

No.93 July 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  
Seringsapatam  
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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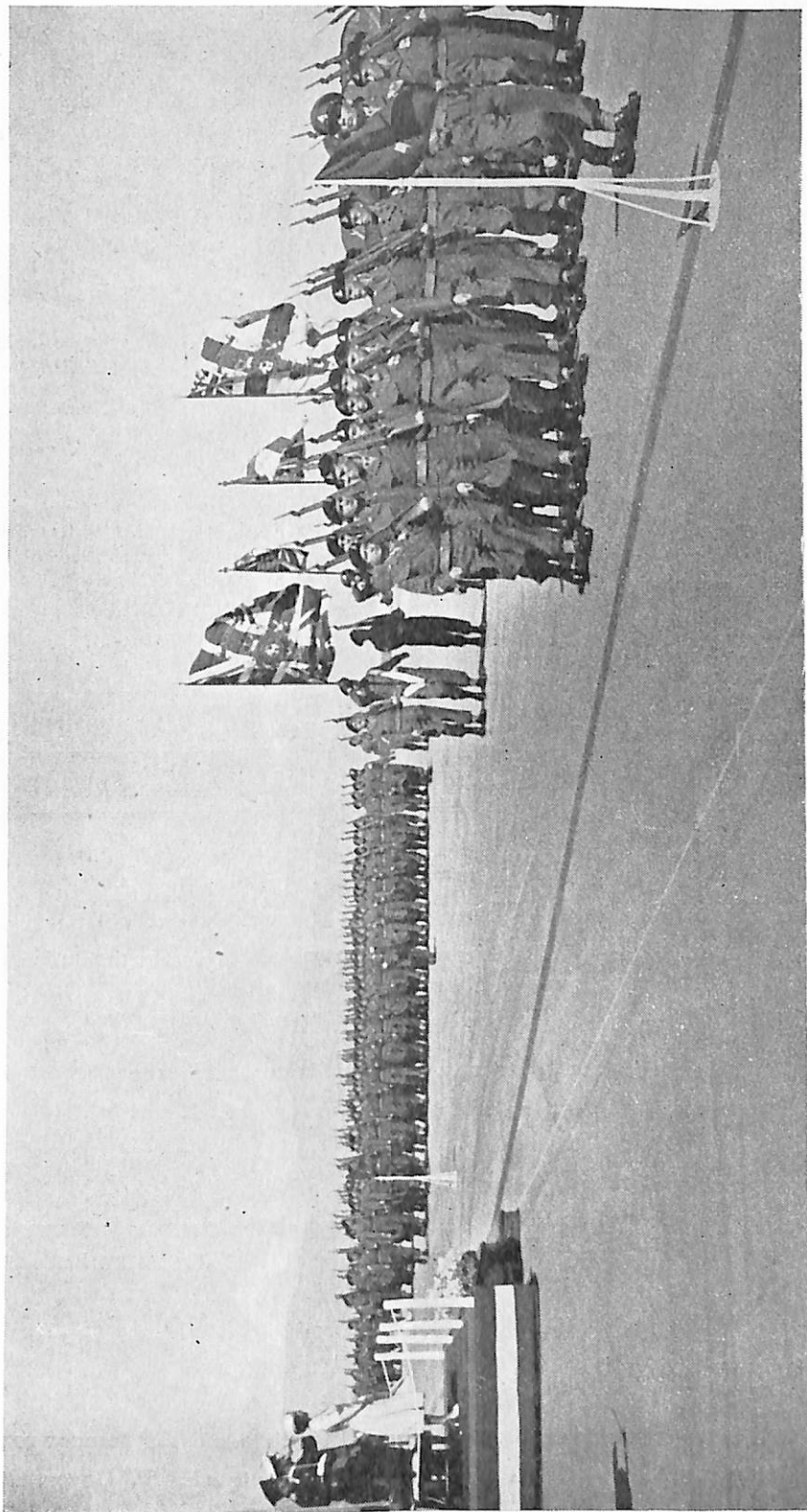
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HALIFAX.

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ROYAL REVIEW AT NORTH FRONT, GIBRALTAR, MAY 10, 1954  
"B" Company (LXXVI Colours) and "C" Company marching past H.M. The Queen

THE REGIMENT

COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT:

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. R. de la H. Moran, O.B.E.  
 Regimental Depot, Wellesley Barracks, Halifax .. .. Major A. C. S. Savory  
 382nd Field Regiment, R.A. (D.W.R.), The Drill Hall, Prescott Street, Halifax .. Lt.-Col. J. F. Crossl y, 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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For the very full accounts of the Queen's visit in this number we are indebted to many, among whom we would particularly mention Mr. C. A. Ramsden, Editor of the *Halifax Courier and Guardian*, who has very kindly given us permission to reprint the despatch he sent to his paper; Mr. W. A. Wood, to whom we are indebted for the extract from one of his son's letters which gives a vivid description of the feelings of the "man in the thick of it"; and, finally, a brilliant cartoon by our new "find," 2/Lt. D. M. B. Dowdy. Among those present are the artist with a book under his arm talking to Major Emmett, in charge of decor, 2/Lt. J. R. Akroyd, in charge of gardens, nervously caressing a shrub, and the Sub-Editor, Major Jones-Stamp, carrying out that complicated drill movement known as "impaling a comrade on his sword."

\* \* \* \*

This wealth of material has strained our capacity to its limits and enables the Editor to cut to a minimum that series of pontifical pronouncements known as "The Editorial" which form such a depressing feature of this journal.

\* \* \* \*

Lt.-Col. R. de la H. Moran, O.B.E., has now assumed command of the 1st Battalion. We offer him our best wishes for a happy and successful tour of command. Our best wishes also to Major A. C. S. Savory, who succeeds Major J. H. Davis in command of Regimental Headquarters.

# The Queen's Visit to Gibraltar

by C. A. RAMSDEN *Editor of the "Halifax Weekly Courier and Guardian"*

The exuberant loyalty of Gibraltar's people; the wonderful way in which that loyalty was at once acknowledged and confirmed by the brief but incident-crowded visit of the Queen, her husband and children; and the fine part played (and sheer hard work done) by the 1st Battalion of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment—these are the things that stand out in my memory as I look back on my days on The Rock recently.

There can be no doubt at all that the visit of the Queen was in every way a terrific success. And Lt.-Col. F. R. St. P. Bunbury, D.S.O., who commands the Battalion, told me that when the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh had a long talk with him during the reception on the Monday evening, they showed a most lively and personal interest in what was being done by the only Regiment in the British Army named after a duke not of the blood Royal.

Col. Bunbury himself must feel that this has been a magnificent climax to an exceptional tour of duty.

The two days of the visit were, for the officers and men of the Battalion, an arduous but proud culmination of a good many weeks of strenuous work. The only infantry battalion on The Rock, they were naturally "in on" most things, and it is only when one has the chance to glimpse behind the scenes that one realises just how many "things" there are to a visit like this and just what they mean in terms of work.

Behind the dignity and thrill of parade and review is the spit and polish of the day before and the strain of standing for two hours or more, as did the guard of honour at the Quay, with hardly a change of position. Behind the gay decorations and floodlighting of the barracks are hours of thought and work. Street lining and sentry duty, patrolling the short and dusty frontier line, polishing the Battalion's silver, which attracted much attention during the dinner at the Governor's residence, music for the reception as well as the parade and other events—all this and much more mean a pretty hard grind, and I can certainly vouch for the fact that by the Tuesday afternoon there were some weary officers and men.

The visit itself began for the "Dukes" with the mounting of the combined-Services guard of honour at the Quay. The "Dukes" detachment, under 2/Lt. James Pell, was in the centre opposite the gangway down which the Royal couple stepped ashore. The only Colour on this parade was the Queen's Colour of the 1st Battalion, borne by 2/Lt. Michael Campbell-Lammerton. (Prince Charles caused immense delight when, on the Tuesday, he insisted on saluting the Colour before going aboard *Britannia* with his sister—one of those totally unexpected incidents which are apt to "catch a guard napping," but certainly did not do so on this occasion).

L/Cpl. T. Ennis, of 62 Ovenden Green, Halifax, was one of the local members of this guard of honour, and Cpl. D. Schofield, 1 Page Hill, Wheatley, had an even more interesting part in the ceremonial reception of Her Majesty as she came ashore.

Traditionally, the Keys of The Rock are always carried by a Sergeant of one of the Regiments which were in Gibraltar during the great siege, but the "Dukes" provided the special escort of a Sergeant and three Corporals, of which Cpl. Schfield was one.

These keys figured again when the Queen visited The Convent (the Governor's residence). They were ceremonially "drummed in" to the banquetting room by Cpl. G. Evans.

This banquet and reception at The Convent were, indeed, one of the high spots of the visit, both for the Gibraltarians and for the "Dukes." The Convent with King's Chapel adjoining, forms one side of a small square, and it was here that the people of Gib. had their first real chance of gathering in one solid mass at one time and place. They did so, chattering and cheering and milling around—and in the process making things not a little difficult for the "Dukes" who were mounting guard at The Convent and lining the streets.

L/Cpl. R. H. Moss, 14 Joshua Street, Todmorden, and Pte. B. Maidens, 26 Backhold Drive, Siddal, were both members of The Convent guard, under Sgt. T. Mountcastle, and but for the rather early arrival of the Queen, Pte. Maidens would have been the sentry on duty when she came. He had been rather nervous about that possibility, but he shared with the rest of the guard the high praise that came to it for the precision of its drill. If Major Jones Stamp can be said to become lyrical, he did so later on this subject.

Much of the Regimental silver had gone to The Convent for this function, and the chief silverman of the Officers' Mess, Pte. W. Peel, of Skipton, and his assistant, Pte. B. Hall, of Hull, must have felt rewarded for much polishing by the comments that it aroused.

The local man who probably had the best and longest "view" of the Queen and Duke, however, was Pte. Roy Taylor, 25 Kingsley Avenue, Beechwood, Sowerby Bridge. He was one of several members of the Battalion who served as waiters during the banquet, and his particular section of the table was within a couple of paces of the Queen.

He is Major Edward Emmett's batman, and both had some cause for "nerves," for Major Emmett was next day to be invested by Her Majesty with the M.C. won in Korea. When he was woken in the morning, indeed, Major Emmett confided to his batman that he was perhaps a little apprehensive of the ordeal of investiture. "It's all right for you, sir," responded Pte. Taylor. "It'll be all over in

a minute. But what about me, serving at table right under the Queen's eye for a couple of hours? I'm the one that's nervous!" But I gather all went well—for both.

Another local man, Pte. D. Bottomley, 33 Hoults Lane, Greetland, also had the chance to act as waiter at The Convent, but deliberately chose instead to take part in the parade and review on the airfield.

Cpl. Adcock, 11 Clover Hill Terrace, Halifax, and Bds. Baxter, 49 Denfield Gardens, playing the French horn and the clarinet, were members of the Band playing during dinner, as were several other local men. It is just three weeks since Cpl. Adcock married a Gibraltar girl, Marie Isabel—a subject about which I found him rather reticent, but his friends vociferous and envious!

The other really big event of the visit was the parade and review, of which Major R. de la H. Moran, O.B.E., who is shortly to take over command of the Battalion, was 2IC.

In the centre of the parade were the four detachments of the Regiment, some 360 men.

Symbolic key to the whole were the four Colours of the Regiment—only The Duke of Wellington's Regiment in all the Army may carry four Colours on parade.

The two Honorary Colours, the origins of which go back 147 years to the East India Company, are twice the size of the Regulation Colours, and with the breeze blowing on this occasion, 2/Lt. D. H. Fordyce and 2/Lt. P. A. Mitchell, who carried them, had all their work cut out.

Throughout my visit I found the "Dukes"—officers and men—much more critical of their own performances than any ordinary spectator was or fairly could be, and both these subalterns were rather worried about how they had "managed" in the handling of these big and unwieldy Colours. True, during the General Salute, one of them did not fly free as the Colours dipped. But that was only momentary, and it was a fine and indeed heart-stirring sight as, a second later, this Colour too blew free and the four glittered out together under the high sun. The march past, too, was a spectacle good to see, with the "Dukes" showing they could march and keep their dressing as well as any.

Great spectacles are not everything, however, and such things as street-lining and frontier guard had to be done. Cpl. T. Eastwood, Rycroft, Roills Head Road, Cpl. J. H. Johnson, 12a Whitegate, Siddal, and Pte. D. Smith, 3 Lodge Avenue, Elland, all of whom I spoke with, had their fill of street-lining, but all were pleased enough to have seen the Queen and Duke so close.

But it seemed to me that the most thankless task of all performed by the "Dukes"—perhaps the only thankless one—was that of guard and patrol duty at Four Corners, the British side of the frontier.

Pte. M. Dewhirst, 49 Grove Avenue, Ovenden, was there for 48 hours, Sunday to Tuesday. He and those with him saw nothing of the Royal visitors and shared in none of the excitements in the town. They stood sentry at the gate, or patrolled the wire or beach, lonely in the heat and

dust, out of sight and, it may well have seemed to them, out of mind. No significant trouble came from across the way. They had a job both tiring and dull. They did it, and they earned the credit.

Also out of the limelight, but doing an unusual job for infantrymen, were Pte. B. Quinn, 18 Grove Avenue, Ovenden, and Pte. Joe Comer, 15 Denfield Crescent, Ovenden. The latter, I gather, is something of a "character" in the Battalion. "Things always happen to Joe, somehow" and what will happen when he "comes out"—on New Year's Eve!—is anyone's guess! But, what has been happening recently to Joe and to Pte. Quinn is that they have been serving in motor launches patrolling off the beaches. Versatility counts.

The habitable parts of the Rock are small and very crowded. The mere physical effort of moving about its narrow streets and (even by Halifax standards) appallingly steep and long hills, ramps and steps, is very considerable to say the least. Playing fields are few, bone hard, and far apart. Very few houses have any garden at all, so there is nowhere for children to play or families to relax privately. Recreation which is both pleasant and inexpensive is difficult to come by. It's not a place with much in the way of facilities for infantry training. The east wind and rain can match England's or the sun be far hotter, or the "Levanter"—the cloud of mist which often tops The Rock—sweep down in depressing dampness as it did early on the Tuesday morning of the visit.

In truth, life on The Rock can soon begin to seem irksome and confined.

So men who serve there have to find things to occupy their time if they are to remain contented and companionable, and that is not easy. It is not easy for the officers to help the men, or the men to help themselves, and it seems to me that it is definitely up to the people at home to do all the helping in their power.

*This means—first and foremost and all the time—letters, then more letters. It means sending out more newspapers and magazines. It means responding promptly and generously to any requests that may come from individuals or the Battalion. And it means a more lively—and openly expressed—appreciation by people at home of the service that is being given and the sacrifices that are being made by such men as the "Dukes" in Gibraltar.*

**EXTRACT FROM A LETTER SENT TO HIS PARENTS BY LT. C. MUSGRAVE WOOD,**  
1ST BATTALION THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGT.  
Gibraltar,

May 13, 1954.

Dear Folks,

Hello again! I'm sorry for the delay in writing but what with the Queen's Visit, etc., I just haven't had a chance and anyway I can now tell you all about it.

Saturday morning we had the final rehearsal for the Queen's Parade and everything went like clockwork. Then, the week-end of waiting. The whole Rock had a sort of suppressed air of expectancy with everything possible done and now all

just waited. Every street was decorated, every window, every shop, almost every car.

I've never known such pride taken. Everything so very personal. Like the Queen staying in Polperro for 36 hours. She was coming: "Our Queen to her Rock of Gibraltar"—that was the thought.

All Saturday night people thronged the streets looking at the decorations, all with a happy, excited look on their faces.

And Sunday, too, the air of expectancy stayed; you could feel it in the air. The decorations were fine. If they had no flags, they hung out red, white and blue tablecloths, etc., or, failing that, just gaily-coloured rugs. They cut down palm leaves and stuck them over doorways. I've never seen so much effort put in, by everyone, to decorate a place. Not just leaving it to the City Council, but real co-operation. They just love dressing up, these people, and they really worked hard.

Then the day came. It was here. Monday, May 10; the great, long-awaited day. Everyone was up early and all steps led to the docks or to the airfield. We got down there at about 8.45 a.m. (for a parade at 10.30), and the stands were full even then.

From where we stood, in the assembly area, we could see far off down the air-strip, in brilliant sunshine, a line of eight white Shackleton bombers, and behind these the bright shimmering line of colour, fair rippling with excitement, which was most of the population of Gibraltar. And on our left we had the bare sheer face of the Rock, rising straight into the sky for 1,300 feet.

So, again we waited. Once more, all that could have been done.

Then, at 9.40, the Colours marched on. The four Colours of the Second Battalion, the Regimental, the Queen's Regimental and the two honorary Queen's and Regimental that the East India Company gave us.

At 10 o'clock exactly, we heard the bugles of the combined R.A.F. Central and 1st D.W.R. Bands sound the "advance", and saw the crowd fair bounce with excitement.

So, on we marched, a long line, 1,500 of us, representatives of all the Services, arms and regiments on the Rock. We swung down the airfield, being played on by that terrific Band, followed by the guns of the two R.A. Regiments.

By 10.45 all was once more still and we once again waited.

Then suddenly, she was coming. Far away we heard the roar of the crowds, that steadily grew in volume. The Brigadier called us to attention and round the corner and on to the strip she came, to applause so loud that we hardly heard the command to slope arms, but we did.

Then the car drew up at the saluting platform and out stepped a young girl in a yellow coat, with a little yellow "petal" hat on her head.

As soon as she was in position and facing us we had the order "Royal Salute, present arms," and crash, crash, crash, 1,500 rifles went to "the present" as the Royal Standard was broken at the flagpole-head and the Bands played the National Anthem.

Then came the inspection, with the Queen and the Duke driving down the lines in their car. As she came opposite me I looked, and gosh, she looked so young and really lovely, much better than any photos I've ever seen; then she was gone down the line.

After that we had the march past. Jolly fine. It gave me quite a thrill to actually salute my Queen. All the talk of "serving the Queen" seemed suddenly to mean something.

Then a 21-gun salute, followed by three cheers for H.M. the Queen, and we heard the Rock throw back the echo, two distinct "Hurrahs" about five seconds after we had shouted, in fact so clearly that the Duke turned round in surprise and then grinned.

Then the car drove up and to another Royal Salute she drove off, and the Royal Standard was lowered. I realised that that was it, the culmination of six weeks' work, six weeks of rehearsals, planning and grumbling, and I wouldn't have missed it for anything.

So, as the crowds melted and vanished after the Queen, we marched off back to barracks.

I went up to the Mess and had a quick beer. Up there I found all the Colour escort and the Brigadier mixed up in the crowd.

Thus we had two Corporals, three Sergeants, and officers from Subalterns to Parade Commander, all swigging beer together on the verandah, and once again we waited. Waiting for the Queen to drive past the bottom of the Mess steps on her way back from seeing the underground installations.

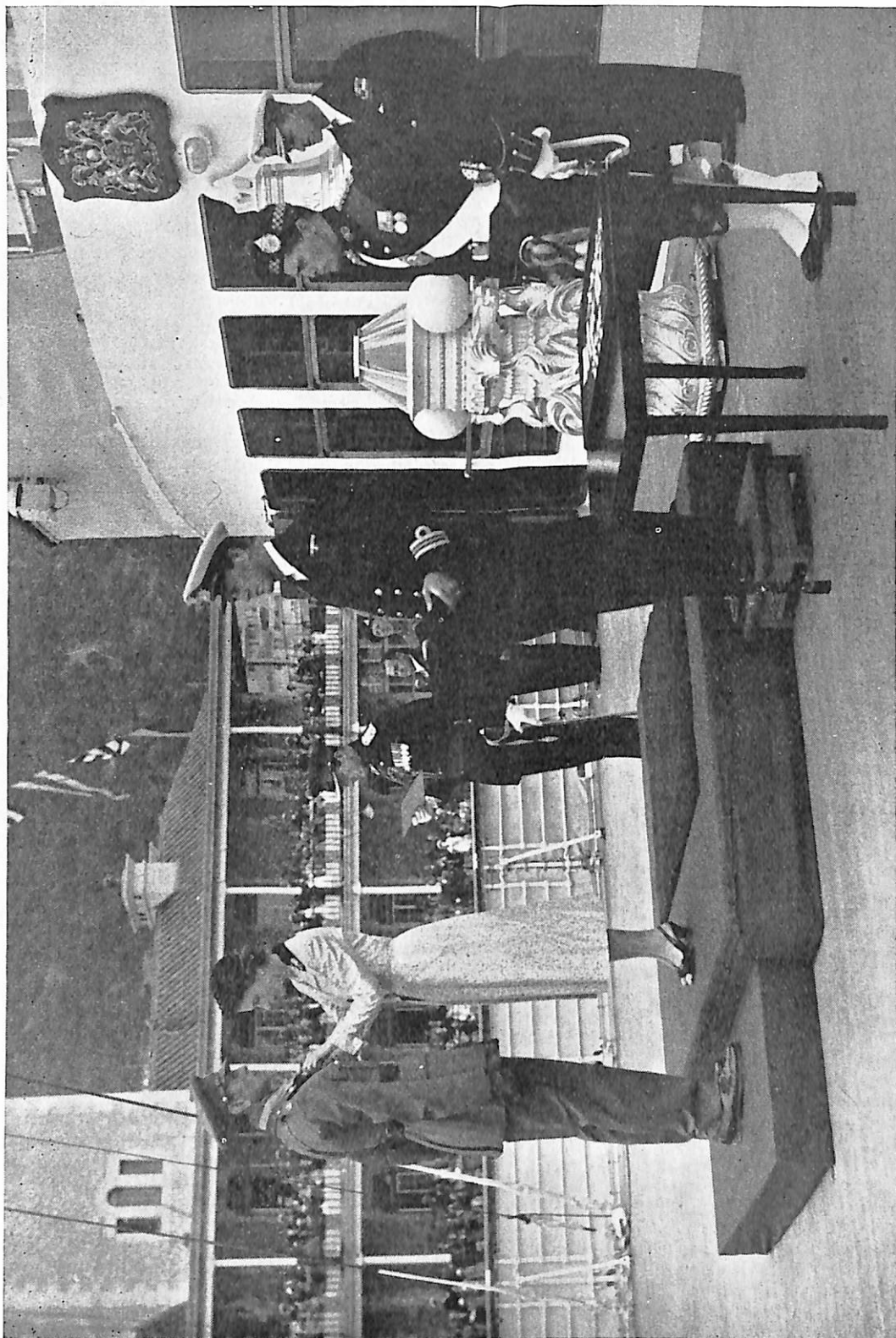
Once more the excitement, the thronged route, yet not packed, for Gib. being so small was more personal, the streets so narrow and so many, the Queen used them all, so that everyone saw her in comfort, no massing and milling crowds, just well-ordered and polite, but happy, so happy, audiences, and the children cheering anything and everything from Boy Scouts to postmen, as they walked about the Royal route.

Then, she was coming again, down the hill, preceded by clapping and cheering; she came into view and the Brigadier led us in three cheers, the Duke looked up and saw us and waved and we all waved madly back from Corporal to Brigadier, shouting and waving as hard as any. Amazing what a Queen can do. Then she was gone behind the houses and down to the Convent for lunch.

I saw her again, twice, that day, very close, too, almost close enough to touch as I was street-lining. The more I saw here the better she looked. There's definitely something about her that a photograph can never capture; maybe its her colouring, maybe its her smile, I don't know, but its terrific anyway.

In the evening the whole town went gay, with dancing in the streets, and so on. So four of us consumed a bottle of wine each, then, suitably oiled, away we went and danced and sung till 1.30 in the morning.

So ended one of the most memorable and amazing days I've had in my life—from stately parade to mad revels in the span of 18 hours. But, boy, was I tired!



Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II decorating Major (now Lt.-Col.) R. de la H. Moran with the O.B.E. on board the Royal Yacht



## 1st BATTALION

### SUB-EDITORIAL

The period under review has been notable for a great deal of hard, and often unsatisfying, work. The life of the Battalion has, perforce, been jerky and unsettling. It must be remembered that a change from active service life to that of a station such as Gibraltar calls for some adjustment. Nor is this merely a physical adjustment in one's way of life. A fresh mental approach is necessary to decide what is practicable and what is not. On active service objectives are simple and priorities obvious. But a highly organised community, like the Gibraltar garrison, makes a number of demands, military, sporting and social, which are often irreconcilable. The situation arises where half the Battalion is engaged in administering the remainder and half the remainder is engaged in guarding what is left. With R.H.E.\* exacting a heavy toll of our seasoned N.C.O.'s and soldiers, it has not been easy to carry out our many commitments or, until recently, to train our young drafts from home. The shortage of sports grounds has also been a sad drawback after our life last year. It is to be hoped that those, particularly our young Regulars, who may have felt a sense of frustration, will appreciate the reasons for these difficulties. They must remember that good and bad stations have always existed and that it is within the power of an individual or a unit to make them all good. This, in itself, is one of the principle attractions of a soldier's life in contrast to a lifetime spent in the home parish.

One aspect of life in Gibraltar which was not allowed to suffer was the preparation for the Queen's visit. References to the work involved and the enthusiasm it engendered are made elsewhere. For a description of the actual visit as it affected the Regiment no one could better the account which appears in the *Halifax Weekly Courier and Guardian* of May 15, 1954, which appears in this issue. Its author is Mr. C. A. Ramsden, Editor of the *Courier*, whose son, Mr. A. D. Ramsden, R.A., is at present serving with the 28th Coast Regiment, R.A., in this station. Coming, as it did, so soon after our campaign in Korea, the visit of the Queen has been one of the great moments in the history of the Regiment. What greater honour could have been bestowed on us than the investiture, on May 11, 1954, in the Royal yacht of most of those who had recently won decorations in the field. For the other notable occasion of the visit we invite you to inspect the frontispiece. As the Queen's Colour of the 33rd was on parade with the Royal Guard of Honour on the quayside, the amalgamated 1st and 2nd Battalion, who took part in the Royal Review at North Front, paraded with the LXXVI Colours. The occasion was unprecedented. A kindly wind shows all four Colours flying to perfection. This is believed to be the first photograph of the Battalion exercising its unique right of carrying four Colours on parade in the presence of the Sovereign.

Lastly we record that close of a chapter and the opening of another in the life of a regiment—a

\*R.H.E.—Return to home establishment.

change of C.O.s. Col. Bunbury has been fortunate in his period of command. Taking the Battalion to Germany he trained it, took it to Korea and finally enjoyed the culmination of his success at the investiture in *Britannia*. The Battalion has also been fortunate in its C.O. Sad as these partings are, a regiment such as ours is never at a loss for a leader. Col. Moran has been with us as 2IC since 1953, and to those who have served with him in Korea or elsewhere he needs no introduction. All chapters in the book cannot be glorious. This one will certainly be creditable and happy.

### OFFICERS' MESS

The past quarter has been full of activity, both social and otherwise. At times we considered petitioning H.E. The Governor for a 25-hour day so that we could complete and compete with all our commitments.

Arengo's Palace became an extremely popular rendezvous during the visit of the Home and Mediterranean Fleets to Gibraltar in March and April. A very close liaison was established with our visitors in dark blue, particularly with H.M.S. *Vanguard*, the only battleship now in commission, *Eagle*, one of our larger aircraft carriers, *Vigilant*, a frigate and *Scorcher* of submarine fame. The officers of the Navy visited our Mess frequently on return from their numerous exercises at sea and we were always glad to see them. In return we were royally entertained in true Naval style to several cocktail parties on board H.M. ships. Particularly enjoyed were invitations to that traditional Naval occasion—the Sunday evening party on board. This affair consists of a delectable supper usually followed by a film.

On March 17 the Colonel of the Regiment arrived to honour us with a two weeks' visit. He was accompanied by Lady Christison and their daughter Fiona. It was a great pleasure to have the Colonel with us again, and to commemorate this occasion we held a Regimental guest night on the 18th. The principal guests were H.E. The Governor, Gen. Sir Gordon MacMillan, The Flag Officer Gibraltar, Rear-Admiral H. P. Curry, and Sir George Gaggero. This was a particularly enjoyable evening when many old tales were retold and the Battle of the Hook was refought once more.

After the departure of the combined fleets we were all very busy preparing for the Queen's visit in May. Drill was naturally the order of the day. Company and battalion parades were held daily with a weekly garrison parade superimposed! Even our senior officers might be found in some secluded place privately rehearsing their sword drill.

A few days prior to H.M.'s arrival we had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Richard Dimpleby and Mr. Thomas Cadett, of the B.B.C., who were preparing to broadcast a commentary on the Queen's visit to a world-wide audience. They came up to the Mess at rather short notice one Sunday evening to see for themselves the four Colours of the 2nd Battalion which were to be carried on parade at the Royal

Review. We also had living with us at this time Mr. Charles Ramsden, Editor of the *Halifax Courier*, who came out to cover the Royal visit. The C.O. and Major Moran were ably assisted by Col. Ince, who gave an exhaustive description of the origin and traditions of the Colours of both the 33rd and LXXVI of Foot.

Col. and Mrs. Ince were staying with Dick most of May and he must have been grateful for their wisdom and past experience in view of his appointment at Fortress H.Q. as Staff Officer, Royal Visit.

The Queen's visit was a great event in Gibraltar's history and we are proud to have had the privilege of taking part. Col. Bunbury was presented to Her Majesty at a dinner and reception at the Convent. The Queen and the Duke both showed great interest in the affairs of the Regiment and particularly in the subject of our Colours.

At the investiture held on board the Royal yacht, those still serving with the Battalion were invested by Her Majesty with the awards they had won in Korea. This was virtually a private investiture for the Battalion and a very fitting end to the memorable tour of command of Col. Ramsey Bunbury.

On Saturday, May 15, we gave a midday cocktail party as a farewell to the Colonel before his imminent departure to take up his new appointment as Colonel A.G.2(O) at the War Office. We had hoped for a sunny day so that we could hold the party in the pleasant surroundings of the Mess gardens. Unfortunately the "Levant" came down and a strong wind forced us to abandon the idea at the last moment. The party was, we hope, no less successful indoors.

The following Thursday evening, May 20, we dined out Col. Bunbury. We wished to commemorate his tour and to show him some appreciation for the way he had borne with us all for the past two and a half years. After the loyal toast Major Moran, on behalf of the officers, presented the C.O. with a silver cigarette case inscribed: "The Happy Years of Command." Two other guests had been invited to dine that night but failed to arrive until we had left the table. However, we were still glad to see Major Wu and Capt. Wong who, after a somewhat long but uneventful journey in a Mig 15, had arrived on Gibraltar airstrip from Tokchong, too late for dinner! It will be remembered that these two gallant officers served with the Chinese Volunteers in Korea and occupied a company position opposite one of our forward companies in the Nae Chong sector. It may also be recalled that Major Wu was at Sandhurst as a Gentleman Cadet in Col. Moran's time. Col. Moran is a term senior! We had a very friendly talk with our old foes and expressed our appreciation of the effort they had made in coming so far to see us and the C.O. before his departure.

We had arranged for some of the local bullfighters to give us a demonstration of their art in the Mess and we were indeed lucky when the locally famous picador Sardino Stampo and the similarly famous matador El Blanco Blaco came along after dinner to give us a very thrilling *corrida de toros*.

The following morning we arrived in force at

the entrance to the neutral zone between Gibraltar and Spain to see Col. and Mrs. Bunbury off at the start of their drive to England. The Band and Drums led the way and the car followed, pushed by the W.O.s and Sergeants of the Battalion up to the Spanish frontier. The Colonel dismounted, inspected our frontier guard and then left under his own power across the neutral ground to Spain. The Spanish guard were seen to turn out and present arms. We understand also that the Customs officials were very kind. They asked to inspect only one of the many packages in the car and that to be selected by the Colonel! Viva Espana!

We congratulate Lt.-Col. R. de la H. Moran, O.B.E., on taking over command and wish him a happy tour. Capt. John Streatfeild joined us recently from leave in England after his tour as Staff Captain "Q" at H.Q. B.C.F.K. We understand that he is finding the life of Gibraltar a little overwhelming and looks forward to the day when he will have the presence of his wife to influence the situation. We welcome three new members from Sandhurst, 2/Lts. Pell, Lupton and Southerst. Simon Berry, who was with us in Korea, has rejoined us again after a short spell of civilian life. We welcome him back to the fold again and are also glad to see John Reddington's brother Gerald from Eaton Hall.

The new Mess dinner service arrived the other day in two large barrels, which caused some speculation amongst the younger element until the contents were eventually disclosed.

The Hindoostan Sailing Club flourishes under the able guidance of its Commodore, Col. Moran, and Hon. Secretary, Major Tony Firth. Several members of the Mess can be heard in the afternoons trying to master the various nautical terms used by those old salts Firth and Le Messurier.

So far no one has turned turtle—perhaps that statement should have been left unsaid. Let us hope that fate is not too unkind!

#### SERGEANTS' MESS

These notes are written whilst relaxing after a very fast and full four months, culminating in the Royal visit.

Our silver and property have arrived. The Mess has been decorated; and now with pictures, shields, and trophies on show it is really looking like home once more.

The Paardeburg Ball was held on February 26, 1954, in the Assembly Rooms here and was a great success. The ballroom was decorated with flowers and shrubs and the Mess silver. The Colours of the 33rd and 76th made a fine display and were much admired by the guests. Approximately four hundred attended. The Dance Band provided the music. An excellent buffet, prepared and arranged by Sgt. Knowles, helped the dancers to replace some of their energy. Sgt.-Major Callaby, Sgts. Spring and Knowles were congratulated for the organisation of an enjoyable function.

On April 16 a Mess dinner, to which members' wives were invited, was held in the Garrison NAAFI and sixty members and ladies sat down to an excellent meal arranged by Sgt.-Major Jobling.

The guest of honour was Chief Inspector Burke of the Gibraltar Police Force, who as yet is our sole honorary member in Gibraltar.

The Home and Mediterranean Fleets came into port during April and many Chiefs and P.O.s enjoyed the hospitality of the Mess. Subsequently many members availed themselves of the opportunity of going out on short exercises in various ships of both Fleets and now know some of the functions of their opposite numbers in the Royal Navy. R.S.M. Pearce and C.S.M. Callaby had two interesting but very dry days on board H.M.S. *Vigilant*. On most occasions the weather was kind and no serious cases of *mal de mer* were reported. Many members made friends and each Sunday morning after Divisions, could be seen making their way to various ships for a tot before returning to the Mess for a less fiery beverage. Before the Fleets moved off a stag party and a half-price night were held. Sixty petty officers were invited and before the end of the evening many old songs and one or two new ones had been rendered.

We are becoming *au fait* with Mess life on the Rock and have entertained and been entertained by 54 A.A. Regiment, R.A. We are invited to the Sappers in the near future.

In the field of sport we are proud to announce that recently we held the officers to a 2—2 draw at hockey and a 1—1 draw at soccer. The officers were expected to beat us easily and were rather shaken by the result.

The Royal visit of a few days ago found everyone engaged on some duty or other. Everything went well and most were rewarded with a grandstand view of H.M. The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.

During the last two months we have said good-bye to R.S.M. Pearce, who was posted to the Depot. A silver cigarette case and petrol lighter were presented to him before he left by the Sergeants and Corporals. We wish him luck in his new post.

Also Sgts. Fletcher and Brown decided to try their luck in civilian life. Again we wish them health, wealth and happiness and hope to see them from time to time.

We congratulate the following on their recent promotions and wish them luck: Drill Sgt. Corke to R.S.M., C/Sgt. Munro to C.S.M. We also welcome to the Mess the following who have been made Sergeants recently: Sgts. McKenzie, M.M., Nicholson, McKenna, Wilson, Taylor, Pratt and Bastow and hope their stay in the Mess will be a long and happy one.

#### CORPORALS' CLUB

At last I think that it can be safely said that we have established our roots in what little soil Gibraltar can boast. The past few months, involving as they did an entirely different routine to that of our stay in Korea, must have come as a severe shock to many of our members—though excluding that eminent clique of old sweats who smiled (secretly) at the growing consternation of us younger members.

Wild rumour had it that Gibraltar was but a

place of "guard-houses"—all requiring many men to fill them. Although to a certain extent this is true and at times duties *do* fall thick and fast, a fair amount of leisure is enjoyed by all.

Christmas being upon us as it was so soon, did not leave much time to organise a get-together. However, despite this setback a Smoker was laid on a few days before the twenty-fifth. While this can not be described as a 100 per cent. success, judging by the amount of a certain liquid consumed, a good time was had by all.

For the first time in many years we were forced by overwhelming circumstances to abandon our ideas for the traditional St. George's Day Ball. In fact it is merely postponed and we have every intention of shattering the quiet of the Rock at a later date by throwing a Dance of such dimensions that in comparison all its predecessors will be but poor affairs. If it proves half as successful as our last St. George's Day Ball at Minden, it will most certainly be an historic event.

In April we bade good-bye to R.S.M. Pearce who for so long had guided the Club through some of its more difficult times to the best of his ability. One night, shortly before he left at a gathering at the Moorish Castle Club our President, on behalf of all members, presented Mr. Pearce with an engraved cigarette case and lighter which had been jointly subscribed to by the Sergeants' Mess and ourselves. We wish him the best of good fortune in his new role as R.S.M. of the Depot and welcome in his place R.S.M. Corke.

On April 23 we had a chance of repaying the kindness of our brother Messes on the Rock—in particular the R.A.F., who have been especially friendly—by inviting in turn representatives from other units to social evenings. Sadly, we were compelled to omit the Royal Signals. Our President could not unearth the location of their Mess, though he penetrated deep into the very bowels of the Rock in his search.

This informal gathering proved to be a huge success and presented our first opportunity to entertain and become more friendly with those of our guests with whom we were not fully acquainted. The buffet, as usual, was unsurpassed in its excellence, thanks to our principal Chef for these occasions, Monsieur Wakefield.

In closing, it is hoped that at some future date—largely dependent upon the resources of NAAFI—to form a central Corporals' Club. The present system of two clubs leaves much to be desired. At the time of writing, plans for the formation of just such a club are in a state of suspended animation; so one can only hope.

#### "A" COMPANY

Since our last notes we have many changes to report as the face of "A" Company has changed completely. To start with we lost Major Ince to Fortress Headquarters, to be Staff Officer for the Queen's Visit, and where he is now taking over as G.S.O.II. We miss him and we wish him well. This was a blow. An even bigger one was to follow when it was announced that we were to run down to a permanent cadre to carry out continuation

training of recruits from the Depot. Thus all our old members, including Messrs. Hayes, Dowdy and Sgt.-Major Callaby, left us overnight. Mr. Borwell had left us earlier on appointment in the U.K. The few remaining were certainly sorry to see them all depart.

We now have Capt. Isles commanding, C/Sgt. Clark as Acting C.S.M. and Sgt. Robins as Acting C.Q.M.S.—both will soon be promoted to their proper ranks. Spence still loses files and letters in the office and Buglass and Kirk are always after pot money and signatures. We have two platoons of recruits. No. 1 Platoon commanded by Mr. Pell, No. 2 Platoon by Mr. Berry, with Sgts. Fenn and Taylor respectively as Platoon Sergeants. We welcome the new recruits to the Company and hope that they will enjoy their stay with us.

The old Company did well in games, and the new one, despite its sausage machine role, is hoping to put up a show in athletics and cricket. We had four members of the Battalion XV, and Capt. Isles, Cpls. Bower and Taylor played regularly for the Battalion hockey XI.

We shall have more news in our next notes. Until then we wish all past members of "A" Company, both with the Battalion and away, the very best of luck.

#### "B" COMPANY

Since our last notes were written, most of our time has been spent in practice for the Queen's visit. Whole mornings went by on the square under the C.S.M. It reflects great credit on him that everything went smoothly on the actual day. The Queen's visit was a great success, and it was a wonderful opportunity to see our Queen at close quarters. Some were luckier than others. Lt. D. S. Gilbert-Smith and the others of the Battalion to be decorated went aboard the Royal Yacht *Britannia* for the investiture.

In between whiles the Company has managed to get in a great deal of sport. A most successful meeting was arranged with the Royal Marines of H.M.S. *Vanguard* in which we managed to defeat them at basket ball and shooting. Unfortunately the soccer and hockey matches arranged were rained off in the morning, but the day ended very satisfactorily with ale and eats in Moorish Castle canteen. Here we again met with success at table tennis, billiards, snooker and darts. We were finally entertained by well-known Company celebrities, including, of course, Hop-a-long Webster.

A return match was held the following day with the Marines at home. They regained their lost prestige and pride at the more nautical games and honours ended even. These were two very enjoyable days, and we hope that when they next visit Gibraltar we shall be here to entertain them.

We must offer our congratulations to Pte. Allen and Cpl. Johnson for some fine running in the inter-Company and Battalion road racing meetings. Allen did especially well, finishing 10th out of a field of 182.

While on the subject of congratulations we offer them to: Sgt.-Major Frier, C/Sgt. Webster, L/Cpl. Parker, Sgt. Pratt and Pte. Burton, who have been

awarded Commanding Officer's Certificates for good work in Korea.

We say farewell with much regret to Major A. D. Firth, M.B.E., M.C., who relinquishes command of the Company to take over as P.R.I. We wish him luck; may his books always balance!

Farewell also to Sgt. Fletcher, Cpl. Dalton and Ptes. Schofield, Thompson and Galvin, who have left on demobilisation. In their place we welcome Major J. S. Milligan as Company Commander, Capt. Blakey, 2IC.; 2/Lt. Reddington, No. 4 Platoon (brother of our late Pronto Lt. J. Reddington); Schooly Hayes, No. 5 Platoon; Sgt. Perrin and Ptes. Lakes and Temple. May they enjoy their stay with us.

As these notes go to press, the future holds for us such delights as summer-time routine (Reveille 0545 hours), much practising for Trooping the Colour, and endless striving for sporting honours.

#### "C" COMPANY

Since our last notes were written events have not allowed us to be idle. Convent Guards, the *Empire Windrush* incident and preparations for the Queen's visit have absorbed all our energies and precluded any form of military training.

Previously we expressed a pious hope that the C.S.M. would smarten us up. This he has done, with the assistance, while he was on leave in England, of Sgt. Kirk. With our old friends and rivals, "D" Company, we have shared week and week about the duties of Convent Guard since February 20. This Guard is always in the public eye and, although it has occasioned some toil and tears, it has immeasurably improved the standard of drill and turn-out.

On the occasion of the Queen's visit, reinforced by four honest men from "D" Company, we had the honour to furnish the Convent Guard on both days of the Royal visit. Sgts. Mountcastle and Bastow and their men were recompensed with a perfect and unobstructed view of the Queen. C.S.M. Randall and C/Sgt. Lancaster were selected to be right and left markers of the Royal Guard of Honour, mounted by the three Services on the arrival and departure of Her Majesty.

2/Lt. Campbell-Lammerton carried the 33rd Queen's Colour escorted by Sgt. Kirk. At the Royal Review "C" Company were immediately to the left of the Colours and opposite the saluting base. Those not on parade lined the streets on Monday morning. Everyone lined the streets on Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning, while a few were on duty until after midnight as well. An exhausting but memorable two days.

The Guard of Honour was also privileged to see the Investiture, in which Major Kavanagh, Sgt. Mackenzie and Pte. Bailey were presented with the decorations they had earned in "C" Company.

At the end of March the Company was proud to play host to some eighty survivors from the ill-fated *Empire Windrush*, mostly Warrant Officers and N.C.O.s. They arrived clad in weird fragments of Foreign Legion uniform and lacking any personal possessions other than thousands of cigarettes bestowed on them by a myriad of well-wishers.

We had more cigarettes for them and in two days paid them and fitted them out with uniform and necessaries. We also arranged to send cables to their relatives at home, a service for which Cable and Wireless most generously refused to accept payment. They were all in good heart and grateful for anything that could be done for them. We also heard some good stories.

As mentioned in the last number, "D" Company and ourselves fielded a joint soccer team in the Minor Units League. This Moorish Castle team became the runners-up. The eventual winners, with whom we drew, were the Royal Navy. They have, of course, a far larger force on which to draw and have won the Minor Units League for years. Could we have played them later than just after our arrival the story might have been different. Anyway, the Moorish Castle team is still unbeaten! The team had a very enjoyable supper party, although Major Emmett's hospitable inclinations rather swelled the bill.

Our Company games have been rare and have been devoted rather to getting everyone a game than to serious competition. We have played "D" Company three times with varying teams, drawing with them on the day we had our full team out. We also beat the Gibraltar Police by a narrow margin. Of next year's team one can not even guess. If more than three of our present players are still here, it will be surprising. A certain number learned to play hockey and we shall continue with this if cricket, rowing and swimming permit. The Tug-of-War League, we discovered, could not be reconciled with Convent Guards and after several attempts with different teams and different coaches we withdrew from the contest.

We had an enjoyable Company sports meeting, No. 9 Platoon winning the Inter-Platoon Cup. We look forward to the Battalion Meeting next month and hope to put up a reasonable show, although, of course, we cannot hope to beat Headquarter Company.

In April we had a Company party and games evening. Snooker, darts and ping-pong were played, No. 8 Platoon being the winners. The highlight of the evening, however, was a contest at "Are you there, Moriarty" between Mr. Campbell-Lammerton and Murphy.

Of comings and goings, there have been far too many of the latter. Space prevents us from recording them all. Two old members of the Company, Messrs. Mitchell and Campbell-Lammerton, have left us for specialist employment. The former has gone to Support Company, the latter to loll in a limousine behind a red flag. 2/Lt. Bethmann-Hollweg has been "from No. 9 Platoon untimely ripped." Capt. Streatfeild has come and gone in a flash and we await the arrival of Capt. Scott-Evans in his place. We also welcome Messrs. Wood from "A", Aykroyd from "D" and Lupton from Sandhurst. Congratulations to Sgt. Bastow on his promotion and welcome to Sgt. Chadwick who joins us from "A".

#### "D" COMPANY

Now that we have nearly reached the half-way

mark for 1954 "D" Company can begin to take stock of events over the past six months.

Since our arrival on the Rock "D" Company has seen a large number of changes. Practically all the old brigade of Korea and the Hook have now left us to join the civilian division, although most of them will still be in T.A. uniform for some time to come; they are now scattered across the length and breadth of the British Isles. Wherever they are, we wish them all the best in their new careers.

After the Christmas festivities we settled down to our new life and began work and training in earnest. The various guard duties that the Battalion is called upon to perform always take a toll of "D" Company. An extremely harassed Sergeant-Major Jobling usually can be found poring through roll books to produce the maximum on parade. Our Pte. Spenceley decided to follow in the footsteps of Stuart Hibberd. His dulcet tones are often heard over "Radio Diffusion" giving us the very latest in weather reports and gramophone records.

During the past six months we have had visits from such distinguished V.I.P.s as His Excellency the Governor of Gibraltar, the Colonel of the Regiment and the Brigade Colonel. We hope that they all were impressed by what they saw of us.

Life has been rather hectic since January. We have supplied men for Guards of Honour for Earl Mountbatten and the Colonel of the Regiment as well as doing our share of the Regiment's routine guards, Convent guard and Four Corners guard.

Some extremely hard work was done by everyone preparing for the Royal Review on the airfield, but on the great day our contingent conducted itself so well that we considered all our hard work amply repaid.

"D" Company was extremely lucky in being almost directly in front of the dais from which Her Majesty The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh watched the march past. As a result we had a more than first-class view of the Royal visitors.

At the Investiture on May 11 in the Royal Yacht, Major E. J. P. Emmett, M.C., C.S.M. Jobling, M.M., Sgt. Pickersgill, M.M., and Pte. Bailey, M.M., were presented with the decorations they won in Korea at the Battle of "The Hook." This was a unique occasion, being the first investiture held in the new Royal Yacht *Britannia*. In passing, we ought to point out that "D" Company men were guarding the frontier during the Royal visit, which meant that a number of the Company were unable to see Her Majesty. This we know was a great disappointment to all concerned, but which, unfortunately, could not be avoided.

The arrivals and departures during the past months have been numerous. We lack space to publish a complete list, but we take the opportunity to welcome 2/Lt. R. G. Southerst from Sandhurst, who now commands No. 12 Platoon, and 2/Lt. D. Bethmann-Hollweg, who has joined us from "C" Company.

Lt. D. A. R. Hind, having collected his second pip and having spent "six months' leave" with us in Gibraltar, has decided that a change of scenery

would be to his liking and has now left us for leave in Jersey, which we trust he will enjoy. 2/Lt. J. R. Aykroyd has left us (with his car) for "C" Company.

2/Lt. E. J. H. Dasent had a brief spell in hospital, from where he returned, less one appendix (Appendix "A" not attached).

The results of our Company Commander's Course in the U.K. are now becoming apparent. The words "Lecture on Atomic, Bacteriological and Chemical Warfare" now appear at very frequent intervals on our Training Programme. We suspect he even has a pocket-sized geiger counter hidden about his person.

The 2IC, Capt. D. Booth, is very much an absentee landlord and appears to be in great demand for the many Boards of Officers that are constantly taking place in the Battalion. In fact, the only time he appears in the Company is when he decides to make us pay for the odd window that our amateur footballers have smashed.

L/Cpl. Chilvers has now been promoted to the dizzy rank of Corporal, and can be seen (and heard) issuing forth orders as Company Orderly Sergeant.

The Company football team has had a very successful season by not losing a single match; this made them runners-up in the Fortress Competition. To celebrate their success (and to encourage them to be next year's winners) an end-of-the-season football party was given by Major E. J. P. Emmett, M.C., which (judging from the bills given to the 2IC) must have been a huge success. It must be pointed out, for the benefit of posterity, that "C" Company provided half the team who were runners-up in this competition and even paid for half the cost of the party!

Our athletes are now hard at work, under 2/Lt. E. J. H. Dasent, who will shortly leave us for "S" Company. We are hoping for big things from them during the coming season. Now our thoughts are turning to summer dress, and C.Q.M.S. F. Nichols can be seen silently weeping over a huge pile of K.D. that has to be issued to all and sundry. What the rest of the year will bring us we cannot say, but whatever it is we are ready for it.

At present the Company is 90 strong, the Order of Battle at present being as follows:

*Company Commander:* Major E. J. P. Emmett, M.C.  
*2IC:* Capt. D. Booth.  
*C.S.M.:* C.S.M. J. Jobling, M.M. C.Q.M.S.: C/Sgt. F. Nichols.  
*No. 10 Platoon:* *Commander,* 2/Lt. D. Bethmann-Hollweg.  
*Sergeant:* Sgt. Wilson. *Corporals:* Cpls. Davie and Conroy.  
*No. 11 Platoon:* *Commander,* Lt. D. A. R. Hind.  
*Sergeant:* Sgt. Simpson. *Corporal:* Cpl. Unthank.  
*No. 12 Platoon:* *Commander,* 2/Lt. R. G. Southerst.  
*Sergeant:* Sgt. Arundal. *Corporals:* Cpls. Chilvers, Dyson, Lee

### "S" COMPANY

The first series of specialist platoon cadres has now finished. Training has been difficult, due to the variety of duties which have prevented the keen students listening to either Sgt. Spring on the Vickers or Cpl. Innes on the Mortar.

The Company were very fortunate in being asked to line the street for the Queen's visit. All those who took part obtained an excellent view of Her Majesty.

The Queen's visit is now over and the Company are busy preparing for the Battalion Athletics Meeting. The Company had a small meeting with "D" Company, the result being a good indication of our usual supremacy. The soccer teams ended the season in a blaze of glory. Head-quarter Company were beaten with a cricket score of 8-1 and H.M.S. *Duchess* lost 4-2 in a grand game. Unfortunately civilian life will soon claim many of our talented soccer team. We wish them luck, and good fortune on the open transfer list.

The Company is now 81 strong, but despite this total, Sgt.-Major Williams struggles hard to adjust the daily parade state so that there are a dozen men available for work.

### M.M.G. PLATOON

Since writing our last notes we are sorry to say our Platoon has lost all the old hands except six. We have been reinforced with N.C.O.s and men from other Companies and we now have the Platoon at a strength of twenty-one.

To those who have left us, we wish all the best of luck wherever they are and to those who have joined us we hope they will settle down and enjoy life with us.

We carried out our first training cadre since we arrived here and despite the time taken from us by the rehearsals for the Queen's visit, we finally managed to get through it. We can now get down to some live firing.

Our Platoon Commander, Mr. Miller, is at present over in U.K. on his M.G. Course. We all hope that he is enjoying it and that he gets a good report, but not so good that they ask him to stay with them at the school.

The Battalion is going to Troop the Colour in July, the first time since 1936 and we are now getting down to the job of preparing for that. It means that we will have about three to four hours drill every day, so our training will be down by half again. We are hoping to get some more new lads to join us and as soon as the Trooping is over we can start another cadre and get our Platoon up to its old standard. We shall be able to tell you more about that in our next notes.

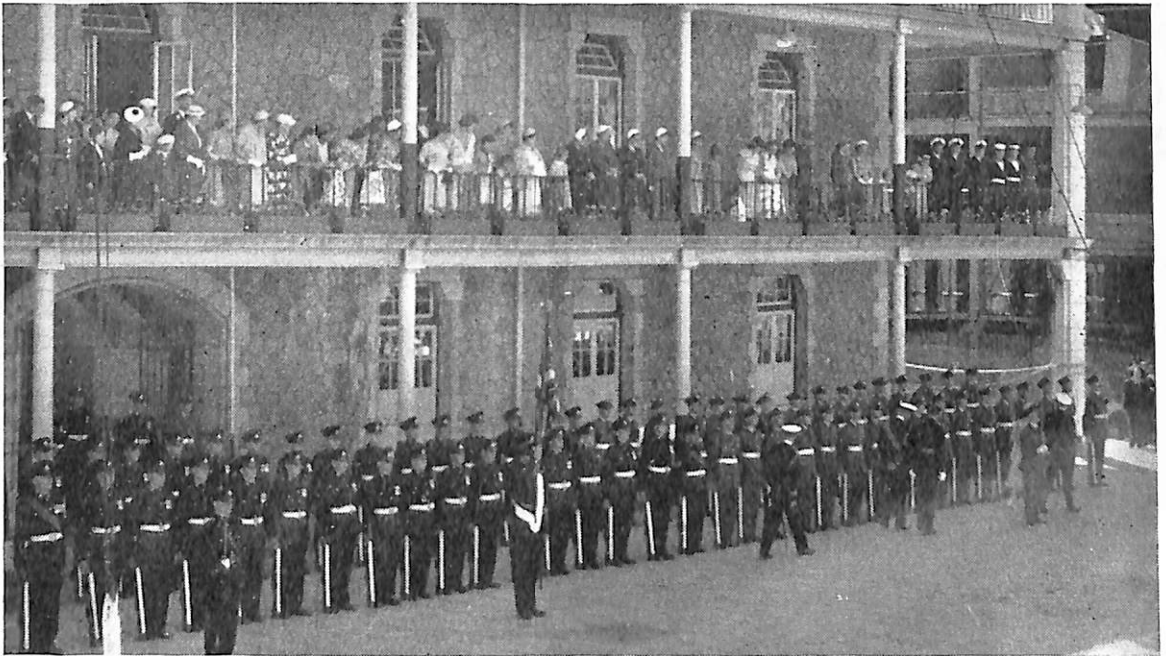
All the best to all old "Dukes," especially Machine Gunners.

### 3-IN. MORTAR PLATOON

The advent of summer has been heralded by the return to the Platoon of a few past members. Cpls. Innes and Hildred are back and Sgt. Dickie has joined us after a tour with the Regimental Police. Training has progressed well and the first cadre ended with a day at the Sandy Bay range. The mortars were fired, Ackroyd, Clarkson and Morrison acting as the number one. The N.C.O.s manned the wireless sets. It was agreed at the end of the day that there is still room for improvement, if it takes four minutes to engage a DFSOS target.

In the world of sport, the Platoon has maintained its usual high standard. The Platoon soccer team finished the season playing well. Lamb, Cpl. Fitzhenry, Mossley, Morrison, and occasionally

## HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN VISITS GIBRALTAR



Royal Guard of Honour mounted at the quayside of H.M. Dockyard, Gibraltar, on May 10, 1954, by the Royal Navy (H.M.S. St. Kitts), 1 D.W.R. (with Queen's Colour 33rd carried by 2/Lt. Campbell-Lammerton and commanded by 2/Lt. Pell), and the R.A.F. The whole commanded by Comdr. Carver, D.S.C., R.N.

Baker, played for the Company team. In the road-running, Pawson and Twibill represented the Company, the latter running very well indeed. The athletics season has arrived now, and unfortunately most of the Platoon are trying to persuade their Platoon Commander that they are all 100-yards men. To avoid competition he has made them enter for the longer races.

Next month Sgt. Sullivan returns to the U.K. on a Mortar Course. Lamb is soon to be demobilised and since the last number of THE IRON DUKE L/Cpl. Smith and Pte. O'Keefe have gone to join the ranks of the Territorial Army. Sgt. Batty still checks the G.1098 Stores weekly, and, judging by his speed across the hockey goal, his leg wound has finally healed.

#### ANTI-TANK PLATOON

The Platoon is now settled into the routine of Gibraltar and has 2/Lt. Mitchell from "C" Company as the Platoon Commander. The main excitement of the period covered has been, of course, the Queen's visit, which demanded a considerable amount of polish, drill parades, and extra frontier guards and street lining. Everyone was in agreement that the Queen was very wonderful and far more beautiful than her photographs would suggest.

We are at the moment engrossed in athletics, which take place at Europa, and have spent some very pleasant mornings there. Cpl. Flood is the Platoon expert at the discus; indeed, he is more, being the Company champion as well. Wrenn is not far behind and surprised a large number of us by volunteering for the three-miles. Bayliss also is a runner who commands our admiration by ploughing round the track with seemingly inexhaustible energy.

We are running an Anti-Tank Cadre, but the difficulties of getting the entire Platoon on parade are enormous. However, the Cadre progresses and the 17-pounder is less of a mystery, though it remains very heavy.

We are looking forward to the summer and K.D. has been issued, though it is not worn at present as it apparently has to go through a washing and shrinking process first.

Mr. Mitchell and Sgt. France are off to Netheravon to solve the mysteries of the B.A.T. They leave at the end of May. It will probably be some time before the Platoon is issued with the new gun.

There is a rumour in the air of the entire Platoon doing a bit of rowing to strengthen the arm muscles. This idea is not greeted with enthusiasm; we can think of better ways of movement in water.

The Platoon at the moment is composed as follows: 2/Lt. Mitchell; Sgt. France; Cpls. Flood, Lodge, Jenny and Pinder; L/Cpl. Gilbody; Ptes. Bayliss, Chivers, Dawson, Fallon, Leaf, McLoughlin, Robinson, Thompson and Wren.

#### ASSAULT PIONEERS

The past three months have played havoc with our Platoon, every member, with the exception of

one, having left these shores for England and demob.

The names of those who have recently left us are too numerous to mention, but to each one goes our best wishes and success in their new jobs.

It was unfortunate that the Platoon should have consisted of National Service men only, as we are now left in the embarrassing position of existing only on paper. When we are to be re-formed is not within our knowledge but we hope that when that happens the new Platoon starts with and maintains the same spirit and hard work the original was noted for.

These notes will, I fear, be the last for a short while, but before I close I would like to extend to all past members my very best wishes.

#### "H.Q." COMPANY

There have been so many changes within the Company since the last publication that it might be as well to start by listing them. Major D. C. Roberts arrived from Australia, where he had been on the United Services' Liaison Staff, and took over command from Major A. B. M. Kavanagh, M.C. Major Kavanagh did not actually leave the Company, but went up the hill to that renowned ruin, Hatter's Castle, to take up the duties of Training Officer. Although he has performed the task of Signal Officer for eighteen months, Lt. J. N. H. Naughton is still sane enough to carry on. Lt. J. D. P. Cowell, who has been Weapon Training Officer since our arrival in Gibraltar, has now officially been posted to us. Capt. J. L. Streatfeild, M.C., arrived from the U.K. in early May and took over the M.T. from 2/Lt. D. H. B. Dowdy. 2/Lt. Dowdy then moved to Company Headquarters where he was inducted as Company Administrative Officer. Capt. E. D. Mackie, R.A.M.C., left the Battalion in April, returning home for demobilisation. He had served with us for almost two years, starting off in Germany, then throughout the Korean tour, where he earned an M.I.D., and finally here in Gibraltar. We wish him the success he deserves in his medical career. Lt. W. G. Owen, R.A.M.C., has now come out from England to join us as M.O. Lt. (Q.M.) C. C. Kenchington, M.B.E., arrived in April from the Depot to succeed Capt. (Q.M.) N. Jackson. C.S.M. Quest is awaiting a move to the U.K. and Sgt.-Major Callaby has taken over the most comfortable chair in the office. Pte. Lee succeeds L/Cpl. Jackson as clerk, and Pte. Booth takes over as runner from Pte. Kendall. We wish L/Cpl. Jackson and Pte. Kendall the best of luck in their civilian careers.

Congratulations on recent promotions to Sgt.-Major Munro, who is expecting a U.K. posting, Sgt. McKenzie and Cpl. Stanworth of the Regimental Police, Cpls. Hewitt and Trinder of the Q.M. staff, and Cpl. Pounder, Company Orderly Sergeant. We also congratulate all members of the Company who have been successful in the 2nd and 3rd Class Education Examinations.

The Queen's visit produced an atomic effect on the Company. We disintegrated into small units, which became attached to the rifle companies. Apart from performing as riflemen and policemen, on



parades and in street-lining, everyone had to carry on with his normal function. The Battalion insisted on being fed, using the telephone, being driven about, and the pioneers worked all hours to get the decorations up at Casemates. We also provided all the Battalion picquets over this period. The Band and Drums were continually on parade and their efforts are recorded in their own notes. It was a frantically busy period and all praise to everyone for working to what must have been the most intricate and confusing series of detail in the Company history.

On Saturday, May 15, we held the Company Athletic Sports at Europa Point. It was a gloriously sunny afternoon and we were pleased to see so many of the wives and families as spectators. As a result we held a children's race, the winner being Richard Kavanagh with Christine Kenchington second. Mrs. Roberts kindly presented medals to the winners.

The other results were as follows:

880 Yards: 1, Bds. Nuttall; 2, Lt. Cowell; 3, Drm. Reddy.  
 100 Yards: 1, Bds. Gaunt; 2, Drm. Chantler; 3, Drm. Gallagher.  
 440 Yards: 1, Drm. Cooper; 2, Cpl. Hudson; 3, Pte. Ruston.  
 110 Yards Hurdles: 1, L/Cpl. Hawkrige; 2, Drm. Chantler; 3, Drm. Padgett.  
 220 Yards: 1, Lt. Naughton; 2, Bds. Gaunt; 3, L/Cpl. Burgess.  
 Old Soldiers' Race: 1, Sgt. Appleby; 2, Drum Major Alton; 3, Cpl. Trinder.  
 4 x 220 Relay: 1, "D" Company; 2, "C" Company; 3, "H.Q." Company.  
 Shot: 1, Drm. Young; 2, Lt. Naughton; 3, Cpl. Trinder.  
 One Mile: 1, Pte. Hudson; 2, Cpl. Evans; 3, Lt. Cowell.  
 Discus: 1, Drm. Cooper; 2, Lt. Naughton; 3, Major Kavanagh.  
 High Jump: 1, L/Cpl. Burgess; 2, Bds. Gaunt; 3, Cfn. Tweed.  
 Long Jump: 1, L/Cpl. Hawkrige; 2, L/Cpl. Burgess; 3, Cpl. Crosby.

We have taken a great interest in all other forms of sport. Upon arrival we took over the bottom position in the Minor Units League from our predecessors in the 78 H.A.A. Regiment, R.A. The remaining six games brought us four outstanding wins and two narrow defeats, thus giving as a better league position. At basket ball, although the North End League has yet to finish, we are in an unbeatable position at the top of the table. Both these splendid efforts earn a hearty congratulation for the teams concerned. An Indoor Sports Knock-out Competition was held in April. The predominantly successful teams were the Band, who won the snooker, billiards and table tennis, the Employed Men's "B" team, who won the darts, and the M.T., who reached the finals of three events.

#### THE BAND

For the last few weeks we have been extremely busy with preparations for the visit of Her Majesty the Queen and the two days of her stay found us dashing from one place to another at regular intervals. Although Her Majesty's visit entailed a lot of extra work, we all considered our efforts worthwhile, as we were chosen from the three Bands present on the Rock at the time to play before her at the dinner given in her honour, and at the reception afterwards. We feel justly proud of this honour and only hope that Her Majesty enjoyed our playing as much as we enjoyed her presence on the Rock. We have just received a

very kind letter from H.E. The Governor, thanking us for our efforts during the Royal visit, and congratulating us on our performance.

We were very pleased to welcome the R.A.F. Central Band to Gibraltar, and it gave us great satisfaction to play with them during the Services' Review and the departure ceremony. Under their Director, Wing Commander Sims, O.B.E., they gave two excellent performances, one on Casemates Square and another in Alameda Gardens. Our Bandmaster, Mr. Seed, performed very creditably as Guest Conductor at Alameda.

Everything went very smoothly during the Royal visit and we feel sure that we can thank our Band President, Major A. B. M. Kavanagh, M.C., for this as he was his usual efficient self in this role of "Co-ordinator of Military Bands" during this period.

We are now commencing to settle down to Gibraltar's summer period, and life becomes one long round of Regimental and Fortress sports meetings, cocktail parties and "what have you?"

We had the pleasure of watching the R.A.F. (England) football team play against the Gibraltar Football Association recently, when we gave performances before the match and during the interval. We hear rumours of another large ceremonial parade in the near future so we are expecting fireworks from "Uncle Geoff" any time now.

We welcome, with open arms, Bds. Lambert, Nuttall, Kinsman and Briggs, who have recently joined us from U.K., and hope their stay with us will be a long and happy one. Our congratulations are extended to Cpl. Crawshaw on his recent promotion.

In the sporting world we have improved considerably. We showed signs of our misspent youth by winning three out of four finals in the Company indoor games competition, and in the recent Athletics Meeting we did very well. Bds. Gaunt won the 100 yards in fine style, and finished a very close second in the 220 yards. Bds. Nuttall surprised us all by winning the 880 yards, and L/Cpl. Hawkrige came first in the 120 yards hurdles and the long jump. Last but not least, Sgt. Appleby won the old crocks' race and Major Kavanagh came third in the discus; altogether a very successful meeting.

For the future of the Band we still need a number of Boys. Some sons of old "Dukes" we know must be reaching the age of discretion now, and we would be very pleased to welcome them to the fold.

#### THE DRUMS

Since our last notes there have been many newcomers to the Drums. We take this opportunity to welcome Ptes. Padgett, Holford, Farrell, Simpson, Carr, Walker, Lofthouse and Pollard. The last-named is the son of a well-known old "Dukes" Drummer. Latest of our new arrivals is Cpl. Galley, who will be remembered by older members of the Battalion.

To offset this good fortune, however, we have lost Cpl. Simpson, Drms. Reeves and Mosley to the allegedly better life of civvy street, where we

wish them the very best of good fortune and health. L/Cpl. Skilbeck and Drm. Mudd have left on posting to the Regimental Depot.

Cpls. Evans and Wakefield are to be congratulated on their recent promotions. May they spend many more years with the Drums.

April 14 saw the full Corps of Drums on parade for the first time in conjunction with the Band, much to the disgust of those worthy gentlemen, on the occasion of the historic Ceremony of the Keys. Needless to say many comments, adverse and otherwise, were passed, but these were as water on the proverbial duck's back.

Taken by and large, life in Gibraltar is pleasant, although we are, of necessity, cramped for space in which to practice. Indignant protests follow the apprentice buglers wherever we endeavour to teach them. One can understand this, of course, but nevertheless, everyone seems to manage somehow.

In closing we extend our customary good wishes to all old Drummers of the "Dukes" and would appreciate hearing from any of them.

**SIGNAL PLATOON**

These, I fear, are the notes of only half a Signal Platoon, for many changes have taken place since the last notes were written and the platoon is now split into two parts. Firstly, the cadre, and the temporarily retired side which consists of our Korean veterans who, knowing, as they do, the great art and craft have been posted back to rifle companies, leaving our N.C.O. instructors free to devote all their time to the training of new batches of potential signallers.

As these notes are being written the first cadre of twelve men is drawing to a close, after a checkered spell of twelve weeks. An interesting break occurred at the end of the eighth week, when we were asked to supply operators over the twelve days of the Queen's visit to man the sets of the R.A.S.C. Coastal Security Patrol. Everyone did several spells of this operational signalling, the luckier ones getting into the launches, of which there were two out by night and one by day. At the end of the operation the Platoon was congratulated by the R.A.S.C. Commander, Capt. McKechnie, on its fine performance, thus earning a quick reward for keenness shown during instruction on the cadre. We have not yet enquired whether the Ordnance Depot who supplied all the batteries for us still feel friendly towards us.

On the whole the cadre has done well, and it seems reasonably certain that they will be rewarded for their blood, sweat, toil and tears by gaining their flags at the end of the course.

Since Christmas we have bidden a sad farewell to Sgt. Robins, who has gone as Acting Colour-Sergeant to "A" Company after nearly two years of continuous and ungrudging service with the Platoon.

Also departed, on demobilisation, are Cpl. Robinson, L/Cpls. Green and Wood, Ptes. Smiles, Brocklehurst and Tuffs. It is a sad thing to see these people disappear into the wilderness of civvy street after we have all worked together so long



THE CRITICS

and under so many different and often arduous conditions. They worked well, however, and we wish them all the best in their new life.

Our exiled members we only see occasionally. Though out of sight they are not out of mind.

Owing to the lack of space the following articles have been held over and will appear in the next number of the IRON DUKE.

\* \*

A Description of The Korean Medals

by

Major R. E. Austin, M.C.

\* \*

The next instalment of  
Lt. William Thain's Diary

## SPORT

## RUGBY

During the part of the season under review our Rugby has been severely hampered by hard ground and hot weather and only four matches have been played, three of these being in the Gibraltar Rugby Cup Competition.

The first round of this Competition was against the R.A.F., whom we had played in a friendly match only three weeks earlier. Before the match had been going ten minutes we suffered two casualties, the first being L/Cpl. Hawkrigge, who broke his collar bone, and the second being L/Cpl. Wood, who dislocated his shoulder. These accidents left us short of a wing threequarter and a wing forward, so after an alteration to the pack we continued the game with six forwards and a full set of backs. Somehow this misfortune inspired the remaining thirteen players to carry on, never letting up for a moment, to win by 34 points to nil. It was not until the last minutes of the game that the R.A.F. captain and full back broke his collar bone. We are glad to be able to say that all the casualties are now fully recovered.

For the next two Saturdays the ground was much too hard to play on, which was very annoying as we were anxiously awaiting our match with 54 A.A. Regiment, R.A. However, on March 6 the match was arranged, played and won with a score of 48—0 in our favour. This result brought us to the final of the Gibraltar Cup, which was to be played against R.E.M.E., Gibraltar, a small unit, which, nevertheless, has a very good sports reputation on the Rock. This reputation they maintained by giving us the hardest game we played this season. The game was played throughout in a robust and sportsmanlike manner and at half-time the score was 10—6 in our favour and we had to play extremely hard to keep this lead and increase it until the end, when the score was 30—11.

After the match we had the honour of receiving the cup and medals from H.E. The Governor.

This was the last match of the season, except for a friendly match against a team selected from the "Rest of the Rock," which we played on March 27 and won comfortably by 23 points to 6.

On two occasions "Dukes" formed the majority of a Combined Services team which travelled to Tangier on March 21 and April 17 to play against L'Association Sportif Francais de Tanger. All who were selected for these two matches thoroughly enjoyed them and were excellently entertained by the French on both occasions, apart from the fact that Combined Services won both matches.

We are sorry to have to report that Cpl. Jones, who has played regularly for three seasons, has decided to leave the Army, but hope he will continue his rigger. Other players who have left us for civilian life are L/Cpls. Wood and Cawthra, but we trust that the remainder will have the opportunity of playing again next year with the Regiment.

## HOCKEY

The season ended with the team playing good hockey. In the final of the Garrison Knock-out Competition the team was beaten by Fortress Headquarters. It was a good game, played on the dust of the Naval Officers' Pavilion ground. In the Hockey Festival over Easter the six-a-side team reached the semi-final. In retrospect the season was a success when one remembers that the Regiment only started to play hockey half-way through it. Sgt. Batty was admirable in goal and apart from a short loss of memory in the six-a-side Festival he stopped all that came his way. At full-back Sgt.-Major Jobling and Capt. Isles produced some good hockey and avoided too many golf strokes. The half-back line was 2/Lt. Mitchell, Cpl. Taylor and Lt. Hardy. Cpl. Taylor was undoubtedly the outstanding player in the team. He blended in well with the defence so that in general our defence was frequently stronger than our attack. Amongst the forwards, Major Grieve was the top goal scorer. Cpl. Bower and Lt. Shuttleworth played vigorously and it was unfortunate that Major Le Messurier had to stop playing because of injury.

The season concluded with the Officers v. Sergeants match. As always, hidden talent came to the fore, and Capt. Blakey produced some dazzling stick work on the left wing. The result was a draw.

## BOXING

The last event of the boxing season in Gibraltar was the Inter-Unit Team Boxing Competition which began on February 22. Five teams were entered and in the first round the "Dukes" came up against the Combined Royal Artillery, who were the eventual winners. We lost by one bout, but the standard shown by the boxers was uniformly high. The team was made up of:

*Bantamweight:* Pt. Rundle, "B." Won by k.o.  
*Featherweight:* Pte. Toal, "H.Q." Won on points.  
*Lightweight:* Cpl. Thompson, "C." Lost on points.  
*Light Welterweight:* Pte. Godden, "S." Lost on points.  
*Welterweight:* L/Cpl. Parker, "B." Lost on t.k.o.  
*Light Middleweight:* L/Cpl. Burgess, "H.Q." Lost on points.  
*Middleweight:* Pte. Conley, "H.Q." Lost on k.o.  
*Light Heavyweight:* L/Cpl. Glossop, "D." Won on points.  
*Heavyweight:* 2/Lt. Campbell-Lamerton, "C." Won on points.

Rundle started us off in fine form by knocking his opponent clean out of the ring and into the judges. Toal fought a clean, hard bout and won fairly comfortably. Cpl. Thompson, on the other hand, lost, but purely and simply from lack of experience, and although outpunched he kept going in at his opponent and never let up for a single moment; it was a great display of fighting spirit and an inspiration to the rest of the team. Godden had improved tremendously since his last bout in the Individual Championships and fought a very accomplished contest, noticeable especially for his heavy punching to his opponent's heart. His opponent, Lt. Burnett of 54 H.A.A. Regiment,

R.A., also showed himself to be a man of few but heavy and accurate punches, and although floored once in the first round he eventually won the bout by a negligible margin.

L/Cpl. Parker showed great spirit in his bout but unfortunately got hit on an old head injury incurred in Korea and had to retire after the second round. L/Cpl. Burgess lost on points to Gnr. Lofthouse of the 54 H.A.A., R.A., who is a boxer of exceptional toughness and a very hard puncher. Conley was the last man to suffer from this bad run of luck. He had just come back off leave, and although he had fought three hard rounds two days before this bout and had shown no ill effects, found on entering the ring that although the spirit was willing, the flesh was weak. L/Cpl. Glossop, as was expected, boxed the best bout of the evening for sheer science and ability and won fairly comfortably against a skilful opponent.

The last bout of the evening was the heavyweight contest in which our 6ft. 4in., 16-stone 2/Lt. Campbell-Lammerton was pitched into the ring like Goliath against David, to do his worst to some poor unsuspecting Gunner. From the first bell Mike went for his man hammer and tongs and never let up until the final bell rang. It was a great fight and although the Gunner lost it, he earned the admiration of everyone present by the truly great way in which he stood up to his hammering, and continued to attack his opponent when given the slightest opportunity.

As a final word, I would like to thank Sgt. Meadows, who organised and ran all the training and Cpl. McKenzie, who so willingly offered himself up as a living punch-bag for the team to practice on and thereby gave them tremendous help at no little personal cost. Also to those who trained but did not make the team—thank you, and do try again when we start again in September.

#### SOCCKER

Our first season in Gibraltar ended with the "Dukes" third in the Major League table, having been knocked out of the Governor's Cup in the first round. However, it took time for us to get used to the Gibraltar pitches and R.H.E. took a steady toll of our regular players.

Sgt. Meadows, Ptes. Tuffs, Whitelock and Chamberlain played at various times for the Combined Services team and Sgt. Meadows and Pte. Tuffs are also to be congratulated on their inclusion in the Army team for the Queen's Cup.

From the sublime to the "Cor Blimey": The officers played three matches, losing one, drawing another and winning the last. All hard games and enjoyed by spectators and players alike. "Better than ruddy pictures," one wit remarked.

Next season's will be a new team, as only Mr. Shuttleworth, Sgt. Meadows and Ptes. Wait and Crow will still be with us. Ptes. Buttle, Whitelock, Senior, Chamberlain, Tuffs, Lamb, Maxfield and Guest, to mention a few of the old stalwarts, will be enjoying civilian life, and we thank them for their past services.

Here's hoping for a successful coming season with the Major League and the Governor's Cup falling to the "Dukes."

#### SAILING

Now that General Franco seems determined that Spain should cease to be a place of recreation for those who live in Gibraltar, greater emphasis attaches to sailing, one of the Rock's few indigenous pastimes.

In order to encourage sailing and provide good, cheap facilities the Officers' Mess has formed a small club which will function while the Battalion is stationed in Gibraltar. The club is billed the Hindoostan Sailing Club. Col. Moran has agreed to be Commodore and Major Firth is Secretary. There are at present twenty or more members, about half of whom are helmsmen, and the rest to learn.

The Club has three boats:

"Penelope" (purchased). 14ft. R.N.S.A. dinghy.

"Ark Royal" (on charter from R.G.Y.C.). 14ft. R.N.S.A. dinghy.

"Jolly Fish" (on charter from R.G.Y.C.). 12ft. Sharpie.

A Victory Class boat has been found at Portsmouth and a scheme is in progress for adding her to the fleet. It only remains to agree a purchase price and persuade the Royal Navy to help get her out here. The Victories are the class out here; when one has been secured, there will be enough boats to meet the steady demands of the Mess.

The racing season started on May 15, somewhat delayed by the general preoccupation in the Queen's visit. The Battalion has succeeded in getting a place in each race so far:

May 15. 2nd, "Penelope" (Le Messurier, Streatfeild).

„ 22. 3rd, "Ark Royal" (Firth, Bethmann-Hollweg).

For other ranks, unfortunately, there is only one boat, provided by Welfare. This is an Island Class 14-footer and is about ready for the water, thanks to the efforts of the Pioneers. The plan is to train as many helmsmen as possible so that they can take the boat out by themselves. In the meantime officers will take out those who wish to learn. The Royal Navy have agreed to lend a Cutter or a Whaler more or less whenever required. These can carry up to ten men according to the strength of the wind and so there should be a certain amount of scope for those who are keen.

If there is a large and steady enough demand it may be worth buying a boat for the Unit. The difficulty with sailing is that it is not cheap, as those who used to pay Vella's bills in Malta will remember. One boat can carry a crew of only two or three men and the gear is so expensive and comparatively fragile that one of these must be an expert.

#### PLEASE NOTE

Copy for the October issue should be  
in the Editor's hands by September 1.

## REGIMENTAL H.Q. AND DEPOT

### OFFICERS' MESS

For some time now, the "Oldest" inhabitant has been preparing to depart to the 1st Battalion. Having lived in the Mess for two and a half years, Capt. Scott-Evans handed over the Adjutancy of the 7th Battalion to Capt. Brown in March and reverted to the held strength of the Depot. Very unfortunately, within a week of leaving for Gibraltar, he has had to go into hospital for a check-up. We hope that it will not prove serious, and that he will very shortly be playing strenuous games of Badminton again.

We were pleased to welcome Simon Berry back into the fold from the rigours of civilian life, and managed to get him to the ranges once or twice with Training Company before he was snatched away to Gib. Other arrivals and quick departures were 2/Lts. Reddington and Jantet. We trust that the weather of Gibraltar and Egypt will be more to their liking than the sub-arctic conditions of Halifax.

While on the subject of weather, we might put on record the fact that we have seen across the valley to the other side of Halifax on approximately six occasions this year. Is this really a record?

2/Lt. Watkins arrived home from the 1st Battalion, attended an ecclesiastical course at the Chaplain's Depot at Bagshot, and is now supervising the training of the under-age regulars, who are doing continuation training before joining the Battalion.

### SERGEANTS' MESS

As the Depot is somewhat akin to a Transit Camp these days, quite a number of old and new faces are seen in the Mess at various times. "Necker" Stuteley has been a frequent visitor whilst on leave from East Africa, where, as A/Bandmaster, he formed a Band for one of the local Regiments. On the held strength at present we have Sgt. Powell (ex-R.Q.M.S.), home from Hong Kong, Sgt. Pennington from West Africa, and due to report here on completion of leave is Sgt. "Buck" Bailey, who was a P.T.I. at the Depot just prior to the last war.

We welcome back to the Depot R.S.M. Pearce, who arrived in March to take over from R.S.M. Kenchington on the latter being commissioned as Lieutenant (Q.M.), and to whom we offer our congratulations and thanks for his work at the Depot. C.S.M. R. Wood also arrived recently and has taken over duties with Training Company, and, with the assistance of Sgts. Milton, Taylor and Sargeant, is training our National Service men and endeavouring to instil into them the spirit of the "Dukes." We take this opportunity to congratulate Sgt. Sargeant on his promotion and hope that his Platoon will soon learn the difference between rank and name.

Our social activities have been limited so far this year, but we had a very enjoyable evening in February, when our guests were the South Emsall

branch of the O.C.A. Sgt. Wilson, R.A.E.C., proved himself an accomplished entertainer and organiser. C/Sgt. Burke gave his usual rendering of "Mr. Booze" at about the time when it was not necessary to feign the act. The Mess members have twice been the guests to social evenings given by the South Emsall branch, both evenings being thoroughly enjoyed.

The Mess is rapidly assuming a "New Look," new furniture and carpets having been issued by the Q.M. with the kind permission of the Barrack Officer, and Sgt. Craven, the Mess caterer, aided by numerous fatigue men having given the place a thorough spring clean.

In conclusion may we offer our congratulations to C/Sgt. Burke and Sgt. Brayshaw on becoming proud fathers, to Sgt. Tuttiel, R.E.M.E., on his successful shooting, and to Sgt. Clarke we wish a speedy recovery from his operation.

### TRAINING COMPANY

The ten weeks cycle continues to turn. Intakes arrive, pass out (an awkward phrase) and revert to "holdee" strength prior to posting. Since last going to press, 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th Intakes have completed their training; "Pass-out" parades being held on March 17, April 14, April 28 and May 27 respectively.

Col. Bryan kindly consented to take the salute on the 17th Intake parade, and the Mayor of Halifax (Mr. Harold Pickles) similarly honoured us on April 14 for 18th Intake. We were fortunate in having the Band of the 1st Gloucesters, for the pass-out of 19th Intake on April 28, for which we thank them most heartily. Brigadier Dugmore from Northern Command took the salute on this occasion. We were very pleased to have Lord Savile with us for 20th Intake's parade on May 27. Some members of the Regiment will remember his serving with the 2nd Battalion in Barambe camp days, some years ago.

On each "Pass-out" day we have entertained parents and friends of the recruits to a film show and tea. The undermentioned recruits were awarded prizes which were presented to them on parade. They are to be congratulated on achieving their high results, and best wishes go with them for their future service in the Battalion.

	<b>17TH INTAKE</b>	<b>18TH INTAKE</b>
<i>Best Recruit</i> .. ..	Pte. Jenkins.	Pte. Brook (27).
<i>Best Combined Shot</i> .. ..	Pte. Cherry.	Pte. Hetherington
<i>Best Rifle Shot</i> .. ..	Pte. Cherry	Pte. Hetherington
<i>Best L.M.G. Shot</i> .. ..	Pte. Wellock	Pte. Healey
	<b>19TH INTAKE</b>	<b>20TH INTAKE</b>
<i>Best Recruit</i> .. ..	Pte. Mitchell	Pte. Harrison
<i>Best Combined Shot</i> .. ..	Pte. Ellis and	Pte. Nicholl
	Pte. Bastow (tied)	
<i>Best Rifle Shot</i> .. ..	Pte. Ellis	Pte. Harrison
<i>Best L.M.G. Shot</i> .. ..	Pte. Jamieson	Pte. Nicholl

Pte. Hetherington is particularly commended for getting the highest rifle score yet recorded—114 out of a possible 115. A very good effort.

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

These notes cover a period of pre-camp training; in addition to individual training on regular drill nights at Battery level, each Battery has held a week-end camp in its own Drill Hall entirely under its own administration. These camps have opened up the field and may prove to be the best basis for future pre-camp training. Batteries have a better chance of training pre-selected detachments as a Troop and the men proved by their strong turn-up (50 per cent. of strength average) that there was a keener spirit about these week-ends. Maybe the sleeping at home on the Saturday has some draw and the attraction of "posh grub" causes delight! The Regiment has also held three week-end camps at Knostrop Week-end Training Camp in Leeds and taken part in the R.A. Exercise "Flamingo" on Stirley Hill site.

In early March the Regiment was inspected by its new Brigade Commander, Brigadier R. Elliot, D.S.O., who gave a very purposeful and interesting talk to us all. The annual inspection produced a good chat for the Regiment.

We should like to congratulate Brevet-Col. J. B. Sugden, T.D., on his promotion to Brevet-Colonel; this is a befitting honour to our ex-Commanding Officer and richly deserved. In March the officers paid tribute to him and dined him out "well," so much so that when he bade farewell he took to the air on a magic carpet!

There has been an inter-Regimental change of Adjutants, to suit personal wishes, and Capt. A. L. Harris, R.A., went down south to 600 H.A.A. Regiment, Essex R.A. (T.A.), in East Ham, and Capt. W. F. England, M.B.E., R.A., came from that Regiment up North to us. Good luck to both of them. We welcome Capt. W. F. England to our colder climate, but we hope with warmer hospitality.

"P" Battery held its Annual Pie Supper on April 10 during its week-end camp and some 80 sat down to dinner, followed by games, dancing and side attractions! During dinner, Major J. A. Bearder, commanding "P" Battery, made a presentation of a gilt pencil to W.O.I (R.S.M.) L. F. McDermott on his departure from the Regiment to the warmer and stickier atmosphere of the Canal Zone. His place has been taken by W.O.I (R.S.M.) F. W. Hyde, to whom we extend a hearty welcome.

"R" Battery have had a "Mother's Evening," when its soldier sons showed their mothers some of the intricacies of the T.A. Shortly afterwards the Battery had a good write-up in the local press and many of its prominent members appeared as items of front-page news! We wonder if the sight of their keen faces has produced any prospective recruit yet?

It is interesting to record that after the Fallen Heroes Parade on May 23, in which the Regiment took part, Harry Mowbray of Milnsbridge handed to the Commanding Officer a gold medal which had been found on a building site at Waterloo (Huddersfield!). This medal had been presented to Cpl. L. Shore of "F" Platoon, "A" Company,

5th Dukes for musketry in 1910. It has since been ascertained that Cpl. Shore (then Sgt.) was killed in France, January 12, 1916. Mr. Shore's nephew is the only member of the family so far to respond to a press invitation for information as to claimants for it.

We go to camp this year at Towyn and are looking forward to it especially as we shall have with us 673 L.A.A. Regiment, R.A. (T.A.) (6th Battalion, Duke of Wellington's).

### 5th DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S OFFICERS' DINNER CLUB

The 27th Annual Dinner was held at the Drill Hall, St. Paul's Street, on Friday, October 16, and 63 members and guests sat down, a smaller number than usual, caused principally by the unfortunate absence for one legitimate reason or another of some eight or ten of our local very regular attenders; also no member of 415 L.A.A. Battery was present this year except Major J. W. Bell. We hope that next year the 415 contingent will come in force and that all this year's local absentees will once again be present. In spite of the smaller numbers the Dinner was a particularly happy one and all seemed to enjoy it even more than usual, possibly because the smaller numbers allowed people to see and talk to everyone present.

The guests were the Mayor of Huddersfield (Councillor W. Mallinson), Brigadier Marnham, and Lt.-Col. D. P. Bryce. The Mayor proposed the toast of the Regiment, and Lt.-Col. J. B. Sugden replied in a very amusing speech. As it was his swan-song as C.O. he permitted himself the prerogative of a C.O. and had one or two good friendly cracks at the Brigadier, and we were glad to hear Brigadier Marnham respond in a like manner when he replied for the guests.

Brigadier Marnham expressed his appreciation of the help and support he had had from the Regiment, and said that in fact it was his last public appearance as a soldier before his retirement, and we therefore hope that he will carry away pleasant memories of our Dinner as the finale of his service career.

Col. Sir Frank Brook, who commanded the 5th Dukes in France in 1917, proposing the toast of "Our Guests," made a really inspiring speech covering the period from almost the day he joined the Regiment to the present day, and his encouragement to the present young officers was grand to hear, and for once they received the well-merited encouragement that is due to them. Col. Brook's speech was enjoyed by old and young.

The Regimental Prize Distribution was held on Friday, December 4, and except for the absence of mess jackets it can be said that the function is back to the pre-war standard, and judging by the support given by the people of Huddersfield it is

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obviously looked upon as one of the social functions of the year.

Lt.-Col. D. P. Bryce, O.B.E., T.D., presented the prizes, and it was very nice to hear what a good opinion he had of the Regiment, for in his position of Secretary to the County Association he knows it well.

We are very sorry that Lt.-Col. J. B. Sugden has completed his three years of Command, certainly the most successful period since the War, and I am sure that all ex-officers of the Regiment would wish me, on their behalf, to say thank you to Col. Sugden for his unsparing efforts and the very great amount of work he has done for the Regiment and to congratulate him on the success he has achieved. He is certainly handing over a very fine Regiment to his successor, Lt.-Col. S. J. E. Huxley, T.D. (a member of our Committee), and we congratulate Lt.-Col. Huxley on his appointment and promotion and assure him that he will have the continued support of us all.

On March 27 Col. Sir Frank Brook, D.S.O., M.C., was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of the West Riding, and Lt.-Col. J. B. Sugden was appointed a Brevet Colonel, and we congratulate both these members on their well-deserved honours. We now have two members of the Dinner Club who are D.L.s. Incidentally, out of the four new D.L.s in the West Riding, two of the others are also "Dukes." Col. W. A. Hinchliffe, T.D., Hon. Colonel of the 7th, and Lord Savile, who also served in the 7th Battalion.

We also congratulate Capt. E. E. Ainley on being appointed Captain of the Huddersfield Golf Club. He may be one of our elder members, but he can still hit a ball.

We very much regret to report the following deaths:

Lt. J. P. Bannister, who died suddenly on October 23 at the age of 36. Lt. Bannister joined the Regiment in November, 1942, direct from O.C.T.U., and served in 372 Battery. He left us in September, 1944, but rejoined in November the same year, in Germany, and served till disbandment.

Lt. E. N. Walker, who died after a short illness on December 25, aged 50. He joined the Regiment in 1926 and served with us for about four years.

Major J. L. Robinson, our oldest member, who died on March 21 at his home in Hampshire at the age of 82. Major Robinson served for a long time in the old 2nd Volunteer Battalion, Duke of Wellington's Regiment, and rejoined the 5th Dukes at the outbreak of the First World War. He was adjutant of the 2/5th for a time.

The Annual General Meeting of our flourishing O.C.A. took place at the Drill Hall, Huddersfield, on November 7, when over 100 members were present. Col. G. P. Norton, C.B.E., D.S.O., T.D., D.L., J.P., was in the chair. The Annual Meeting and Dinner of the Holmfirth Branch took place on February 27. B.S.M. J. W. Taylor, M.M., was elected Chairman of the Branch in place of the late C.S.M. H. J. Sykes, D.C.M. A very successful Social Evening was held at Huddersfield on March

20th. The Mirfield Branch held its Annual Meeting and Dinner on April 14, the Anniversary of the 1/5th Battalion sailing to France in 1915. The Association's Benevolent Committee meets regularly and does very good work in helping old members of the Regiment in times of sickness and distress.

About 45 members of the old "B" Company, 1/5th D.W.R., who all went overseas together in April, 1915, held their Annual Reunion Dinner at Marsh Liberal Club on November 14. Col. Sykes

presided. As usual, there were no speeches and a very good evening was enjoyed.

This year our Annual Dinner will be on Friday, October 8, 1954, at the Drill Hall. Please book the date *now*.

The Hon. Secretary earnestly requests members to send him items of news that will be of interest to other members, and particularly to notify him of *change of address*.

DENYS HIRST, Hon. Sec.,  
5th D.W.R. Officers' Dinner Club.

## 673 L.A.A. REGIMENT, R.A. (D.W.R.), T.A.

With memories of a very damp, but otherwise successful camp at Stiffkey, this article goes to press in the last few days of preparation before what we hope will be a much drier fortnight at Towyn.

During the winter months our training programme has continued on normal lines, but cheered by a certain activity amongst the signalling element and also by changes of equipment which have caused all ranks surreptitiously to thumb the more unexplored pages of their drill books. It has, at least, resulted in a general revival of interest which is, of

course, always desirable, particularly during the dark evenings.

Camp (subject to reasonable weather conditions) promises to be a great success. It carries with it the finals of the inter-Battery Gun Drill, Shooting and Motor-cycle competitions, which are at the moment arousing a considerable amount of enthusiasm.

These competitions, together with the hope of a day and night "battle," lead one to suppose that our 14 days this year will be most enjoyable. Time will tell, however, and a detailed account of our activities will appear in the next issue.

## 7th BATTALION, T.A.

### SUB-EDITORIAL

During the past three months there has been much activity within the Battalion and the tempo increases as annual camp approaches. On Sunday, May 16, the Commanding Officer and Company Commanders carried out a preliminary recce of the camp area, which is at Low North Bridge Camp, Fylindales, nr. Scarborough. The camp itself was being built and it showed every prospect of being one of the better camps.

One of the main features of the training this year has been the N.C.O.s' Cadre and the quality of the lectures and the excellence of the lunches were appreciated by all.

On the last day of the Cadre, Capt. Steve Dunn from the Depot gave a first-class lecture and demonstration on patrolling. On that occasion we were also very pleased to welcome Brigadier F. L. Martin, D.S.O., our Brigade Commander.

The officers have had a series of training evenings, the highlight of which was the lecture given by Major Lewis Kershaw, D.S.O. In spite of an attack of laryngitis he gave us a lucid and very interesting talk on the Korean War and the events which took place in the Battle of the Hook. Officers

of the Battalion also attended exercises on aspects of atomic warfare.

The All Ranks Dance held on April 10 was very well attended and we hope it will be the beginning of very many more.

We were asked to find 20 volunteers to represent the unit in the Northern Command Tattoo which is being held in Roundhay Park, Leeds, at the end of June. Our contributions will take the form of a 3-in. Mortar Platoon demonstration and we wish those taking part a thoroughly good time.

Botham Hall is now ours and the name has been changed to Wellesley House. It is being decorated and fitted out as a Battalion H.Q. and Officers' Mess, and the work should be completed within a few weeks.

We extend a rather belated welcome to Capt. K. W. Brown, who is with us as Adjutant, and to his predecessor, Capt. Dick Scott-Evans, we wish *bon voyage* and hope that he reaches Gibraltar safely.

Congratulations to R.S.M. Smythe on his being accepted for a Q.M.'s commission. To his relief, R.S.M. Atkinson, from the 5th West Yorks, we say welcome and we hope you enjoy your stay with us.



### OFFICERS' MESS

Before we touch on Mess activities, we wish to record in these notes our heartiest congratulations to Col. W. A. Hinchliffe, our Honorary Colonel, on his appointment as Deputy Lieutenant of the West Riding and City and County of York. This is indeed an honour of which the officers and men of the Battalion feel proud.

Since the last issue, a number of social events have taken place in which the Mess has featured prominently. The most notable of these was our Cocktail Party on March 1. The Drill Hall at Milnsbridge, which normally presents to the unaccustomed eye a rather dismal spectacle, was transformed for the occasion into a scene of gaiety and colour. The illuminated Drums of the Battalion held pride of place at the entrance of the Hall, and the general effect was enhanced by the military bearing of two of our selected N.C.O.s, who were dressed in scarlet uniform and stood on either side of the drums, like statues carved out of stone. The interior of the Hall was effectively decorated with curtains of regimental colours, bunting and an impressive display of flowers and silver. More than 200 guests were invited and the Hall was filled almost to capacity with a representative gathering from almost all parts of Yorkshire and even further afield. We were privileged to welcome among those present Councillor W. Mallinson, the Mayor of Huddersfield, Councillor and Mrs. H. Pickles, the Mayor and Mayoress of Halifax, and Brigadier F. L. Martin, Commanding 149 (W.R.) Infantry Brigade (T.A.). We were also delighted that so many old friends of the Battalion were able to come and make the evening such a success.

On March 22 we had the pleasure of entertaining to dinner the Mayor of Huddersfield and Mr. H. Bann, the Town Clerk. We felt that this was somewhat of an historic occasion for the Mess as we were presented by the Mayor with the Coronation Cup to commemorate the Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, and as a symbol of the close bond existing between the Borough of Huddersfield and the Battalion. Col. Hinchliffe and our Commanding Officer thanked the Mayor on behalf of all officers of the Battalion for his generous gift which will always occupy a position of prominence in the Mess and be presented annually as a challenge trophy for an important Battalion competition.

We were very glad to welcome Brigadier F. L. Martin to lunch on April 4. His visit was ostensibly for the purpose of "sitting in" on the last day of our N.C.O.s' Cadre, but we were able to convince him that when the occasion demands we can mix pleasure with work, though naturally with the emphasis on the latter. Capt. Steve Dunn rounded off the morning on a high note by giving us an excellent lecture on the action of a "Dukes" patrol in Korea.

The All Ranks Dance which everybody enjoyed was held in the Drill Hall at Milnsbridge on April 10. The Officers' Mess was, of course, fully represented and at one stage in the evening the Mess ante-room was faced with a minor overcrowding problem. This was instantly solved by



*[Photograph by Courtesy of the Huddersfield Examiner*

### CORONATION CUP

**Presented by the Mayor of Huddersfield to 7th Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment**

the magic words of the Commanding Officer, who suggested we should all participate in the "Paul Jones."

Our monthly Mess suppers have been held regularly and we hope that the quality of the last will encourage the irregular attenders to come more often. At one supper night we had the good fortune of welcoming as guests Major John Davis from the Depot and Major Lewis Kershaw, who originally served in the 7th and where we hope he was taught some of the basic training that helped him to earn in Korea his richly deserved award of the D.S.O. Naturally we were not prepared to release Lewis until he had given us a full account of his experience during the Battle of the Hook. This he did with great skill and modesty and we are most grateful to him for his most interesting lecture, which was attended by a representative group of all ranks of the Battalion and a small party of Cadets.

By the time this issue is in print we hope to be established in our new Mess at Wellesley House. By the energy and skilful management of our Commanding Officer we have acquired a new Battalion Headquarters and Officers' Mess in an old country house which is situated a short distance from our present abode. The house is now in the process of being renovated and when completed the Mess should compare favourably with any other

T.A. unit Mess in the county. One of our cherished pieces which will adorn the ante-room will be a genuine painting of the first Duke of Wellington by John Jackson, which our Commanding Officer purchased for the Mess from local sources at a very reasonable cost. Despite the poverty of the times, of which we take our share, our Mess property book now seems to be constantly in use as we gradually accumulate the requisites of which the Mess is sadly in need.

In conclusion, we bid farewell to our late Adjutant, Dick Scott-Evans, and wish him the very best of good fortune with the 1st Battalion in Gibraltar. In his place we welcome Topper Brown, who, despite his brief encounter with the various attractions of Gibraltar, has already adapted himself to Huddersfield conditions.

#### "A" COMPANY

The Company, at the moment, is in something of a limbo. Whilst being a perfectly good Company on paper, we feel that we are leading a rather ghostly existence pending the move to Friendly Tac (or is it Sowerby Bridge, sub-editor?). As soon as the Q.M. moves to Battalion H.Q. at Wellesley House "A" Company will move.

As a Company we have come together for two week-end camps, and although much remains to be done, all should be well by the time we debus at Fylingdales.

#### "B" COMPANY

During the past quarter we have, once again, resurrected ourselves from our near winter hibernation and have commenced the more hectic—and more useful—summer training period. This, to the benefit of all ranks, as we are given the opportunity to become a body of troops as opposed to a number of individuals. A lot of the rust is flaked away in a week-end and then it becomes obvious again that the normal high standard of training and efficiency will come to the fore at camp.

April 24 and 25 saw this Company, along with "D" Company, at Farnley Park for the first week-end camp of our season. This also proved to be the first "Roses" match of the season, as we found ourselves in the throes of battle between "Yorkshire" and "Lancashire" forces. This bitter struggle between our two Companies was nothing when compared with the bitterness of the weather, the only drawback to a good week-end.

As is known, a .22 Inter-Company League has started and "B" Company can hold their heads high, having lost, so far, but one match by a mere three points. (The Company Commander was blamed for that; being an absentee due to a broken chassis—the car's, not his!) However, one fact must be brought to notice. It is accepted that the losing team, if the home team, shall stand drinks to both sides. One Company (no names!) when shot to pieces on their home range not only let us supply the bottles but cheerfully allowed us to pay for them—the "Dogs." We hope their canteen will be functioning for our next visit.

By the time these notes appear in print we shall have lost the services of R.S.M. Smythe, D.C.M.,

and I speak for all ranks of "B" Company when wishing him all success as Lt. (Q.M.) Smythe. To spare his blushes, let it suffice to say he has been a wonderful R.S.M. and has left his mark on this Battalion for some time to come. Good luck to you, "Tara," and many thanks for your gentle (and subtle!) guidance to all ranks. Welcome from "B" Company to R.S.M. Atkinson; may your shadow be no less than that of your predecessor.

#### "C" COMPANY

The headlines of the local papers were ours in March. It took a fire to do it, and although the blaze was fierce, only one wing was destroyed. The remainder of the Spider was saved, largely by the good work of our P.S.I., Sgt. Thrussel.

Since our last notes were published we had a wet week-end on the Ranges at Deer Hill—very miserable making. This was compensated for at the end of May by a very pleasant camp at Farnley Park.

We welcome Lts. Rothery and Fitch to the Company and were delighted to see them at Farnley Park.

#### "D" COMPANY

As summer approaches so we become increasingly aware that Annual Camp will very soon be a reality, and that we must in preparation concentrate more and more on outdoor work. The week-end April 22-23 was spent at Farnley Park, Otley, where in conjunction with "B" Company some very useful training was done.

The Company worked hard and cheerfully; in fact, one member played the game of soldiers so well that when told by an umpire to disappear (for exercise purposes to Battalion H.Q.), he disappeared so effectively that he was not seen again until tea time, when he was winkled out from the Camp cookhouse three miles away. Lt. Peter Chester came up from London to join us for the week-end at Otley. We look forward to our next week-end camp which will be held at Deer Hill Ranges—may we be favoured with fine weather, as Deer Hill and rain are normally synonymous.

Sgt. Hutchinson, of No. 12 Platoon, looking resplendent in "scarlet," represented the Company when he was on duty at the Officers' Mess Cocktail Party in March.

We are now firmly established in the Drill Hall at Fitzwilliam Street, though much remains to be done in redecorating the building. By the time these notes are in print we hope to have the decorating well under way and also to have our new caretaker, Mr. Machen, installed in the quarters. In the meantime, our P.S.I., Sgt. Dickenson, is doing sterling work in his battle with dust and rust.

We have recently enlarged our family somewhat; the Corps of Drums and the Band have decided that our T.A.C. should be the Kneller Hall of Huddersfield. We welcome them and wish them good playing.

#### "H.Q." COMPANY

A Battalion all ranks dance held at our Milnsbridge T.A.C. started the summer training season

off with a fine swing this year. A lot of hard work was put in by the organisers—mostly permanent staff—but we are sure that they now think that the result justified the effort. The Drill Hall was packed and everybody had a jolly good time.

We are hoping to hold a Company Social Evening next month, but more about that next time.

It was pleasing to see that "H.Q." Company was well represented on the N.C.O.s' refresher course which has just finished; we hope all the Sundays were well spent—anyway, the "proof of the pudding" will be Annual Camp this year, when we intend to do a great deal of individual training.

The M.T. Course run this winter by C.Q.M.S. Hawkworth and L/Cpl. Weaver had rather a disappointing ending. After doing all the indoor training they discovered that, due to an acute shortage of petrol, they were unable to do any practical training on the roads—perhaps it is as well; the accident rate is high enough.

At the moment we are spending a lot of time on the miniature range practising for the Inter-Company .22 Shoot; one or two of the chaps can manage to hit the target, so I think we have a fair chance.

Another inter-Company competition—but more on the social side—we hope to take part in is the Badminton competition. Unfortunately our nice new court, which we only marked out last season, has been ruined by the construction inside the Drill Hall of a new storeroom which covers a corner of the court. No doubt we shall be able to practice elsewhere.

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome all the National Service men who have joined recently and we hope that they will enjoy their stay with us. Also we welcome Lt. J. Stallard, who had just joined the T.A. and has been posted to us. Lt. Stallard was a pilot in the R.A.F.

All members of "H.Q." Company send their best wishes to L/Cpls. Townend and Holberry and Ptes. Hufton and Hall, who have recently been married—we hope they will be very happy.

#### "S" COMPANY

We have accomplished one main week-end during the period under review, that of Rifle Classification. The period was wet and miserable, as usual at Deer Hill. A rumour about going to better ranges next year is pleasing all ranks!

The results were disappointing, though to our few marksmen, Ptes. Gledhill and Greenwood, we offer our congratulations.

Cpl. Taylor was nearly classified under an entirely new heading which shall be nameless!

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## *Regimental Dinner and Tea, 1954*

### THE REGIMENTAL DINNER

The Regimental dinner took place at the Hyde Park Hotel on Friday, June 4, 1954. Gen. Sir A. F. Philip Christison, Bt., G.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C. (Colonel of the Regiment) was in the chair and the guests were His Grace The Duke of Wellington, K.G., and Brigadier C. N. Barclay, C.B.E., D.S.O. (Editor of the "New Regimental History"). Fifty-five sat down to dinner, a number which may be considered very satisfactory in view of the fact that very few officers from the 1st Battalion could be present.

In accordance with custom the only speech of the evening was that of the Colonel of the Regiment. He began by reading a telegram sent to Her Majesty The Queen expressing the loyalty of the officers on the occasion of the dinner and her reply graciously acknowledging its receipt. Among other telegrams received was one from "Duke's" officers stationed in Germany who held a Regimental dinner of their own on the same night. He then spoke of the great help that the Regiment was receiving from the Duke of Wellington, who had indeed become its philosopher and friend. Nothing was too much trouble for him and his assistance in the matter of the Regimental crest had been invaluable. The crest is now correct. He also welcomed Brigadier C. N. Barclay to whom the Regiment was greatly indebted for his brilliant work in editing the "New Regimental History." He spoke of the Royal visit to Gibraltar, where the 1st Battalion had received the highest praise for their discipline and morale, and the Governor had told him personally how proud he was to have them serving under him. Her Majesty was greatly interested in the history of the Colours and her bestowal of war honours on board the Royal yacht was a unique event unprecedented in our history. Incidentally this investiture had not been included in the programme drawn up for the tour.

Returning to purely Regimental matters he was glad to see that recruiting was better than last year and he believed this improvement was largely due to the great name the Battalion had earned for itself in Korea. The Battalion had little chance of distinguishing itself in athletics under present conditions but he was glad to see that they were sending a team to Bisley. He ended with a tribute to Lt.-Col. Bunbury for his work during the past three years and offered his best wishes to Lt.-Col. Moran for a successful tour of command. He also expressed his thanks to Capt. Bolton for all the hard work he put in arranging the dinner and tea.

The following were present: Gen. Sir A. F. Philip Christison, Bt., Colonel of the Regiment, Maj.-Gens. K. G. Exham and W. M. Ozanne, Brigadiers F. H. Fraser, V. C. Green, C. W. G. Grimley, H. G. P. Miles, C. W. B. Orr and B. W. Webb-Carter, Cols. F. R. Armitage, L. E. Bishop, C. R. T. Cumberlege, W. A. Hinchliffe, Sir P. R.

Simner and R. G. Turner, Lt.-Cols. E. C. Boutflower, F. R. St. P. Bunbury, J. H. Dalrymple, W. Hodgson, H. Harvey, C. W. G. Ince, O. W. Price, E. W. Stevens, D. J. Stewart, G. F. Upjohn, A. H. G. Wathen, F. H. B. Wellesley, A. E. H. Sayers and G. C. H. Wortham, Majors P. G. L. Cousens, J. H. Davis, C. R. Hetley, J. P. Huffam, R. H. Ince, H. R. Kavanagh, J. H. S. Lane, J. G. Lepper, C. J. Maclaren, P. P. de la H. Moran, D. C. Roberts, R. A. Scott, F. H. V. Wellesley and F. J. Reynolds, Capt. R. H. D. Bolton, K. W. Brown, A. H. P. Laurence, A. E. Miller, The Lord Savile and G. C. Tedd, Lts. J. D. P. Cowell and J. A. d'E. Miller, 2/Lts. C. D. Miller and P. A. Mitchell. The guests were His Grace The Duke of Wellington, K.G., and Brigadier C. N. Barclay, C.B.E., D.S.O.

### THE REGIMENTAL TEA

The tea was held at the Hyde Park Hotel on the afternoon of June 4. It was, as always, a delightful reunion and the Secretary's hope, which he expressed last year, that there would be an increase in the number attending, was handsomely fulfilled. The following were present: Capt. and Mrs. R. H. D. Bolton, Mrs. D. E. Firth, Mrs. B. V. Everett, Lt.-Col. W. G. Officer, Capt. and Mrs. G. C. Tedd, Lt.-Col. W. Hodgson, Sir A. F. Philip Christison, Miss Christison, Lt.-Col., Mrs. and Miss Bunbury, Col. and Mrs. C. R. T. Cumberlege, Major and Mrs. R. E. Austin, Brigadier and Mrs. H. G. P. Miles, Major and Mrs. R. A. Scott, Major R. H. Ince, Mrs. Naylor and Mrs. N. Roberts, Lt.-Col., Mrs. and Miss Wathen, Brigadier and Mrs. V. C. Green, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. E. C. Boutflower, Lady Landon, Mrs. Kirkland, Brigadier and Mrs. C. W. B. Orr, Mrs. R. N. H. C. Bray, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Cecil Ince, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. A. E. H. Sayers, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. J. Chatterton, Col. and Mrs. L. E. Bishop, Brigadier and Mrs. C. W. Grimley, Major and Mrs. J. H. Davis, Maj.-Gen. W. M. Ozanne, Miss Ozanne, Brigadier F. H. Fraser, Maj.-Gen. K. G. Exham and Mrs. Exham, Lt.-Col. F. H. B. Wellesley, Col. R. G. Turner, Capt. and Mrs. Laurence, Lord Savile and Col. and Mrs. F. R. Armitage.

### OFFICERS' DINNER, BAD OEYNHAUSEN

On Saturday, May 29, a most successful dinner was held at Bad Oeynhausen for those members and ex-members of the Regiment serving in the Rhine Army.

The dinner was held at No. 1 Visitors' Mess and the manager very kindly placed a separate dining room and bar at the disposal of the party. The dining table was decorated with red and white carnations and red candles and looked most effective.

As far as possible all arrangements were modelled on those customarily followed by the Regimental Dinner Club and these included printed menu cards with the Regimental badge on the front,

which had been provided under the arrangement of Lt.-Col Stewart of the Depot.

Lt.-Col. M. M. Davie, the senior serving Regimental officer present, presided over the dinner and offered the toasts of "Her Majesty The Queen" and "The Regiment." Before the latter toast he reminded all present that the dinner was taking place on the first anniversary of the Battle of the Hook. By his direction a telegram from all present was sent to the Colonel of the Regiment. Col. W. H. Summers, the senior ex-"Duke," also made a short speech of thanks on behalf of those ex-"Dukes" attending the dinner.

The dinner was an unqualified success and it is hoped to repeat it next year should the numbers serving in BAOR justify it.

The following officers attended: Lt.-Cols. M. M. Davie and G. Laing, Majors J. B. Fallon, L. F. H. Kershaw, A. C. S. Savory and F. P. A. Woods, Col. W. H. Summers, R.A.S.C., Lt.-Cols. B. L. Franklin, R.A.S.C., and H. H. Evans, R.A.E.C., Major B. G. N. Eveleigh, R.T.R., and J. L. Kershaw (father of Major Kershaw).

The following officers were contacted but were unable to attend: Majors A. Coldwell, R.A.S.C., E. Holmes, R.A. (formerly Indian Army) and R. E. Northey, R.E.M.E.

## NOTICES

### REGIMENTAL CHRISTMAS CARDS, DIARIES AND CALENDARS 1954/55

Christmas cards this year have on the front cover a coloured print of the Duke of Wellington hunting with the Vine Hounds. Price: 12s. a dozen, plus postage 6d. a dozen and proportionally, from the Administrative Officer, Regimental Depot, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, Wellesley Barracks, Halifax, Yorkshire.

Diaries, 1955, are also obtainable from the Administrative Officer. Price 5s. each, plus postage 3d.

Regimental calendars, 1955, may be obtained on payment of 14s. 6d. from the maker, E. V. Howell, "The Shack," Timsway, Staines, Middlesex. The figure this year is that of a drummer, 33rd Regiment, period 1854.

\* \* \* \*

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND REUNION DINNER

The Annual General Meeting of the Regimental and Old Comrades' Associations (1st and 2nd Battalions) will be held at Wellesley Barracks on Saturday, September 18, at 5.30 p.m. Following the meeting, the Annual Reunion Dinner will be held in the New Dining Hall at 7.15 p.m. sharp. The President of the Associations, General Sir A. F. P. Christison, Bt., G.B.E., C.B., D.S.O.,

M.C., will preside both at the General Meeting and at the Dinner. Tickets, price 7s. 6d., are obtainable from the General Secretary, Regimental Association, Wellesley Barracks, Halifax.

In view of the large number of members who have signified their intention to be present this year, other members wanting tickets are strongly advised to write in to the Secretary straight away and secure theirs.

## OBITUARY

We deeply regret to announce the following deaths:

Major Thomas Kendall Wright died at his home in Bingley on February 26, 1954. He had a military career of over 52 years. Joining the Territorials in Bingley in 1902 he received his commission in 1907. He went to France with the 6th Battalion in 1915 as a Captain and was later promoted Major and awarded the M.B.E. (Military Division).

In 1939 he organised and commanded the Bingley Home Guard until he retired owing to ill health. He was a keen sportsman and took a great interest in organising Army boxing tournaments. To the end of his life he remained an active member of the Old Comrades' Association.

We regret to announce the death on April 13, 1954, at her residence, 1 Mile Cross Road, West End, Halifax, Yorkshire, of Mrs. C. McMahon, widow of the late C/Sgt. J. McMahon, late 1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, in which he served for 23½ years. She leaves three sons and three daughters, to whom we express our deepest sympathy.

The funeral took place at Stony Royd Cemetery, Halifax, on Friday, April 16, 1954.

Major R. P. de la Poer Trench, M.C., died at his home in Sunningdale, Berkshire, after a long and painful illness. He was the youngest son of Col. S. J. Trench who commanded the 2nd Battalion at the beginning of the century. He was commissioned in the Grenadier Guards in 1914 and was awarded the M.C. during his service with them in France. He retired shortly after the war but was called up from the reserve in 1939 and asked to be posted to the Regiment. He served for a time with the 2/6th and then became Adjutant in a troopship on the Atlantic crossing.

Mrs. Alice Ann Steele, widow of the late R.Q.M.S. A. W. Steele, died in Leeds on June 15, aged 73.

Major R. Wood writes: "Mrs. Steele was well known and liked in the 1st Battalion. I can remember her coming into the Battalion at Ambala in 1910. I, like many more, had cause to be grateful for the ever-ready assistance she gave to my family in times of sickness and I am sure that all those who knew her will grieve to hear of her death. She had long been an invalid."



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for



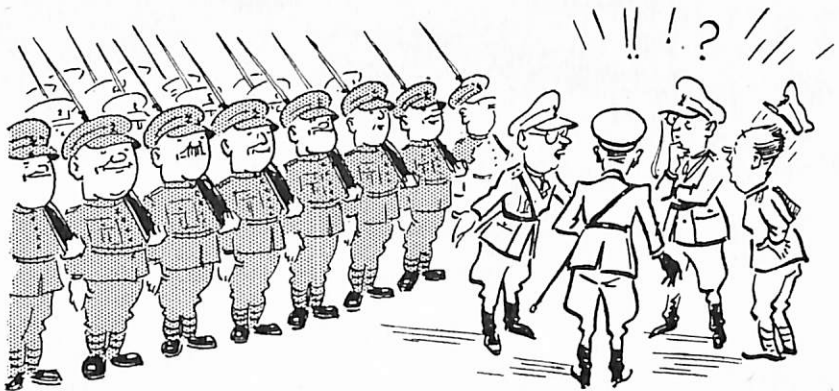
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## PERSONALIA

### Birth

AKROYD.—On May 5, 1954, at Howe Hall Nursing Home, York, to Evelyn (née Wellesley), wife of John Frederick Akroyd—a daughter (Evelyn Ailsa).

### Engagement

BURGES—SAYERS.—The engagement is announced between Denys Charles L'Estrange, only son of Dr. and Mrs. R. C. L. Burges, of Tudor Lodge, Prichatts Road, Edgbaston, and Gillian Rosemary, only daughter of Lt.-Col. A. E. H. Sayers, O.B.E., and Mrs. Sayers, of 12 Arthur Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham.

Maj.-Gen. W. M. Ozanne reached the final of the Generals' golf competition, a great effort on which he is to be heartily congratulated.

## HONOURS AND AWARDS

We warmly congratulate Maj.-Gen. K. G. Exham, D.S.O., A.D.C., on being awarded the C.B. in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.

## CORRESPONDENCE

The Editor,  
THE IRON DUKE,  
DEAR SIR,

The following Collect was given to me by the D.A.C.G. (the Rev. Kenneth Till). It is taken from a book by the Rev. Matthew Tobias, C.F., called "Collects for the British Army" published in 1930 by Underhills (Plymouth) Ltd. The Collects were based largely on the Regimental mottos and were approved by the Colonels.

"The Duke of Wellington's Regiment

"(West Riding)

"(33rd and 76th Foot)

"The Collect

"O Lord God of Hosts, who didst thrice bid the leader of thine ancient people to be strong and of a good courage and didst promise him good success, grant that the Duke of Wellington's Regiment may ever prosper in obedience to Thy law and in Thee alone do valiantly, so that we may tread down the enemies of our souls for Jesus Christ our Saviour's sake."

A. C. S. SAVOURY,  
Major.

H.Q. Lubbecke District,  
B.A.O.R. 42.

NOTE.—The Rev. Matthew Tobias was Garrison Chaplain at Devonport in 1930 and a staunch friend of the 1st Battalion.

April 20, 1954.

The Editor,  
THE IRON DUKE,  
DEAR SIR,

It is almost one year since our arrival in Western Australia and, as promised, I am writing and giving you a few of my experiences which you asked for before my departure from the U.K., and if published in THE IRON DUKE may interest several other readers who may like to contact me, that is, if they are contemplating coming to Aussieland.

About the housing situation. It is really not as

bad as we were made to believe as houses can be bought at any time if one has a deposit to put down; rental houses are a bit difficult to obtain in the metropolitan area, but in the country towns it is much easier. Employment is plentiful and good wages offered for even the unskilled man. As to the cost of living, well it can compare quite favourably with England, but one can live much better here as the standard of living is much higher.

As far as we are concerned, we are most happy and contented, having purchased a modern brick house and quite close to town and my employment, which is in the State Housing Commission as a clerk. We have lovely schools, parks and playgrounds for the kiddies and on the Queen's recent visit to this State both the Queen and the Duke were most impressed with the beauty of the place.

I have met a number of people since my arrival, including Gen. Sir Philip Christison's cousin and his wife; also Mr. Creswell, who is a bank manager now but was Col. Laing's Adjutant in Africa during the war.

Thank you for THE IRON DUKE, which I receive regularly, but please address it to the address at the end of this letter and not through the High Commissioner.

The "Dukes" must have welcomed the change to Gibraltar after their long spell in Korea.

I might add that I have received authority that I have been awarded the L.S. and G.C. medal and I am thankful for it.

Yours faithfully,  
R. E. SHEARER (ex-C.Q.M.S.)

14 Cardiff Street,  
East Victoria Park,  
Perth, Western Australia.

May 31, 1954.

The Editor,  
DEAR SIR,

As you have no doubt seen from our Mess Notes we have recently acquired a new H.Q. to be known as Wellesley House, and it is situated within a

few hundred yards of our present T.A. Centre at Milnsbridge.

Although we are very fortunate in having numerous silver cups, there is literally no Mess silver and we are now trying to build up a collection as time goes along. So far we have been very lucky in obtaining on permanent loan from the Depot several pieces of silver, but we still have a long way to go before we can really lay a proper table.

I was wondering whether or not any past members of the Battalion would like to present us with some article, such as a cigarette box, cigarette lighter, condiment set, decanter stand, gravy boat, napkin rings, etc., which could be suitably inscribed and I know would be most appreciated. Alternatively if there are any pictures which would be suitable for the dining room or ante-room I should be very pleased to have them.

I know you will agree with me that it is most difficult to get a new Mess really going in these times, as everything is so very expensive, but it is hoped that when it is finished not only present members, but many past members, of the Mess will also use it.

Yours sincerely,  
T. HAIGHTON, Lt.-Col.  
7 D.W.R.

T.A. Centre,  
Milnsbridge, Huddersfield.

March 27, 1954.

The Editor.

DEAR SIR,

At the risk of seeming pedantic, may I protest emphatically at a practice, which is spreading rapidly. Even in the pages of this magazine one finds "Company Sergeant-Major Jones" masquerading as "W.O.2 Jones." This is Records jargon, permissible in Part II Orders, monstrous elsewhere. One hopes that Regimental Sergeant-Majors and Company Sergeant-Majors in this Regiment will not permit their time-honoured titles to be replaced by these hideous and clumsy expressions.

I am, Sir,  
Yours faithfully,  
D. JONES-STAMP, Major.

The Editor.

DEAR SIR,

Lt.-Col. D. T. Stewart in a letter to myself suggested that I should write about my experiences when the troopship H.M.T. *Empire Windrush* was lost.

The Second Steward told me, at 0630 hours on the morning of March 28 that the ship was on fire. I was lying in bed and was thinking of having an extra 40 winks. It seemed to me the Second Steward was being over serious. However, he told me once again, "Come on, do as I've told you. Get on deck, the ship's on fire." Even then I took my time, washed and even put on my best B.D. and beret. I thought it best to take my best. Then I took the last look at all I possessed. Blindly I picked up something and slipped it in my pocket.

After I had been picked up I discovered it was my "Dukes" cap badge.

As ship's R.S.M. I assumed it was my duty to ensure that all troops were clear of their troop decks. It was through this duty that I found myself marooned on the aft end of the ship. The fire was amidships. After I had gone aft the fire had spread and so it was impossible for me to rejoin the Ship's Commandant and Staff at the Orderly Room. It was while I was trying to rejoin the Staff that Major P. B. Hall, D.W.R., joined me and asked if it was possible to get a few belongings. He never told me if he succeeded. By that time the officers' cabins were well alight. Major Hall and myself then took charge of the aft end. Some of the troops found it impossible to stand on their boat stations so they were brought to No. 5 Hatch near the T.B. Ward. A party was organised to throw overboard all objects that would float. Lifeboat, boxes, tables, forms, mattresses, oil drums, etc. Even up to that time my mind refused to acknowledge that the fire was serious.

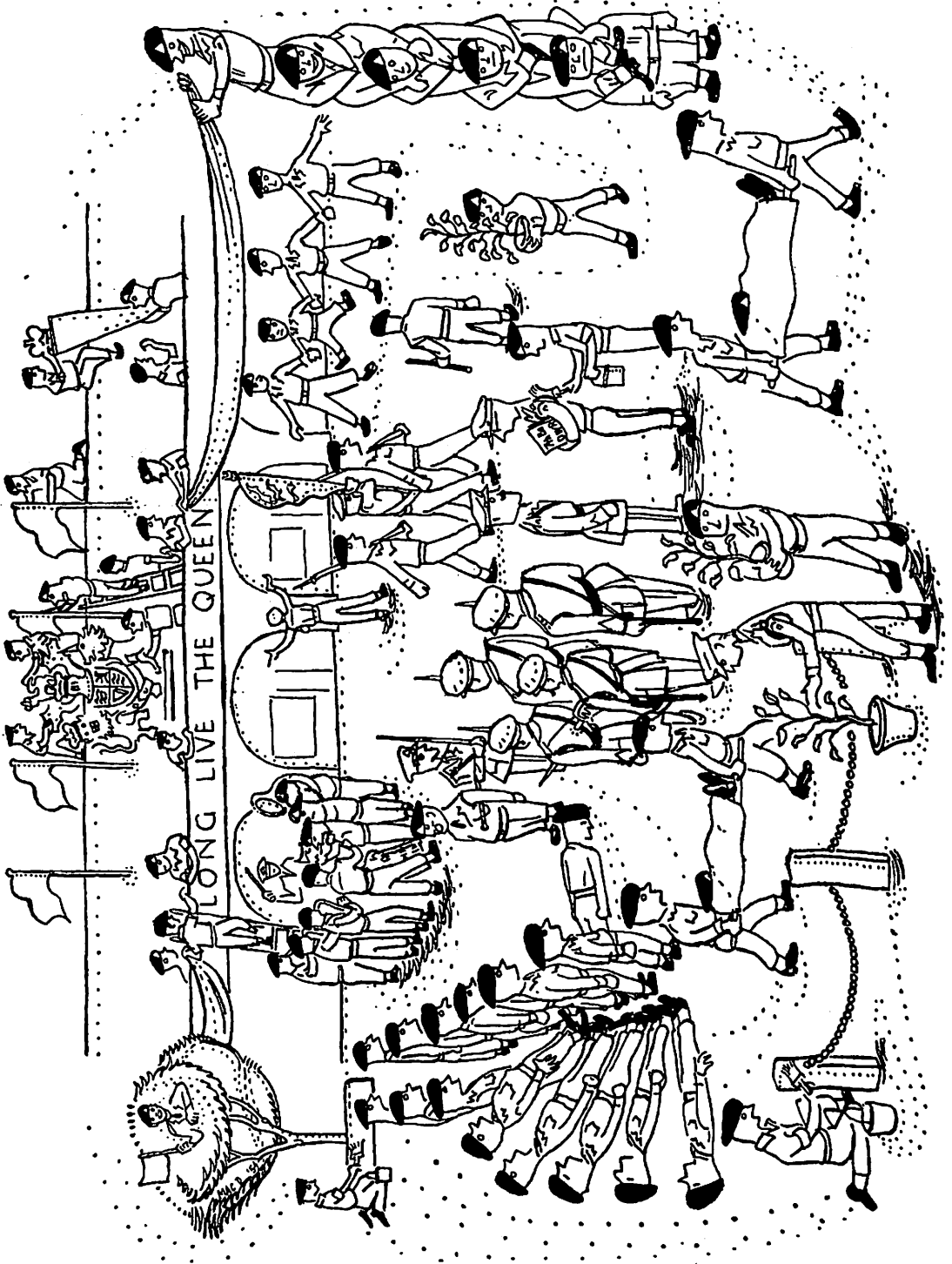
To prove this, I was so "Q"-minded that I picked up the T.B. sentry's sash to give to the R.Q.M.S. I was still running about with this in my hand when the Second Officer said, "Come on, Geordie, it's your turn to jump." The height looked terrific. I had flutters in my stomach, but it had to be done and down I went. The sea was colder than seemed possible. My first regret was for my shoes and socks left on the deck before jumping. After swimming for a while my blood got warmed up and it wasn't too bad.

My chief thoughts were for my family. I said to myself, "I'll bet if my wife could see me now she wouldn't be so cheerful." Unawares to myself she was dreaming at the fireside and didn't even turn on the wireless until 6 p.m. that day. I was kidding myself it was only a usual Sunday morning swim, but then when I looked about there seemed to be no one else in the water. It was while I was resting on a baulk of wood that a Commander R.N. hailed me. Striking out like a channel swimmer I soon reached the float that the Commander was on. It was at this time the Ship's Commandant, Lt.-Col. R. W. H. Scott, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, saw me. He thought I had kept it up all the way.

A Lance-Bombardier, R.A., gave me his B.D. blouse. The cold was bad after being in the water. Eventually we were picked up by the S.S. *Socotra*. The crew of that ship gave us hot coffee and soup. At about 1600 hours we landed at Algiers. The French did everything possible. It was amusing to see the French faces when some of our French speakers started trying out their French. Major Hall once more was there with a Major of the Gloucesters. We asked the French for bedding and food. This was supplied after protracted signs and murdered French.

The next day we embarked on H.M.S. *Triumph* and sailed for Gibraltar. Everyone knows about what happened on that ship. There is no need for me to repeat what the daily papers told the public. Gibraltar's welcome was first-class. It was not possible to be quartered with the "Dukes." By





PREPARING FOR THE QUEEN'S VISIT

the time I disembarked from the *Triumph* our Regiment had taken their allocation. The R.A.O.C. at Jago Barracks were therefore my hosts. We were all treated well.

Eventually, after all had been flown home, the Ship's Commandant, the Adjutant and myself got orders to leave Gib. at 1200 hours, Friday, April 2.

We arrived home at about 1700 hours the same day. It was my first flight and I enjoyed it.

Lots of people have asked me since, "Was there really no panic" and "How do you account for the lack of panic, if as you say there was none." My answer to all enquiries has been: the papers, for once did not overdo it, the troops and passengers were really wonderful. This was brought about by two factors. First, the Tannoy System, that curse

of modern days, was out of order. Secondly, British under-estimation and refusal to face facts when things look bad.

Everyone tried to help each other. At one period I was wearing a Lance-Bombardier's B.D. blouse and then a Leading Sick Berth Attendant's jacket. No one took advantage of the situation. Billy Graham would have seen practical Christianity there.

Finally, it was nice to see old friends among the 1st Battalion,

Thanking you,

I am,

Yours faithfully,

J. IMRAY, R.S.M.

## "GIBRALTAR STORY, 1836"

By 2/Lt. J. W. HAYES

A brief announcement in the *Gibraltar Chronicle and Commercial Advertiser* of October 11, 1836, quotes a London pronouncement some three weeks old. "Movement of regiments: 33rd to Gibraltar as an extra regiment in consequence of the severity of the duty on the present garrison." The activity then demanded would seem to have been considerable. It will surprise the members of the solitary battalion of infantry at present in Gibraltar to know that the garrison in those far-off days consisted of five infantry battalions.

Since 1835 the 33rd had been engaged on detachment work in Southern Ireland and it was, in consequence, from Cork that two companies embarked, together with a company of the Royal Artillery, on board the British transport bark *Sovereign* (Simon Cudy, master). This was on September 26, 1836, and the *Sovereign* arrived in Gibraltar some ten days later. Two days after the arrival of the *Sovereign*, the sloop *Ariel*, also from Cork, arrived with baggage and two horses, presumably belonging to officers of the 33rd. It was not until October 12 that the British bark *Asia*, fourteen days out from Cork, dropped anchor off Gibraltar and disembarked Col. Charles Knight and the headquarters of the regiment, together with some Government stores.

This article, culled from the pages of the *Gibraltar Chronicle* for the months of October and November, 1836, is an attempt, on a very limited scale, to recreate the background to life in Gibraltar over a century ago, and in particular to those months which saw the arrival of the 33rd.

Did the *Gibraltar Chronicle* of the day record the arrival of the 33rd with gratification? It did not. In fact it did not deign to notice the event in its columns at all, unlike its present-day successor, which gave us a considerable amount of space in its news-sheet. On the other hand, the departure of the ? th regiment on the ? th went also unrecorded. It was not the custom of the *Chronicle* to welcome or to bid adieu to members of its

garrison. Arrivals and departures were simply noted under the arrivals or clearances of the numerous ships which called in Gibraltar whose cargoes were recorded, together with the names of their masters. In short, the files of the *Gibraltar Chronicle* are not the best source of information regarding the doings of the 33rd, nor yet of any other regiment during its stay in the fortress. None the less, the *Chronicle* is a first-rate source of "live" information concerning the Gibraltar of that day. Its yellow dog-eared pages are capable of evoking a most clear picture of the life and spirit of the times, and of the colony into which the gallant old 33rd was thrust. Its Editor emerges from its pages a most zealous, critical and painstaking servant of the public, continually chafing against the uncertain arrival of the mail which allowed him to give news of the outside world to the select society within the fortress-colony.

The world seemed larger in those spacious days. Time was still weighted heavily against mankind. Travel across the lands and waters of the earth was slow and uncertain. London papers, instead of being in Gibraltar on the evening of the day they were printed, as they are now, took at least a week to arrive, depending on the speed of the ship which brought them. Mail, too, took an unconscionable time in transit. By the overland mail, when it managed to survive the attentions of the rebels or the hill bandits, the papers from Paris were generally a fortnight old and those from Madrid six or seven days old. The average run from Gibraltar to New York, across the Atlantic, was thirty days. The sole precursor of the world of speed which was to come was the steamship, then in an early stage of its development and by no means a wholly reliable means of travel. Its usefulness was, however, recognised. If anything, it was less affected by the vagaries of the weather than a sailing ship, which made it possible to run something approaching a scheduled service—something very difficult to arrange under sail.

Steam packets carried His Majesty's mail and the more important or the more fortunate among his servants. There appears to have been a monthly naval packet service between England and Corfu, then garrisoned by a surprisingly large number of British troops.

On October 10, 1836, the steam packet *Spitfire*, Lt. Kennedy, R.N., seven days out from Falmouth, arrived in Gibraltar with mails for Algiers, Malta, and Corfu; whilst the *Firefly*, Lt. Pierce, R.N., arrived from the opposite direction on the 15th. She was fourteen days out from Corfu, seven from Malta, and two from Algiers, and was proceeding to England.

Steam vessels were being used by the large shipping companies. The British and Foreign Steam Navigation Company's vessels operated a monthly service between London, Lisbon, Cadiz, Gibraltar and Malaga, whilst the Peninsular Steam Navigation Company went to great pains to advertise the superiority of their vessels on the London-Gibraltar run. Companies felt themselves under no obligation to be modest concerning their ships. "The favourite fast and powerful steamer *Transit*, Capt. Perkins Wrightson, is expected to arrive at this port tomorrow and will proceed to Malaga as usual," runs an advertisement in an early November issue of the *Chronicle*. This reads very small beside the glowing and lengthy description of another steamer, the Peninsular company's *Iberia*. Yet on its arrival this vessel was seventeen days out from London! She may possibly have stayed at several ports on the outward journey; but even so, its performance was no great shakes considering that a sailing line-of-battle ship, H.M.S. *Bellerophon*, arrived from Plymouth about the same period in ten days. Travel was undoubtedly slow.

The Editor of the *Chronicle* relied for his news on two principal channels. From Corfu, which tapped the news of the Eastern hemisphere, and from London, which forwarded intelligence of the principal events of the western end of the world in general, steam packets and the steamships of the shipping companies carried mail and papers along the length of their routes. By the overland route through Southern France and Spain he received, in the main, Spanish and French newspapers. The later was much the more uncertain channel.

In 1836 Spain was in the throes of a civil war; the throne was in dispute. A pretender, Don Carlos, who was the uncle of the reigning Queen, Isabella, was endeavouring to wrest the throne from her by force. His troops, called Carlists, were ravaging the countryside. Don Carlos' cause, and the prevailing unrest, caused many rogues to take up arms, nominally on behalf of Don Carlos, but actually on their own. It is not difficult to imagine, therefore, that the mails were as likely to be interfered with by bandits as by Carlist forces. The couriers must have had a thin time of it. An amusing picture of a contemporary English courier is afforded by a paragraph telling how an ex-minister (Spanish) "escaped his pursuers by adopting the disguise of an English courier, namely, by investing himself with a pair of enormous boots and a light-coloured wig!"

Continually the *Chronicle* complains of the non-arrival of the overland mail, or, as it was alternatively styled, the "General Post." Quite frequently it is reported destroyed. Besides this cause for complaint, the Editor's sympathies were naturally enlisted on the side of the Royalists. Were not Englishmen fighting on behalf of the Queen?

At this period Great Britain was intervening actively in the internal affairs of both Spain and Portugal. Ostensibly styled "moral" support none could have been more open or definite. A British Legion was raised in England, many of its officers being British army officers on half-pay or on extended leave from their regiments, although officially the Government had declared that no officer was permitted to serve in the Legion. Stands of arms and military supplies were shipped to Northern Spain. British ships of war aided the Royalists from the sea, and occasionally British sailors and marines took part in operations against the Carlists. Small wonder, then, that the *Gibraltar Chronicle* looked unfavourably on the Carlists whom it persistently denominates "Rebels." "It is impudently stated that a lieutenant of the British Legion has gone over to the Pretender," says the *Chronicle* on one occasion, as though, for all the world, an event of that nature was inconceivable.

One particular Carlist leader figures prominently in the issues of October and November. This was a General Gomez, who is recorded as rampaging the length and breadth of Andalusia. At one time perilously close to destruction at the hands of converging Royalist forces, he escaped in miraculous fashion to link up with other Carlist bands and shortly afterwards neatly turned the tables by capturing an important town, most of whose garrison of regulars promptly went over to him. At the time of Gomez's misfortunes, when ruin stared him in the face, the *Chronicle* exulted wildly and quotes the *Cadiz Courier*: "Gomez is like a man at the bottom of a well; he is swimming in quest of a stone to lay hold of, amidst the pangs of death with which he is beset on all sides." The Editor ought to have borne in mind the old saw: "First catch your hare"—at any rate he spoke too soon.

In the middle of November Gomez appeared in the Campo district, and his forces entered San Roque, but a few miles from Gibraltar itself. "The authorities of San Roque and Algeciras, together with a 'pretty considerable part of the population' took refuge under the guns of the fortress."

The *Chronicle* recorded soberly that "H.E. the Governor had taken the precautions usually adopted on the North Front on the approach of a hostile force." Meanwhile, the British ship of war *Jaseur*, Capt. Charles Hackett, who had been awarded the Order of Charles III by Queen Isabella, had actually fired on a party of rebels observed near the shore. Gomez stayed but two days in the neighbourhood, moving away northwards with his force; yet during his brief stay one of the Governor's A.D.C.s had been sent to his camp and "had met with such reception as an agent from the commander of this fortress is at all times entitled to."

Foreign affairs were treated at length and in amazing detail in the *Chronicle*, but, as I have already remarked, it is much more difficult to get any specific news of the doings of the inhabitants of the garrison. One has to proceed by inference rather than with any definite information. However, the advertisements and notices, and not least the charmingly pompous fashion in which they are phrased, are of considerable aid.

During the two months of October and November the first of the Garrison Balls opened the new season. These balls, we are informed, are under the patronage of Lady Woodford, who was the wife of the Governor. Similarly, the theatre season begins at this time. "By the particular desire of H.E. The Governor there was again performed at the Theatre Royal Shakespeare's 'Henry IV, Part I,' after which the laughable farce of 'Love a la Militaire'"; whilst we read that at the Principal Theatre "a Spanish company will perform . . . a new comedy in three acts, entitled 'Avelino, the Great Bandit of Venice,' to be followed by Boleras by four dancers; after which the laughable farce of 'The Hobgoblins of Gibraltar,' the whole to conclude with a Spanish dance by nine dancers." Such were the tastes of the ladies and gentlemen of social Gibraltar, for such performances were of frequent occurrence, and it is easy to conjure up a picture of the younger gentlemen of the 33rd and their fellows having high jinks in the theatre.

When the 33rd arrived in Gibraltar the new Governor had been installed less than a month. Like many of the 33rd he was a veteran of Waterloo. Maj.-Gen. Sir Alexander Woodford, K.C.B., was an old campaigner of forty-two years' service, who had first seen active service in 1799 with the 9th Regiment in North Holland, where he was severely wounded. At Waterloo he had commanded the second battalion of the 2nd, or Coldstream, Regiment of Foot Guards. There must have been not a few Peninsular and Waterloo veterans in Gibraltar in 1836 since the 52nd Light Infantry and the 33rd had served in the three days' campaign of 1815 and the other regiments of the garrison, the 60th Rifles and the 81st and 82nd Regiments, had all served in the Peninsula. Col. Knight of the 33rd had led the Regiment out of action at Waterloo as a Captain.

Such are a few of the impressions gained by a perusal of the files of the *Gibraltar Chronicle*. These fleeting glimpses of the men and the events of the period give but the most trifling idea of the age and of the spirit which animated it. They do, however, set a background, however meagre, of time and space, which show it to be vastly different from our own. It is hoped on a future occasion to give an account of military life and activity in the garrison at this period with special reference to the 33rd Regiment itself.

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

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

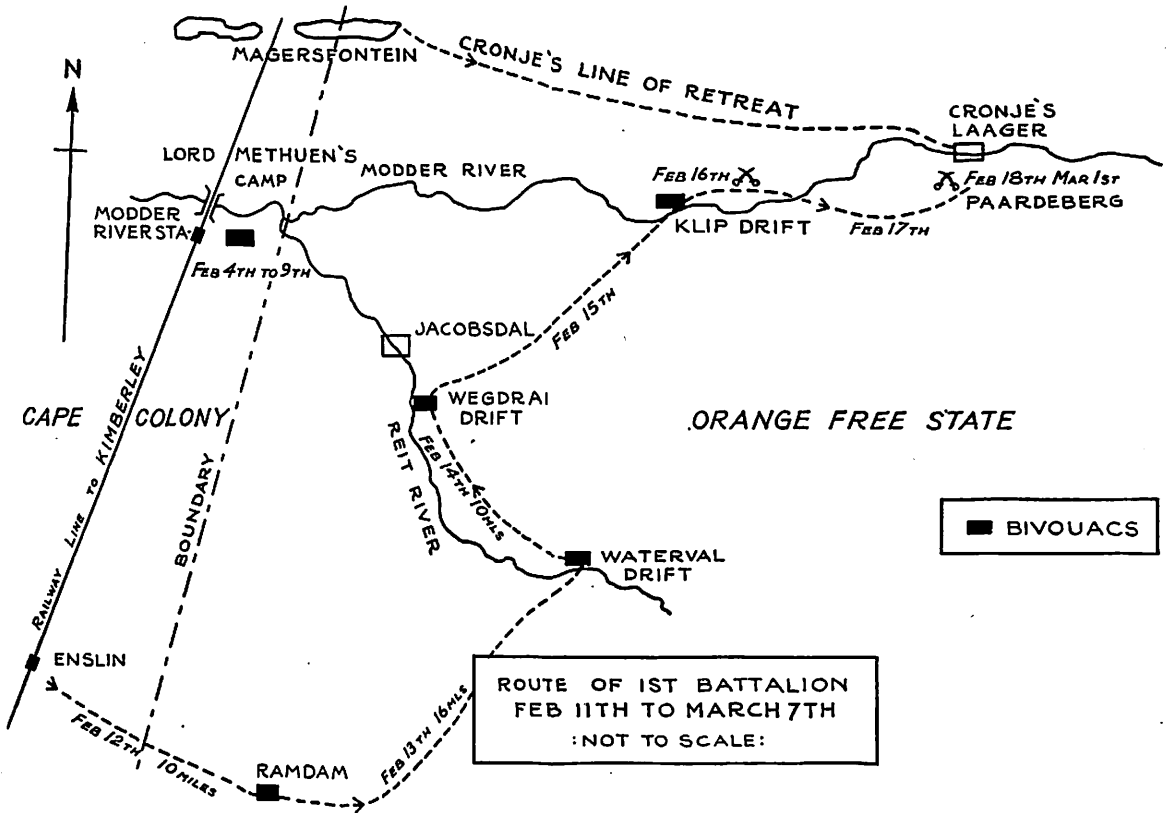
4TH INSTALMENT

On Monday, February 12, the great turning movement began, when Lord Roberts, cutting free from the railway, moved his whole force out to the east of it (see sketch map). We were roused at 2.30 a.m. and had coffee and biscuits. Eight biscuits and an emergency ration, but no bully beef, were issued to each man. There was a lot of rubbish to be burnt, and great bonfires were made, at which the men warmed themselves. It was still quite dark when we marched off in column at 4.15 a.m. When daylight came we deployed and extended to 5 yards interval per man. With us were two 4.7 naval guns mounted on large iron wheels with bullock teams pulling them, and out in front of us were some Mounted Infantry scouts. Although we only covered some 10 miles, the sandy soil and clouds of dust, a burning sun and our heavy equipment made the march a very exhausting one. The country was perfectly flat, no trees and only low scrub until we reached a farm with a dam (pond) and a few trees lying in a depression. This was called Ram Dam, and here we halted and unloaded the transport wagons with our kit. The R.E. had opened up a well near the farm, and regimental water carts were sent down

to it to draw drinking water, as the dam was not fit for drinking from. When an hour later our water cart returned it was found to be nearly empty. The escort sent with it had neglected their duty and men all along the route had been filling their bottles from it. It was another hour before a fresh supply reached our men, and we officers would have had to wait even longer had not a naval officer, Capt. Colquhoun, in command of the naval guns, sent us a small barrelful. We were on hard tack now; rations being bully beef, hard biscuits and jam.

After lunch Taylor and I went down to the dam for a bathe, but it was very shallow and too muddy, and we could only cool ourselves by splashing water over our bodies, and then had to scrape the mud off our legs and feet. We heard that Lord Roberts had arrived and taken up his quarters in the farm. A huge convoy of bullock wagons arrived during the afternoon; this, we were to hear later was captured by De Wet, with disastrous results for us, as will be seen later.

The 15th Brigade had been here the previous day and had gone on to Reit River. French's Cavalry were also on ahead and had been engaged



with the Boers; we had heard the faint sound of their guns.

Next day, Tuesday, February 13, we moved off at 4.30 a.m., the Battalion acting as advance guard to the Brigade. "B" and "C" Companies formed the point, and marched in column of half-companies with 20 yards interval between the men, most tiring trying to keep in line. Lord Roberts, driving in a covered Cape cart so that we did not see him, drove past with some of his Staff riding, and some Indian orderlies in brightly coloured turbans. After about 10 miles we came to some kopjes where French's Cavalry had been engaged the previous day, the Carabineers losing one man. After a halt and rest there, we went on a few miles further till we came to Waterval Drift on the Reit River, which we crossed, and camped about a mile beyond. There was quite a large force here, both the 6th and 7th Divisions and some of the Cavalry. A number of our officers had felt the effects of this day's march and Col. Rivett-Carnac, Major Thorold, De Gex, Townsend and Siordet were all feeling ill. I myself felt particularly fit. I had found sucking meat lozenges occasionally had kept my mouth moist as well as being nourishing. We had only the biscuits we carried in our haversacks as our transport had not arrived. The lack of shade to rest under after a gruelling march of this sort was particularly trying and there were outpost duty for some and fatigues for others to do. I was detailed at 5 p.m. to take a party to improve the drift so that the transport

could cross the river. I had great difficulty in finding our wagons in the mass of transport waiting to come across, but eventually found them and Trafford, our transport officer, who gave me a cup of cocoa. Siordet, who was very sick, was lying under a wagon sheltered from the sun. Having collected shovels we worked for two hours making the slope of the river banks easier for the transport, and then had a job to find our lines again. Supper at the Mess consisted of very tough mutton; some of our men had found some sheep which they had slaughtered with their bayonets. We had no blankets to sleep in that night since our transport did not get across the drift, but although it was bitterly cold in our thin khaki drill I was too tired to be kept awake.

Next morning, Wednesday, February 14, we were roused at 1.30 a.m. and marched off in pitch darkness. We were the last battalion in the brigade and acted as rearguard. That march was a nightmare, stumbling over anthills and rocks, and half asleep most of the time. It was also very cold, and we were not sorry to see the sun rise. Our route lay over undulating country with a range of kopjes running nearly parallel to us on our left. After some 10 miles we came to another reach of the Reit River at Wegdrei Drift. Here we halted, and as our transport had caught us up we were able to get proper rations, a tin of Maconochie containing beef, vegetables and gravy all mixed up, which, after hard tack and last night's mutton, tasted very good. The men were allowed to bathe, and while

I was in the river with my half company the alarm sounded and we had to scramble out and get into our clothes without drying. We found the Brigade parading, and we stood to arms for some time and then dispersed. Just as we were going to have tea at 4 p.m. a heavy thunderstorm came on and the alarm sounded again, and we were ordered to march out of camp. "A", "C" and "E" Companies advanced in extended order as a firing line, and "B", "D" and "F" followed as supports. The firing line disappeared over a ridge, and a good deal of firing went on, but as we were halted behind the ridge, we saw nothing of the action; a few casualties trickled back, none of them ours, however. We heard later that some M.I. skirmishing near Jacobsdal, about two miles beyond where we halted, had been fired on by a party of some 200 Boers, and our leading Companies went to their support and enabled them to retire.

The rest of our Brigade moved off that evening, we being given a rest until 1 a.m. next day (February 15) did not march off until 3 a.m., having slept through some quite heavy rain. The delay was caused by the transport having to go ahead of us. It was a very tiring march through soft sand in the

dark, and with frequent halts, during which I fell asleep and had to be roused each time we moved off again. I was rather done in the last part of the march and Acworth gave me a ride on his machine gun. At about noon we reached the Modder River, which we crossed and bivouacked on the further side. There was a good deal of artillery fire on some distant kopjes, and we heard that General French's Cavalry had got through after a cavalry charge, and would probably reach Kimberley next day. That afternoon I accompanied Col. Lloyd, Major Le Marchant and Tyndall to the river for a bathe. The banks of the river were very muddy, and we sat on a branch of a tree overhanging the water to wash the mud off our feet before putting socks on. I caused some amusement when, while climbing back along the branch to the bank I slipped and fell in getting my socks well plastered with mud. We were comfortable in this halting place as there were trees to shelter under from the blazing sun, and our transport having come up we had blankets to sleep in. There was some excitement that evening as there were rumours that we should be in action next day.

## THE DEPOT LIBRARIES

By LT.-COL. D. J. STEWART

The Depot Libraries, founded on generous gifts of books from Gen. Belfield, Col. Cholmley and Col. Gibbs, have received valuable accessions during the past four years.

In 1949, Major E. L. Loudon, a keen student of Wellington's campaigns, who died that year, bequeathed thirty books on the subject to the Regiment. These included Glieg's *Subaltern Waterloo*, and Wellington, Kincaid's *Adventures in the Rifle Brigade*, and the later Maxwell's *Life of Wellington*.

The Loudon gift was followed in 1952 by the presentation made by the late Col. Sydney Smith of nearly eighty volumes, including complete sets of Fortescue's *History of the British Army* and Gurwood's *The Duke of Wellington's Dispatches*. Amongst the other books were Fergusson's *The Wild Green Earth* and Montgomery's *Normandy to the Baltic* and a set of five volumes of Corbett's *Naval Operations of the Great War, 1914-18*.

In 1953 has come the vast collection of books bequeathed by the late Capt. R. M. Hill. These books, totalling in all over a thousand volumes, cover a wide range of subjects, and their disposal, for easy reference, has not been easy within the limited space available in the Depot.

In the Hill collection, novels and travel books preponderated, comprising about three hundred, while another 140 dealt with the sea, shipping and the Navy. These have all been placed in the Men's Library, together with detective, wild west and other adventure books. Upwards of sixty books

dealing with the British Isles, fifty or more boys' books, and about 120 books on poetry and literature are with them.

The collection included a proportion of volumes of the Official Histories of the First War, and the Official Histories of campaigns on the N.W. Frontier of India from 1920 to 1935 and 1936 to 1937. All these have been placed in the Administrative Office, together with the bulk of the Reference Library. Here, too, are books from the Hill collection dealing with medal collecting, the Victoria Cross, the organisation and development of the British Army, and military heraldry.

The Mess Library, which already contained the Loudon and Smith collections, has been filled with more of the Hill books. One set of shelves holds books dealing consecutively with campaigns and wars arranged in groups covering the period up to 1914, the 1914-18 War and the years between the wars, and the 1939-45 War. The third section contains several unit histories of the 1939-45 War, such as the Dorset's *Straight on for Tokio*.

Another set of shelves is filled with all the biographies of the Hill collection, comprising about 200 books. The subjects are all military, and include Duff Cooper's *Haig*, Harrington's *Plumer*, Carton de Wiart's *Happy Odyssey* and many others.

Possibly the most remarkable group of all is that of the unit and formation histories. These are divided into sub-groups for Cavalry, Armoured Corps, Royal Artillery and Royal Engineers, the Foot Guards, Infantry by Brigades, and the

Services. Most of the histories were published after the 1914-18 War and carry the story on up to the thirties, but there are a few Regimental histories, not, unfortunately, including either that of the 33rd or the 76th, which were published in a series entitled *Historical Records of the British Army* in 1838 by the War Office. These are all housed at present in the Keep, until a more suitable home can be found for them. With them are incomplete sets of bound volumes of various Regimental Journals, and many which have not been bound. This group included a complete set of **THE IRON DUKE**, which has been placed in the Museum for reference, a set of the *R.U.S.I. Journal* from 1929 to 1949, and a set of the *Journal of the Society for Army Historical Research*, Volumes 1-15. The last two are in the Mess Library, where they will be kept up.

Finally, as yet only superficially sorted, are many old volumes published in the last years of the nineteenth century, dealing with the Army and Navy. They do not pretend to be official and they were intended to have a popular appeal, but they offer an attractive field in which to browse.

The most recent addition to the Depot Libraries is that made by Brigadier Gordon Flemming, who has given a collection of more than fifty military books, including W. H. Maxwell's *Life of Wellington* published in 1845. These books also are in the Mess Library.

## O.C.A. NEWS

### 4th BATTALION O.C.A.

We held our Annual Meeting and Supper on Saturday, April 10. H. Robinson, Chairman, presided. After giving them a hearty welcome and wishing them a very enjoyable evening, he called on Capt. N. J. Farrar, M.C., the Secretary, to read the minutes of the last Annual Meeting. He congratulated Col. Sir W. C. Fenton, M.C., on his knighthood and Major A. Simpson on the award of the M.S.M.

Capt. Farrar said the fact of grants to members amounting to £86 were less than last year was due in part to conditions of good trade and also because our membership grew less each year. During the year the Chairman had gone to the Parish Church once a month and turned a page of the Book of Remembrance. He thanked the members of the Committee for their loyalty.

The Treasurer then gave his report and said funds were being reduced and next year one might have to ask for subscriptions to augment the funds. Grants of £86 12s. 2d. had been made, compared to £128 18s. 6d. the previous year. There was an excess of expenditure over income of £91 19s. 11d. Funds to-day amounted to £245 17s. 7d.

Officers elected were: Chairman, John Parkinson; Vice-Chairman, H. Haigh, D.C.M., M.M. Col. Sir A. L. Mowat, Bart., D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., T.D., and Capt. N. J. Farrar, M.C., were re-elected Joint Secretaries, and the various Committees were



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re-elected *en bloc*. Auditor, Mr. J. B. Ayrton.

After the meeting the Annual Supper was held and John Parkinson took the chair. The guest of the evening was Lt.-Col. J. F. Crossley, M.B.E., T.D., and other guests included Major Davis, the Depot; Capt. D. J. Coates, R.A., Adjutant, 382 Field Regiment; and Mr. S. E. Code, M.B.E., Regimental O.A.C.

The Chairman proposed the Loyal toast and the toast of the Regiment, to which Lt.-Col. Crossley replied.

There were 124 members sat down to supper; not a bad record for the 35th annual meeting.

### 6TH BATTALION OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION CORRECTION

At a committee meeting held in Skipton on May 27 it was decided that the next annual meeting followed by the reunion dinner will take place at the Wellington Hotel, Keighley, on Saturday, October 9, 1954. Annual general meeting 6.30 p.m., dinner 7.30 p.m.

Copy for the October 1954 issue should reach the Editor by September 1, 1954