

No.96 April 1955



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

Vol. XXXI

APRIL 1955

No. 96

BUSINESS NOTES

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TEMPLE EWELL,
DOVER.

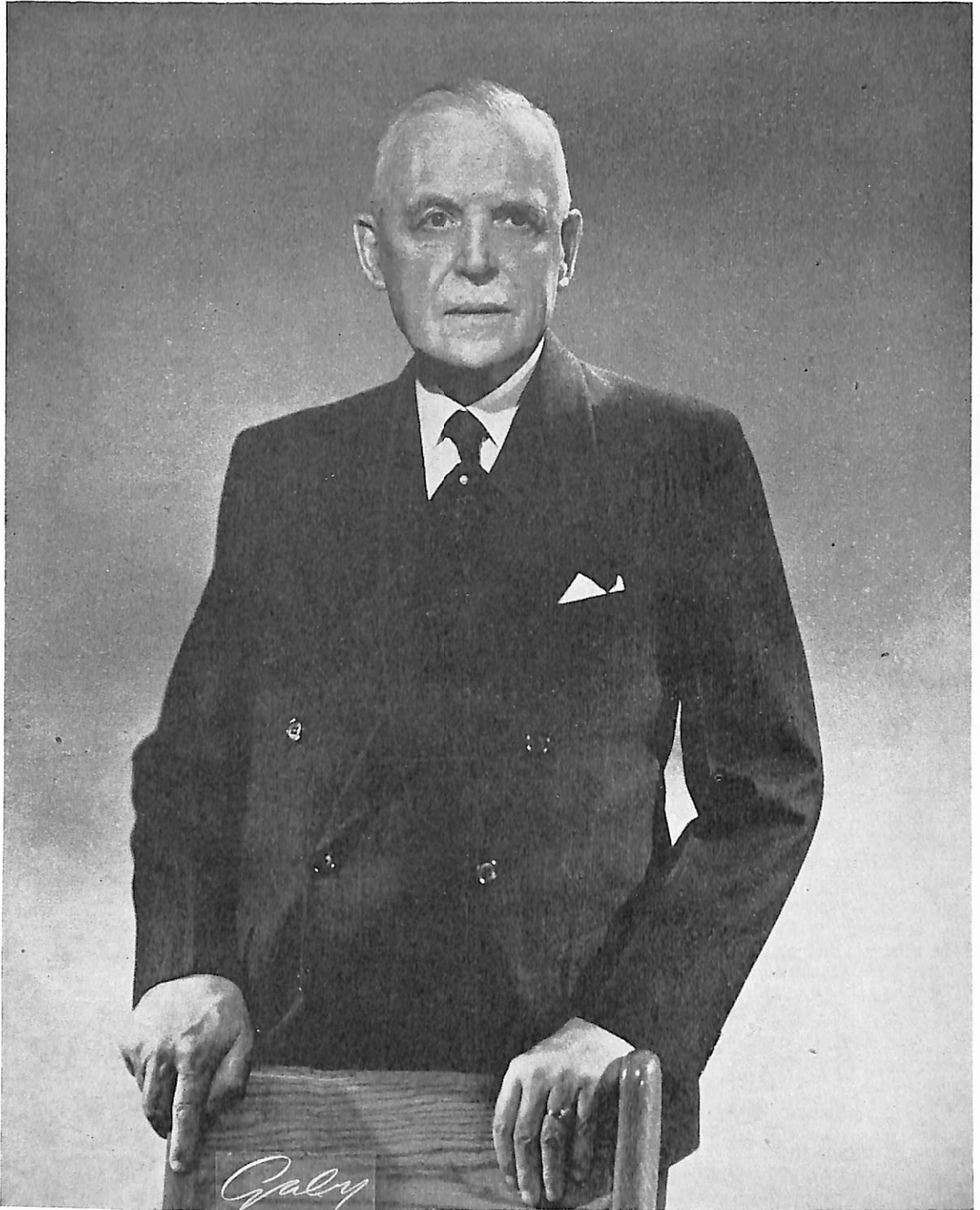
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Rt. Hon. LOUIS S. ST. LAURENT, C.P., C.R., LL.D., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
Honorary Colonel, Les Voltigeurs de Quebec

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THE REGIMENT

Colonel of the Regiment :

GEN. SIR PHILIP CHRISTISON, BT., G.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C.

Commanding Officers :

<i>1st Battalion, Moorish Castle, Gibraltar</i>	Lt.-Col. R. de la H. Moran, O.B.E.
<i>Regimental H.Q. and Depot, Wellesley Barracks, Halifax</i>	Major A. C. S. Savory
<i>7th Battalion (T.A.), Wellesley House, Longwood, near Huddersfield</i>	Hon. Col. : Col. G. B. Howcroft, M.C., T.D., J.P. Comd. Offr. : Lt.-Col. T. Haighton, T.D.

AFFILIATED ROYAL ARTILLERY REGIMENTS OF THE TERRITORIAL ARMY

<i>382 Medium Regiment, R.A. (D.W.R.), The Drill Hall, Prescott Street, Halifax</i>	Hon. Col. : Col. G. H. Akroyd, T.D. Comd. Offr. : Lt.-Col. J. F. Crossley, M.B.E., T.D., R.A.
<i>578 (5th D.W.R.) H.A.A. Regiment, R.A., The Drill Hall, St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield</i>	Hon. Col. : Col. K. Sykes, O.B.E., M.C., T.D., J.P. Comd. Offr. : Lt.-Col. A. W. R. Brook, T.D., R.A.
<i>673 L.A.A. Regiment, R.A. (D.W.R.), The Drill Hall, Arden Road, Halifax</i>	Comd. Offr. : Lt.-Col. D. Scott, T.D., R.A.

ALLIED REGIMENT OF THE CANADIAN ARMY

<i>Le Regiment des Voltigeurs de Quebec, Manège Militaire, Grand-Allee, Quebec</i>	Hon. Col. : The Right Honourable Louis-S. St. Laurent, M.P., C.P., C.R., LL.D. Comd. Offr. : Lt.-Col. R. Caron, E.D.
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AFFILIATED UNITS OF THE ARMY CADET FORCE

<i>382 Cadet Medium Regiment, R.A. (D.W.R.), The Hutments, Hunger Hill, Halifax</i>	Major W. S. Jamieson
<i>2nd Cadet Battalion (D.W.R.), The Drill Hall, St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield</i>	Major F. W. Fielding, M.C.
<i>673 Cadet L.A.A. Regiment, R.A. (D.W.R.), The Drill Hall, Keighley</i>	Major A. Dewhirst
<i>4th Cadet Battalion (D.W.R.), The Drill Hall, Victoria Road, Guiseley</i>	Major T. Dewhirst
<i>A.C.F. Contingent, Heckmondwike Grammar School</i> ...	Capt. A. M. Hey

AFFILIATED UNITS OF THE COMBINED CADETS FORCE

<i>Leeds Grammar School C.C.F. Contingent</i>	Lt.-Col. R. W. Whitmore, T.D.
<i>Giggleswick School C.C.F. Contingent</i>	Capt. S. Wardle
<i>Rishworth School C.C.F. Contingent</i>	Capt. G. L. Green

AFFILIATED UNITS OF THE HOME GUARD

HUDDERSFIELD SECTOR: Col. G. B. Faulder, D.S.O.

<i>23 West Riding Home Guard Battalion, Halifax</i> ...	Lt.-Col. N. T. Bentley, T.D.
<i>25 West Riding Home Guard Battalion, Huddersfield</i> ...	Lt.-Col. J. B. Cockhill, D.S.O., M.C.
<i>35 West Riding Home Guard Battalion, Kirkburton</i> ...	Lt.-Col. G. Taylor, D.S.O., T.D.

SKIPTON SECTOR: Col. H. C. Hastings-Clay

<i>27 West Riding Home Guard Battalion, Bingley</i> ...	Lt.-Col. H. Dixon
<i>29 West Riding Home Guard Battalion, Ilkley</i> ...	Lt.-Col. R. C. Laurence, O.B.E., T.D.
<i>31 West Riding Home Guard Battalion, Skipton</i> ...	Lt.-Col. J. M. Summers

EDITORIAL

It will come as a shock to most of our readers to learn that 578 H.A.A. Regiment (5th D.W.R.) has fallen a victim to the reorganisation of the Air Defence of Great Britain and that it will shortly join the 2nd Battalion in "suspended animation." The march of progress has recently led to the disappearance of many famous units, but none has suffered more from the caprices of the "planners" than the old "5th." Yet none has maintained a higher *esprit de corps* and been more proud and jealous of its traditions. The records of the Officers' Dinner Club, extracts from which appear in these columns, bear witness to the affection and loyalty which this regiment has inspired in all its members, among whom are numbered men of great distinction in all walks of life. Particularly bitter must be the feelings of those who have worked to bring it up to fighting pitch in its latest role and now see their labours go for nothing. To them and all other members of the Regiment we offer our condolences.

* : * *

Our frontispiece is a photograph of M. Louis S. St. Laurent, the Honorary Colonel of Les Voltigeurs de Quebec, our allied Regiment of the Canadian Army. M. St. Laurent was in England in February for the Commonwealth Conference and arrangements were made whereby Colonel F. R. St. P. Bunbury called on M. St. Laurent on behalf of the Colonel of the Regiment and requested him to convey to all ranks of Les Voltigeurs the best wishes of all ranks of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

Copies of the letters exchanged between the Colonel of the Regiment and M. St. Laurent are reproduced below.

DEAR PRIME MINISTER,

In my capacity of Colonel of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, I would like to offer you a sincere welcome to this country on behalf of all ranks of my Regiment on this, the first occasion you have visited it since you assumed the Honorary Colonelcy of our Allied Canadian Regiment.

I hasten to assure you that we are all fully conscious of the honour of being allied to such an old and distinguished corps as Les Voltigeurs de Quebec, and are determined to make this alliance a live and happy one.

I have entrusted this letter to Colonel F. R. St. P. Bunbury, D.S.O., a distinguished officer of my Regiment who had the honour to command our 1st Battalion throughout the Korean campaign, in which we are proud to say it gained further fame.

It will not, I trust, be an imposition to you when I ask you to convey to Les Voltigeurs, on your return to your great country, our very best wishes for their success and prosperity.

Yours sincerely,
A. F. P. CHRISTISON.

The following reply was received from M. Louis S. St. Laurent.

MY DEAR SIR PHILIP,

It was most kind of you to send me greetings on behalf of all ranks of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

As Honorary Colonel of Les Voltigeurs de Quebec, I shall be happy indeed to convey your good wishes to the Regiment and your desire to keep alive the alliance between you, and, on their behalf, I would reciprocate the warm sentiments expressed in your letter.

Yours sincerely,
LOUIS S. ST. LAURENT.

* * *

Most serving and retired officers will now have heard of the Army Council decision to reauthorise the wearing of Mess Dress by Regular Officers. The decision was a most welcome one, as not only does it again put the Army on an equal footing with the other two Services, but it reintroduces some much needed colour into the otherwise rather drab orders of dress now in existence. An appeal has been addressed to all retired officers to send their Mess jackets to the Depot in order that action may be taken to equip those officers who do not possess Mess dress. At the time of writing (February), jackets have been received or promised from the undermentioned retired officers.

Major-General K. G. Exham.

Brigadiers E. N. F. Hitchens and C. W. Grimley.

Lieutenant-Colonels R. G. Collins, W. A. Woods and M. V. le P. Trench.

Major F. H. V. Wellesley

* * *

The revised Regimental Tie is now available, price 16s. The cheaper variety, which will cost about 11s., is not yet available, but should be so shortly.

* * *

The Annual Dinner of the Officers' Dinner Club and the Regimental Tea will be held at the Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge, London, S.W.1, on Tuesday, May 31, 1955.

* * *

Notes for the July number of THE IRON DUKE should be in the Editor's hands by June 1.

* * *

The following list of forthcoming events is taken from the pages of "Cahiers des Voltigeurs," the journal of our allied regiment in Canada. Not only is it of great interest as showing how they do these things on the other side of the Atlantic, but it may also inspire some of our P.M.C.'s and Branch Secretaries with bright ideas for future entertainments. For those readers whose French is a bit rusty, a translation is added, but not guaranteed to be 100 per cent. accurate.

CALENDRIER SOCIAL

SOCIAL CALENDAR

- 1954
- 10 octobre — Souper au "spaghetti," avec "Chianti" au Mess des sergents.
- 30 octobre — "Mess dinner" au Manège Militaire en l'honneur du lieutenant-colonel J.-M. Corbett, E.D., notre 22e commandant.
- 31 octobre — Parade d'église avec célébration de sainte messe, au Manège, à 10 heures, pour tout le bataillon. Inspection par le colonel Louis-S. St.-Laurent, premier ministre du Canada et notre colonel honoraire, qui remettra les certificats de succès à nos militaires. Le tout sera suivi de réceptions pour tout le régiment.
- 31 octobre — Les sergents recevront leurs épouses et amies à un "Barb-Q."
- 4 novembre — Banquet aux huitres pour les membres de l'Amicale.
- 20 novembre — Fête aux huitres au Mess des sergents, épouses et amies invitées.
- 27 novembre — Danse au Manège Militaire pour tous les membres de l'Amicale des Voltigeurs.
- 4 décembre — "Stag Party" au Mess des sergents — "Closing Lobster."
- 19 décembre — Fête des enfants de nos sergents à l'occasion de Noël.
- 20 décembre — Raffle de dindes au profit des anciens Voltigeurs secourus.
- 22 décembre — Fête pour tous les militaires du régiment; distribution de cadeaux, divertissements variés, souper froid.
- 25 décembre — A minuit, messe régimentaire pour tout le bataillon et ses invités.
- 26 décembre — Dépouillement de l'arbre de Noël au Mess des officiers, pour les enfants.
- 1955
- 6 janvier '55 — Grande réception annuelle et traditionnelle des "Rois" au Mess des officiers des Voltigeurs de Québec.

- 1954
- 10 October — Spaghetti Supper with Chianti in the Sergeants' Mess.
- 30 October — Guest Night at Regimental H.Q., in honour of Lieutenant-Colonel J. M. Corbett, E.D., our 22nd Commanding Officer.
- 31 October — Battalion Church Parade, with celebration of the Mass at H.Q., at 10 a.m. Inspection by Colonel Louis S. St. Laurent, Prime Minister of Canada and our Honorary Colonel, who will present certificates of merit to members of the regiment. The Parade will be followed by a Regimental Reception.
- 31 October — The sergeants will entertain their wives and lady friends at a Barbecue.
- 4 November — Oyster feast for members of the Regimental Association.
- 20 November — Oyster feast in the Sergeants' Mess for their wives and lady guests.
- 27 November — Dance at H.Q. for members of the Regimental Association.
- 4 December — "Stag Party" in the Sergeants' Mess. "Closing Lobster."
- 19 December — Sergeants' Mess Christmas Children's Party.
- 20 December — Turkey raffle on behalf of Old Comrades.
- 22 December — All Ranks Party. Distribution of gifts, various amusements, cold supper.
- 25 December — Midnight Mass for the Battalion and guests.
- 26 December — Children's Party in the Officers' Mess, with distribution of Christmas tree presents.
- 1955
- 6 January '55 — Traditional yearly reception of "The Three Kings from the East," in the Officers' Mess.

The Northern Command Tattoo will take place on Knavesmire, York, July 22 to August 1. There will be 5,000 seats under cover at prices ranging from 10s. to £2. There will be uncovered seats at 5s. and 7s 6d., and standing room at 2s. The Box Office will open early in March at No. 1 Museum Street, York, and in addition agents will operate in the area, including Lewis's of Leeds and many bus and coach companies.

* * *

All officers and ex-officers who have at any time served with the Royal West African Frontier Force are reminded of the existence of the R.W.A.F.F. Dinner Club. The type of commission held by an officer or ex-officer is immaterial, the sole requirement of membership being service with West African troops in any part of the world. Further particulars may be obtained from the Hon. Sec., R.W.A.F.F. Dinner Club, Bisterne, Normandy, nr. Guildford, Surrey.

RETIRED OFFICERS' FUND ACCOUNT
FOR 1954

INCOME		£	s.	d.
Balance Credit brought forward	.. .. .	46	15	5
Subscriptions and Donations	.. .. .	26	12	6
Dividend, 3½% Defence Bonds	.. .. .	3	14	9
		<u>£77 2 8</u>		
EXPENDITURE		£	s.	d.
O.C. Depot	.. .. .	15	0	0
Royal School, Bath	.. .. .	10	0	0
King Edward VII Hospital for Officers	.. .. .	5	0	0
Officers' Families	.. .. .	3	3	0
		<u>33 3 0</u>		
Balance Credit	.. .. .	43	19	8
		<u>£77 2 8</u>		

Ist BATTALION

SUB-EDITORIAL

Another year has ended, and as these notes go to press we are well launched into 1955, but the Battalion's first year in Gibraltar must not go into the limbo of the past without a short recapitulation of the more noteworthy events in that year.

The year 1954 was the 250th anniversary of the capture of the Rock, and will well be memorable for the visit of Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh in May. The capture of Gibraltar was commemorated by the ceremony of Trooping the Colour which was performed by the Battalion in July, and received very favourable comments, and later in the year we were honoured by a visit of Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal.

In achievement, 1954 was been a successful year, to say the least. The lack of success in the Command Tug-of-War Competition early in the year was compensated for by a thrilling win in the Command Athletic Meeting, and after that we never looked back. The cricket season ended up with the Battalion winning both the Major Units League and the Knock-Out Competition. Our two teams in the "Safe and Skilled Driving Competition" came in first and second, and the assiduous life-savers beat the record of awards set up by our predecessors by almost a hundred. Rugger, alas, has scarcely been played at all, but the Hockey Team has already emerged triumphant in the Major Units League, and the Boxing Team reaped the reward of all its hard work in winning the Command Novices and Inter-Unit Championships. Second-Lieutenant Barkshire has achieved great success by winning the Murray Cup for road-running, and we are proud to record the title of "Sportsman of the Year" in Gibraltar, which has been awarded to Major Grieve.

The Battalion more or less swept the board in the Command Rifle Meeting in the autumn, and our attention is now turned to our own Rifle Meeting which is just upon us, and to Bisley in the summer.

There are two events which can only be described as social activities, but are indicative of the Regiment's prestige in Gibraltar, and are worthy of mention in this review. The first was the invitation to senior officers to become honorary members of the Mediterranean Racing Club, which has been mentioned before. And the second was a challenge by the Royal Gibraltar Yacht Club to officers over 30 to a football match on Boxing Day. The challenge was suitably answered by your erstwhile scribe, and it is hoped to include a photograph showing the dress of the teams.

After the match, whose only serious moment was when one of our players picked the ball up, a print of the 33rd in Review Order (by J. Harris, after H. Martins, published 1855) was presented to the club by the Commanding Officer, and was much appreciated. While on the subject of the Yacht Club, it is regrettable that no spectacular sailing

successes can be recorded (Major Le Messurier being our sole prize winner), but now that the "old man's beard" has been carefully removed from the bottom of Woodpecker, we are hoping for the best.

Christmas and the Annual Administrative Inspection need little elaboration here, save perhaps a note of appreciation from the married officers and their wives for the excellent bachelors' party just after Christmas. The inspection was followed almost immediately by the visit of the Home Fleet, and many friendships were renewed. We were extremely sorry to see its departure—in fact H.M.S. *Tyne*, the Flagship, has not yet gone, owing to gear-box trouble (didn't know ships *had* gear-boxes!)—but life is undeniably a little hectic now.

On February 18 there was a Combined Retreat Beating by the massed Bands and Drums of the Battalion and The Royal Marines. It should have taken place on one of the football grounds, but, owing to the weather, had to be on Casemates Square, and the numbers taking part were perforce reduced. However, in spite of rain up to the official time of starting, the ceremony went off very well, and one of the most intriguing parts was when the Drums marched off in quick time and left the Bands marching in slow time.

Later that evening the Sergeants' Mess held their Paadeburg Ball. It was extremely well run, and much enjoyed by all who attended.

OFFICERS' MESS

The closing of one year and the start of another is always a hectic time for anyone, and socially the Mess was no exception.

On Christmas Day, following tradition, the Mess closed after breakfast until the following morning and the married officers were, as usual, good enough to entertain the lonely bachelors of the Battalion to a variety of excellent Christmas dinners in their homes. In return, on December 29, the bachelors gave the married officers and their wives a first-class dinner and evening's entertainment in the Mess. After dinner we played a very successful game of roulette in the billiard-room until the "bank" was suitably in credit, when we stopped, much to the chagrin of certain officers who found this procedure, to say the least, a little unfair! However, the gay dancing to the Regimental Dance Band which followed afterwards smoothed any ruffled waters!

January, perhaps naturally enough, was a quiet month, and this state of affairs continued until the beginning of February when the Home Fleet arrived at Gibraltar on their winter cruise suddenly to disturb the even tenor of our existence.

For liaison purposes the Battalion was affiliated, during their stay, to the Third and Sixth Destroyer Squadrons, which resulted in a round of official, but very pleasant, calls on Her Majesty's ships *Saintes*, *Battleaxe*, *St. Kitts*, *Scorpion* and *Barfleur*. In return a cocktail party was held in the Mess at

noon on February 12, when we entertained some 40 officers of Her Majesty's Navy with a certain amount of light refreshment.

The previous evening, February 11, we had entertained the Commander-in-Chief Home Fleet, Admiral Sir Michael M. Denny, G.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., and other Senior Officers of the Feet to dinner. A very successful evening. We shall long remember the one-man sketches by Lieutenant-Colonel R. F. V. Griffiths, O.B.E., R.M., aided by a dining-room chair, which held us all entranced after dinner.

Charlie Grieve is to be congratulated on the unique honour of being acclaimed by the Gibraltar Sports Board—"Sportsman of the Year."

Simon Berry and Edward Dasent have both returned from home after successful courses at the School of Signals and the Mortar Course at Hythe respectively. Edward Dasent is now engaged and reformed—or so he says. New arrivals to the Mess have been 2 Lts. F. M. Rawson, C. Jenkins, R. H. Carter and G. C. Cooper, all from Eaton Hall. We hope their stay will be a happy one.

Congratulations to David Cowell on his engagement to "Bubbles" Greenwood. We understand that arrangements are well in hand for a full-scale military wedding here in June!

We have to say farewell to Derek Booth, who has gone home to join The Royal Army Ordnance Corps as a Regular Officer. We wish him every success for the future in his new venture. Also all good wishes to Richard Aykroyd who has left us for the 7th Battalion; his memory is kept fresh by the continued presence among us of his last borrowed car!

SERGEANTS' MESS

We are sure readers will not be surprised to read that we celebrated Christmas in the usual way, and finished with the usual regrets. The first gathering was the Christmas Draw, which was ably organised and set out by Company Sergeant-Major Jobling. The tickets were drawn from the drums by a small but capable Wolf Cub and a very self-possessed young lady, the son and daughter respectively of Sgt. and Mrs. Arundel and of Sgt. and Mrs. Waite. We feel that most of the members went away satisfied with their rewards. The Draw finished with a successful informal dance. Over the holiday period we held two more informal dances, on-Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. On Boxing Day married and single members sat down together to a Mess Christmas Dinner. The Mess premises do not lend themselves satisfactorily to staging a large meal, but we feel the Messing Committee did their best with the antiquated kitchen and long carry. The officers gathered in the Mess as usual before dispersing to serve the Christmas Dinner to the Companies, and we again saw them after they had beaten us at Soccer on the morning of December 27. We took our revenge at Basketball for the Soccer defeat. Our enthusiasts, led and goaded by Sgt.-Instructor Meadows and Sgt. Garrity, have now twice taken the officers on successfully at this game. On these occasions we are also entertained by witticisms hurled from the

balcony by a large group of "B" Company men. We are thinking of challenging them shortly.

We congratulate C/Sgt. and Mrs. Norman on the birth of a daughter. We regret to have omitted from our last notes the news of the wedding of Sgt. and Mrs. Kirk, to whom we offered our best wishes and a canteen of cutlery. We are glad to welcome back Sgt. Sheehan after an absence of some three years at the Infantry Signal Wing at Hythe. Sgt. Bryan also has joined us, after a four years' stay with the Green Howards, and we congratulate him on his appointment as Drum Major. The latest promotion is that of Sgt. Wass, who is to be congratulated on a very good course result at Bordon. C/Sgt. Hallsworth has departed for Halifax and civil life after some four months in our midst. We wish him success in life and will miss him on dart-board and billiard-table.

Some dozen Mess members have developed a passion for chess, and this ancient and noble pastime is constantly on the go in the Mess when funds sink low. Each contestant will find himself cheered on by quite a throng of supporters who may know something of the game but who frequently do not. Arrangements for the Paardeburg Ball on February 18 are well in hand as these notes are compiled, with C.S.M. Callaby in charge as usual. We look forward to the usual pleasant evening.

A cable arrived in the Mess the other day from the sergeants of 45 Field Battery, R.A., with whom we had such pleasant connections in Korea during hostilities and afterwards. They were passing Gibraltar in the troopship *Empire Fowey*, homeward bound.

Congratulations to C.S.M.s Randall and Clark on the award of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. We hear they had the grace to blush when told of the awards. Now C.S.M. Randall daily proclaims his "18 years of irreproachable conduct" from his usual position behind the chess-board.

A much depleted Home Fleet have again come out for the spring cruise and liaison has been established with the chief petty officers and petty officers of 3rd and 6th Destroyer Squadrons and with the Sergeants' Mess of the Royal Marines, for whose entertainment we are responsible. We had a very convivial evening with the senior hands of H.M.S. *Sparrow*, a frigate on her way home to pay off.

CORPORALS' CLUB

Since the last time I wrote on the happenings in the Club there have been many changes, of which the most important is undoubtedly the opening of the new premises.

For many months we had been trying without success to establish ourselves in a place of sufficient size so as to accommodate all our members in reasonable comfort. The arrangement of having two different premises—neither of which were suitable for the holding of functions of any size, nor impressive enough to our guests—had for too long held up the smooth running of the Club.

How we eventually achieved our ultimate aim is by now old news, but one thing of note is perhaps worth mentioning: once N.A.A.F.I. started upon their plans for the conversion of the "Keys Tavern" they certainly made up for previous lost time . . . with most satisfactory results. We first made use of the new premises on December 18.

Christmas being, as it was, "just round the corner," left us little time in which to accomplish a lot. Plans were made, discussed and finally shelved, for a big "get-together" over the holiday period. Instead it was decided to hold a social evening on New Year's Eve to which it was proposed wives and girl friends of members should be invited.

The atmosphere created by the numerous guests and members' wives ensured that all present enjoyed a pleasant evening on the last day of the old year and, in some cases, the first hours of the new.

We are sorry to say farewell to many of our members, in particular such old faithfuls as Cpls. Ryder and Conti. We wish them all success in their new roles.

In recent weeks the accent has been on indoor games, of which we have at present quite a selection running. Our future "champions"—should we ever get round to inter-Mess competitions—look like being Cpls. Sanderson, Thomas and Innes at billiards, etc., while L/Cpl. Harris is a dark horse.

The eventual winners of the respective competitions will each receive a drinking tankard (most appropriate) as a reward for their efforts.

At the time of writing we have many things in the stage of being planned, such as whist drives, etc., to which wives will be invited as before. The future prospects for the Club look very bright, as looming on the horizon is the annual St. George's Day Ball. In closing, I am happy to relate that the present financial position of the Club is far superior to that of many other Battalion clubs; so much so, that we expect discreet approaches soon for a loan!

"A" COMPANY

Since our last notes we have had another three platoons in for their continuation training. The total passing out was 103, of whom 36 went to "S" Company, 24 to the Signal Platoon and 12 to M.T.

We now have a mere 55 recruits under training; a further 60 are expected in March, and then we are to re-form as a Rifle Company once again. By this time we shall have had no less than 521 recruits through the company.

We have had many changes in our training cadre. We are sorry to lose 2 Lt. Pell, who has gone to be W.T.O., but we are lucky to have got Lt. Campbell-Lammerton in his place; 2 Lt. Smyth has joined us from the 1st East Yorks and is by now a veteran.

C.Q.M.S. Alton has been "legalised," having at long last handed over as Drum-Major. C.Q.M.S. Robins, after being on our strength for many months, has gone to "B" Company.

Cpl. Holland goes on W.O.S.B.; we have to hope that he does not come back, for if he does it will mean he has failed.

Other changes in the Company staff can be seen in the order of battle at the end of the notes.

Our Keys Platoon did very well and were congratulated on their showing. It is no mean feat to get up to the standard of a ceremonial parade such as this in a mere six weeks. They certainly did very well.

As we change over so quickly it is impossible for us to present a coherent picture of our sporting activities. Suffice to say, we play our games and enjoy them.

ORDER OF BATTLE

O.C.:	Captain D. E. Isles.
2 IC:	Lt. M. J. Campbell-Lammerton.
C.S.M.:	C.S.M. J. Clark.
C.Q.M.S.:	C.Q.M.S. R. Alton.
No. 1 Platoon:	2 Lt. Smyth, Sgt. Miles, Cpl. Smith, L/Cpls. Mawe and Pebles
No. 2 Platoon:	Lt. Hind, Sgt. Sheehan, Cpls. Johnson and Holland, L/Cpl. Wright.

"B" COMPANY

When our last notes were written the Company was in a fury of preparation for the administrative inspection. The inspection has come and gone and, apart from a slight ruffling on the surface of the normal routine, has left us practically unscathed. Coming as it did after the Christmas festivities, it kept us busy until the end of January and, since then, we have had the Inter-Platoon Flag competition to worry about.

The climax of the Christmas preparations for most of us was the barrack room decorations, which we ran as a competition on the morning of Christmas Eve. The standard generally was very high, the "old sweats" of No. 6 Platoon winning eventually by a short head. The prize, we might add, was consumed as thirstily by the judges as by those imaginative decorators.

On December 30 we held our Christmas party in Casemates N.A.A.F.I., which went with quite a swing. New Year disappeared quietly into the past, as the Administrative Inspection bore down upon us. Paint was lavished unsparingly, and officers and sergeants were vying with one another to obtain an impression of the paint store key—Cpl. Dodds was referee. We attended rehearsals for the parade in full order of battle, complete with platoon weapons, but on the day itself rain stopped play and we had the parade indoors. The Brigadier was quite impressed.

Immediately after the Inspection we went into serious training for the Platoon Flag competition. This included competitions for barrackrooms, road-running, drill, basketball, hockey, soccer and falling plates. So far we have taken part in the first three with varying degrees of success and failure, to be commented upon elsewhere.

Boxing is a popular sport here on the Rock and in the major units' competition, two of the Company, Rundle and Hartigan, won fine heats against the Gunners. We hope to be able to report in our next issue their further success in the finals which are coming off shortly.

The Home Fleet is in Gibraltar at the present moment for about three weeks. Each Company is entertaining a ship's company for the duration of their stay and it is our good fortune to have under our wing H.M.S. *Saint Kitts*, a battle-class destroyer. So far we have lost at soccer, beaten them at basketball, and intend to have as many more test matches with them as possible in the limited time available.

Pte. Emery and L/Cpl. Allan are to be congratulated on finishing 3rd and 10th respectively in the Gibraltar Athletic Association road race—a very creditable achievement. Also 2 Lt. Faithfull on captaining the 1st XI hockey team and also on one occasion captaining the Combined Services XI. Congratulations also go to Cpl. Stoye, L/Cpls. Parker, Wright, and Bradford on their promotions.

Ptes. Howley, Parker, Gibson, Surphilis, Western and Knight have left us for the U.K. Whilst Sgt. Bailes has taken his ever-cheerful grin to the W.T. staff, Sgt. Pratt has temporarily left us for the Sergeants' Mess. 2 Lt. Reddington is now 2IC of the Company, and we welcome 2 Lts. Rawson and Carter newly arrived from Halifax.

C/Sgt. Webster was called away to Cyprus a month ago, but the posting was cancelled at the last minute. He is now languishing in "D" Company and in his place we welcome C/Sgt. Robins.

About a dozen of the Company took advantage of a day trip on the "Mons Calpe" to Tangier; an interesting trip was enjoyed by all.

The Company Order of Battle is as follows:—

Company Commander	..	Major J. S. Milligan.
C.S.M.	..	C.S.M. Frier.
C.Q.M.S.	..	C/Sgt. Webster.
No. 4 Platoon		
Platoon Commander	..	2 Lt. Rawson.
Platoon Sergeant	..	Sgt. F. Pratt.
Corporals	..	Cpls. Spurr and Busfield.
No. 5 Platoon		
Platoon Commander	..	2 Lts. Faithfull and Carter (2IC).
Platoon Sergeant	..	Sgt. Perrin.
Corporals	..	Cpls. Wood and Wilkinson.
No. 6 Platoon		
Platoon Commander	..	2 Lt. Kelly.
Platoon Sergeant	..	Sgt. Peach, M.M.
Corporals	..	Cpls. Smith, Johnson, Stoye and Meredith.

"C" COMPANY

January is a month which, anywhere north of the Mediterranean, could well be dispensed with. Christmas, much as we enjoyed it, is now but a memory of over-indulgence and unpaid bills. When in addition the last days of January are devoted to celebrating that interesting military survival, the Annual Administrative Inspection, the month is positively blighted. That is not to say that the A.A.I. is a waste of time—far from it! It is good to know that, at any rate once a year, every man has his identity disc stamped, his AB64 Pt. 1 up to date, and that Pte. M——'s socks are clean and

darned; but we cannot be expected to enjoy it. The great thing about it is the electric effect it produces on the Royal Engineers. About three days before the inspection projects for swimming pools are laid aside, senior ladies' drawing-rooms are left half-decorated, and armies of artisans mend, patch and paint places that we have begged them to mend, patch and paint for the last twelve months. Our office, which we mentioned in the last number, is now spacious, light, attractive and painted in blue and white, the Company Colours. We have a garden and two new windows through which to look at it. The flowers, unfortunately, are fighting a losing battle with apes and children; even the cacti are nibbled. The morning of the inspection was signalled by rain even heavier and more penetrating than that of the previous fortnight, and the parade for which all had worked so hard was cancelled. Anyhow, the Deputy Fortress Commander was complimentary and January came to an end.

February is notable for the revival of the Inter-Platoon Flag competition and the arrival of the Home Fleet. This year a personal liaison has been organised between ships and Units. The Company is affiliated to H.M.S. *Saintes* of the Destroyer Flotilla. Apart from various calls, we have played football and hockey against them, just managing to beat them in each case.

The Platoon Flag competition (No. 8 Platoon were the last winners) consists of a barrackroom inspection, drill competition, shooting, seven-a-side soccer, hockey, running and basketball. This time No. 8 Platoon were third in the barrackroom inspection and the road-running, and have just won the drill competition which puts them close behind the Signal Platoon.

Of games, we should mention soccer. In the Minor Units League we are quite well placed. We have lost one, drawn one, and won ten with five more matches to play. Bad weather and the arrival of the Home Fleet, who have the whole available allocation of afternoon grounds, has caused the postponement of several matches and it is not easy for the team to get the practice they need. Hopes are high and cocksureness the only enemy. Smith 72, Harman, Woodhouse and Wild have all been playing for the Battalion, while a promising newcomer, Blench, had the misfortune to break his wrist, which will put him out for the season.

In the Battalion Novices' Boxing Competition we had nine entrants—more than any other Company. Not all could be winners, but all fought well. L/Cpl. Bowering 19 won his weight (light-weight) in the Battalion Novices and the Command Open Championship, while Murphy won the bantam-weight in the Battalion Novices. In the Command Individual we were represented in addition by Bowering 06, Morgan, Sugden and Flather.

In the road-running the Company has not done badly. This is largely due to the example and training of 2 Lt. Barkshire, who, apart from being first in the Platoon Flag Race, won two legs of the Gibraltar Amateur Athletic Association series. He needs to win one more leg to win the Annual Cup. In the Inter-Platoon Flag, No. 9 Platoon were second to the Signals, followed by No. 8 Platoon

while No. 7 Platoon were fifth. The Company has great hopes of the Minor League which starts shortly.

We have said goodbye to 2 Lt. Aykroyd and his procession of owned, chartered or borrowed motor cars. We wish him good luck in the 7th Battalion. In his place we welcome 2 Lt. Jenkins, who takes his place in No. 8 Platoon. Lt. Wood, who has been acting weapon training officer for some time, has been posted to "H.Q." Company. Cpls. Jenness and Hartley have left us for a tour at the Depot, and Cpls. Moss, Duncan, Thompson and our veteran sanitary man "Zero" Brown have left us for the cruel outside world. Good luck to 'em all!

Officers and N.C.O.s are at present distributed as follows:—

Company H.Q.—Major D. S. D. B. Jones-Stamp, C.S.M. Randall, C/Sgt. Lancaster, and L/Cpls. Dewhirst and Smith 96.

No. 7 Platoon.—2 Lt. de Mesquita, Sgt. Taylor, Cpls. Wild, Silcock and Stowell, and L/Cpl. Armitage.

No. 8 Platoon.—2 Lt. Jenkins, Sgt. Kirk, Cpl. Kelly (P.R.I.'s Clerk), and L/Cpls. Tierney, Crow, Smith 72, Harman, Bowering 06 and McGowan.

No. 9 Platoon.—2 Lt. Barkshire, Sgts. Chadwick and Miles (att. "A"), Cpls. Smith 35 (att. "A") and Smith 42, and L/Cpls. Balmforth, Bowering 19, Prior and Turton.

"D" COMPANY

Once again the time has come for your scribe to put on paper the events of the past three months in the Company. At the moment the rains and the Home Fleet have Gibraltar in their grip and, whilst the former prevents us from doing much training, the latter offers scope for social life. The Battalion has been affiliated to the Destroyer Squadron during their stay at Gibraltar—and in turn we have been affiliated to the Destroyer *Barfleur*—which resulted in a round of sporting fixtures and social engagements. This sporting activity paved the way for a combined Ship's-Company Smoker, at which *Barfleur* produced an excellent Jive Band and entertained us all magnificently during the evening.

The Company provided a Guard of Honour, commanded by the Company Commander, Major E. J. P. Emmett, M.C., for the official call of Admiral Sir Michael Denny, G.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., on His Excellency The Governor and were congratulated by Sir Michael for their high standard of turnout and drill. This should put us into trim for February 28, when once again we mount Convent Guard.

The Battalion is now in the throes of the Inter-Platoon Flag Competition and No. 11 Platoon, having come first in the Barrack Room Competition, sixth in the Cross Country, and third in the Drill, at present lie third. No. 10 and No. 12 Platoons being seventh and sixth respectively. This competition has followed very closely after the Annual Administration Inspection. The Company was very busy preparing for this, and men, armed with paint brushes, liberally coated anything static. The

Company Commander's office has taken on a very "Ritzy" look with new carpets and polished floors. From what we could gather, the Brigadier was very pleased. How unfortunate that No. 10 Platoon's clandestine games of cards should be brought to light by a seven of spades! C/Sgt. Nichols, overcome by this, has decided to leave for the 7th Battalion as a Company Sergeant-Major. Congratulations—we shall be very sorry indeed to see him go—he has served us well. C/Sgt. Webster, from "B" Company, takes his place. He is very welcome. Other departures have been 2 Lt. J. G. Raybould, on leave to the Yorkshire nets, where we hope he does well, and Captain D. Booth to the United Kingdom, where he joins the Royal Army Ordnance Corps as a Regular officer. The Company officers attended his baby's Christening and the Company all hope for lasting success in the life of Hilary. We also wish Captain and Mrs. Booth the greatest of happiness for the future.

Christmas was a great success; Pte. Stead, now in "S" Company, sang with great gusto at the Christmas Dinner, prompted by Captain Booth, who ably assisted in serving liquid refreshment. The Company Party brought to light some excellent amateur talent, while the Company Commander sang the Company's Marching Song with his usual vigour. Although it is never satisfactory to be away from home at Christmas, the Company certainly had the next best thing. New Year was seen in with the usual festivities and what the Company did is not quite known, but judging from the aching heads next morning, one can guess!

The Administrative Inspection and Inter-Platoon Flag Competition have upset training, but sport carries on much as usual. Unfortunately the Soccer Team has not done as well as our first few games led us to believe we might do—but we are still trying. Boxing has seen the Company represented in the Battalion Team by Ptes. Glossop, Clarke (96) and Davison (57). The usual route marches have taken place to get the Company fit for the Annual Physical Endurance Tests later this month. 2 Lt. C. R. Green is busy training the Company Team for the Inter-Minor Unit Road Race to be held next month.

Arrivals, besides the usual drafts from "A" Company have seen Sgt. Wilson back from his successful Small Arms Course at Hythe. 2 Lt. G. C. Cooper has joined us from Eaton Hall and has now taken over No. 12 Platoon from 2 Lt. Raybould who is to be attached, on his return from leave, to the M.M.G. Platoon in preparation for joining the 7th Battalion. We say goodbye to our Company runner, Pte. Hirst, and wish him the best of luck in civilian life.

In seven months' time we shall be in England and, instead of reading how "D" Company tradition is being carried on, perhaps "Old Dogonians" will come and see for themselves.

Our order of battle now stands as follows:

Company Commander	Major E. J. P. Emmett,
	M.C.
C.S.M. C.S.M. J. Jobling,
	M.M.
C.Q.M.S. C.Q.M.S. E. Webster.



MESS PRESENTATIONS

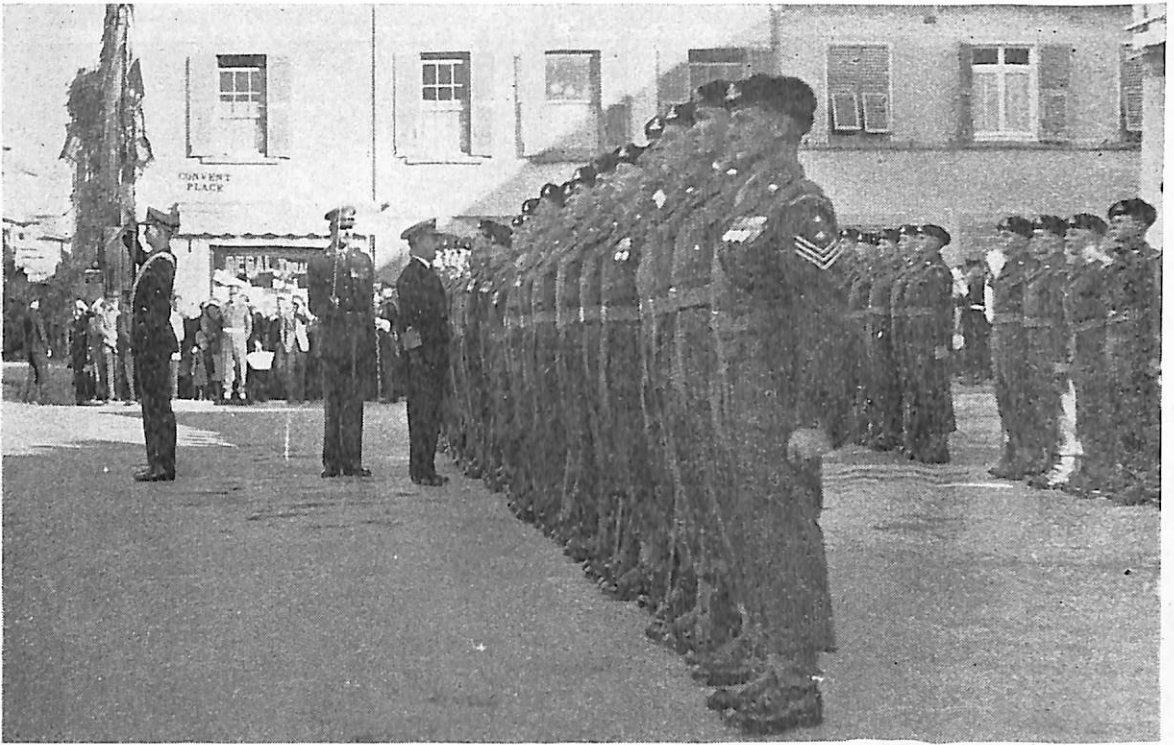
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Admiral Sir Michael M. Denny, G.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., C. in C. Home Fleet, inspecting the Guard of Honour furnished by "D" Company 1 D.W.R., on the occasion of his official call on His Excellency The Governor of Gibraltar, on Friday, February 4, 1955

<i>No. 10 Platoon</i>	
Commander	2 Lt. C. R. Green.
Sergeant	Sgt. R. Wilson.
Corporals	Cpls. G. Holliday and W. Morris.
<i>No. 11 Platoon</i>	
Commander	2 Lt. B. T. Fell.
Sergeant	Sgt. A. Arundel.
Corporals	Cpls. G. W. Evans, W. A. Hall, and H. Bailey, M.M.
<i>No. 12 Platoon</i>	
Commander	2 Lt. G. C. Cooper.
Sergeant	Sgt. G. Pickersgill, M.M.
Corporals	Cpls. R. F. Chilvers and P. Lee.

SUPPORT COMPANY

The main event in the Company life of late has been, without doubt, the administrative inspection by the D.F.C., which went very well. This is closely followed in importance by the inter-platoon flag competition which, though not monopolising our attention due to platoon cadres, has certainly made an impact. So far, the Mortar Platoon are lying 5th, the Anti-Tank Platoon 9th and the M.M.G. Platoon 13th, but a great deal can happen in the remaining competitions.

In the sporting world we are extremely pleased that the O.C. has been selected as Gibraltar's Sportsman of the Year for 1954 and he is in addition Andalusian Golf Champion for 1955. In the Battalion 1st XI hockey team the Company representatives are Major Grieve, Lt. Mitchell, Lt. Miller and Sgt. Batty, while the following have played for the Battalion 2nd XI: Lt. Dasent, Sgt. Dickie, Cpl. Flood and L/Cpl. Godden. The Company soccer team has not been able to play for some time due to the rains and, as we already occupy a very lowly position in the Minor Units League, this may be just as well. The break has given us time to select a new team or, rather, infuse new blood from the new arrivals into the old team, though we will sadly miss the presence of Pte. Henderson at centre-forward.

The following are to be congratulated on their promotions—to corporal: Cpls. Wilson and Bray; and to lance-corporal: L. Cpls. Godden, Robinson '26, Sherwood, Bayliss, Kelly '20 (Fred!) and Wren.

Christmas and New Year came and went—for some quicker than others. We had an excellent Company party in Casemates N.A.A.F.I.—the extraordinary part was the reluctance of those present to drink the free beer! It all disappeared in the end, however. The entertainment was quite excellent, with Sgt. Spring directing operations.

The visit of the Home Fleet meant a liaison between the Company and H.M.S. *Battleaxe*. The bad weather rather spoilt the sporting fixtures, but we did manage to play and beat them at hockey, the score being 2—1, though the soccer had to be cancelled due to rain.

At the end of January we received 36 recruits who had just finished their training in "A" Company, and all platoons are working hard to teach them the elements of their new weapon. We are fortunate in that we acquired a number of excellent shots and, with the Battalion rifle meeting about to begin, we have hopes of retaining the high standard of last year.

We are about to take part in the minor units' road running and tug-of-war competitions, and Sgts. Houghton and Dickie are to be seen or heard rallying their teams every day. We hope for great things from both teams, which have yet to be finally selected.

MORTAR PLATOON

Since the last notes, the Platoon has received 11 new recruits from "A" Company. We hope their stay with us will be a long and happy one. They came to us at a very difficult time, as they were attached to "A" Company for the administrative inspection and to us for the barrack room inspection.

An inter-platoon flag competition has been started and, up to date, two events have been finished. Firstly, the barrack room inspection, in which we were fourth, which was a very good effort, as we were top of Casemates Barracks. Secondly, the road run, in which we were ninth; not as high as expected, but everyone did his best. The team was as follows: Lt. E. J. H. Dasent, L/Cpl. Robinson and Ptes. Twibill, Dixon, Russell, Kent, Pearson, Gedge, Douglas, Clarkson and Gerry.

We congratulate Ptes. Kelly '20 and Robinson '26 on their promotions to lance-corporal.

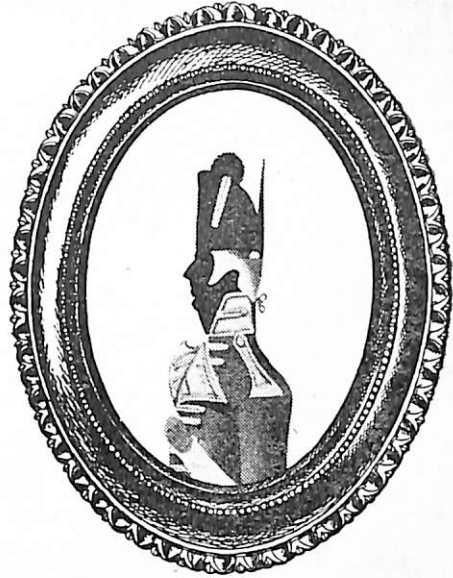
Punching at elusive shadows can be seen L/Cpl. Godden, and we hope that his boxing training will help to restore him to good health after his period in hospital.

At last our two instructors, Sgt. Sullivan and Cpl. Innes, have a squad each to train and the rivalry between the two grows as the cadre goes on. Both squads are showing good progress and should become a great asset to the Platoon.

We have said farewell to L/Cpls. Egley and Morrison and to Ptes. Ackroyd and Henderson, the latter being a great loss, because of his great prowess on the games field. He played football for the Battalion and also basketball. We wish them all well and hope that they have found suitable employment in civilian life.

Sgt. Batty is still playing hockey for the Battalion and has only let 12 goals through during the league season. This commendable effort has had a great deal to do with the Battalion winning the league.

Sgt. Dickie has now started to train the Company tug-of-war team and, from their faces when they appeared on the first period, they should be able to pull a house down.



"The Lieutenant of the Tower of London"

THE silhouette reproduced above was painted by Thomas Rowlandson in the latter half of the 18th Century. Whoever the Lieutenant was at that time, it is more than likely that his bankers were Cox and Co., since it was in 1758 that Lord Ligonier first appointed Mr. Richard Cox as Official Finance Agent, a function which continues to be discharged today by the Cox's and King's Branch of Lloyds Bank.

Uniforms and weapons have changed considerably since the 18th Century although not at the expense of regimental tradition. Similarly, the modern banking service now available at 6 Pall Mall still maintains a tradition of individual attention to customers' needs. An officer will find it invaluable to have his personal banking account at the Branch which has two hundred years' experience of dealing with military finance.

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The Platoon is now seen on the drill square twice a day training for the platoon drill. The Platoon Commander has great hopes and, although dreading to watch through nervousness, is sure the Platoon will do well.

Finally, we send our best wishes to our late Platoon Commander, Capt. E. M. P. Hardy, and to all old Mortarmen, hoping that we may see some of them on our return to U.K. in September.

MACHINE GUN PLATOON

Since our last notes, we have lost no one from the Platoon and 11 new arrivals have come to us from "A" Company. They are Ptes. Beal, Errington, Greasley, Hefferin, Liddle, McAteer, Neal, Purves, Thorpe, Walker and Wheatley, and we hope that their stay with us will be an interesting and happy one.

We have been out to Sandy Bay once since we last wrote and had a very good morning's shooting, which was watched by recruits of "A" Company, who were very impressed.

At last we have been able to start serious training again and at the moment we are running a Cadre of two squads. Sgt. Houghton and Cpl. Johansson are the two squad instructors and there is considerable friendly rivalry between them.

We congratulate Cpls. Bray and Wilson and L/Cpls. Brook and Sherwood on their promotion. The latter is now our Platoon storeman as Pte. Rusby is about to leave us for a home posting. Pte. Hart is also about to leave as his service is nearly finished, and with his departure we lose one of the two "Cockneys" in the Platoon—the other being Sgt. Spring.

We send our congratulations to Sgt. and Mrs. Spring on the birth of a son last December.

At the present time Pte. Birdsall is attending a Sanitary Course at Command Education Centre, and on his return we are expecting great things in the way of hygiene.

Finally, we send our best wishes to all ex-machine gunners and hope that we may see some of them on our return to U.K. towards the end of this year.

ANTI-TANK PLATOON

Since our last report the Platoon has had an influx of 12 men from "A" Company; we welcome them and hope their stay will be long and happy.

We are all very busy either teaching or being taught all about the new 120mm. anti-tank gun, and at the same time we are involved in the Platoon Flag Competition, in which two contests have so far taken place—firstly the barrack room inspection in which we were 13th, and nothing more need be said, and secondly the road race in which we were 4th. This was due mainly to the superb performances of L/Cpl. Wren who was 15th, and Cpls. Lodge and Flood, who came 26th and 27th respectively. The Platoon Commander ran a "Duke of Plaza Toro" race, valiantly giving up his own chances of being in the first dozen in favour of pushing the team on from behind. He was 104th! Pte. Riding must be thanked for his work in helping to train the team.

Cpl. Flood must be congratulated on the excellent

result he obtained on his anti-tank course in U.K., where he obtained a "B" grading.

The period of Christmas and the New Year was a happy time for us all. We had an excellent Company Party at which Pte. Robinson delighted us all with a display of his vocal talents.

Pte. Temme, one of the new arrivals, is playing basket-ball for the Battalion and Cpl. Lodge went to Tangier with the Rugby Team and was notably reticent about his activities after the game! Cpl. Flood continues to play hockey in the Battalion 2nd XI, and there is a suggestion that his weight-lifting kit should be put on charge to the Platoon stores!

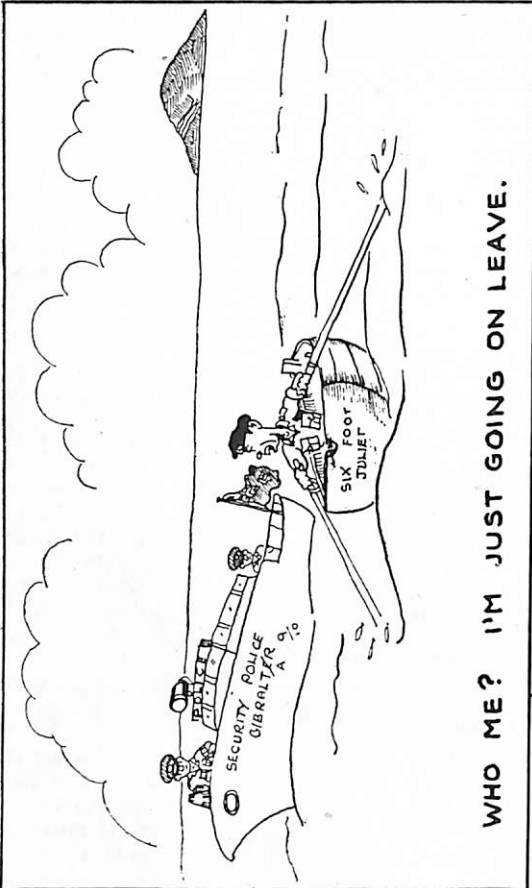
L/Cpl. Chivers has been on leave and returned again with lurid stories of the advantages of England. For one so young he appears to have a phenomenal knowledge of the underworld!

Everyone is looking forward to going back to England next autumn, even if the weather is not so warm and pleasant.

"H.Q." COMPANY

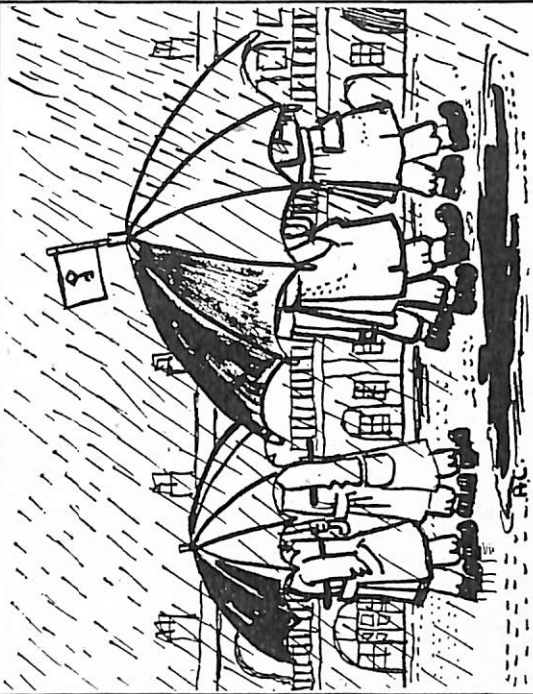
From our last issue life moved fairly placidly towards the year's end without any notable alarms and excursions. Then suddenly it was Christmas.

Apart from the incredible number of private parties that sprang up wherever two bottles met, there was the official Company Party, held in the N.A.A.F.I. on the Tuesday before Christmas. This went with a great swing, great credit being due to the "Dukes" own dance band, led by Bandmaster Seed. Songs were sung, food was eaten and drink was drunk, mainly simultaneously, and the quartermaster gave us the benefit of his Harley Street training in a shadow play called "The Operation." Our M.C., C.S.M. Callaby, also managed to think of some more jokes no one had heard before, all credit to him! It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening. As we surfaced after Christmas it dawned on us with increasing horror that our Annual Administrative Inspection was due in some three weeks' time. As soon as this information had sunk in the Company buildings disappeared in a welter of whitewash and paint, from which they emerged some 15 days later "Ighly bulled!" On the fateful day is rained all morning, and after a bit of initial confusion as to what to do in the wet, the inspection went very well indeed. In its sporting activities the Company can look back with satisfaction. The Company 22 Team, consisting of L/Cpls. Crossfield, Holmes, Booth and Norman, Ptes. Wellock and Lofts, so far has not lost a match in the Inter-Company League. We must also congratulate L/Cpl. Norman for being selected to shoot for the Battalion "A" Team, and L/Cpl. Crossfield and Pte. Wellock for being selected for the Battalion "B" Team. The football team has had a fairly slack period, only four games being played since our last notes, two we won and two we lost. Our overall position in the league is seventh out of 18 teams; we have played 8, won 5, and lost 3. In the Fortress individual boxing championships we must congratulate L/Cpl. Brown on winning the heavyweight championship and L/Cpl. Scargill on reaching the finals.

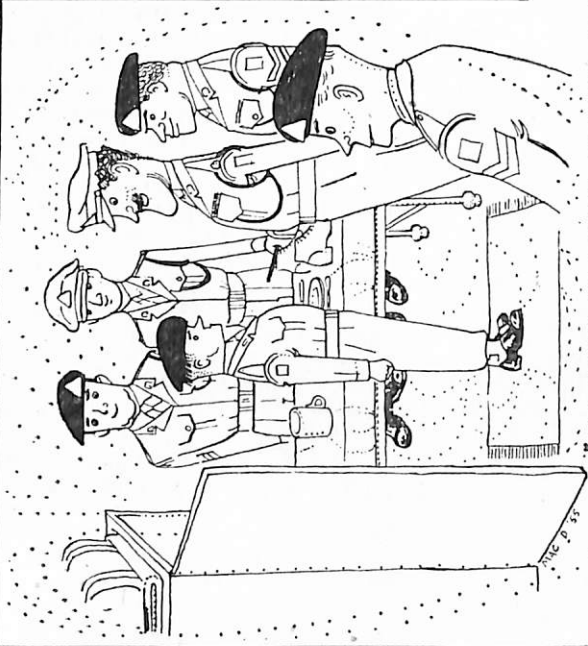


WHO ME? I'M JUST GOING ON LEAVE.

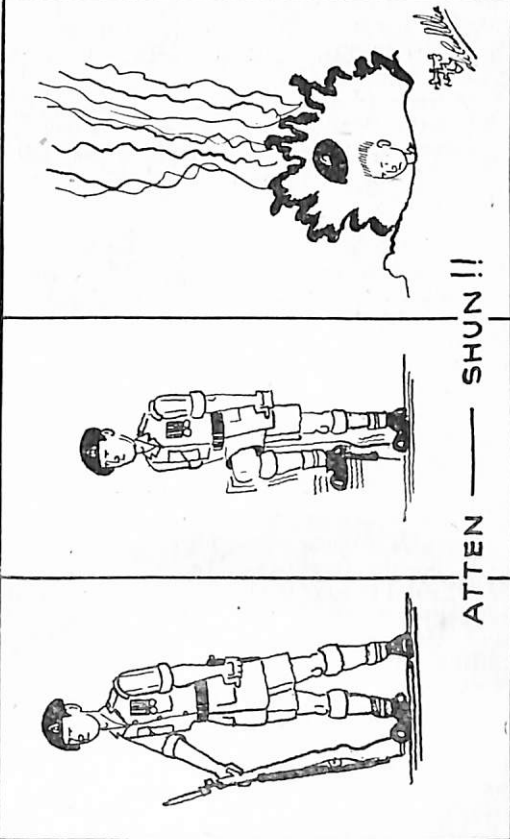
D. H. B. DOWDY.



GIB JANUARY 27th 1955 ('NUFF SAID)



"SO THIS IS YOUR SISTER MANKWORTHY."



ATTEN — SHUN !!

THE BAND

Entering our last year in Gibraltar, we can look back with pardonable pride on our achievements during our stay. We have performed every kind of ceremonial parade, from Trooping the Colour to Changing the Guard with unflinching regularity. In between, we have given concerts in every Mess or hall on the Rock and also in the open air to the civilian population on numerous occasions. At the same time we have managed to maintain, in fact increase, the strength of the Band and continue to perform, we hope, as well as usual. We are all looking forward to our next station, but will always remember, in more ways than one, our stay in Gibraltar.

A good time was had by all over the Christmas period, and we terminated it with a very enjoyable Band Party, in which we assisted Major Kavanagh, to spend some of his ill-gotten lottery winnings. Unfortunately, we were just beginning to warm up when we had to close, so that some of the Band Sergeant's spectacular songs (for male ears only) went unsung.

We welcome four new arrivals to the fold, namely, Bds. Smith and Jones and Boys Berry and McClarnon, and hope their stay with us will be both happy and beneficial to them and us.

Having recently received a number of overhauled instruments from home (at enormous cost) and being issued with new No. 1 Dress, we are now able to parade looking both smart and efficient. We are having to have our Band harps made in Spain as Ordnance do not seem to be able to supply them.

In the very near future, we are combining with the Royal Marines of the Home Fleet to beat Retreat. There will be something like 120 Band and Drums on parade, so it should be quite spectacular.

Our Annual Administrative Inspection went off very well, being unfortunately spoilt by heavy rain which lasted the whole day. The Bandmaster should have been presented with his M.S.M. during this parade, but now we shall have to parade again for this auspicious event.

We understand that the latest definition of a true musician is a man who puts his *ear* to the keyhole when he hears a pretty girl singing in her bath.

THE DRUMS

Since our last notes appeared there has been little of note to record. Drum-Major Alton has finally left us and retired to the dim depths of "A" Company stores. We welcome in his place Drum-Major Bryan who, it will be remembered, has already served with us prior to service with The Green Howards. Pts. Littlewood, Young, O'Hare, Beaumont, Sykes, Evans, Harland and Robinson are welcomed to the fold from "A" Company. Drm. Slater has left us for the delights of civilian life where we all wish him the best of luck. Main highlight of this quarter's notes must be devoted to the Annual Administrative Inspection which was scheduled for January 27. Numerous parades, complete with battle order, preceded The Day. The C.S.M. lost his temper and patience in

an endeavour to instruct in the intricacies of fitting and blanding. The 27th dawned and torrential rain poured down, but so successful had been our efforts that the Brigadier gave us a very good report, in spite of our damp appearance. At the time of writing we are busily engaged in rehearsals for a combined Retreat Beating in conjunction with the Royal Marines, more of which will appear in the next notes. Once again the Inter-Platoon Flag Competition has got under way. It is the scribe's sorrowful task to report that with two events gone, the Drums are trailing in the rear. In closing we wish to extend our greetings to all old Drummers wherever they may be.

MECHANICAL TRANSPORT

It is a strange sidelight on inspections in general that an inspecting officer usually picks with unerring accuracy a victim for interrogation who is apt in the flurry of the moment to get at cross-purposes.

However, in spite of one or two misunderstandings, the Annual Inspection went off very well, and the Brigadier had a special word of praise for M.T. There can be little doubt that the sight of Pte. Blay going puce in the face trying to start a vehicle with a flat battery must have made his day!

We were sorry to lose Ptes. Greaves, Dally, Goddard, Farrand and Walker to the rigours of civilian life. Greaves is now driving an ice-cream van and is obviously making use of his Korean training.

Congratulations to L/Cpls. Davey, Troake and Howarth on their recent promotion. Cpl. Brittain and L/Cpl. Davey are attached to the Royal Army Service Corps as driving instructors on centralised courses which are being run. Potential drivers from "A" Company are sent on these courses which last a fortnight, and most come back armed with driving licences. When we get to England all these new drivers will be required.

Our congratulations also to Ptes. Emmitt and Turner on their recent marriages. Cfmn. Brook has gone home with the intention of entering the married state, but we have no news to record. Cpls. Sykes, Almond and Creighton are all expectant fathers, and there will no doubt be more to say in our next notes.

We are now in the happy position of knowing that all the drivers we have now, with one exception, will be staying for the best part of a year, which means that there will be continuity at last.

RIFLE CLUB

During the winter months our interests and efforts have turned towards small-bore shooting. At last we have our own miniature range situated in one of the numerous tunnels in the Rock near our 30-yards outdoor range. Despite constant dripping from the roof during wet periods, the range has proved invaluable to us since we can practice whenever we like and do not have to rely on borrowing ranges from other Units.

We entered two teams for the Gibraltar Small-Bore League Competition in the midst of which we now find ourselves. The "A" team is com-

posed mainly of old and proven shots whose names have appeared in earlier issues, whereas the "B" team is composed entirely of young soldiers who have only been with the Battalion for a short while, but whose scores make the "A" team "sit up and take notice" on occasions. A table of results to date is given below.

Interest in small-bore shooting has increased of late and we are starting to form a Small-Bore Club, membership of which is open to the whole Battalion and wives as well. It is only to be hoped that facilities will exist in our new barracks in England to enable the Club to continue to function.

To turn our thoughts to full-bore shooting, which we shall have to do seriously shortly, we plan to hold the Battalion Rifle Meeting from March 1 to 4, after which the training of our team for Bisley will start. The Gibraltar Command Meeting will be taking place in August so we shall be able to take part in it before leaving the Rock.

RESULTS OF THE GIBRALTAR SMALL-BORE LEAGUE COMPETITION

1ST D.W.R. "A" TEAM

Opponent	Result	Opponent's Own	
		Score	Score
1st D.W.R. "B" ..	Won	544	553
Gibraltar Security Police	Won	553	563
Gibraltar Signal Squadron	Won	550	570
28th Coast. Regt. R.A. ...	Won	524	578
Fortress Engr. Regt. "A" ..	Won	544	572
R.A.F.	Lost	588	568

1ST D.W.R. "B" TEAM

1st D.W.R. "A" ..	Lost	553	544
H.M.S. <i>Rooke</i> ..	Won	518	568
H.M. Dockyard ..	Won	560	568
Fortress Engr. Regt. "B" ..	Won	471	561
Gibraltar Signal Squadron	Won	520	536
R.A.S.C.	Won	541	545
54th A.A. Regt., R.A. ..	Won	554	557
R.A.F.	Lost	592	568

PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB

The Club continues to flourish, although our membership has dropped considerably. This is due mainly to our losing most of our Korean enthusiasts. We have heard of several rich, newly-arrived officers acquiring expensive machinery and, no doubt, we shall soon see them wearing the now well-known "dark-room glazed-eye look."

Many photographs taken by members have appeared in this magazine and some of the local home-town newspapers. Cpl. Wakefield, of the Drums, our most hard-working member, is doing things in a big way! Not only is he reporting and taking photographs for the *Gibraltar Chronicle*, but packets of prints have been dispatched to *Illustrated* and like magazines.

We are building up an interesting library of 16-mm. cine films of life with the Battalion in Gibraltar which will shortly be available for presentation.

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Battalion Sports News

RUGBY

Rugby is out. The Spanish authorities have made it too difficult for the pitch in Spain to be used and, unless they change their minds very quickly, there will be no more games. It is a great pity, as we have the makings of a good team. We played one trial match against the R.A.F., which was won easily and enabled us to select our XV. Then the ban came down and we have played no more on the Campo ground.

However, we have one good match to recount. On January 22 we flew over to Tangier and played the French Club, beating them, despite some peculiar Gallic refereeing, by one try to nil. It is fair to say that every time we were about to score the referee blew his whistle. His interpretation of the offside rule was an education. Nevertheless, we enjoyed ourselves and the French hospitality was excellent. We hope to go over again for another match during their rugger festival when teams from Madrid, Rabat and Casablanca will be playing.

The following represented the Battalion in Tangier: 2 Lt. Raybould; Pte. Mitchell, Lt. Dasent, 2 Lt. Faithfull, Pte. Bright; L/Cpl. Holmes, Lt. Miller; W.O.2 Renton, Lt. Cowell, L/Cpl. Spence, Captain Isles (captain), 2 Lt. Rawson, 2 Lt. Green, Lt. Campbell-Lammerton, Cpl. Lodge.

SOCCER

The soccer season is now well under way and, after a poor start, the 1st XI has begun to achieve some success and reap the benefit of the hard training under S.I. Meadows.

In the first round of the Inter-Unit Knockout Competition (the Murray Cup) they were drawn against one of our main rivals, the Royal Air Force, and, in a very hard-fought game accompanied by roars of applause from the spectators of both sides, the "Dukes" ended in gaining a victory by 3—2.

This win was followed by a 6—1 defeat of 54 H.A.A. Regiment, R.A., in the Major Units League, in which we hope to have further success.

S.I. Meadows is to be congratulated on his captaincy of both the Battalion 1st XI and the Combined Services' team.

We now look forward to meeting the R.A.S.C. in the second round of the Murray Cup, when we hope to prove once again the value of progressive training.

HOCKEY

The 1st XI have now completed the league programme, winning all but one of their matches and finishing three points ahead of their nearest rivals, Fortress Engineer Regiment.

A well-balanced forward line supported by tireless halves and a solid, experienced defence produced some exhilarating hockey which in the last five league matches overwhelmed their opponents by 35—3.

In December the team returned to full strength and never looked back. Since then 14 matches have passed without defeat. In goal, despite having little to do, Sgt. Batty's kicking is much improved, while the two backs, Captain Isles and C.S.M. Jobling, with their experience together from last season, have seldom put a foot wrong. The most encouraging feature of the season so far has been the play of the halves: 2 Lt. Barkshire's positional play has been the perfect foil to Lt. Mitchell's and L/Cpl. Ashton's excellent attacking wing-half tactics.

This attacking half line has provided the forwards with many opportunities and they have duly obliged. The wings, Lt. Miller and Captain Blakey (the latter has shown great improvement since his arrival in the team in December), were fast, and their centres, especially from the right, produced many goals. With the two insides playing constructive hockey and Cpl. Holland at centre-forward a terror in the circle (he scored 24 of the 62 league goals), this was a well-balanced attack.

It was a great pity that rain ruined our fixture list in January, as the XI were on top form. Now, with the semi-final of the knock-out competition looming up, L/Cpl. Ashton and Cpl. Holland have returned to U.K. for leave and W.O.S.B., respectively. This will to some extent disrupt the teamwork, but we hope not seriously enough to prevent the XI completing the league and cup double.

Teamwork has undoubtedly been the keynote of success. Individuals have blended into a constructive fast-moving team and, as a result, enjoyed hockey at its best. It would have been interesting to see how far the Battalion would have gone in the Army Cup.

Bad weather has hit the 2nd XI to a greater extent than the 1st XI—over one period they played only one match in six weeks. Even so, another good goalkeeper, Cpl. Smith '42, has been unearthed. Sound work by the defence has been spoilt through poor shooting by the insides. To date, three league matches have been won and four lost.

1ST XI (LEAGUE WINNERS) RESULTS

v. C.F.H.Q.	.. ..	Won 4—0 and won 7—1
v. F.E.R.	.. ..	Lost 2—6 " " 3—1
v. R.A.F.	.. ..	Won 4—2 " " 6—0
v. R.E.M.E.	.. ..	" 3—2 " " 8—0
v. 54 H.A.A.	.. ..	" 9—0 " " 7—1
v. 28 Coast Regt., R.A.	.. ..	" 2—0 " " 7—1
Played 12, won 11, lost 1, goals for, 62, against, 14.		

1st Battalion Sports Pictures

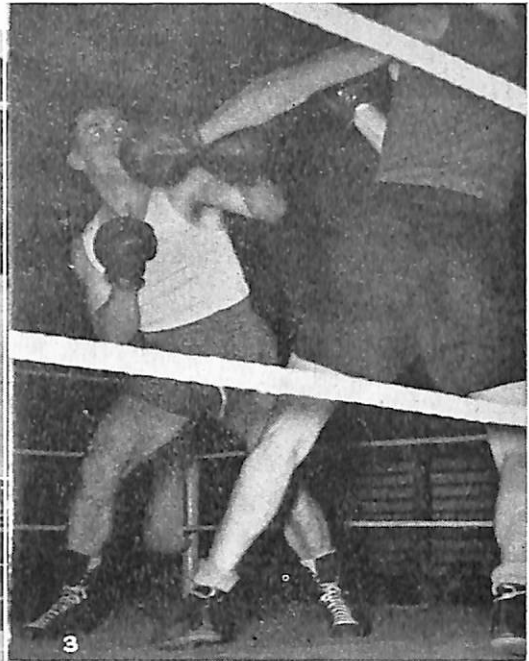


1. BATTALION FOOTBALL XI: Back row, left to right: Pte. Waite, Pte. Blench, L.Cpl. Crow, L.Cpl. Harman, L.Cpl. Bucci, Pte. Kent, Major E. J. P. Emmett, M.C. (O.I.C. football); Front row, left to right: Sgt. T. Pratt, Bdsm. Berry, L.Cpl. Henderson, L.Cpl. Brook, S.I. Meadows, (captain)

2. BATTALION HOCKEY XI: Back row, left to right: Major Grieve ("S"), Sgt. Batty ("S"), Lt. Mitchell ("S"), Lieutenant-Colonel Moran, O.B.E., Captain Isles ("A"), C.S.M. Jobling, M.M. ("D"), L.Cpl. Ashton ("H.Q."); Front row, left to right: 2 Lt. Barkshire ("C"), 2 Lt. Faithfull (captain) ("B"), Cpl. Holland ("A"), Lt. Miller ("S"), Captain Blakey ("H.Q.")

3. Pte. Glossop, 1 D.W.R. v. Gnr. Heal, R.A., in the semi-finals for the Monroe Cup

4. Pte. Hartigan, 1 D.W.R. v. Gnr. Smith, R.A., in the semi-finals for the Monroe Cup



BOXING

The January issue closed for Press with the results of the Command Novices Competition, in which we registered a great success.

This was followed in January by the Command Individual Competition in which the Battalion again put up a good show, although not as good as expected, injuries and illness interfering.

However, we got seven boxers into the finals and won three championships.

RESULTS

Flyweight: L.A.C. Fry (R.A.F.) beat Pte. Pickles (1st D.W.R.).

Bantamweight: L/Cpl. Jones (F.E.R.) walked over Pte. Thornton (1st D.W.R.).

Featherweight: Pte. Hartigan (1st D.W.R.) beat Sapper Gadsby (F.E.R.).

Lightweight: L/Cpl. Bowering (D.W.R.) beat Cfmn. Field (R.E.M.E.).

Light Middleweight: L.A.C. Abrahams (R.A.F.) beat L/Cpl. Scargill (1st D.W.R.).

Light Heavyweight: Cpl. Cooke (F.E.R.) beat Cpl. Connor (1st D.W.R.).

Heavyweight: L/Cpl. Brown (1st D.W.R.) beat L/Bdr. Smith (R.A.).

The Command Inter-Unit Team Championship for the Munro Cup took place during February. Four teams were entered: R.A.F., Combined R.A. (54th A.A. Regiment and 28th Coast Regiment), Fortress Engineer Regiment, and the Battalion.

We beat the Combined R.A. in the first semi-final, while F.E.R. beat the R.A.F.

In the final some very good and keen boxing was seen. How close were the contests can be judged by the fact that the scoreboard at the end read: "Dukes" 14 points, F.E.R. 13 points.

His Excellency the Governor and Commander-in-Chief, General Sir Gordon MacMillan, was among those present, and presented the cup to L/Cpl. Brown, the team captain.

Our congratulations go to all those boxers who have fought so hard and well this season, and in particular to S.I. Meadows, A.P.T.C., who has worked so hard to train them.

RESULTS

Semi-final

Bantamweight: Pte. Rundle (1st D.W.R.) beat Gnr. Walker (R.A.).

Featherweight: Pte. Hartigan (1st D.W.R.) beat Gnr. Smith (R.A.).

Lightweight: L/Cpl. Bowering (1st D.W.R.) beat Gnr. Conroy (R.A.).

Light Welterweight: Pte. DiCadillac (1st D.W.R.) beat Lt. Burnett (R.A.).

Welterweight: Gnr. Lloyd (R.A.) beat Pte. Young (1st D.W.R.).

Light Middleweight: Gnr. Gardner (R.A.) beat L/Cpl. Scargill (1st D.W.R.).

Middleweight: L/Bdr. Heal (R.A.) beat Pte. Glossop (1st D.W.R.).

Light Heavyweight: Cpl. Connor (1st D.W.R.) beat Lt. Hunt (R.A.).

Heavyweight: L/Cpl. Brown (1st D.W.R.) beat L/Bdr. Smith (R.A.).

Result: 1st D.W.R., 15 pts.; Combined R.A., 12 pts.

Finals

Bantamweight: Cpl. Jones (F.E.R.) beat Pte. Rundle (1st D.W.R.).

Featherweight: Pte. Hartigan (1st D.W.R.) beat Spr. Gadsby (F.E.R.).

Lightweight: L/Cpl. Bowering (1st D.W.R.) beat L/Cpl. Woolley (F.E.R.).

Light Welterweight: Spr. Laws (F.E.R.) beat Pte. DiCadillac (1st D.W.R.).

Welterweight: Spr. Miles (F.E.R.) beat Pte. Mercer (1st D.W.R.).

Light Middleweight: L/Cpl. Crowe (1st D.W.R.) beat Spr. Forster (F.E.R.).

Middleweight: Cpl. Connor (1st D.W.R.) walked over Spr. Jones (F.E.R.) (unfit).

Light Heavyweight: Spr. Cooke (F.E.R.) beat Pte. Smith (1st D.W.R.).

Heavyweight: L/Cpl. Brown (1st D.W.R.) beat Spr. Cooke (F.E.R.).

BASKETBALL

Basketball throughout the Battalion has suddenly become very popular, mainly due to the Inter-Platoon Flag Competition and the Battalion team playing against visiting American ships. These games provide a great source of amusement for all and sundry, especially the Spanish workmen, who always seem to find time to watch. They shout frenzied words of encouragement, almost giving the match the air of a "bull fight" (which is quite apt sometimes!).

These matches against the Americans have proved very profitable and with S.I. Meadows and Sgt. Garrity's untiring coaching the side shows signs of becoming quite useful.

Our last two matches have been very enjoyable. The first one was against the Israeli ship *Misgav*. This frigate fielded a very strong side and we were defeated, but not without a hard fight: Israeli 72 points, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment 39 points.

Our other match was against the 28th Coast Regiment in the Major Units League. We won, 62 points to 12 points.

The Battalion team is as follows: Lt. Campbell-Lamerton, 2 Lt. Faithful, S.I. Meadows, Sgt. Garrity, Cpls. Burgess and Connor, L/Cpl. Scargill, and Ptes. Shaw, Young, Berry and Reddy.

SAILING

The winter sailing season continues to provide damp but exciting racing every Saturday afternoon. A lot of hard work has been done by 2 Lt. Henry Kelly and S.M. Renton, R.A.E.C., and the Unit "whaler" is in very good order, if not exactly speedy! Work on refitting the *Victory* and the dinghy should soon be completed. All will be ready by the beginning of April when we shall start thinking about summer sailing again. A number of new arrivals are keen to sail and it looks as if the boats will be in full use again this summer, in spite of the fact that several "old hands" have departed.

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Colonel G. B. Howcroft, M.C., T.D., J.P., Honorary Colonel of the 7th Battalion



By Courtesy of *The Yorkshire Post*
 Major-General K. G. Exham, C.B., D.S.O., presenting Pte. J. Whittaker with the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal on December 16, 1954

REGIMENTAL H.Q. and DEPOT

SUB-EDITORIAL

Our year commenced with the Annual Inspection which was carried out by Brigadier D. J. B. Houchin, D.S.O., M.C., Commander East and West Ridings Area on January 6. One of the results of the inspection is that we hope to see work commence this year on building new bathrooms in the Barrack blocks. The present ones are in a separate building, and the sort of weather we have been having makes bathing a similar experience to a trip to the North Pole. Another building project which will be of interest to married men who have been or expect to be posted here, is that the married quarters are all being modernised. Work is well in hand and should be completed this year.

On account of the imminent return of the 1st Battalion we are having to hold all regular soldiers here once they have completed their basic training. To accommodate them we have taken over most of the accommodation in the huts above the Rigger ground. Even this may not be sufficient if our regular enlistments continue at their present satisfactory level.

In February we were joined in Halifax by another regular army unit, the Regimental Paymaster (R.A.O.C.) moving into Ovenden Camp. We welcome them and hope we will have a long and happy association. We are particularly pleased at the thought that we will now have some military sports teams near at hand and look forward to many fixtures with them.

Our sporting activities have been very curtailed, the weather having beaten us consistently. Our list of cancelled fixtures at rugby, football and hockey is most impressive!

As mentioned elsewhere in these notes, the Passing Our Parade on December 16, 1954, was taken by Major-General K. G. Exham, C.B., D.S.O. At the same parade General Exham presented Pte. J. Whittaker with the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. A photograph of the presentation is included in this issue.

OFFICERS' MESS

In our last notes we mentioned some of the changes made in the Mess. We then optimistically implied that the reorganised library would soon be ready. However, progress has been slow, as the making of the bookcases has proved a lengthy process. When completed, however, it should be practically unique, as thanks to the bequest made by the late Captain Maurice Hill, we possess the regimental history of practically every regiment in the British Army.

We have had two regimental guest nights since the last notes were written. At the first, held in December, we entertained Major-General K. G. Exham, Brigadier B. W. Webb-Carter, Colonel G. H. Akroyd, Major A. T. Edmunds and Mr. A. T. Hoyle. The 1st Battalion most kindly lent

us their films of the Queen's visit to Gibraltar and of the Trooping of the Colour on the 250th anniversary of the capture of Gibraltar, and after dinner we showed these films to our guests.

We were all most impressed with both films, but particularly admired the steadiness and high standard of drill of the Battalion on the Trooping of the Colour parade.

On the second guest night, in February, guests were Lieutenant.-Colonel J. W. B. Marshall, commanding 12th (Yorks.) Para Battalion; Major B. R. D. Garside, commanding Depot West Yorkshire Regiment, and Lord Garnock. There was deep drifting snow on the night of the dinner and we were surprised that any of our guests managed to get to Halifax. We watched their departure with some concern, and were again surprised when we learnt of their safe arrival home.

The numbers living in the Mess vary considerably. For a week Charles Huxtable dined in lonely state. The following week there were five living-in members, including Graham Tedd, who is attached to the Depot until his course at Shrivenham commences in mid-April. The most recent arrival is Captain J. R. Coope, R.A.M.C., who is now our M.O. We hope his stay will be both long and enjoyable.

SERGEANTS' MESS

We welcome to the Mess O.R.Q.M.S. Akrigg, C/Sgt. Quest (after a brief stay with the R.N.F.), Sgt. Potts from Mons O.C.S., and Sgt. Branson, our new Pay Sergeant.

C/Sgt. Western has left us for the rigours of civilian life and he takes with him our very best wishes. Sgt. Bryan and C/Sgt. Burke left to join the 1st Battalion and Sgt. Butterfield (R.A.P.C.) for fields unknown. We wish them good luck and *bon voyage*.

We have had a number of successful social evenings and we are pleased to relate that we have discovered a wealth of talent, notably Sgts. Simpson and Mountcastle, and our P.T.I., S.S.I. Clarke.

A games and social evening in the Corporals' Mess, which included a pie and pea supper, was thoroughly enjoyed, and we are pleased to say that we emerged winners of the games by a narrow margin. Our next engagement was our Christmas Draw, followed by a social evening, which in spite of terrible weather was well attended. C.S.M. Wood, it would appear, did a violin solo beforehand, the ladies winning the "smokes and alcoholic beverages," whilst the gents received nylons and chocolates.

Our New Year's Eve Social was a huge success and was attended by quite a number of honorary members. The evening was rounded off by the proverbial rendering of Auld Lang Syne to the strains of Big Ben, neatly tuned in by C.Q.M.S. Benner.

We returned the compliment of a games and social evening to the Corporals' Mess and once again we were the victors of some close and enjoyable games. The evening was closed by the R.S.M. singing the "Dukes'" song, with all Mess members joining in the chorus.

In conclusion, we congratulate Sgt. and Mrs. Taylor on their recent addition to the family of a baby boy.

TRAINING COMPANY

As the rest of the world knows, weather is an important topic of conversation for Britons. As far as Training Company, Depot D.W.R. is concerned, it is all important. Icy blasts and snow have descended on the countryside, and training programmes are being constantly amended to compete with the vagaries of the weather. During 1954, two fine days were experienced on the ranges. We are hoping that this record will be improved upon in 1955, but we feel we are being unduly sanguine.

The threat of east coast floods on the eve of Christmas caused a certain amount of concern in our midst. As Christmas dinner was finishing, a warning order was received to stand by to render assistance. However, parties were eventually detailed from Catterick and the all clear went for us, after a couple of hours. Within one minute, men with small suit-cases could be seen scattering at the double in all directions. They stayed not upon the order of their going, but merely paused long enough to look out.

Major-General K. G. Exham honoured us by taking the salute at the Passing-Out Parade of 25th Intake just before Christmas. This intake

produced a very good classification shoot, and are to be congratulated on gaining first place in the Brigade Competition. Alma Platoon (Sgt. Taylor) again won the Platoon Shield, and the chief prize winners were: Pte. Thornton (best recruit Aloma Platoon), Pte. Cleator (best recruit Dettingen Platoon), Pte. Chamberlain (best combined shot of the Intake).

26th Intake had its Passing-Out Parade on January 26, and we were very pleased that the Brigade Colonel (Colonel C. D. Trimmer, D.S.O.) was able to attend.

Delhi Platoon (Sgt. Mountcastle) won the Inter-Platoon Competition on this occasion and the individual winners were: Pte. Pedley (best recruit Delhi Platoon), Pte. Ingleson (best recruit Corunna Platoon), Pte. Beck, M. S. (best combined shot of the Intake). Pte. Beck is to be further congratulated on being the best Rifle and L.M.G. shot of his Platoon. For both Parades we were indebted to the Band of The York and Lancaster Regiment for playing admirably well.

At the time of writing, 27th Intake is half-way through its training, and we are awaiting the arrival of 28th due on March 10. Both these Intakes are earmarked to join the 2nd Battalion Green Howards.

Despite deep snow we had a very good attendance on the last "Parents' Day" held on February 26. We had to dig deeply to uncover the Regimental Museum, and Mr. Berry looked on the proceedings with some misgivings, visualising no doubt, the result of hundreds of feet trampling snow on to his highly polished linoleum.

In conclusion, we welcome to the Company Cpls. Hartley and Jenness who have lately joined us from the 1st Battalion.

REGIMENTAL CHAPEL ALL SAINTS' CHAPEL, YORK MINSTER

Committee: Brigadier B. W. Webb-Carter, D.S.O., O.B.E., Major B. V. Thomlinson, Major W. H. C. Cobb.

We give below the accounts for 1953 and 1954. We thank all subscribers for their generous support.

Readers may like to know that Holy Communion is celebrated in their Chapel every Sunday at 8.45.

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE, 1953 AND 1954

INCOME	£	s.	d.
Brought forward from 1952 (see p.133 of IRON DUKE Vol. XXIX No. 90)	..	37	17 10
Subscriptions (two years)	..	18	2 0
		<u>£55</u>	<u>19 10</u>

EXPENDITURE	£	s.	d.
Friends of York Minster (two years' subscriptions)	..	2	2 0
IRON DUKE (two years' subscriptions)	..	18	0
Balance in hand .. .. .	..	52	19 10
		<u>£55</u>	<u>19 10</u>

Subscribers: Captain A. F. Hemming, Major J. P. Huffam, Lieutenant-Colonel C. W. G. Ince, Lieutenant-Colonel E. M. Liddell, Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Officer, Major-General W. G. Ozanne, Mr. Gilbert Beyfus, Q.C., Brigadier E. W. Rogers, Lieutenant-Colonel R. M. Tidmarsh, Lieutenant-Colonel N. R. Whitaker, Colonel E. M. Huntriss, Lieutenant-Colonel M. V. Le P. Trench, Brigadier J. C. Burnett, Lieutenant-Colonel J. B. Sugden.

7th BATTALION, T.A.

SUB-EDITORIAL

Since Christmas, training has been mainly concerned with the completion of the series of officers' training days and the start of an N.C.O.s' Cadre. This Cadre has been very well attended so far and it is hoped that during the coming training weekends, N.C.O.s will make use of any knowledge gained from this course. There has been an interchange of command recently, Major G. V. Ashton from "C" to Support Company and Captain D. R. Siddall from Support to "C" Company.

Annual Camp this year is from June 26 to July 9 and will be held at Bellerby Camp, near Richmond, Yorks. It was hoped that this year's camp would culminate in the presentation of New Colours to the Battalion, but for various reasons this very important ceremony has had to be postponed for a year. It has also been found advisable to postpone the Annual Prize Giving until the middle Sunday at camp, when it is felt that many more members of the Battalion will be present.

We open the season with a general exodus to the School of Infantry, Captains Siddall, Woodhouse and Broadbent are attending a Company Commanders' refresher course. Lt. Mallalieu has a signals course at Hythe, Lt. Popham an M.M.G. course and Captain Crowther has finally got his AtR. course; they will both be at the Support Arms Wing at Netheravon. We wish them every success and hope they succeed in finding out how to arrive at the oft-quoted "school solution."

OFFICERS' MESS

The social activities of the Mess during the last three months have been numerous and varied. The advent of the New Year seemed to inject fresh energy and ideas into our members and our programme for the coming months is rapidly filling up. We have received a number of additional pieces of furniture and adornments for the Mess, including a picture of the First Duke of Wellington. This picture was given to the present Duke of Wellington by her late Majesty Queen Mary, and His Grace has now very kindly presented it to us with the appropriate comment: "To the 7th Dukes from the 7th Duke." The picture takes a place of precedence and we prize it as our most unique possession. The furnishing of the Mess is now virtually complete.

When the M.T. garages have been finished in the near future to replace the old stables, we shall regard Wellesley House as one of the show pieces of the Territorial army. We are very grateful to the T. and A.F.A. (West Riding) for all they have done to provide us with such a comfortable "home."

On December 9 Colonel Hinchcliffe was "dined out" on relinquishing his appointment as Honorary Colonel of the Battalion and Colonel Howcroft was "dined in" as his successor. It was both a sad and happy occasion. We were very sorry to make our official farewell to Colonel Hinchcliffe, who has

been so closely connected with the Battalion for so many years. As a token of our appreciation for all his unstinted help in furthering the interests of the Battalion, the officers presented him with a silver salver, inscribed with the signatures of all the Territorial officers now serving with the "7th." In compensation for our loss, we are fortunate and proud to welcome as our new Honorary Colonel, Colonel Howcroft, who has been associated with the Battalion and Regiment for forty years, and who was our Commanding Officer at the beginning of the last war.

The Christmas spirit was introduced to the Mess at an early stage when an informal party of officers and their wives was held on December 18. We believe the party was inspired by an enterprising officer who was searching for a bottle of beer among the P.M.C. preserves and happened to discover an old stock of champagne! Whatever might have been the origin of the party, it fulfilled the promise expected and everyone enjoyed a very good evening.

Soon after the New Year the officers gave a Christmas party for the warrant officers and the permanent staff of the Battalion, including their families. Judging from the number of ice creams consumed by the children and, in parentheses, by some of the adults, we have reason to think that there may have been a few bed casualties among our guests the following day. Despite the possible ill-effects of unintentional over-indulgence, all of us, and especially the children, enjoyed the games and comic films which were ably organised by an enthusiastic officers' committee.

The membership of the Mess has been greatly increased since we extended invitations to all known ex-officers of the "7th" and to those friends of ours who have been closely associated with the Battalion in either their civilian or military capacities. The Mess is now open at midday on the second Sunday of each month, and we hope that this arrangement will give members the opportunity of visiting us more often.

The monthly Mess suppers have been well attended, despite the deterrent effect of inclement weather. Perhaps the uncertainty of the weather and the quality of these suppers have influenced certain members to change from the humble status of a pedestrian to the more congenial role of a motorist.

Looking to the immediate future, we have two important Mess engagements which will be reported more fully in the next issue. On March 3 we have the privilege of welcoming to our Guest Night, General Sir Geoffrey Evans, G.O.C. in C. Northern Command, General Colquhoun our Divisional Commander, and Brigadier Martin our Brigadier. We understand that this is the first time in the recent history of the Battalion that the G.O.C. in C. has dined in our Mess. Following in the trail of this event is our second officers' dance of the season, which is being held at the Drill Hall, Milnsbridge, on March 18. Preparations are already in train to



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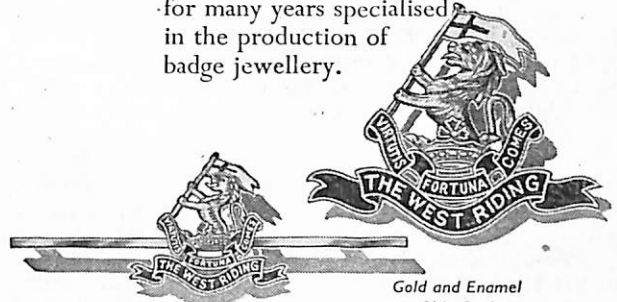
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make this occasion as successful as our last dance. In conclusion, we wish to welcome to the "7th" 2 Lts. Gurry and Hayes, who have recently joined us and an anticipation to extend a similar welcome to 2 Lt. Aykroyd who will shortly be posted to us from the 1st Battalion.

"A" COMPANY

The location of "A" Company notes—whether at the beginning or the end of the Battalion notes—will indicate to the casual observer whether or not the Adjutant has at last found a way of getting them in in time! There is really no excuse, because although this is the close season for T.A. activities, there is plenty to say about the goings on at Sowerby Bridge T.A.C.

The Company had the privilege of holding the first of the combined social evenings when most of the Battalion H.Q., "C" and Support Companies descended on us. During the most enjoyable evening which followed, a Pool Bull Competition was held (nearly won by Major Moran) and the sandwiches prepared by Mrs. Pickles rapidly disappeared. Cpl. Bullock, who has just concluded his T.A. service after many years, was in charge of the bar. Business was very brisk and at the conclusion of the evening it was found that only three bottles of beer were left. These were promptly despatched by the senior warrant officers present.

We are now getting seven or eight regular attenders and we hope we shall shortly be able to increase this to at least twenty. Many of the Company have never seen the T.A.C. since "A" Company was split from "C." They will have the opportunity of doing so on the first training week-end and we hope to increase our "regulars" from that date.

The latest addition to our T.A. strength is K. M. MacDonald (one-time Lieutenant D.W.R., who is awaiting gazettement into the T.A.), well known as a front row forward with Halifax R.U.F.C. and Yorkshire. We are very pleased to have him with us and wish him many years of happy service with the 7th Battalion. The Company's Rugby strength now includes, in addition to K. M. MacDonald, Sgt. Pollard of Halifax Vandals, and Cpl. Telford of the Old Rishworthians.

After much hard work and preparation by C.S.M. Lamb we now have a flourishing Social Club and bar. The club contains a darts board, dominoes and a wireless (apparently permanently tuned to Radio Luxemburg), and with furniture from the Officers' Mess, which is not yet functioning, it has been turned into a most pleasant recreation room. The bar profits half-way through the first quarter are most encouraging, although we view the very first audit board with the usual trepidation. As we have started from scratch in this respect, there are plenty of things on which we can spend any money we make. (P.R.I. please note!)

Before we know where we are we shall be preparing for Annual Camp again. "A" Company, now functioning properly in its own T.A.C., is infinitely better prepared than at this time last year, and we are already looking forward to our move to

Bellerby, to the Brigade exercise and everything else.

"B" COMPANY

The New Year has not brought increased attendances on Drill Nights as yet. We are finding that the biggest drawback to an overflowing Drill Hall is the necessity for so many of our personnel to attend the winter session at Technical Colleges. This is undoubtedly a laudable desire on the part of so many men but, rather selfishly, we are usually pleased to see the time when, being more at a loose end, these bodies start rolling in to either make new, or renew old, military acquaintances.

We are pleased to welcome among the recent N.S. intakes several obviously excellent shots and look to this added potential to help the Company to win a few more trophies this summer. It is noted, too, that the natural instincts of a good soldier coming to the fore, there should be competition for promotion this year according to the standards of these new N.S. personnel.

The Company is still without a C.S.M., but something will have to be done shortly. It is believed that "secret" discussions on this topic have taken place at Battalion H.Q., so maybe we shall soon know either our fate or the fate of the new C.S.M. "B" Company.

Company representatives seem to be attending the Sunday N.C.O.s' Cadre in goodly numbers. Distance being no major obstacle, the usual Mossley detachment attends. Even mode of transport knows no bounds! Cpl. Williams earned full marks and a recommendation for future tours of Britain by cycling (pedal!) from Ashton-under-Lyne on the morning of the first Cadre. He even looked fresh and full of energy when he arrived.

The appointment of Colonel G. B. Howcroft, M.C., T.D., J.P., as Honorary Colonel of the Battalion meets with the general approval of all the older members of the Company who have known him for so long. Does he not come from "Over the hill"? And have we not a detachment at Mossley—also "Over the hill"?

I think we can be sure that a fatherly eye will be kept on our activities at the Company's No. 2 Drill Hall, and we all wish him success and happiness during his tour of duty. Our retired Honorary Colonel, Colonel W. H. Hinchcliffe, T.D., D.L., took with him our best wishes, for he too had an affinity with us, having at one time in his long career commanded "B" Company at Slaitwaite.

All are pleased to see the continued improvement in the health of our caretaker at Company H.Q., "C.S.M." Jackie Horne. A severe illness at Christmastime put him out of action, and thanks are due to Mrs. Horne and our "undercover" barman, Mr. Jenkinson from "across the road" for keeping things going so well.

"D" COMPANY

Although attendances have not been too good during the winter months we are more hopeful for the spring training. Meanwhile, due to the regular intake of N.S. men our numbers continue to increase rapidly.

Farnley Park, Otley, is chosen for our first training week-end this year, and it is hoped that Company N.C.O.s will apply practically the theory absorbed while attending the N.C.O.s' Cadre held during January, February and March.

By the time these notes are in print we hope to have held a Company Social Evening, and one feels that this may be the prelude to better attendances on Drill Nights.

The canteen continues to flourish under the able guidance of Mr. Machen and the patronage of the Q.M.; a few pints "downed" and we will be able to repay "B" Company their loan that enabled us to start up in business. Regulars to the canteen these days are liable to find themselves with dominoes in one hand, and one of Mrs. Machen's tasty curry pasties in the other.

Our condolences to C/Sgt. Sykes, who is shortly going on a Guards' Drill Course—it is intended to have a reinforced concrete floor put down in the T.A.C. ready for his return.

Finally, a welcome to Cpl. Thorpe who has transferred to us from the Royal Artillery. Joining the Infantry is a step in the right direction, we feel.

"H.Q." COMPANY

The last few months of the year are always quiet in our Drill Hall, but after Christmas things begin to happen and the place becomes a hive of activity. Unfortunately not all the activity has been directly connected with the Company.

We started with two children's parties, a series of Sunday courses for Officers and a week-end N.C.O.s' Cadre—which is still running and we are pleased to say is well attended by "H.Q." Company N.C.O.s.

During January we held a social and invited "B" and "D" Companies to join us in a triangular games evening. Unfortunately the weather was bad that night and our guests failed to attend—however, the evening passed quite nicely, aided by a few beers and some of Mrs. Hardisty's extra good sandwiches. The Commanding Officer popped in during the evening and took on all comers at table tennis.

We always run refresher courses for the M.T. and Signal Platoon during the winter months, and this year we are doing better than ever. Firstly, we have managed to get an operator for the film projector—and instead of lectures we show films, always more interesting; and secondly, we have an even greater attraction—the fair sex. The Officer Commanding the W.R.A.C. platoon in Huddersfield asked if some of her girls could attend our M.T. course, and we accepted with pleasure.

Lt. J. M. Stallard and C.S.M. Hawksworth are running the course, and they seem pleased with the results.

We have lost several N.S.M. recently; we are sorry to see them go and even more sorry that none of them decided to join the T.A. We welcome all the new ones who have just joined and hope we shall be able to make their stay a happy one.

In our last notes we reported that the canteen sales had slumped seriously, but we are now pleased to say that during the quarter they have improved

tremendously and now the W.R.A.C.s are coming it should improve even more. Among the lads who stay behind after parades for a chat are four lads who always grab a table and spend an hour or so playing crib—they play so seriously that I doubt if they would notice if the place caught fire—their names, Cpl. Weaver, L/Cpl. Robinson, Pte. Halstead (a new recruit) and Pte. Abbs.

7 BATTALION (T.A.) OFFICERS W.O.s and COLOUR-SERGEANTS

LOCATION LIST

Lieutenant-Colonel

(T.A.)

HAIGHTON, T., T.D.

Majors

(Regular)

MORAN, P. P. DE LA H.

(T.A.)

HEATON, H. S.

ASHTON, G. V., T.D.

MONCRIEFF, J. C.

Captains

(Regular)

BROWN, K. W.

(T.A.)

SIDDALL, D. R., T.D.

BARNES, C.

WOODHOUSE, E. A.

BROADBENT, T.

HAWS, P. H.

(T.A.)

CROWTHER, H. M.

(N.S.)

FIELD, B. H.

COWIE, A. P.

HARDING, A.

(S.S.C.)

BURROWS, A. (Q.M.)

Lieutenants

(T.A.)

KINGDON, R. W. R.

STALLARD, J. M.

MALLALIEU, L. J., DE L.

(N.S.)

COWEN, R.

ROSENKRANZ, S. J.

HATWELL, A. B.

SHEARD, C. D.

POPHAM, A. C.

MCALISTER, P. J.

GOODWIN, C. L.

THOMAS, G. R.

THOMPSON, I. M.

DUCKNEY, W. P.

(N.S.)

REESE, P. H.

ROTHERY, T. M.

PALMER, M. J. B.

SAUNDERS, D. E.

HOLLANDS, D. J. M.

GASCOYNE, D. N.

FITCH, A. R. A.

CHESTER, P. J.

DUFFY, T. C.

DOWDY, D. H. B.

HAYES, J. W.

(N.S.V.)

METCALFE, S. G.

Second-Lieutenants

(N.S.)

HUTCHINSON, A. E.

HICK, P. W.

AYKROYD, J. R.

R.A.M.C. Attached

Major NAISMITH, R. W. J. (R.A.M.C.)

R.A.Ch.D. Attached

THE REV. P. C. DALLEY

Warrant Officers, Class 1

(Regular)

ATKINSON, T.

Warrant Officers, Class 2

(Regular)

HARDISTY, A. S.

(T.A.)

FITTON, J.

BYE, R. L.

(T.A.)

WOOD, A.

MACHEN, G. H.

HAWKESWORTH, A.

Colour-Sergeants

(T.A.)

RODGERS, S.

WOOD, W. E.

SYKES, H.

(T.A.)

LEE, W.

STRINGER, F. H.

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

This is a very sad occasion, for this may well be nearly the last (if not the last) time these Notes will ever be written as emanating from 578 H.A.A. Regiment, R.A., the Regiment which has carried on the noble history and tradition of the 5th Dukes since the reformation of the T.A. after the last war.

The bombshell came in early December last, immediately after the last notes, when the Government announced that the introduction of the atom bomb had altered the whole aspect of H.M. Forces, in particular, in defence; that many of our weapons had become obsolete; and that the R.A.F. must be regarded as the Service of the future. A.A. Command would be abolished and the heavy A.A. gun was decried as useless.

At the Prize Distribution, held on December 3, the atmosphere was alive with expectancy, and it was fervently expected that our Group Commander, Major-General F. D. Moore, C.B.E., who distributed the prizes, would say something enlightening about this very startling news which had appeared in the press earlier that week. It was a very successful Prize Distribution, but we were all disappointed when the General made no comment.

At the end of the year Lieutenant-Colonel S. J. E. Huxley, T.D., had to give up the command of the Regiment for personal reasons, and we were all very sorry to see him go after such a short time as Commanding Officer. Major A. W. R. Brook, T.D., has been appointed to take over command

of the Regiment until such time as the future of the Regiment is known.

On February 4 the Mess duly dined out Lieutenant-Colonel S. J. E. Huxley and presented him with an ebony "Jumbo." The occasion was well up to the standard of such evenings and it was a "wet" night! We also said goodbye on this night to our Padre, Rev. H. Tuff, C.F., who has had to retire on the abolition of A.A. Command.

At long last we welcome the posting of a R.E.M.E. Officer to the Regiment, Lt. J. B. Brierley. We hope it is not too late!

Apart from the Children's Party and the Officers' New Year's Eve Ball, both of which were highly successful occasions, the Regiment has suffered, during the period of these notes, not a "suspended animation" but "animation with suspense."

Every effort has been made to carry on with drill nights and to provide training that might be useful in a new Field Force role, but the time factor has been a bit of a damper. We have all felt that three months is too long to keep a regiment on tenterhooks facing an unknown future. Although there is nothing definite to report as yet, it appears likely that there will be an amalgamation of three of the Dukes' Regiments, into one Regiment of the Royal Artillery. It looks as though THE IRON DUKE may lose some more contributors!

Whatever the future brings, we must accept the necessity of it all. If we go down under, never despair, the day will come when we will rise again!

673 L.A.A. REGIMENT, R.A.

Our officers' training programme as mentioned in our last report was voted highly instructive. A surprise was sprung on the officers when the Adjutant produced a Grundig Tape Recorder for voice procedure during the wireless training lessons. There were some amusing incidents as a result. It is understood that he hid the microphone in the C.O.'s office, and after 15 minutes of conversation, he surprised the C.O. by playing it back.

Exercise "Bumblepuppy"—the R.A. 5th Division Exercise at Scarborough—was enjoyed by all who attended. Not only was it instructive, but officers learned a lot about the roles of the other division artillery regiments. The dinner at the "Grand" in the evening of December 11 was an outstanding success.

The Regimental Children's Party (Christmas) took place at R.H.Q., Arden Road, Halifax, on Saturday, December 18. The *Courier and Guardian* flattered us with two exceptionally good photographs of the party. The children sang carols round our new grand piano, on which the Adjutant

performed. A 14-lb. Christmas cake was cut and distributed to all children at the end of the party, to which was added bags of fruit, cakes and the like. Father Christmas was ably performed by Sgt. Eyre.

On February 25 we held our Military Ball at Bradford, and we were most fortunate in securing the services of the Royal Artillery (Plymouth) Dance Orchestra. Other events included a St. Patrick's Night Dance at R.H.Q., on March 17, which rounded off the Annual Administrative Inspection on March 15 to 16. Annual Camp this year is from June 4 to 18, at Weybourne.

Our volunteer strength continues to rise and is now 29.92 per cent. of the Regiment. As we are extremely strong in manpower, the number of volunteers is therefore considerable. Two officers (Lts. Brown and Cobrey) became volunteers since the last report, which leaves now only the Medical Officer on whom to work. He puts in so much time that he is already a volunteer except "on paper."

OBITUARY

We deeply regret to announce the following deaths:

Lady Belfield, widow of General Sir Herbert Belfield, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., K.B.E., D.S.O. (Colonel of the Regiment from 1909 to 1934), died on February 12, 1955. She was Evelyn Mary, daughter of the late Alborn Taylor of Barnes, and married in 1888. General Belfield died in 1934.

* * *

THEAKALL.—On December 28, 1954, at his home in Walsall, Staffordshire, ex-R.S.M. G. Theakall (4835). Aged 79.

He served for 18½ years in the Regiment and then was transferred to the South Staffordshire Regiment, where he was appointed Acting Regimental Sergeant-Major. He retired from the Service in 1920.

* * *

HILL.—The death occurred on January 28 at the Royal Halifax Infirmary, of ex-Cpl. W. Hill.

He joined the Regiment in 1930 and served with both the 1st and 2nd Battalions, as well as at the Depot. On leaving the Service in 1950 he worked for Messrs. Asquith until a few days before his death. He was affectionately known to many as "Sailor Bill," in reference to his previous service in the Merchant Navy. He was buried with semi-military honours in the presence of many past and present members of the Regiment.

* * *

KENNEDY.—In-Pensioner Sgt. J. T. Kennedy, The Royal Hospital, Chelsea, late The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, died at the above address on February 12, 1955, aged 83.

Sgt. Kennedy had been ailing for some time. The family connection with the Duke's stretched back as far as the Crimean War, for Sgt. Kennedy's father was a member of the 33rd and fought in that campaign. His funeral took place at Brookwood Cemetery on February 16, and besides family mourners, members of the London Branch attended and laid a wreath on behalf of the Regimental Association.

* * *

AYLING.—4601946. Ex-L/Cpl. C. Ayling, died at his home address, on January 26, 1955.

He had been suffering for some time from lung trouble. Enlisting on January 6, 1907, Mr. Ayling served all his time with the 1st Battalion and for some years looked after the Corporals' Mess. He was discharged to pension, March 5, 1935. He was a well-known and popular figure in the 1st Battalion and affectionately known as "Billy Whip." His son, L/Cpl. C. Ayling, at present serving at the Depot, represented the Regiment at his father's funeral and laid a wreath on behalf of the Regimental Association.

* * *

TAYLOR.—This old soldier passed away at his home, 24 Bonds Lane, Banks, nr. Southport, on December 26, 1954, and was cremated at Liverpool Crematorium on the 30th. He was 82.

C/Sgt. Taylor enlisted at Halifax on December 31, 1890 and was discharged, at his own request, on

November 18, 1909, after nearly 19 years' service. He served with the 1st Battalion in South Africa, India and Burma, and held the Rhodesia and S.A. Medals. At one time he was attached as a Sergeant-Instructor to the Kola Goldfield Volunteers. He rejoined the Regiment in 1915 and was finally discharged on July 22, 1918. During the last war he served with the Home Guard as an instructor at Banks. Incidentally he was a native of Golcar, Huddersfield. His relatives have sent his medals for inclusion in our medal section in the Regimental Museum.

PERSONALIA

We offer our congratulations to Major Hugh Dixon on being awarded the O.B.E. in the New Year Honours List. Well known for his interest in Yorkshire cricket and his many public activities in the West Riding, he is also Chairman of the 6th Battalion O.C.A.

* * *

We also offer our congratulations to Colonel B. St. J. Le Marchant on his 96th birthday. We are sorry to learn from Colonel Trench, who had heard from his son that Colonel Le Marchant had cracked his femur in November, and then had a bad attack of bronchitis. He was, however, better at the time of writing and we hope that he will continue to improve.

* * *

We were sorry to learn that Captain Charles Shepperd, M.B.E., D.C.M., has been ill recently. We hope he is now well on the way to recovery.

We are also sorry to learn that Major H. Kelly, V.C., M.C., is far from fit. He has most recently kindly donated his unique medals to the Regiment and they are now held at the Depot. Arrangements are being made for their suitable mounting and display, and when this has been done a photograph of them will be reproduced in THE IRON DUKE. We all hope that Major Kelly will soon be well again.

* * *

C/Sgt. A. W. Wood recently completed 28 years' service with the Regiment (not including two years boys' service) and has now left the Army. We understand he has applied for an appointment with the War Department Constabulary, and we wish him the best of luck.

* * *

Majors F. P. A. Woods and F. J. Lauder have both recently retired. Major R. P. F. Marett, who retired early in 1954, is now Adjutant/Quartermaster of 10th West Hertfordshire Home Guard Battalion.

* * *

LATE NEWS

The engagement is announced between John David Prettejohn Cowell, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, elder son of Captain and Mrs. R. E. Cowell of Bedford, and Mavis "Bubbles" Greenwood, only daughter of Mr. E. Greenwood of Chapel-town, Nr. Sheffield and the late Mrs. Greenwood.



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PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE TWO COMMANDING OFFICERS OF LES VOLTIGEURS DE QUEBEC



Lieutenant-Colonel J. M. Corbett, E.D.
22nd Commanding Officer



Lieutenant-Colonel Raymond Caron, C.D.
23rd Commanding Officer

Les Voltigeurs de Quebec

CORRESPONDENCE

DEAR SIR,

On recently reading an abbreviated biography of the Duke of Wellington, I was amazed to learn that the compiler could not give the exact date of the 1st Duke's birth.

To read this: "WELLINGTON, Arthur Wellesley, 1st DUKE of (April 29 or May 1, 1769—Sept. 14, 1852)," is frustrating to say the least, and whilst it may not be important to the editor of the encyclopaedia concerned whether the gallant Duke saw light of day on April 29 or May 1, it is of tremendous importance that serving soldiers like myself know their dates. When sitting for Army Education Certificates, one can expect to encounter a poser relating to the Duke himself.

With all due respects to the publication con-

cerned, I would be indebted to you, sir, if you would publish the authentic date which I can refer to without hesitancy.

I am, sir,

Your obedient servant,

CPL. J. E. MORLEY (22522587).

[The date of the Duke's birth has never been finally decided. His mother gave one date, his nurse another, and an entry in a Dublin newspaper seemed to indicate a third. Registry of births appears not to have existed in Ireland in those days. Curiously enough, the date and place of birth of his great contemporary and adversary, Napoleon, were for many years a matter for dispute.—Ed.]

GENERAL WOLFE AND HUGH LORD

By J. W. HAYES

Nowadays, when a young man enters the Army, almost invariably he receives good advice from someone or other, be it verbal, written, or both. The custom of giving advice is, of course, by no means new, although it is rarely that written advice has survived in any quantity. The fragment of the letter which is given below comes from mid eighteenth-century days. It was written by the famous General Wolfe to a young subaltern officer about to join his regiment for the first time. This surviving fragment is of particular interest to members of the Regiment, since the one in question was none other than the old 33rd which was known, at the time of writing, by the name of its Colonel, Lord Charles Hay, as was the custom of the time.

James Wolfe, at that time lieutenant-colonel of the XXth Regiment,¹ wrote this letter of advice to Hugh Lord, the "Dear Huty" of the introduction. Hugh Lord was the nephew of Wolfe's great friend, William Rickson, a captain in the 19th Regiment.² The piece of advice was obviously simply a favour between friends, but there were others who sought Wolfe's advice for their relatives and protégés.

By virtue of the exemplary state to which he had brought his regiment Wolfe had gained a widespread reputation for his soldierly qualities which prompted many noblemen and other highly placed gentlemen to seek his advice for their young friends. Among others the Townshend and Cornwallis families sought his precepts: the one for young Harry Townshend, nephew of the 3rd Viscount and cousin to the famous Viscount Field-Marshal; the other for Henry Cornwallis, a younger brother of the Earl Cornwallis who was Colonel of the 33rd from 1766 until his death in 1805. Curiously enough both these young men died in their early twenties.³ A reference to them, and to the letters written on their behalf, can be found in Beckles Wilson, "The Life and Letters of James Wolfe," Heinemann, 1909 (the standard biography), p. 295.

Hugh Lord, however, was no scion of a noble house. His uncle was but a poor captain of foot, of long-standing seniority when he died in 1770, although he held the appointment of Deputy Quartermaster-General in North Britain and was a lieutenant-colonel by brevet. Like his uncle, Hugh was a native of Pembrokeshire.

He had a somewhat protracted and undistinguished military career. In the course of a service of 52 years (1756-1808) he spent 25 of them on half-pay. He never attained a rank higher than that of major, and that he held for 30 years before his retirement in 1808. His services are as follows:

Ensign to Lord Charles Hay's 33rd, September 1, 1756. (Aged 15-16.)

Lieutenant, 72nd Regiment, May 8, 1758. (This was the former 2nd Battalion of the 33rd, raised on August 25, 1756, and given a separate identity as the 72nd in May 1758.)

Captain, 72nd Regiment, December 25, 1762. He was put on half-pay with all the other officers

of the 72nd when it was disbanded at the peace, 1763.

Brought back on full-pay to the 18th,⁴ February 5, 1770, he left them when on May 30, 1778, he was appointed *Major* of the 75th or Prince of Wales's Regiment, raised the previous January and disbanded in 1783 at the peace. Lord went on half-pay on February 6, 1783, that is, before the regiment was disbanded. There he remained until March 19, 1801, when he was appointed captain of one of the 11 companies of Invalids at Jersey.

These companies were reduced before 1808, and in recognition of his long service Lord was permitted to retire on the full-pay of major. He died at the advanced age of 88 on June 2, 1829.

Major Lord was fortunate enough to see some active service. In 1757-58 he took part in the several landings on the French coast, and in 1762 he served with the 72nd in the expedition to the Havannah, in the West Indies. The 72nd also served at the capture of Belle Isle in 1761, but although Lord was on the books of the 72nd, there is no record of his having been on the expedition.

When he joined the 18th in 1770 the regiment was in the American colonies. The flank companies, that is, the grenadier company and the new light infantry company (introduced by the War Office in 1771) served with the expedition to Lexington and at the battle of Bunker's Hill in the early part of 1775 whilst the main part of the regiment was in garrison at Boston, but Lord's name is not shown on the Boston muster roll taken on June 25, 1775, and it must be presumed that he was not with the regiment at the time.⁵ After the evacuation of Boston in March 1776 the 18th were sent home to recruit. Little information can be gained respecting the 75th in 1778-83, but it does not appear that they went on active service.⁶

The fragment of Wolfe's letter to Hugh Lord which follows was discovered by accident, together with 12 letters from Wolfe to Hugh's uncle, Captain Rickson, at Glasgow in the middle years of the last century. It is undated.

"DEAR HUTY,—By a letter from my mother, I find you are now an officer in Lord Chas. Hay's Regiment, which I heartily give you joy of, and, as I sincerely wish you success in life, you will give me leave to give you a few hints which may be of use to you in it. The field you are going into is quite new to you, but may be trod very safely, and soon made known to you, if you only get into it by the proper entrance.

"I make no doubt, but you have entirely laid aside the boy and all boyish amusements, and have considered yourself as a young man going into a manly profession, where you must be answerable for your own conduct; your character in life must be that of a soldier and a gentleman; the first is to be acquired by application and attendance on your duty; the second by adhering most strictly to the dictates of honour, and the rules of good breeding;

and be most particular in each of these points when you join your regiment; if there are any officers' guard mounted, be sure constantly to attend the parade, observe carefully the manner of the officers taking their posts, the exercise of their espontoons, etc.; when the guard is marched off the parade, attend it to the place of relief and observe the manner and form of relieving, and when you return to your chamber (which should be as soon as you could, lest what you saw slip out of your memory), consult Bland's 'Military Discipline' on that head; this will be the readiest method of learning this part of your duty, which is what you will be the soonest called on to perform. When off duty get a serjt. or corporal, whom the adjutant will recommend to you, to teach you the exercise of the firelock, which I beg of you to make yourself as much master of as if you were a simple soldier, the exact and nice knowledge of this will readily bring you to understand all other parts of your duty, make you a proper judge of the performance of the men, and qualify you for the post of adjutant,⁸ and in time many other employments of credit.

"When you are posted to your company take care that the serjeants and corporals constantly bring you the orders; treat those officers with kindness, but keep them at a distance, so will you be beloved and respected by them. Read your orders with attention, and if anything in particular concerns yourself, put it down in your memorandum book, which I would have you [keep] constantly in your pocket ready for any remarks. Be sure to attend constantly morning and evening the roll calling of the company; watch carefully the absentees, and enquire into reasons for their being so; and particularly be watchful they do not endeavour to impose on you sham excuses, which they are apt to do with young officers, but will be deterred from it by a proper severity in detecting them. . . ." Here the rest of the letter has been torn off.

Although part of this letter reflects upon conditions which are very far removed from those of today, it is particularly noticeable how relevant the final paragraph remains—but then human nature is constant when all around is change!

HOW NOT TO BEHAVE

(*Postscript to Wolfe article*)

As a postscript to this article, in which Wolfe's letter places so much importance upon behaviour as a gentleman, it is illuminating to find officers conducting themselves in a dreadful manner in the very regiment into which our hero was commissioned in the autumn of 1756. The following incident took place in the spring of the year. It caused a great sensation.

"Two reckless young subalterns of Lord Charles Hay's regiment, stationed at Dartford, were travelling to the capital in a post-chaise. They had been drinking deeply, professed to be in a tremendous hurry, and kept the horses at such a pace that the post-boy was at his wits' end. Both used the most profane language towards the poor lad.

"At Shooter's Hill, protesting the animals were fatigued, he allowed the pace to slacken, whereupon Ensign Brown jumped out of the chaise and knocked him down. This was followed up by Ensign Lauder's drawing his sword and running it through the post-boy's recumbent body.

"After this gallant achievement, both were apprehended and tried for their lives at Rochester. Lauder was found guilty and, three days later, was hanged on Penenden Heath." (From Beccles Wilson, "Life of Wolfe.")

John Lauder was appointed ensign in Hay's 33rd on January 3, 1756, and George Brown on September 30, 1755. The latter was still in the Army List for 1757, but had gone from the regiment by the time the list for 1758 was printed. Whether or not he was allowed to stay in the Army, and transferred to another regiment, is not known. He was acquitted at the trial.

This account, at second-hand, follows substantially the brief notices given in the "Gentleman's Magazine" for April 12, August 13, and August 16, 1756. The trial took place, appropriately enough, on Friday, August 13, and the entry for the following Monday reads: "Mr. John Lauder was executed at Penenden Heath. He expressed great sorrow for his crime, and behaved with decency and resolution."

James Wolfe mentions the murder in a letter from Canterbury, dated April 17, 1756: "These two unfortunate Ensigns will be proceeded against in common course of law; one or both of them will be condemned, and unless their youth and condition when they committed this ill action pleads in their favour they must pay the forfeit of their lives; but till the law has taken place, and his Majesty's pleasure is known, I believe they will still be Ensigns."

Outrages of this nature were not calculated to raise the military character in public esteem, but as far as one can judge from the contemporary record afforded by the "Gentleman's Magazine," cases of ill-behaviour by officers were not infrequent at this time.

REFERENCES

¹Now The Lancashire Fusiliers. The numerical titles have been used to describe regiments in preference to the oft-changing and confusing names of their Colonels, although the latter designation was customary at this, the time of the Seven Years' War, 1756-63.

²Now The Green Howards.

³Both Harry Townshend and Henry Cornwallis entered the Guards in October and November 1755, although they later transferred to the line as captains. Harry Townshend was killed at the battle of Wilhelmstahl, in Germany on June 24, 1762, being then a captain and lieutenant-colonel in the Guards. He had crammed an enviable amount of service into a short career. In 1758 he took part in the landing at Cherbourg, and in 1759, when a captain in the 5th, he had been wounded in the famous battle of Minden. He had been again wounded before he died at Wilhelmstahl, and his dashing conduct was well known in the Allied army. Henry Cornwallis, who had also served in Germany, as a captain in the 24th (S.W.B.), died at sea on his way home from the Continent in April 1761.

In compiling the notes to this article I found most useful an article on the same subject by Charles Dalton, printed in the Journal of the Royal United Service Institution for December 1902.

⁴The Royal Irish Regiment, disbanded in 1922.

⁵"Campaigns and History of the Royal Irish Regiment," Lt.-Col. G. Le M. Gretton, 1911.

⁶"Records and Badges of the British Army," Chichester and Burgess-Short, 1902, p. 759.

⁷"A Treatise on Military Discipline" by General Humphrey Bland, which ran into many editions.

⁸Lord never became an adjutant.

RECALLED TO THE COLOURS

Mess Kit Once More

(Reprinted from "The Times" of March 21. By kind permission of the Editor)

Mess kit is back. True its possession is optional, but that will not prevent colonels of regiments from striving to ensure that as many of their officers as possible will somehow obtain this colourful, though not on all figures becoming, form of dress. In achieving their object they will also have in mind the need to save slender purses. And so, at this time, there will be descending on the breakfast tables of retired officers up and down the land appeals to present their mess kits to the regiment, for re-issue to deserving subalterns and much married captains.

Many, however willing, will be unable to respond to the call. They will recall dimly having seen a charming little red coat worn by the lady of the house at one of those occasional wartime cocktail parties, when clothes were difficult. Could it have been? Yes, it was! They will remember the frantic appeal of the Women's Institute for articles of fancy dress. They will regret that charade at which, with a few deft alterations, the scarlet jacket made such a splendid bullfighter's jacket. Others, of the baser sort, will have to confess that their mess kit, together with a saddle, a pair of polo boots, and a camp bath, brought in a sovereign or two at a time when the sort of activities connected with that miscellany seemed remote indeed.

There will be some, however, whose search of long forgotten tin boxes will result in triumph. Right at the bottom, in tissue paper and in as good order—or so their owners' gladdened hearts will imagine—as when they were packed away, lie the jacket, the overalls, the wellingtons, and, wrapped in a lightly vaselined rag, even the box spurs. But they will not wrap up their parcel and consign it to the Regimental Depot without a pang. Mess kit, as uniform goes, is not a very old form of dress. The 60th probably lay claim to being the first Regiment to have worn it—in 1839. Yet each mess kit now being handed in will surely have a tale to tell.

THE NEW SENTRY

At least one who is surrendering his mess kit will recall the occasion in India when, as orderly officer, he was doing the nightly rounds. The sentry of the regimental quarter guard was newly joined. He hailed from the north country. It was the season of the year when, by official decree, the hot weather was over and the cold weather had begun. The officers had accordingly changed from white to red. As the orderly officer cycled up to the guard room, dead silence greeted him. Asked peremptorily why he had not challenged, a welcoming smile spread over the sentry's face. "'Ee, I didn't recognise you in your little red coat," he said benignly.

The accompaniments of mess kit and the leisurely tempo of the modern laundry will present

the new wearer with a more acute problem than confronted his grandfather in India. It is on record that one such grandfather, making a dash for the Mess from his bungalow during the monsoon, slipped on the greasy path, fell into a puddle and ruined his boiled shirt. Having returned to the bungalow to effect repairs, he discovered from his bearer that he did not possess a second shirt and that the one he was wearing had done duty alone for the best part of a year.

But such difficulties will be overcome and it is pleasant to think that the "little red coats" are being recalled to the Colours for a second spell of duty and that, instead of spending their declining years in moth ball, they will take their full part again in military occasions, grave and gay.

LAMENT

(For a dear friend)

In my youth, in my radiant glamorous youth
(Ah, me! Many summers ago)
I recall with what pleasure I used to behold
My torso apparelled in scarlet and gold
With a shirt-front whiter than snow.

And I thought as my elegant limbs I surveyed,
"These will soften the heart of Corinna.
She'll have to admit that there's nothing so fine
As a junior officer of the line
When he's all togged out for dinner."

What if no medals adorn my chest,
But one small pip my shoulder,
A lightsome foot and a lissom waist,
Are surely more to the ladies' taste
Than the cracks of the wiser and older.

But today the scarlet is faded and worn
And my brow with wrinkles lined.
The gold is tarnished, the spurs are blunt,
And my figure sticks out too far in front
And much too far behind.

So I've sent my pants to a sale in aid
Of our choir boys' trip to Lundy,
The wellingtons, once my batman's joy,
Embellished the calves of our principal boy,
That chubby contralto, Emily Toots,
In the village production of "Puss in Boots."
And a piece of the jacket, I held so dear
In bygone days, I saw last year
Braving the rain and the wind and the snow
On the eighteenth green at Westward Ho.

Sic Transit Gloria Mundi.

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

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

7TH INSTALMENT

THE SURRENDER OF CRONJE

That afternoon (February 23) Captain Harris and 2 Lt. Maples arrived, the former still limping from his wound. Maples took over command of "G" Company from me, and I returned to "B" Company, now commanded by Townsend. The Brigade was at this time commanded by the C.O. of the Buffs, as General Knox had been slightly wounded in the chest on Sunday; the bullet went right through a Highlander, killing him, and then struck the General. At 6.30 p.m. we paraded in a terrific thunderstorm; the lightning struck an ammunition wagon, killing two men (of the Oxfords, I think), but fortunately did not explode the ammunition. We were under orders to be attached to the 7th Division, which was occupying ground by the river, on the east side of the laager. We had to make a big detour to avoid being fired on, and had an unpleasant march in the dark, in pouring rain, eventually halting and lying down in pools of water until daylight. We reached the river about 2½ miles from the laager, and after fording it at a drift, continued along a path half-way-down the bank, which was steep and deep, and gave good cover. After proceeding in single file towards the laager for some time we came on to the Hampshires, who were bivouacked along the bank. Passing through them we halted and had our first meal of the day. After a rest we dug level places in the bank to lie down in, and covered them with waterproof sheets.

The river here ran almost straight towards the laager, and was used as a communication trench to where trenches were dug out into the open ground at right angles to it. Digging could only be done under cover of darkness, and the trench occupied by day. Each night a trench further forward was dug, thus sapping nearer the laager. The Boers enfiladed the river bed and bullets continually whistled overhead, lopping twigs off the trees, and occasionally hitting someone. One of our orderly sergeants was hit in the back, while R.S.M. Kearns was reading out orders to them.

I had a restful night in bivouac as Townsend took one half company out trench digging. It rained heavily and Townsend came back in the early morning drenched. At 9.30 a.m. (February 25) I took my half company along the river bed to the trench dug in the night, and occupied it. We were among trees here and only had a view of about 100 yards, but Behrend with "D" Company, who occupied a trench in the open, but farther back than us, could see the laager. He had posted his best shots at different parts of the trench to snipe the Boers, but they had very few targets, and only got two horses and a possible Boer. We spent the day improving the trench;

we were not worried by the Boers' fire, as their bullets were going high over our heads. We had a visit from General Wood, the C.R.E. of the 7th Division, and at dusk Major Le Marchant arrived with about 250 men to prolong our trench into the open on our right. Maples, with a smaller party, passed through us to dig a trench in front, and Maffett went beyond him to act as a covering party. After posting sentries at each end of the trench, and ordering the men to fix bayonets and lean their rifles against the parapet, I had a doze, when I was awakened by a terrific burst of firing, and we stood to arms. Then suddenly about 20 men came tearing towards us, and jumped into the trench, some tearing their clothes on our men's bayonets in their haste. They were followed by more, and all said the Boers had got amongst them. This was nonsense, and Maffett and his party remained out in front during the quarter of an hour of mad firing; Major Le Marchant came along and called out to me if I was all right; he had had no casualties, the fire being mostly very high. At battalion headquarters it had been thought that we were being attacked, and Acworth was sent up to me with reinforcements, but finding all was well took them back. It was thought that the Boers had spotted or heard movement and had opened fire, expecting an attack.

Next morning, February 26, the sniping was much heavier and better aimed, and bullets were continually striking the parapet. Colonel Lloyd, with Tyndall and a Colonel Maxwell, R.E., came out to see how the trenches were getting on, and I was told to return to our bivouac as we were no longer required, with the trench in front completed. We had rather an unpleasant journey back, with bullets coming over pretty fast. The river bed was rather unhealthy as it was so damp with an early morning mist, and a dead bullock had floated down and got caught in a submerged tree. We tried to shift it but without success, and the smell from it was horrible. Just about sunset there was a heavy bombardment of the laager from 6-inch howitzers, which had just arrived on the scene; their shells made heavy explosions which shook the ground. This was too much for Cronje, and next morning, February 27, he surrendered. White flags appeared all over the laager, and a field cornet with another man with a white flag surrendered to Behrend in our front line. We were not allowed into the laager, but saw the Boers streaming out of it. All the wagons appeared to be smashed and there were dead horses everywhere. It was fitting that the surrender should occur on the anniversary of Majuba, that sad rebuff to our national pride. Bainbridge, who was serving with the South-Eastern District M.I., came over to see us, and we celebrated the occasion with

a bottle of whisky. We hadn't had any for some time, and imagined it had all been finished, but Sgt. Gordge had kept this bottle hidden for some such event.

At 5 p.m. we were ordered to rejoin our brigade, and spent four hours crossing the river by a pontoon ferry, bivouacking for the night on the further bank. On arriving next morning at our old camping ground we found that the Gloucesters had been sent off as escort to the Boer prisoners to the railway. About 50 Boer women were left, looking very dirty and woebegone, poor things.

On March 1 we left Paardeberg without regrets and marched the four miles to Ofontein, where the brigade bivouacked. Lord Roberts and his staff had taken up their headquarters in the farm. Here we received the good news of the relief of Ladysmith and the evacuation of Colesburg by the Boers. Messages of congratulations from the Queen, the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Connaught, Lord Wolseley, and the Lord Mayor of

London were read out on parade. There was a lot of rain during the day, but we rigged up a tarpaulin between two wagons for the mess.

On March 2 Lord Roberts left to pay a visit to Kimberley, and General French reported that some 8,000 Boers had taken up a strong position both sides of the Modder river, about eight miles to the east. Colonel Lloyd received a telegram from our M.I. Company that they had had a sharp fight near Colesburg, in which Captain Wallis had been killed and 2 Lt. Wilson severely wounded in the head. Sgt. Firth was later to receive the V.C. for his gallantry in this action. We were still on half rations, and always hungry; the reason for this was that over a fortnight before the huge convoy carrying supplies for the whole force had been captured by the Boers under De Wet. Tobacco was very short, and only the mess cooks were allowed the few matches left. One could light a pipe or cigarette, however, by using the lens from one's field glasses as a burning glass.

THE FEDERATION REGIMENT

by General Sir Gerald Templer, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.,
K.B.E., D.S.O.

I have recently had the honour of being appointed Colonel of the Federation Regiment. As many readers will know, this regiment is largely officered in the higher ranks by British Officers, Warrant Officers and Senior N.C.O.s. I think, therefore, that it will be of interest to readers to know a little bit about them.

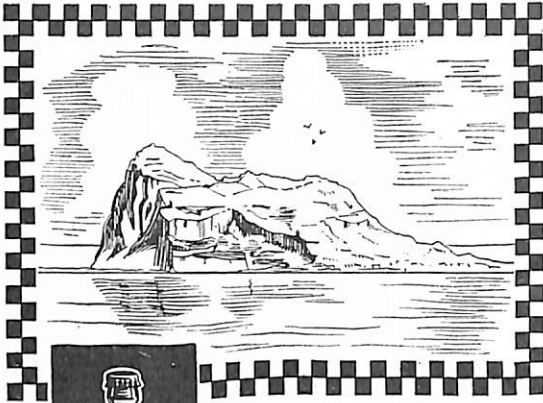
Until quite recently it was impossible for any inhabitant of Malaya to join any branch of the Armed Forces of that country unless he was a Malay by birth. Since only approximately 45 per cent. of the inhabitants of the Federation of Malaya are Malays (the remainder being Chinese, Indians, Pakistanis, Ceylonese and Eurasians) this obviously presented a good many political problems in view of the fact that this little country is on its way to self-government, within—so we all hope—the British Commonwealth of Nations. It was obviously unfair that more than 50 per cent. of the inhabitants of the country were unable to take part in any way in its defence, when at the same time we were telling them that it was their duty to owe a hundred per cent. allegiance to that country.

The plan took a good deal of making, since the idea was of course a strange one in Malaya. However, the difficulties were got over and the first recruits for this new Regiment started to form up on September 15, 1952, in Taiping, a delightful town in the State of Perak. The 1st Battalion of the Regiment is now fully operational which reflects a great deal of credit on all concerned. It may seem that it has taken a long time to get even one battalion going, but when the Regiment started to form, there was obviously not a single

officer, warrant officer or N.C.O. available from any community other than the Malays. From the beginning it was decided that we must stick as rigorously as possible to the racial split which it was decided should be 40 per cent. Malay, 40 per cent. Chinese and 20 per cent. others. On the present total establishment of 729 All Ranks this should produce 292 Malays, 292 Chinese and 145 others. In point of fact the strength today is 294 Malays, 286 Chinese and 148 others, and I reckon this is very good. The Regiment today should have 18 Malay, 18 Chinese and 10 other Sergeants and above. Actually it has got 21 Malays, 6 Chinese and 9 others in these categories. But considering that we had to start with recruits on the square that is not bad either.

It obviously takes a longish time to produce officers from nothing. Today the Regiment has 13 seconded British Officers, 3 Warrant Officers and 3 Sergeants with it. There are also 21 Asian Officers of which 3 are Malay, 10 Chinese and 8 other races and at Sandhurst there are now 22 cadets of the Federation Regiment, the vast majority of whom came from races other than Malays. There are a further 4 cadets at the Officer Cadet School at Eaton Hall, Chester. I have seen a good deal of the boys at Sandhurst and they are doing admirably. One, a young Ceylonese is a Junior Under Officer and is also one of the star turns in the Sandhurst Rucker side. I hope it will be possible for the cadets of the Federation Regiment to do a short attachment to a Depot of a British unit before their return to Malaya at the end of their training in this country. In the course of time Officer Training will be carried out at the Federation Military College in Malaya. A good start has already been made with this, but it will be some few years before it is functioning properly, and in a

(Continued on page 82)



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The Federation Regiment

(Continued from page 81)

position to accept the full responsibility for training the young officer entry both of the Malay Regiment and of the Federation Regiment. And so for the next few years the young officers for these two regiments will continue to be trained in the United Kingdom.

Today the Federation Regiment handles the recruiting and training of the other small multi-racial units which were started at the same time, i.e., The Federation Armoured Car Regiment, Federation Signals, Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and so on.

Financial considerations permitting, it is the intention to raise a second battalion and a third battalion of the Federation Regiment in the next few years. The experiment is a very exciting one and it has got off to a very good start. Those who know the difficulties in a country containing a multi-racial society will appreciate how fine a thing it is for a country of that sort to have a unit or units of young men, of different religions and different communities, all living together in the same barrack rooms, eating the same food, and getting on with each other like a house on fire.*

I am very proud of having played a part in the raising of this Regiment. And also very proud of being its Colonel. But for some years to come its success will depend to a great extent on the British Officers, Warrant Officers and Sergeants seconded to it under the liberal terms of A.C.I. 484/54.

There are likely to be vacancies in all ranks in the near future and anyone who is interested can find out details on writing to Lieutenant-Colonel T. H. Trevor, O.B.E., 1st Battalion The Federation Regiment, Butterworth, P.W., Malaya.

INDIA'S TROUBLES

A few years ago in India
There was a terrible disease
And not one soul could grow crops,
Not even peas.

After W.H.O. came in the act
Everything was satisfact,
Now everything is okay
But W.H.O. did not stay.

They cleaned the disease and went away,
They told them how to cure it
If it ever came again,
So neither they nor animals, including a hen,
Would ever get it again.

The delightful poem printed above was sent to the World Health Organisation at Geneva by a small American boy, aged 9.

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5th Battalion.—*Hon. Secretary* : Mr. J. T. Gilleard, 39 Springfield Terrace, Somerset Road, Huddersfield, Yorks.

6th Battalion.—*Hon. Secretary* : Capt. H. G. Lawson, 59 Short Bank Road, Skipton, Yorks.

8th Battalion (145 R.A.C.).—*Hon. Secretary* : Major F. B. Murgatroyd, "Oakwood," Wood Lane, Hipperholme, Halifax.

10th Battalion.—*Hon. Secretary* : Mr. G. R. Goodchild, 10 Willowfield Crescent, Highfield Road, Bradford.

O.C.A. NEWS

The following notes have been extracted from the "News Letter" of the 8th Battalion D.W.R. and 145 Regiment R.A.C., which is published half-yearly.

It is 12 years since we sailed from the Clyde to North Africa—what memories we all have of the long trek, starting at Otley and finishing at Cesena. We do this year look forward to the best reunion yet, and all who can possibly make it are asked to be at the Griffin Hotel, Leeds, on Saturday, April 23 (remember St. George's Day, April 23, 1943?), at 6.30 p.m. or before. Last year it was not possible to arrange a reunion and we would like to see as many as possible at Leeds this year.

The 10th Officers' Reunion was held in London in November last. Twenty-four members attended,

including Colonel Armitage, and Colonel Jackson presided.

WELFARE

Anyone requiring assistance should write to the Hon. Sec. or to the Sec. O.C.A., Wellesley Barracks, Halifax, or the Hon. Sec., R.A.C. Benevolent Fund, Bovington Camp, Dorset.

DIANA THE BELL

This was despatched from the Regimental Museum, Halifax, in the autumn of 1953, and now hangs at the Church of St. Christopher at the R.A.C. Centre, Bovington Camp. Its deep notes are heard on Sundays and on ceremonial occasions, and to those who heard her in North Africa it brings back many memories. The bell serves as a memorial to the two battalions of "Dukes" who served in the R.A.C. in World War 2.