C. J., *Depot, H.S. (Wheatley Military Hospital).*
DOWDY, D. B. H., *1st D.W.R.*
BETHMAN-HOLWEGG, D., *1st D.W.R.*
FORDYCE, D. H., *1st D.W.R.*
HEDGES, M. J., *Depot, D.W.R.*
CURRY, R. C., *26th K.A.R.*
CROW, J. B., *4th K.A.R.*
CAMPBELL-LAMMERTON, *1st D.W.R.*
AYKROYD, J. R., *1st D.W.R.*

WARRANT OFFICERS, COLOUR SERGEANTS AND SERGEANTS

W.O.s 1

SEED, D., *Bandmaster, 1st Battalion D.W.R., Gibraltar.*
COOK, G. B., *K.O., Malta Regiment, Malta.*
PEARCE, R., *1st D.W.R., Gibraltar.*

W.O.s 2

WOOD, R. W., *No. 5 Travelling Wing, U.K.*
AKRIGG, T. W., *5th K.A.R., East Africa.*
CORKE, G., *1st D.W.R., Gibraltar.*
HALL, J. S., *1st D.W.R., Gibraltar.*
CALLABY, R., M.M., *1st D.W.R., Gibraltar.*
DAWSON, B., *1st D.W.R., Gibraltar.*
RANDALL, H., *1st D.W.R., Gibraltar.*
FRIER, J. J., *1st D.W.R., Gibraltar.*

Colour-Sergeants

VAN SPALL, H. C., *A.A.S., Arborfield, U.K.*
WATERMAN, K. A., *1st D.W.R., Gibraltar.*
HARDISTY, A. S. (a/W.O.2), *FARELF T.C., FARELF.*
BENNER, H., *Depot, D.W.R., U.K.*
SAMME, H. J., *1st Green Howards, B.T.A.*
THOMPSON, W. H., *2nd Green Howards, M.E.L.F.*
GILL, F., *O.C.S., Eaton Hall, U.K.*
HALLSWORTH, J. C., *Depot, D.W.R., U.K.*
PHILLIPS, J. L., *H.Q., West Africa Command, West Africa.*
SHORT, G. (a/W.O.2), *1st Green Howards, B.T.A.*
LAMB, L. (a/W.O.2), *7th D.W.R. (T.A.), U.K.*
WILLIAMS, R. (a/W.O.2), *1st D.W.R., Gibraltar.*
STUTLEY, H. (a/W.O.1, Bandmaster), *K.A.R., Nyasaland, East Africa.*
WESTERN, A. C., (a/W.O.2), *Hamburg District, B.A.O.R.*

Sergeants

QUEST, J. (a/W.O.2), *1st D.W.R., Gibraltar.*
WOND, A. W. (a/C/Sgt.), *5th Nigeria Regiment, West Africa.*
LYTHE, W. (a/W.O.2), *2nd Green Howards, M.E.L.F.*
ALTON, R. A. (a/C/Sgt.), *1st D.W.R., Gibraltar.*
NORMAN, W. (a/C/Sgt.), *1st D.W.R., Gibraltar.*
NICHOLS, F. (a/C/Sgt.), *1st D.W.R., Gibraltar.*
BURKE, W. (a/C/Sgt.), *Depot, D.W.R., U.K.*

OBITUARY

We deeply regret to announce the following deaths:

CAPT. H. S. ROGERS

The death has occurred at his home at Cambridge Road, Waterbeach, of Capt. Horace Seaman Rogers, aged 77, formerly Secretary of the Cambs. and Isle of Ely Territorial Association. He enlisted in The Duke of Wellington's Regiment in 1896 and later transferred to The East Surrey Regiment. On retirement he became keenly interested in the Territorial Army; he served with the Cambridgeshire Regiment in the 1914-18 war and from 1920 to 1942 devoted himself to the service of the local Territorial Association.

He never forgot his association with this Regiment and for many years was a subscriber to the IRON DUKE.

HEREPATH.—On January 27, 1954, at Rush Court Nursing Home, Wallingford, Elsie Ellen Herepath, widow of Col. Lionel Herepath, C.B.E., late The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Military Medal.—Cpl. M. A. McKenzie, Sgt. T. Nowell.

The following have been mentioned in dispatches for distinguished conduct while serving in Korea:

Mentioned in Dispatches.—Major R. de la H. Moran, O.B.E., Major R. H. Ince, Major H. S. Le Messurier, Capt. C. H. Glen (posthumous), Capt. W. F. C. Robertson, Lt. E. M. P. Hardy, Lt. J. M. H. Naughton, C.S.M. G. Corke, Sgt. W. Robins, Sgt. T. Nowell, Cpl. M. A. McKenzie, Capt. E. D. Mackie, R.A.M.C.

We offer them our warmest congratulations.

* * * *

In the January issue of the IRON DUKE, W.O.2 J. S. Hall was shown as having been awarded the O.B.E. This should have read M.B.E.

Birth

WELLESLEY.—On March 4, 1954 at York, to Major and Mrs. F. H. Wellesley, a daughter.

PERSONALIA

Brigadier B. W. Webb-Carter, D.S.O., O.B.E., after completing his tour of duty at the School of Amphibious Warfare, has retired from the Service. This is not the occasion to record in detail his most distinguished conduct during the war, nor his services to the Regiment over many years. But we are sure that all his friends and particularly those who served under his command in the 1st Battalion in North Africa and Italy would not see him go without wishing him many years of happiness. THE IRON DUKE takes this opportunity to salute a learned and witty contributor, who has enlivened its pages in the past and we trust will continue to do so in the future. We understand that he will shortly take up a Retired Officer's Post at Western Command H.Q., Chester.

Lord Savile has been appointed a Deputy Lieutenant for the West Riding. He writes that while he feels greatly honoured by this appointment, he regards it chiefly as a compliment to the Regiment.

Lt.-Col. M. V. Le P. Trench writes that he has recently heard from Col. B. St. J. Le Marchant, who celebrated his 95th birthday on February 11. On behalf of the Regiment we send our warmest greetings to the Doyen of the "Dukes" as he must surely be.

Major R. Booth-Scott (late D.W.R.) writes from hospital in Kenya, where he lies "strung up with pulleys and bits of string like a trussed

chicken"—the result, not of Mau Mau aggression, but an accident. He and his son Michael are both in the Kenya Police Reserve and he himself has been awarded the Emergency Reserve Decoration with two clasps. We wish him a rapid and complete recovery. He takes his IRON DUKE regularly to the British Legion Club, the Secretary of which is Mr. Johns, late 6 D.W.R. (1914 vintage).

The Lubbecke District in Germany is rapidly becoming a "Dukes'" preserve. Col. "Bill" Summers, R.A.S.C. (late D.W.R.) is A.D.S.T., and there are besides Lt.-Col. G. Laing, M.B.E., Major J. B. Fallon, Major L. F. H. Kershaw, D.S.O., Major A. C. S. Savory and Major R. W. Hatch, M.B.E. (attached 1st Green Howards).

Notice has just been received of the forthcoming appointments:

In July

Lt.-Col. F. R. St. P. Bunbury to the War Office, A.G.2 (O).

Major R. de la H. Moran, O.B.E., to the command of the 1st Battalion.

Major A. C. S. Savory to the command of the Depot in succession to Major J. H. Davis.

Major R. E. Austin has been appointed D.A.A.G. at the War Office, A.G.4.

Capt. N. Jackson succeeds Major F. Allsop as Quartermaster at the Depot.

R.S.M. C. C. Kenchington, M.B.E., to be Quartermaster, 1st Battalion.

From The Christchurch (New Zealand) *Star Sun*:

"Just a day or two ago I ran into Capt. J. Bond, now 85 years of age, one of the oldest officers of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (the old 33rd). He is the only survivor of a family of sixteen of the late C/Sgt. Instructor Edward Bond, also of The Duke of Wellington's. Capt. Bond had just returned from the funeral of his sister, Mrs. Kate Agnes Hoare, who died at the age of 78, the youngest of the family.

"The family is noted in The Duke of Wellington's for their many serving members. Capt. Bond's father and four brothers all served in the Crimean War and in the Abyssinian campaign. In fact, it was during his father's absence in Abyssinia that Capt. Bond was born on February 7, 1868.

One of his brothers joined as a drummer boy at the age of 14, and retired as a Colour-Sergeant Instructor. Capt. Bond himself joined as a youth and finished in his present rank. His father, one brother, and himself each served for thirty-seven years in the regiment.

Capt. Bond's son, Mr. E. J. Bond, joined the regiment just before World War I and went to France with the Old Contemptibles. He was badly wounded and discharged, and his term of service was therefore much shorter than that of his father. In all, eight members of the Bond family in three generations have served in the regiment—a record that would be hard to beat.

Capt. Bond himself is hale and hearty and, with his wife, lives at 316 Centaurus Road."

CORRESPONDENCE

January 21, 1954.

DEAR SIR,

I would much appreciate if we could have space in your Journal to bring The Militia Club to the notice of any of your readers who may have held commissions in the old Militia, Special Reserve Battalion or Yeomanry.

The Club was started in 1905 to provide Militia officers of different Regiments opportunities to meet together for social acquaintance. The Club has no quarters, but the members meet together at least twice each year, at one of the Service Clubs, for lunch or dinner.

The present membership is 120, and there are representatives of almost every Regiment in the Army.

Our President is Brig.-Gen. The Earl of Gowrie, V.C., P.C., G.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O., who started his Army life in the Militia Battalion of the Highland Light Infantry.

The subscription is 10s. a year.

Further information can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Major A. S. Bredon, Derry Gariff, Camberley, Surrey.

Yours truly,

CHARLES J. HUCHINS,

Chairman,

Colonel, late 3rd Royal West Kent.

January, 1954.

DEAR SIR,

Will you allow me, through your Journal, to make known the additional facilities now available in King Edward VII's Hospital for Officers, Beaumont House, Beaumont Street, W.1.

The Extension to the Hospital has been completed, the original building has been brought up

to date and the Hospital is now provided with the very latest equipment.

As is already known the Hospital has a Consulting Staff of eminent physicians and surgeons, and patients who desire to avail themselves of their services are charged in accordance with their means, on a scale agreed by the Council. Patients may, however, still make their own arrangements with any physician or surgeon of their choice if they so desire.

A number of ward beds are set aside for serving officers, who are entitled to free bed, nursing and maintenance. Extra charges are cut down to a minimum and are constantly reviewed and the ability of the patient to pay is always considered. We have recently introduced a Samaritan Fund to assist those in financial need.

The Hospital is mainly for surgical and medical cases and has its own Medical Officer (from whom preliminary advice can be obtained without charge), a Physiotherapist and an X-ray apparatus.

The Hospital has been disclaimed by the Minister of Health, and is therefore entirely dependent on voluntary support. Subscribers, who are entitled to special rates, are asked to pay £1 yearly by Banker's Order, which can be obtained from the Honorary Appeals Secretary, 15 Ormond Yard, Duke of York Street, S.W.1, who will also be pleased to receive donations.

All officers, serving and retired, permanent and temporary, are eligible for admission.

Yours very truly,

J. B. ADAMS,

Hon. Appeals Secretary.

15 Ormond Yard,
Duke of York Street,
London, S.W.1

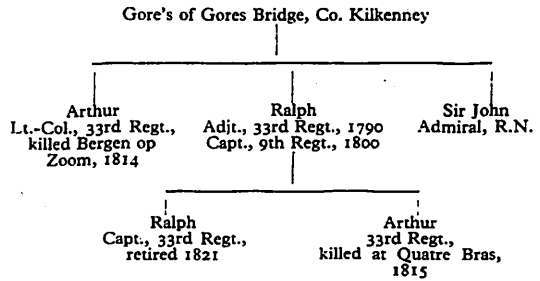
January 3, 1954.

DEAR SIR,

LT.-COL. ARTHUR GORE, 33rd Regiment.

In a footnote to a short article on the subject of Lt.-Col. Arthur Gore, which appeared in THE IRON DUKE, No. 89, I cast doubts on the correctness of Pattison's remarks in "Recollections of Waterloo" concerning the Gore family. Although Pattison's remarks were wrong in one important respect, the solution offered by myself was no less incorrect.

Since writing the article I have had an opportunity to read certain letters that passed between The Duke of Wellington and a member of the Gore family. These letters were kindly sent me by Brigadier B. W. Webb-Carter and show that the Gore family tree, at the time in question, was as shown:



The two pairs of brothers with identical names, all four of whom were in the 33rd, explains, I think, how confusion arose both in Pattison's mind and my own.

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully,

A. C. S. SAVORY, Major.

“ D A V E ”

BY C.S.M. H. FURNISS, M.C. (7TH D.W.R.)

Dave joined us in September, 1914, being one of a draft sent on from the Depot. This party arrived in various efforts of military uniform. Dave presented himself for first inspection in blue trousers with stripe plus a khaki cap two sizes too big, and he was more or less representative of the draft. I had known Dave practically all my life. He was bred and born on the hillside here, and a more unlikely chap I didn't expect to see. He had married a widow just before the war and whether that had anything to do with his enlisting I just wonder. However, he brought his brother-in-law with him and they were both posted to my Company—Pte. David Sykes (2317) and Pte. Oliver Schofield (2316).

As time went on they were eventually all fitted out and subjected to the very rigorous training we all had to undergo. Dave, without being conspicuous either way, got through and though he never reached Guards' standard he became one of the millions of war-time soldiers who stood up to their job so well. In April, 1915, we went overseas to France and Dave soon proved his worth by his cheerful bearing and wonderful spirit under any conditions.

After a week or two overseas I had to find a new sanitary man, so I thought it would just do for Dave, giving him that freedom of knocking round the line and having a word with his pals. It was not really everyone's choice, but Dave took it up in his usual cheery way. Wearing an old French cap, you would find him filling in and making new latrines and doing all the odd jobs called for. Everybody knew Dave and looked out to have a word and joke with him, and, however heavy the bombardment, or bad the conditions, Dave could be heard making some cheery remark which would bring a laugh or a grin from even the windy ones of us. I was very fond of Dave by this time and realised his worth in keeping the men's spirits up.

One day in July the Company officer was talking to me about Company matters and when he had finished he said, "You think a lot about Dave, don't you, Sergeant-Major?" I laughed and said, "I certainly do, sir, he's worth his weight in gold to us. You remember when our Company was the only one to get through to relieve a week or two since and the Brigadier thanked us? It wasn't you or I who did that, it was Dave. That night he was carrying four rifles at once and joking and telling old-time tales all the way up. We should never have got through but for him."

Soon after, my batman was wounded and I appointed Dave's brother-in-law, Schofield, for the job and Dave came into my dug-out pretty often.

On September 23 our Company was acting as Reserve to the inlying Battalion and the other three Companies were on the Canal Bank; the Company Commander was called to Headquarters—Schofield and I escorted him down and then returned to the trenches. Rations and post had arrived in the meantime and Dave was helping two Sergeants to sort out Platoon parcels, etc. This made five of us in the small dug-out. It was fairly quiet outside when suddenly a shell burst in the dug-out. I had my back to the entrance and found myself in the bottom of the trench, uniform torn and badly shaken up, but with no serious damage. Of the others, Schofield was killed and Dave was very badly wounded, being torn from shoulder to hip. Sgt. Cockroft lost an arm and two fingers from the other hand and Sgt. Williams had his arm so badly damaged it has not been much use since.

Eventually we were taken down to the first-aid station at Essex Farm and after treatment the two Sergeants were sent down the line, but Dave was left with me, because it was apparent to us all that he could not last long, and I was kept as I was not wounded but suffering from shock and returned to

the line after two days' rest. We lay next stretcher to each other, and, although Dave was more or less conscious and suffering hell, I never heard him complain, only a stifled groan now and again. While the M.O. was examining him Dave said in broad Yorkshire dialect, "Well, Doctor, haa dus ta think aw's go on?" and Dr. Bruzard said, "Oh, I think you'll be all right, Sykes." "Thart nooan so damned sure at ta," replied Dave, and in a short time he had passed on. And so Dave and

his brother-in-law were buried together at Bard Cottage just 12 months exactly after joining us.

As each succeeding September 23 comes round I pay my visit to the local War Memorial and see once again 2317 Pte. David Sykes, another unsung hero, "Who died as firm as Sparta's King because his soul was great."

* * *

Dave was not a "Private of the Buffs" but only a sanitary man of the "Dukes."

EXTRACTS

from the Diary of Lt. William Thain, 33rd Foot

(Adjutant, 33rd Foot, May 11, 1815—July 13, 1826)

Transcribed from the original by Lt.-Col. C. W. G. INCE, O.B.E., M.C.

Continued from page 31, The Iron Duke, No. 91

Kalamphout, Monday, January 31, 1814

Marched in at 9 o'clock through West Wesel to Brecht a distance of twelve or fourteen miles, the country is barren almost all the way. West Wesel is a poor village close by the fine high road that Bonaparte laid at great expense from Antwerp to Breda and I believe is carried on from the former place to Paris, the distance from Antwerp to Breda is 35 or 40 miles by the new road, before it was made it was almost double that. West Wesel is almost surrounded by a large heath or marsh, after we passed through it we had to wade up to the knees across three rivulets that were swollen by the melting of the snow, and marched on heath almost all the way to Brecht. This is a small dirty town with a good looking church. I mounted on an outlying piquet the moment that we got in, which was on the road to Hoogstraten where the Prussian General Bulow's headquarters were.

Brecht, Tuesday, February 1, 1814

The brigades proceeded by different routes to the village of Braxgatten. It snowed most bitterly for a length of time. After passing over one large common we came into a very woody country and marched several miles along the Breda road, passed through Greven Wesel and about a mile further we reached Braxgatten which is nothing more than a few farm houses on each side of the high road, the country is here entirely covered with wood and rows of fine elm trees grow on each side of the road. Tomorrow we expect to be early engaged, all are in the highest spirits.

Braxgatten, Wednesday, February 2, 1814

We fell in at day break. Maj.-Gen. Gibbs commanded the Division, Maj.-Gen. Mackenzie having last night been thrown from his horse and lamed. Soon after we passed a turn in the road, our light troops became engaged, we met with great obstacles the enemy having cut down all the large trees and laid them across the roads but our brave soldiers assisting the pioneers soon threw them aside and pressed on, our right wing was detached to drive a French piquet out of the wood on the left. The enemy took up a strong position by a windmill and it was necessary to bring two

field pieces up to drive them from it. Our brigade entered Merxem by the main road. Our right wing entered it with part of Gen. Skernets brigade on the left. All pressed on and the enemy flew into the gates of Antwerp. The action lasted about three hours, when we returned through the streets it was astonishing to see the difficulties we had overcome. The enemy had high breastworks across the street at the distance of twenty or thirty paces and the walls of the houses at the entrances of the village were pierced with loop-holes. We stopped to breathe a little then our brigade (the 2nd) retired to a large Gentlemans seat. The Brigade of Guards furnished the working parties for the night, which were immediately set on by the chief engineer Lt.-Col. Smith in erecting batteries against the famous Scheldt Fleet. They were not molested during the night.

Our loss this day was not inconsiderable though scarce to be compared to that of the enemy. We made our attacks on the village to the left of the place that we entered it last time. Thus we are again in possession of the village of Merxem.

Merxem, Thursday, February 3, 1814

At 4 o'clock p.m. our Batteries opened on the fleet and continued till midnight with great fury but without effect. Sir Thomas Graham and Sir George Wood, commanding the artillery, were both quite confident that the ships would have been on fire before that time. Our regiment was in a large house exactly in rear of the batteries ready to support the men in the trenches should the enemy have made a sortie, from it we had a fine view of the firing, which was beautiful after it became dark. No rockets* were made use of, but the shells were filled with the same combustible matter that they use.

*Rockets adapted for use in war were invented by Sir William Congreve (1772-1828). They were first used in an attack on Boulogne in 1806, being fired from boats of special construction with great effect, and were afterward extensively used on land and sea. The Congreve rocket, which had a stick, was later superseded by the Hale, which had a screw-form tail on which the gases impinged. It had a range of 1,200 yds. The use of rockets was discontinued in 1886, to be revived nearly 150 years after their invention. Congreve was a most prolific inventor, among his patents being a gas-meter and a clock driven by a ball rolling down an inclined plane, of which specimens may still be seen today. The first friction matches used in England were named after him.—Ed.

Merxem, Friday, February 4, 1814

The firing having ceased on both sides for some hours, commenced again at about 8 in the morning. Our regiment was removed from the large house in rear of the batteries and marched more to the rear, where we remained for the night. No flames or even smoke from the fleet. Weather beautiful.

Merxem, Saturday, February 5, 1814

Paraded an hour before daylight and again at 11 o'clock, soon after which we were marched into the village of Merxem, where the 78th (now the 2nd Battalion The Seaforth Highlanders) also were. The firing this day was excessively hot on both sides and we were soon obliged to quit the village and fall back. After dark our brigade went into the trenches, when our grenadiers were employed in dragging the guns and mortars out. Gen. Taylor

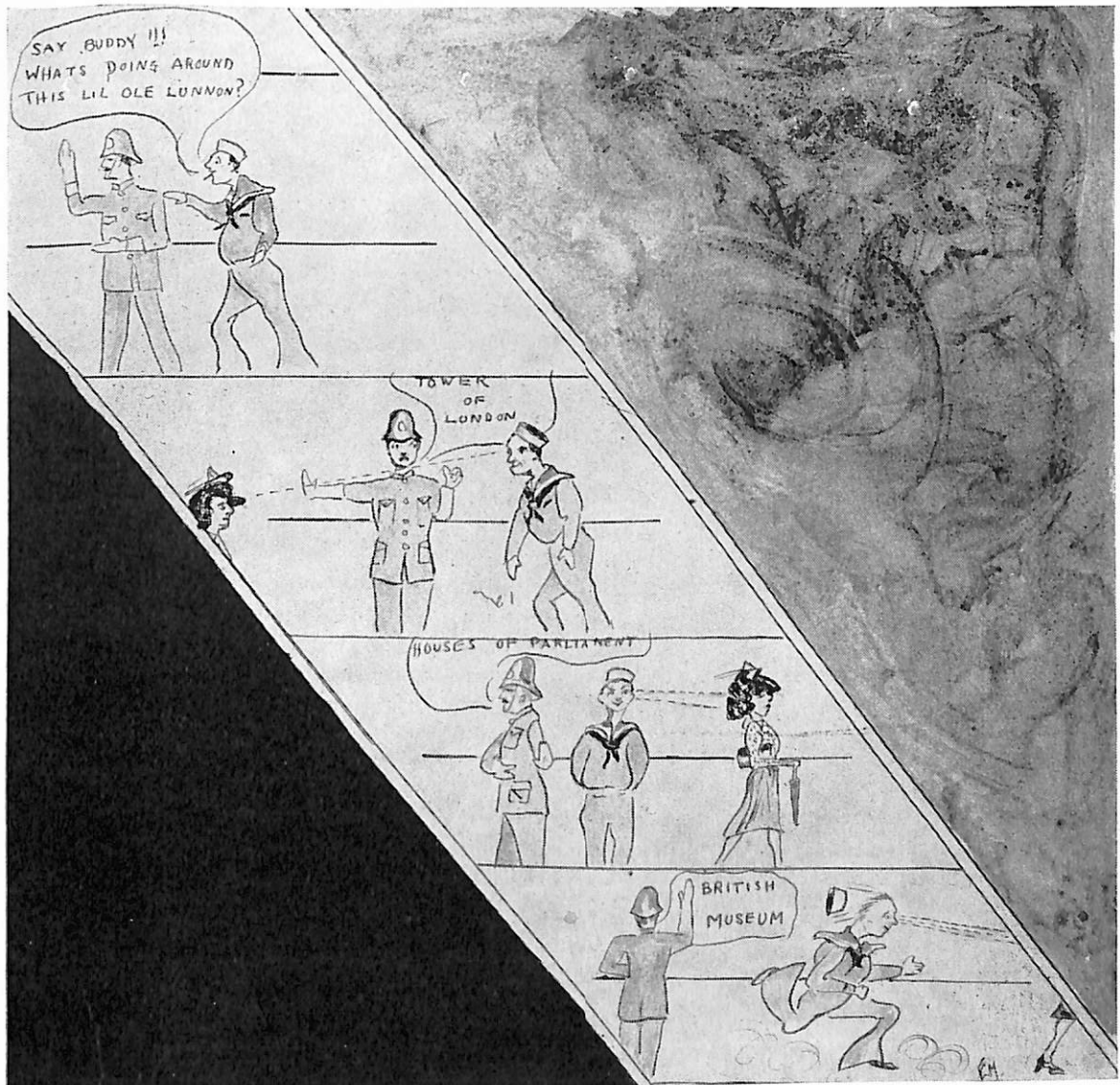
gave us an excellent supper afterwards. Not a shot from the enemy after dark.

Merxem, Sunday, February 6, 1814

At daybreak the troops were brought out of the trenches and at noon the forces all retired to the village of Braxgatten or Breschaat, three miles from Merxem, where we remained unmolested all night.

Merxem, Monday, February 7, 1814

Our brigade marched all along the famous Breda road to West Wesel, where the 35th (now 1st Battalion The Royal Sussex Regiment) remained, we went to Loenhout, a village to the east of West Wesel and off the road, and the 78th (now 2nd Battalion, Seaforth Highlanders) were put into a large chateau between the two places, the 56th (now 2nd Battalion The Essex Regiment) were with us at Loenhout.



THE SIGHTS OF LONDON by E. Mellors



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OLD FORT HENRY

The following article is extracted from the material kindly sent to us by Mr. Ronald L. Way, Director of Old Fort Henry, who has been at great pains to collect pamphlets, photographs and newspaper cuttings dealing with the origin, development and recent restoration of this historic citadel. The entire collection has been placed in the Regimental Museum, and our greatest thanks are due to Mr. Way for his valuable and interesting gift.

Observers of the international scene, when distracted beyond measure by the bickerings of the Old World, turn their eyes to the West, to the great undefended frontier between Canada and the United States of America. Here, for some four thousand miles, the boundary, half of it defined only by the famous 49th Parallel, depends for its security not on armies and fortifications, but on mutual trust and the conviction that war between civilised nations is an unthinkable folly.

But this admirable state of affairs is of a comparatively recent date; it is not necessary to have reached a great age to remember the time when the Canadian frontier forts were still manned and their guns pointed southward. One of the most important strongholds was Fort Henry, which protected Kingston at the eastern end of the Great Lakes and was the key to the defence of all upper Canada. The war of 1812 was largely a naval war fought between ships built on the spot—on the Canadian side in the Kingston dockyard. All supplies from Great Britain came up the St. Lawrence, which for many miles forms the actual frontier, and it was soon realised how vulnerable this line of communications was. A battery planted on American soil could have completely throttled the channel of supplies to Upper Canada. The defences of Kingston itself, which had been hastily constructed during the war by the Canadian Voltigeurs—ancestors of our own allied Regiment—were considered inadequate to protect a base of such strategic importance. In 1823 the Duke of Wellington, as always when knotty problems presented themselves, was called on for advice. He drew up an exhaustive memorandum, the gist of which was that an alternative means of communication between Montreal and Kingston should be secured by the development of existing waterways and the construction of a canal entering Lake Ontario at Kingston, which itself was to be more strongly protected by the construction of a modern fortress; 1836 saw the completion of Fort Henry.

Throughout its active life of seventy-seven years, Fort Henry was never attacked, though it suffered its occasional alarms and excursions. In 1837, only a year after its birth, Mackenzie and Popineau raised an armed rebellion against the Government—a rebellion which, republican in its aims, had the sympathy, though not the open support, of the U.S.A. Any striking success on the part of the rebels might have led to their intervention and the situation was very dangerous. The Governor of Upper Canada sent every imperial soldier at his disposal to the assistance of the Lower Province.

But his confidence was misplaced and rebellion broke out in Toronto. In Fort Henry only twenty gunners were left for its defence. But the loyalty of the Militia, half-trained though they were, was equal to the occasion. They flocked into the fort from all the surrounding districts in such numbers that many had to be turned away. "Even the Mohawk Indians harnessed their little wagons and leaving only the women and children, the feeble and aged of their tribe, drove into Kingston ninety-nine in number, with the old Union Jack proudly floating over them to offer their services. They were urged to accept the usual pay of the Militia, but chief and warrior alike rejected the offer. 'We come to fight for our Mother across the Great Lake; we want not to be paid. If she thinks well of us, good.'"

Fort Henry was indeed threatened by a force of some two thousand American sympathisers who had seized an island in the St. Lawrence with the intention of crossing the frozen river and delivering an assault. However, when the time for action came their leader, a somewhat dissolute adventurer by name van Rensselaer, was too drunk to get up, and his men, in disgust and alarm, returned to their native soil not without haste. In 1846 another international crisis arose leading to the strengthening of the fortifications, but it never came to a head, and the remainder of Fort Henry's active life was passed in peace.

For fifty more years it was the centre of military life in Upper Canada and many British and Canadian regiments saw service there. Among the earliest of these was the 76th, who were there from 1818 to 1819 and 1819 to 1821. It must have been a pleasant station—this most westerly outpost of the British Realm—situated in splendid, unspoilt country and hundreds of miles from G.H.Q. Later Kingston became the capital city and seat of the Governor General, so that balls, assemblies and fashionable society were added to its less sophisticated delights. Not that it ever seems to have become a scene of riotous pleasure. A French Canadian visitor wrote:

"What a terrible thing to arrive in an Ontario town on Sunday. It is equivalent to a partial suicide which is not less painful than a complete and thorough suicide. Fortunately one can leave the same day as one arrives."

But the town was proud of the army, lavish in its hospitality and relations between soldier and citizen seemed to have been of the best, though the course of true love did not always run true. In 1852 the local paper, *The British Wig*, wrote:

"The Lieutenant-Colonel of the Rifles has gone home on three months' leave and it is hoped he will never rejoin the regiment again."

This tremendous blast of Editorial thunder—surely not unworthy of the *Eatanswill Gazette*—was occasioned by the Colonel's refusal to lend his band on some festive occasions.

In 1890 the fort was pronounced obsolete, the troops departed, and the buildings abandoned to

Doncaster and District Branch O.C.A.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the year ended October 31, 1953

EXPENDITURE		£	s.	d.	INCOME		£	s.	d.
Grants to Members	.. .. .	7	0	0	Grants received on behalf of Members	.. .. .	7	0	0
Annual Dinner	.. .. .	24	3	6	Members' Subscriptions	.. .. .	4	0	0
Social Evenings	.. .. .	7	2		Annual Dinner—Sale of Tickets	.. .. .	19	11	0
Outings	.. .. .	9	12	0	Contributions towards cost of Outings	.. .. .	3	15	0
Cost of Badges	.. .. .	3	0	0	Sale of Badges	.. .. .	1	12	0
Cost of Christmas Cards and Diaries	.. .. .	3	19	6	Sale of Christmas Cards and Diaries	.. .. .	3	17	9
Printing and Stationery	.. .. .	4	15	0	Refund from H.Q. on account of cost of Printing and Stationery, 1952	.. .. .	4	14	0
Postages and Cheque Book	.. .. .	2	4	0	Proceeds of Raffles, etc.	.. .. .	5	3	1
Depreciation on Radio Set and Amplifier	.. .. .	5	0	0	Donations	.. .. .	1	9	0
					Stock of Badges in hand (14 at 2s. each)	.. .. .	1	8	0
					Excess of Expenditure over Income	.. .. .	52	9	10
									7 11 4
									<u>£60 1 2</u>
									<u>£60 1 2</u>

BALANCE SHEET as at October 31, 1953

LIABILITIES		£	s.	d.	ASSETS		£	s.	d.
Accumulated Surplus—					Radio Set and Amplifier at Cost	.. .. .	15	0	0
Balance as at 31/10/52	.. .. .	£28	19	5	Less Depreciation previously written off	.. .. .	5	0	0
Less Excess of Expenditure over					Depreciation for year at 33 1/3% of				
Income for the year ended 31/10/53	.. .. .	7	11	4	Cost	.. .. .	5	0	0
									5 0 0
					Stock of Records (presented to Branch)				— — —
					Wooden Chest and lock				— — —
					Panel				— — —
					Cash at National Provincial Bank	.. .. .	18	9	7
					Less Cheque not yet presented	.. .. .	3	9	6
									15 0 1
					Stock of Badges	.. .. .			1 8 0
									<u>£21 8 1</u>
									<u>£21 8 1</u>

We certify that we have examined the books of The Duke of Wellington's Regimental Association, Doncaster and District Branch, for the year ended October 31, 1953, and that to the best of our knowledge and belief the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet have been truly and correctly drawn up.

November, 1953.

T. PETTINGER.
N. HOLLIDAY.



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BALANCE SHEET

LIABILITIES				ASSETS								
£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.				
Capital Accounts as at June 30, 1952	9,314	18	4			(a) General Fund—						
Additions this year:						£3,150 3½% War Stock ..	3,117	11	0			
Life Membership subscriptions (transferred from General Fund Income Account) ..	1	0	0			£5,384 3½% Conversion Loan	4,107	16	7			
						£2,650 4% Funding Loan ..	1,950	1	6			
						£621 5s. 4% Consols ..	500	0	0			
Regimental Charitable Fund:						£400 3% Defence Bonds ..	400	0	0			
2nd Battalion	381	18	0			£300 2½% Defence Bonds ..	300	0	0			
3rd Battalion Officers ..	609	9	6			£300 3% Savings Bonds, 1965-75	300	0	0			
						£500 3% Savings Bonds, 1960-70	503	0	3			
Regimental War Memorial Pension Fund				991	7	6	£500 3% Savings Bonds, 1960-70	469	3	3		
				10,398	6	0						
Sundries:						(b) 3rd Battalion Officers:						
Leeds & District O.C.A., balance, June 30, 1952 ..	25	17	7			£463 10s. 6d. 3½% War Stock			463	10	6	
Suspense Account, balance, June 30, 1952 ..	13	6	3						12,111	3	1	
Dinner Account	4	10	9			Cash in hand and at bank:						
				43	14	7	Deposit Account	60	17	9		
Income Accounts:						Current Account	524	16	6			
Deed of Trust Income Account	1,466	5	9			Cash in hand	19	6				
General Fund Income Account	789	10	6						586	13	9	
				2,255	16	3						
				£12,697	16	10			£12,697	16	10	

AUDITORS' REPORT

We have audited the Balance Sheet and Accounts of the Association as above set forth, and have obtained all the information and explanations we have required. In our opinion such Balance Sheet and Accounts are properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the affairs of the Association, and are in accordance with the books and papers produced to us.

6 Harrison Road, Halifax.
August 20, 1953.

WHITHAM & TURNERY,
Chartered Accountants.

NOTE 1.—In addition to the Investments shown above, the following Investments are held as stated below, and the Income therefrom has been incorporated in these Accounts:

REGIMENTAL CHARITABLE FUND, 2nd Battalion:
(held by United Service Trustee), £1,515 3½% War Loan. (Market value at June 30, 1953, £1,223.)

REGIMENTAL WAR MEMORIAL PENSIONS FUND:
(held by Colonel of the Regiment and O.C. Depot as Trustees of Fund), £1,979 os. 8d. 3½% Conversion Loan. (Market value at June 30, 1953, £1,613.)

NOTE 2.—Market Value of Investments as at June 30, 1953:

	£	s.	d.
£3,150 3½% War Stock	2,544	0	0
£5,384 3½% Conversion Loan	4,388	0	0
£2,650 4% Funding Loan	2,650	0	0
£621 5s. od. 4% Consols	559	0	0
£400 3% Defence Bonds	400	0	0
£300 2½% Defence Bonds	300	0	0
£300 3% Savings Bonds, 1965-75 ..	259	0	0
£1,000 3% Savings Bonds, 1960-70..	890	0	0
	£11,990	0	0
3rd Battalion Officers:			
£463 10s. 6d. 3½% War Stock ..	£374	0	0

Late News.—We deeply regret to announce the death of Mr. Fred Gibson, ex No. 9514, C.S.M., who died at Huddersfield on March 21, 1954.

He joined the Regiment in 1903 and was discharged in 1920 after being severely wounded in Gallipoli. He was reported killed in action; his wife was informed of his death and received a letter of sympathy from H.M. King George V. He was

an Army recruiter in Huddersfield from 1938-51, when he had to retire owing to ill-health. He was a well-known figure in the Regiment in the Tidworth-Dublin days, being batman to Lt.-Col. Hayden. His funeral was a semi-military one, the bearers and bugler being provided by the Depot and a gun-carriage by the T.A. Mr. T. B. Norman attended as representative of the O.C.A.

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