

No.102 October 1956



THE IRON DUKE

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

THE IRON DUKE

The Regimental Magazine of

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

Dettingen
Mysore
Seringapatam
Ally Ghur
Delhi, 1803
Leswarree
Deig
Corunna
Nive
Peninsula
Waterloo
Alma
Inkerman
Sevastopol
Abyssinia
Relief of Kimberley
Paardeberg
South Africa 1900-02
Mons 1914
Marne 1914, '18



Ypres 1914, '15, '17
Hill 60
Somme 1916, '18
Arras 1917, '18
Cambrai 1917, '18
Lys
Piave 1918
Landing at Suvla
Afghanistan 1919
North West Europe
1940, 1944-45
Dunkirk 1940
St Valery-en-Caux
Fontenay-le-Pesnil
Djeboul Bou Aoukaz 1943
Anzio
Monte Ceco
Burma 1942, '43, '44
Sittang 1942
Chindits 1944

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No. 102

BUSINESS NOTES

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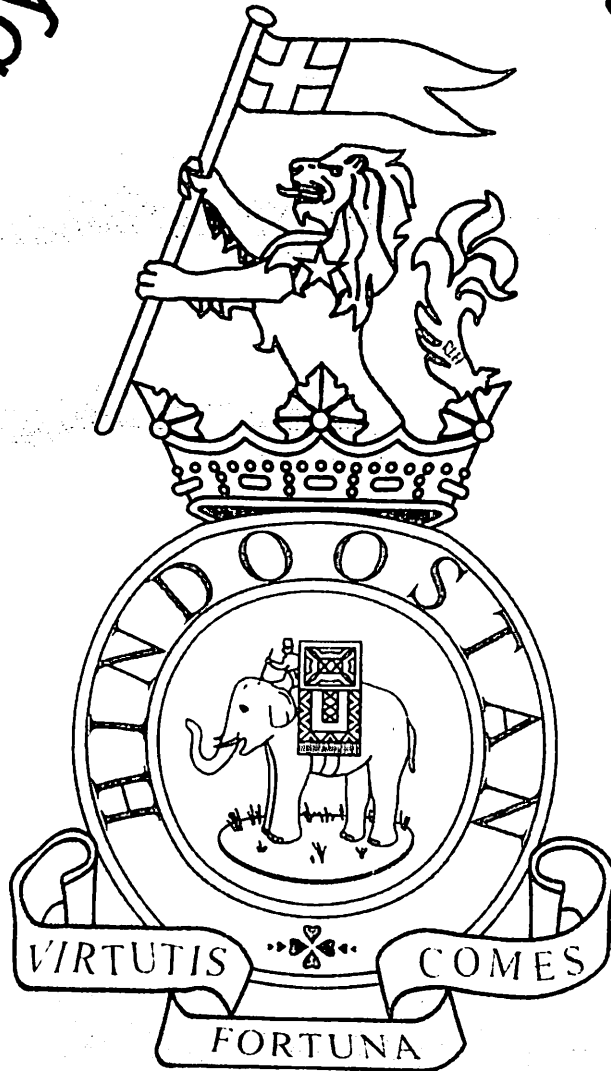
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EDITORIAL

The sudden and unheralded flight—in the literal sense of the word—of the 1st Battalion, threatened to create a vacuum in these pages, which it would have been difficult to fill. But in spite of what must have been very great difficulties, the Sub-Editor has managed to send us a full batch of notes, for which we are most grateful. Their present location is shrouded in secrecy, but obviously bathed in sunshine, a commodity almost extinct in these islands. Unfortunately the photographs of the Bisley team are not available for this number, but we offer them hearty congratulations on their wonderful success.

The presentation of New Colours to the 7th Battalion and the laying-up of the old 6th Battalion Colours are fully reported and illustrated in this number. This has left little space for articles of general interest, several of which have perforce been held over to a later date, including two on the series of former Colonels, which James Hayes has written on his voyage to Hong Kong, where he is taking up a Colonial appointment.

The new wages agreement in the printing trade—delightful no doubt for the negotiators—entails a very substantial rise in the cost of THE IRON DUKE's production. How much, it is difficult to assess at the moment. But stringent economy on the number of pages and illustrations is the only means of averting either bankruptcy or an increase in subscription rates. We hope that contributors will not feel aggrieved if they find their efforts sometimes severely cut.

The last issue of THE IRON DUKE appeared too early to carry any reference to the V.C. Centenary Celebrations in June.

The Review by H.M. The Queen took place on June 26. The Regiment's representatives on parade were, Major J. P. Huffam, v.c., Pte. H. Tandey, v.c., D.C.M., M.M. and Pte. R. Burton, v.c. Watching the parade were Mr. Loosemore, son of Sgt. A. Loosemore, v.c., D.C.M., and Mrs. Kelley, wife of Major J. Kelley, v.c., M.C.

The V.C. Exhibition at Marlborough House, was from June 15 to July 28. The Regiment's exhibits were two wall cases containing the photographs and citation of the Regiment's nine holders of the V.C., together with the medals of Pte. J. Bergin, v.c., and Major H. Kelly, v.c. The two cases are now in the Regimental Museum.

In the death of Colonel Le Marchant, the Regiment loses not only a devoted friend of many years standing, but—as far as is known—the last link with the old 33rd and 76th. For he was commissioned in the 76th in February 1881, four months before the issue of the Army Order amalgamating the two regiments under the title of the Halifax Regiment, a title which it never assumed, as "Halifax" was altered to "West Riding" before the order became operative. It was not until a year after he joined, that the Regiment was permitted to add "Dettingen"

to its battle honours—a singular case of "long and careful consideration" on the part of the War Office.

By permission of the Editor of *The Times*, we publish an article, entitled "Private Entwistle and his Bear," which describes a real incident, that may be recalled by many who were serving with the 2nd Battalion just before the war. The author is Major J. D. Lunt, who left us for the Cavalry after the war and is now 2IC of the 16/5 Lancers in Germany.

General Sir James Steele, President of the Army Benevolent Fund has written to the Colonel of the Regiment asking that the attention of our readers might be drawn to the activities and urgent needs of this organisation. "The Fund is," he says, "the mainstay of almost all the Corps and Regimental Associations, which are so fervidly busy with the task of alleviating the distress and hardship of old soldiers and their dependants." Those who have studied the reports of our own Association know how valuable its assistance has been. The increasing cost of living and the disruption of family life caused by the recent unrest in Cyprus and the Middle East have increased the demands on the fund, while its income tends to diminish, and this year the accounts showed that expenditure exceeded income by over a quarter of a million pounds. If its work is to be carried on and the needs of the soldier in adversity are to be met, more subscriptions are badly needed. Donations in the form of cash, cheques, bankers' orders, or—best of all, for they nearly double the value of the gift—deeds of covenant, can be sent to: The Army Benevolent Fund, 20 Grosvenor Place, London, W.1. A pamphlet giving details of its activities is also available.

The Colonial Secretary of the Leeward Islands writes that while exploring the old fortifications of Antigua, he found a button inscribed "33" surrounded by a laurel wreath. This is almost certainly a relic of the short stay the 33rd made in Antigua in 1822. On their voyage to the West Indies the Headquarter ship, "The Ocean" struck a reef off the coast and was so badly damaged that the regiment landed, while she underwent repairs, involving a delay of two months. The button is now in the museum there along with the relics of other regiments who served in these islands from time to time.

CHRISTMAS CARDS, 1956 DIARIES 1957

These are obtainable from the Administrative Officer, Regimental Depot, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, Wellesley Barracks, Halifax, Yorkshire for: Christmas cards—12s. a dozen, post free. Diaries—5/3 each, post free. Terms—Cash with order.

The Christmas card has on the outside a reproduction of the print, dated 1856, showing a mounted officer and a company of the 33rd Regiment, in Review order. The diary, which contains four pages of Regimental information, is the familiar one supplied by the Army Sport Control Board.

1st BATTALION

SUB-EDITORIAL

We note that at the end of our last sub-editorial, we said that we should be concentrating on C.C.F. camps, cadre training and leave. This last move should be a lesson to us because, like the cricketer commentator who says a batsman looks settled for the day and the next ball he is out, it seems fatal to foretell anything.

Some companies, did, however, manage to classify their companies on the range, a Signals and M.T. cadre were started, a lot of the Battalion did get some leave and we did start to do the C.C.F. camps at Bulford, but on July 25, the word came and that was that. We would like to register our appreciation of the officers and men of 39 Heavy Regiment R.A., who at extremely short notice, and with less staff than we had (owing to their R.A. Demonstration commitments), uncomplainingly and effectively took over our whole stores and camp there in less than 12 hours. As Wellington College were in camp near to Chisledon, we managed to see them through to the end of their camp and very much enjoyed having them with us.

The packing and weighing and documentation and flying which went on between then and now is graphically described in the Company notes, etc., so it needs no further comment. One most noticeable effect, however, was the amazing rise in morale. The Battalion as a whole worked with a will all hours of the day and night and the rather complicated operation of getting here was successfully completed. We should like to express our appreciation of the Training Battalion R.A.S.C. at Farnborough, through whom we were very comfortably staged on our way to the airport, the crews of Airwork, Skyways, and other civil air charter firms who so safely and comfortably flew us in, and the Regiment here who at very short notice helped us to settle in our rocky encampment.

We take this opportunity of expressing our gratitude to Lt. Col. C. W. G. Ince, who has presented the battalion with £50 for the purchase of new band instruments. His most generous gift is very warmly appreciated by all of us.

This is a very idle sub-editorial because having covered the move by referring the reader to Company and Mess notes, we propose to refer him again to those notes for a description of our present activities. Within the bounds of security, there is so little to say, it will not do to dwell on rumours and a description of the surrounding countryside and its heat and its man-eating flies would only bore the older reader who has seen it all before—except to say the place has changed in the last 20 years, so those with enough service in to remember tell us.

We close by making NO forecasts. No doubt future moves, if any, will be faithfully reported in the Press.

OFFICERS' MESS

After the alarms and excursions occasioned by the presentation of New Colours to the Battalion, described in the last issue of THE IRON DUKE, the

general opinion was that there should follow a quiet period of rest and recuperation. Little did we realise how short a time remained for us at Chisledon.

Without a doubt the main feature of life in the Officers' Mess since the last issue of THE IRON DUKE has been the evacuation and abandonment of our home at Chisledon to the tender care of the rear party. On July 25, the Battalion moved to Bulford Fields camp to organise and run Combined Cadet Force camps; it was then that the famous cry of "Too many chiefs and not enough Indians," was first heard as the necessity for myriads of general duty men became more apparent. At Bulford, since companies were each running Cadet Battalions we did not live in a Battalion Mess, but in a series of Cadet Battalion Messes, each presided over by the Company Commander, with Major Milligan acting as genial Father Christmas to us all. Colonel Nasser came into the news at the same time that the cadets came into camp, consequently, after only one day of the camp had run its course we were withdrawn from Bulford and returned to Chisledon. Everyone was much impressed with the speed at which 39 Heavy Regiment R.A. took over from us.

On arrival back at Chisledon, life resolved itself into a whirl of feverish activity. It was decided that only a very limited amount of silver should travel with the Battalion, and that the remainder, in company with the Regimental property should be sent to the Depot for safe custody. Major Roberts took upon himself the huge task of packing and dispatching all this to the Depot, and was to be seen at all hours wandering around the Mess muttering, "ash trays—6, goblets—24, candelabra—1." Meanwhile, those officers travelling with the Battalion were busily engaged in packing sea baggage and air freight. Innumerable journeys must have been made by batmen to the weighing machine at the Quarter Masters to see whether there was room for another pair of socks in the 40 lbs. allotted to each officer for his personal kit on the aeroplane, and even then some of us did not get the right answer. Eventually after one or two false starts, the move began and, surprisingly enough, everyone arrived at the correct destination at the right time, although the advance party only beat the first part of the main body by a short head. We were very pleased to see Group-Captain Troop, Colonel Upjohn and Major Kavanagh at the airport from time to time to see us well on our way.

Our new home is situated a few hundred yards from the main part of the camp, and consists of a single building, with kitchen, dining room and a few bedrooms.

The anteroom and remainder of the accommodation consists of tents. We are very fortunate in our position, in that, although we are some distance from any large town, we are on top of a hill with a very pleasant view all round. Bathing is plentiful and enthusiasm for under-water swimming and exploration was heightened even further by the recent showing of the film "Above us the Waves."

A great deal of hard work has been put in by the Mess Committee, in making the Mess as comfortable as possible under the circumstances.

Mid-day Sunday had once more become the occasion of curry lunch, and Major Emmett with the assistance of various other officers produced the first of what we hope will be an excellent series of gastronomical experiences. Meanwhile, the demand for a Mess barbecue is growing and it is the intention to hold one come what may.

Early in July, a dance was held in the Officers' Mess at Chisleton. This occasion, inspired and engineered by Captain Hoppe, was a great success, and we had hoped to repeat the venture. There were about 60 people present and music was provided by an excellent quintet from the Regimental Band. On July 21, the Battalion played cricket against Wellington College, and the Master and Members of the Wellington College Common Room very kindly invited officers and their friends to tea on the lawn. The match resulted in a draw, which was watched by many past and present members of the Regiment in weather which was dry, if not bright, amidst very pleasant surroundings with the Regimental Band playing during the afternoon. During the period under review, we were visited by a group of officers from the Joint Services' Staff College, who stayed with us a few days. We took the opportunity to hold a small cocktail party and show the colour film taken of the ceremony of presenting the New Colours.

Before leaving England, we were joined by Major K. W. Brown, Captain A. Taylor-Smith (R.A.P.C.), Lt. Samuel (R.A.M.C.), and 2 Lts. J. Miles and T. Carter, all of whom we should like to welcome to the Mess. Major Nicholson rejoined us for a few days but unfortunately was not able to travel with the Battalion, owing to his health, and so his stay with the Battalion was all too brief. We have said goodbye to Major D. C. Roberts, Major J. S. Milligan and Lt. T. M. H. Smythe, who is returning to the East Yorkshire Regiment. 2 Lt. Russel, who was due to return to civilian life, has travelled with us by prolonging his National Service.

Where we shall be when the next notes are written is anybody's guess, for, in spite of continual polishing of the crystal ball the future remains uncertain.

SERGEANTS' MESS

As the recent moves of the Battalion have been given extensive publicity in the National Press, it will be no surprise to those readers not serving with the Battalion, that we are now languishing under a hot sun. Perhaps languishing is not quite the correct term, but we're here, and the first few days, spent erecting tentage and settling in, were quite exhausting to most. The only thing that kept us going over this stage was the semi-cool beverage, very ably dispensed by C.S.M.I. Hodgson, in the absence of our Caterer who arrived on a later flight.

The flight out here was most luxurious and everyone was most impressed both with the arrangements at the airport and at Elles Barracks, Farnborough, where we stayed before emplaning.

Our Mess here is tented and we have managed to acquire through the Q.M. a few furnishings, which, though not ultra-modern, are proving quite serviceable. Some of the older 1st Battalion members are taking great delight in organising conducted tours round the main towns for the younger members, though there is no doubt that they can look after themselves in such things.

Prior to leaving Chisleton we had only one social event during the period after the Troop. On that occasion we entertained the British Legion Club, Marlborough, to a games evening which was thoroughly enjoyed by guests and hosts alike. Our other entertainments were rather curtailed due to members being on block leave with their Companies, and later by Companies running T.A. and Cadet camps.

We congratulate C/Sgt. Waite and Sgts. Wylde and Falkingham on their recent promotions. Of the recent arrivals: Sgt. Pennington came from S.H.A.P.E. H.Q., Paris, Sgt. Nomile (R.A.M.C.) has joined to look after our health, and S/Sgt. Rodgers (R.A.P.C.) to take care of our finance. Two ex-members of the Mess, ex-Sgts. Pickersgill (M.M.) and Flood are now serving as Corporals with the Anti-Tank Platoon, having been recalled as reservists. Perhaps they will change their minds and sign on.

By the time these notes go to press there may be news of a further move, as our camp at the moment is not of a permanent nature. However, as any move will again probably be publicised in the National Press, it is unnecessary for us to speculate at the moment.

"A" COMPANY

Recent events have seen the Company rapidly change from its training role into a rifle company once more. In saying farewell to our old Company Commander, Captain Richard Scott-Evans, we welcome Major "Baron" Emmett, fresh from his secret mission in Australia. Major "Topper" Brown returned to the fold at great speed from the 7th Battalion to assume the appointment of 2IC, and Sgt. Simpson followed from the Depot. For long the lone subaltern, Jeremy Cumberlege, has been joined by David Miles and David Parnham, well versed in the latest from Eaton Hall. Sgt. Mountcastle had come from the Depot a little earlier and Sgt. Wilson was transferred from "D" Company, where most of the afore-mentioned were at one time. From the reserve we welcome Cpls. Jenness and Blair, and we would wish them a short and happy stay with us, and a speedy return to their civilian occupations.

Prior to the recent events, the Company was providing the demonstration team for the T.A. and C.C.F. camp at Bulford Fields. Rehearsals with the tanks indicated that we really had something to show the Cadets. Our activity in this field came to an abrupt end, and before we knew quite what had happened, we were back in Chisleton, jabbed, warned for overseas and on a few days' leave.

Then there were the crates and panniers, for sea or air, packing and unpacking with changes dependent on the limitations of air freight. Like-

wise nominal rolls fluctuated as various types of aircraft became available, but finally we settled for HM 10 and HM 11, our flight numbers.

Goodness knows what the C.S.M. thought of the air travel, with two air hostesses, charming and attentive. Now that he has had air, sea and ceremonial, are there any more forms of trooping to be had?

On arrival, we found tents to be erected on rocky terraces, overlooking the sea. We were soon settled in, and swimming. As a matter of interest, the first group (HM 10), had arrived before the advance party.

A happy man is C/Sgt. Batty, for with no Band and Drums or Boys under his wing, he can pay more attention to the Company without being harried by the musicians.

Security has a dampening affect on these notes, for there would be much to say. It is but a trial to be faced, together with the heat lumps and insect bites.

ORDER OF BATTLE

O.C.	.. ..	Major E. J. P. Emmett, M.C.
2IC	.. ..	Major K. W. Brown
C.S.M.	.. ..	C.S.M. J. Clark.
C.Q.M.S.	.. ..	C/Sgt. R. S. Batty.
Pay Clerk	.. ..	Cpl. B. Hurren, R.A.P.C.

No. 1 Platoon

Platoon Commander	2 Lt. J. R. P. Cumberlege.
Platoon Sergeant	.. Sgt. R. Wilson.

No. 2 Platoon

Platoon Commander	2 Lt. D. Parnham.
Platoon Sergeant	.. Sgt. T. Mountcastle

No. 3 Platoon

Platoon Commander	2 Lt. D. Miles.
Platoon Sergeant	.. Sgt. J. C. Simpson.

" B " COMPANY

There appeared to be a period of anti-climax after the Presentation of the Colours parade, but everyone was pleased to go on block leave, which was so thoroughly deserved. When this was completed the Company, together with the rest of the Battalion, prepared to receive Cadets for their annual summer training. Our Company had the pleasant task of looking after and training the cadet force of Wellington College, their camp being at Ogbourne St. George, which is close to our camp at Chisleton.

We were able to complete this training, despite the fact that in the middle of it we were told we would be moving to warmer climes. Then followed a week of feverish preparation, the drawing of the tropical kit and getting things packed up. Rumours gradually gave way to the truth and before we knew where we were we found ourselves emplaning for —. So here we are. Our main task at the moment is to get acclimatised, and after the initial periods of sunburn we find we are winning the battle, although we are still waging war on the flies and, we believe, mosquitoes. Apart from this, our main problem is to know how to keep cool, being plunged from a temperature of 50 degrees to a 100 degrees literally overnight is quite a thing.

Probably by the time these notes are read we will know our fate as to future movement, but at the time of writing we are again just speculating.

We welcome Captain R. Scott-Evans, M.C., as our new Second in Command and hope his stay will be a happy one.

ORDER OF BATTLE

Company Commander	Major J. H. Davis.
2IC	Captain R. Scott-Evans, M.C.
C.S.M.	C.S.M. Robins.
C.Q.M.S.	C.Q.M.S. Arundle.

No. 4 Platoon

Platoon Commander	Lt. M. J. Campbell-Lamerton.
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Platoon Sergeant	.. Sgt. M. McKenzie.
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No. 5 Platoon

Platoon Commander	Lt. H. M. P. Miles
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Platoon Sergeant	.. Sgt. Wappett.
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No. 6 Platoon

Platoon Commander	Lt. T. T. Carter.
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Platoon Sergeant	.. Sgt. Smith.
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" C " COMPANY

Once again we have waved farewell to Chisleton. Shortly before leaving, we had spent a hectic few days at Bulford, preparing for the Cadets. We left Bulford in a tremendous rush and the next week was spent furiously packing for our departure to the Middle East. After one or two false alarms we flew in two Hermes aircraft to our destination.

Now we are settling in and getting down to some hard training; we are gradually becoming accustomed to the rather warmer weather and our knees are a good deal browner than before.

The command structure of the Company has changed a good deal. We congratulate R.S.M. Randall on his promotion and wish him every success with the 7th Battalion. On the eve of his departure a party was arranged in his honour at the " Patriots Arms," and once again we heard his famous rendering of " The Keyhole in the Door." His successor we know well, and we wish C.S.M. Burke every success in his new office.

We are extremely pleased once again to have C/Sgt. Kirk as our " Q "—fresh from his sojourn in the Officers' Mess.

Lt. C. M. Wood has returned to the Company, having been Brigade M.T.O., and represented the Battalion at Bisley. We are glad also to welcome 2 Lt. C. Laurence and Sgt. Chilvers.

No fresh laurels have been added in the field of sport, though by dint of effort we came 2nd in the inter-Company Garden Competition.

The Company Order of Battle is now as follows:

Company Commander	Major J. E. V. Butterfield.
2IC	Captain P. B. L. Hoppe.
Company C.S.M. ..	C.S.M. W. Burke.
Company C.Q.M.S.	C/Sgt. S. Kirk.
Company W.O. ..	Pte. R. Millard.
Company W.O. ..	Pte. P. Brown.
Company Clerk	.. Pte. J. Scully.

No. 7 Platoon

Platoon Commander	.. 2 Lt. G. Naylor.
-------------------	---------------------

Platoon Sergeant	.. Sgt. Pounder
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Section 1 Commander ..	Cpl. Brown.
2IC	L/Cpl. Brunning.
Section 2 Commander ..	Cpl. Crow.
2IC	L/Cpl. Simonet.
Section 3 Commander ..	Cpl. Noble.
<i>No. 8 Platoon</i>	
Platoon Commander ..	2 Lt. C. Laurence.
Platoon Sergeant ..	Sgt. Wild.
Section 4 Commander ..	Cpl. McGowan.
2IC	L/Cpl. Jackson.
Section 5 Commander ..	Cpl. Kelly.
2IC	L/Cpl. Jagger.
Section 6 Commander ..	Cpl. B. Jones.
<i>No. 9 Platoon</i>	
Platoon Commander ..	Lt. C. M. Wood.
Platoon Sergeant ..	Sgt. Chilvers.
Section 7 Commander ..	Cpl. Smith.
2IC	L/Cpl. Field.
Section 8 Commander ..	Cpl. Dolan.
2IC	L/Cpl. Shires
Section 9 Commander ..	Cpl. Maull.
2IC	L/Cpl. Plows.

"D" COMPANY

I am writing these notes as I gaze out towards a small island to the north of our camp, and beyond to the horizon where the very blue sky meets the deeper blue of the sea. Our chief occupations on this isolated rocky promontory are concerned with bathing in the delightful sea and repelling hordes of insects during the night and rumours concerning our next move by day.

To complete our story of life at Chisledon. Immediately after the last notes were written we had a most successful afternoon at the Battalion Sports Meeting. The Company team distinguished itself not so much by the fact of winning the shield but rather in the manner of its accomplishment. All events were team events, and this was simply a triumph for all those who performed and those who supported. The spirit shown was in the true "D" Company tradition. Individual performances will not be mentioned, but sincere congratulations are due to Sgt. Wilson and his team.

TEAM

Captain: Sgt. Wilson.
100 yards: Cpl. Halliday, Sgt. Evans, Ptes. Vinton and Larvin.
220 yards: Pte. Galletti Di Cadilhac, Cpl. Halliday, Sgts. Wilson and Evans.
440 yards: Pte. Galletti Di Cadilhac, Pte. Kenyon, Captain D. W. Shuttleworth and Sgt. Wilson.
880 yards: L/Cpl. Lloyd, Captain D. W. Shuttleworth, Ptes. Kenyon and Williamson (44).
1 mile: L/Cpl. Walker, Ptes. Pearce, Clarkson and McGee.
3 miles: L/Cpl. Walker, Ptes. Pearce, Clarkson and McGee.
High jump: Ptes. Gregory and Patchett.
Long jump: Ptes. Larvin and Kenyon.
Hop, step and jump: Ptes. Ryan and Pearce.
Shot: Lt. Campbell-Lamerton and Pte. Dowdall.
Discus: Lt. Campbell-Lamerton and Cpl. Dunn.
Hammer: Sgt. Fenn and Pte. Dowdall.

A very short time after this success we were awarded first place in the Garden Competition. Not many flowers were blooming on the day in the Battalion area, but the Company had earned the award.

Preparations had been under way for some time for our move to Bulford, where we were to administer a C.C.F. camp. No. 2 Battalion Alma lines was organised by this Company and began to function smoothly. For three days the Company worked hard and then we moved at great speed. To the dismay of the Cadet contingents we were informed that Colonel Nasser was upsetting the equilibrium of our life, and had handed over and departed within seven hours.

The next few days were chaotic, and although we were quickly ready to go we were never quite certain when, where or how. The rest is well known. A rapid air-lift to this tented camp of superb comfort with splendid amenities? But the sea is wonderful—even the non-swimmers look upon their bathe as the high light of the day. For a short time we shall enjoy this sun and sea, being paid to endure what others pay to see.

The emergency caused a number of changes in our organisation. Major Harris returned as our Company Commander, with Captain Shuttleworth as 2IC. Sgt. Wilson was posted to "A" Company to assist that Company to re-form. Sgt. Wilson has given excellent service to this Company, and we are sorry to lose him and thank him for his loyalty.

We have had many other changes, far too many to enumerate. We left behind at Chisledon a large number who have served the Company and Battalion well. Thank you, and good luck to those who have left us. We extend a welcome to newcomers.

The present Order of Battle is:

Company Commander	Major D. M. Harris.
2IC	Captain D. W. Shuttleworth.
C.S.M.	C.S.M. J. C. Jobling (M.M.).
C.Q.M.S.	C.Sgt. P. Sheehan.
Company H.Q. ..	Cpl. Dunn, L/Cpl. Anderson, Ptes. Duck, Williamson, Thornes, Clarkson and Barrett.

"H.Q." COMPANY

Apart from classifying on the range about 70 of our strength, dragged out of doors in the teeth of employers' opposition, we just carried on running the Battalion as usual.

The first thing that disturbed the even tenour of our days was Bulford Fields C.C.F. camp. Seventy of us, mostly signallers, went there on July 25, to take over No. 3 Camp and get it going. On Sunday, July 29, the day before the advance parties of the cadets were due to arrive, a really most unseasonable gale struck us and did not let up all day. In pouring rain we were at it all day trying to prevent our empty tents being blown away. We mostly succeeded but many 180-lb. tents were ripped and one store tent completely wrecked. All our work of getting the camp ready was put back

one day and we were only just ready for the cadets when they came. Tuesday, July 31, was hectic going, through our teething troubles of looking after cadets. Sgt. Bailes (now left us for the M.G. Platoon) worked it out that his staff (D.R.O.s) were working 19 hours a day—and they were. Everyone worked extremely well at their uncustomed jobs, wine and food waiters, dining room orderlies, washers up, haversack ration preparers, stokers, sanitary men, veg. peelers, etc.

We never thought that we could cope, but when we left so quickly afterwards at least three of the schools, and funnily enough the ones which had given us the most worry, gave us most charming compliments and said they had rarely been so well and efficiently received.

At 8 a.m., on Wednesday, August 1, the Commanding Officer came round to tell us we may be moving. At 1.30 p.m., a Battery Commander came in to see the form; at 4 p.m., he had brought his staff to take over from us; between 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. the Gunners gradually took over from us at work and having finished the officers' dinner we were back in Chisleton at 10 p.m.

The next few days of course were hectic, packing, weighing, signing forms and so on. We were split owing to our size, into various groups and were represented on most of the flights. We never thought we should get here intact but we did and many new people joined us, our own reservists and extra men from the various Corps.

There are two rather unusual aspects about our present situation. Firstly, we are almost all in one place instead of being spread all over the place. But we doubt the Company Commanders main ambition, of being able to stand in one spot, blow a whistle and ALL "H.Q." Company come on parade, will ever be realised. Secondly, as we have as yet no transport, the M.T. Section have nothing to do, so are being used on camp fatigues and so on.

We are settling in quickly, the Signals Platoon has got two cadres going, the Drums (now rejoining us from "A" Company), are half bugling and half training for their job as Defence Platoon, and the Intelligence Section are under training.

There have not been any really noticeable changes in our order of battle but we think we had better list our present order as a record, possibly for posterity.

Coy. Commander ..	Major R. E. Sugden
C.S.M.	C.S.M. Munro
C.Q.M.S.	C/Sgt. Waite
Storeman	L/Cpl. Rainforth
Clerks	Ptes. Cox and Briggs
Pay	Cpl. Edbury
Sigs. P. Commander	Lt. C. R. Huxtable
Sigs. Sgts.	Sgts. Gunn and Falkingham
M.T.O.	Capt. W. Blakey
M.T. Sgts.	Sgts. Sykes and Wass
I.O.	Lt. S. A. Berry
Int. Sgt.	Sgt. Garrity
Drums	Sgt. Galley

We congratulate Sgt. Waite on his promotion to Colour-Sergeant and Sgt. Falkingham and Cpl. Hart on their promotions.

SIGNAL PLATOON

After the Platoon had had a period of very-welcome and well-earned leave, the Bulford Fields cadet camps were on us almost before we realised it. After a stormy two days, when we were almost rendered homeless by high winds, the cadets began to arrive. Hardly had we become used to the sight of many small soldiers dressed in large uniforms before we were on the move back to Chisleton. There followed days of frantic packing, unpacking and repacking. Somehow or other everyone who was travelling with the Battalion managed to get away for two or three days leave and then, after one or two false starts we were off. The Platoon travelled in various sections, mostly in the earlier flights, and we have now all found ourselves reassembled as a Platoon again.

Several cadres are being run; one for Platoon ops., one for those signallers whose training was interrupted by the move, and one for the remainder of the Platoon in the form of revision.

We were sorry to say goodbye to many people when we left Chisleton, as they did not have the necessary time to serve to qualify for overseas service. However, we wish them all the best of luck in their civilian callings and assure them that we shall always be prepared to welcome them back again should they change their minds!

"S" COMPANY

During the month of June, "S" Company went about their various tasks looking after many thousands of the Territorial Army.

In July, the peace and quiet was rudely shattered by the prodigious voice of the R.S.M. and the Battalion was with us. The minstrel faces of the men on coal fatigue were no longer to be seen in the N.A.A.F.I. tent. Towards the end of July, 3,000 cadets made life a little fuller, but the firm stride of the Company never faltered, especially on the roads north.

On August 1, just as the Company Commander was having his second son christened, the south of England fell about our ears. *Warning Order*—prepare to move to the Middle East immediately. Hand over Bulford Fields. On the same day the Gunners rolled in to take over, and the Battalion rolled back to Chisleton.

The Company moved and lived in plane loads and had a luxurious flight out, fussed over by stewardesses, and fed continually. Morale was very high when we landed, but took a steep dive when at 0.200 hrs. we were shown our accommodation for the night! Next day we were on the move again, and soon joined up with the rest of the Battalion. Once again we found ourselves putting up tents only this time for ourselves and not the T.A.

The Company is browning rapidly and we are at last training with our own weapons. The Anti-Tank Platoon has left us on a long course, and we are not quite sure when we will see them again. Both the Mortar Platoon and the Machine Gun Platoon have fired on the hot sandy ranges here, and the Assault Pioneer Platoon are waiting for their stores.

Everyone is swimming daily, and keeping very fit in spite of the mosquitoes and heat.

Finally, we would like to welcome Lt. Lupton to the famous Machine Gun Platoon, and send our best wishes to all our old boys not fortunate enough to be with us diving amongst the blue lagoons and coral reefs.

MEDIUM MACHINE GUN PLATOON

Since last going to press, we have had rather a hurried move from Chisledon to our present canvass.

Before leaving we said farewell to our ex-Platoon Commander, Mr. Miller, to Colonial Forces and Cpl. Liddle, Ptes. Hefferin, Laws, Hewitt, Welsh, Patterson, Purves, Greasley, Ingham, Beal and Morton, and the Platoon wish them every success in Civvy Street.

We are doing some training with our own weapons these days and have already fired on the ranges twice. We have so far had an ample supply of ammunition and a good allocation of ranges. The training is a little difficult to organise owing to the fact that we have a number of machine gunners trained but the remainder know little or nothing. At the same time we have to train Platoon signallers and rangefinders. At the moment we are progressing satisfactorily and given a little more time, we should have a well-trained Platoon.

3-in. MORTAR PLATOON

Since our last notes, written at our Holiday Camp at Bulford, there has been quite a change in faces and places. We were suddenly whisked away from Bulford and after a hectic week of needles, packing, K.D. fitting and 48-hour passes, we found ourselves in a pleasant little spot under the sun, with Sgt. Dickie telling the Platoon about being abroad before.

However, we soon settled down to some serious training and everyone in the Platoon has put some bombs down the barrel.

We still have a few Mortarmen in the Company soccer team and by the time we leave here we should have a bunch of capable channel swimmers.

To these and to Mortarmen everywhere we wish all the best.

To conclude we are looking forward to the return of our Platoon Commander from hospital.

ASSAULT PIONEER PLATOON

We might well be in a worse place: in the clutches of a Blackpool landlady or in the blinding rain on Southend Pier. Recently a breeze has come to cool us. Ideally the breeze will stay and so will we.

Our veteran Assault Pioneer, Sgt. Blezard, M.M., is now lost to us. He has gone to the Defence Platoon at Division H.Q., and is to be demobbed in November. We feel his passing badly but wish him all the best of possible fortune.

The Platoon is generally in high spirits. After a full morning's training we go down in the afternoon to blister and bathe in the sea. With a supply of letters from home, we find ourselves very happy.

M.T. PLATOON

The preparation for the move to the Middle East simply does not bear thinking about. Having collected replacement vehicles, stores and things from all over the country, it was decided that we should change types, and we started all over again. However, we managed to get them driven to Newport (including two motor cycles belonging to goodness knows who), and that is the last we have seen of them.

A very pleasant flight with charming air hostesses, and here we are in a pleasant paradise. Most of the Platoon are unfortunately engaged in fatigues, due to there being no vehicles for them to drive.

Swimming and sun-bathing naturally take preference over all other sports at present, but once we become more settled, no doubt the more usual sports will begin again.

Mention must be made here of the Battalion motor-cycling team. Entering for the 13th National Motor-Cycling Association Rally, the team did exceptionally well, and the following won silver awards: Lt. Smyth, Sgts. Sykes and Almond, Cpl. Howarth and Pte. Rodney.

A very stout effort in a most gruelling trial. We hope to resume motor-cycling activities soon, especially if we move to an even more southerly location. Sand is such fun.

SHOOTING 1st D.W.R.

At the time of writing these notes, life is a bit hectic and we are having to depend on our memories rather than our record book. Therefore, apologies are offered for any slight inaccuracies that may creep into these notes.

The Battalion shooting cadre started training in earnest about the middle of March, having at its disposal three very good ranges. The weather was kind and results looked promising.

The first test of "form" was the Salisbury Plain District Rifle Meeting, held in the last three days of May.

The Battalion entered teams in all the major competitions, and each company had a Rifle and L.M.G. team and a falling plate team. Also more out of curiosity than as the result of training, the Battalion entered a team for the pistol event and surprised everyone by coming third.

The results tabled at the end of these notes will speak for themselves, and the whole event proved a great success, the Battalion winning all the prizes that the 1st Infantry Division had to offer. A special congratulation must also be given to Sgt. Kingdom, our R.E.M.E. armourer, in coming first in the grand aggregate, with C.S.M. Norman second, only one point behind.

S.P.D.—RESULTS

Match 1. Sub-unit rifle match, won by "H.Q." Company 1st. D.W.R. Prizes: S.P.D. Challenge Cup, 1st Infantry Division Shield.

Match 2. L.M.G. team match: 3rd, "B" Company; 4th, "H.Q." Company; 6th, "D" Company. 1st Infantry Division Open Individual Cup, won by Cpl. Barnett and Pte. Armstrong.

Match 3. Rifle and L.M.G. team match, won by "H.Q." Company 1st D.W.R. Prizes: Services

Challenge Bowl, 1st Infantry Division Tripoli Cup.

Match 4. Regimental team match, won by 1st D.W.R. Prizes: Regimental Challenge Cup, 1st Infantry Division inter-Unit Rifle Challenge Cup.

Match 5. S.P.D. and 1st Infantry Division Individual Rifle Championship. 1st, Sgt. Kingdom, (R.E.M.E.), Att. 1st D.W.R., score 287 out of 300. Prizes: S.P.D. Individual Rifle Challenge Bowl, 1st Infantry Division Rifle Open Individual Cup: 2nd, C.S.M. Norman, score 286; 8th, Lt. C. M. Wood, score 273. Best national service rifle shot, Pte. Barron, 267; Best regular soldier under the rank of Sergeant, Cpl. Cleator, 264.

Match 6. Sten: 2nd, 1st D.W.R.

Match 7. Pistol: 3rd, 1st D.W.R.

After the S.P.D. meeting, training continued and on June 23, the team left by road and rail for Bisley. Major Davis, Captain Wood and Lt. Wood travelled by road, with cars piled with lethal weapons. Of the three, only two arrived on time, Lt. Wood breaking a crankshaft in the wilds of darkest Wiltshire.

The team finally picked to represent the Battalion was as follows:

Class "A"—Major Davis, Captain Wood, Lt. Wood, 2 Lt. Birch (team Captain), C.S.M. Norman, Sgt. Kingdom and Sgt. Bailes.

Class "B"—Ptes. Seymour and Mitchison, Cpls. Cleator and McGowan, Pte Anderson.

Class "C"—Ptes. Donkesley, Shaw, France, Hincliffe and Scott, L/Cpl. Barron, Pte Barron.

Just before the final selection was made we lost Sgt. Wilkinson, our armourer, whose time with the Battalion was finished and Cpl. Crossfield and Pte Leach, who were demobbed in spite of a genuine desire to stay and shoot at Bisley. We offer our best wishes for their future. Once at Bisley, we settled down to the familiar routine of four days practice followed by ten days competition shooting.

The meeting was, as always, very successful and the Battalion team made its presence known. The weather turned sour towards the end of the competition, though results again speak for themselves.

Sgt. Kingdom, we think, set up a record by winning the Queen's Medal at his first Bisley, and deserves very hearty congratulations on this feat and also C.S.M. Norman, who was just pipped at the post, finishing third. Captain Wood, Sgt. Kingdom and C.S.M. Norman fired for the English Regiments in the Methuen Cup.

After the Army meeting, several of the team stayed on, some having been picked to fire for the Army in various matches. Captain Wood fired in the Army Sten team, against the R.A.F. and Navy, the Army winning. C.S.M. Norman and Sgt. Kingdom were selected for the Army team in the United Services match, which was won by the Army with an all-time record score, the highest score in the team being provided by C.S.M. Norman, 179 out of 200.

BISLEY RESULTS

Henry Whitehead Cup (Approximately 1,000 competitors): 11th, C.S.M. Norman; 23rd, Captain Wood; 25th, Sgt. Kingdom.

Roberts Cup: Class "A": 2nd, Sgt. Kingdom; 9th, C.S.M. Norman; 29th, Lt. Wood. Class "B": 3rd, Cpl. Cleator; 19th, Pte. Seymour.

RouPELL Cup: 6th, Captain Wood; 19th, C.S.M. Norman.

Army Hundred Cup:

The following qualified: Sgt. Kingdom, C.S.M. Norman, Captain Wood, Lt. Wood and Pte. Seymour.

The following just failed by a few points: Sgt. Bailes, Cpls. Cleator and Halliday.

The final results in the Army 100 were: 1st, Sgt. Kingdom; 3rd, C.S.M. Norman; 18th, Lt. Wood.

Individual Sten Match: 4th, Captain Wood; 11th, Pte. Mitchison.

Eastern Command Cup: 8th, 1st D.W.R.

Britannia (Rifle): 3rd, 1st D.W.R.

Worcester (L.M.G.): 6th, 1st D.W.R.

K.R.R.C. Cup: 3rd, 1st D.W.R.

Army Championship (Queen's Medal): 1st, Sgt. Kingdom (278); 3rd, C.S.M. Norman (269).

Bisley Cup, S.R. (b): 39th, Major Davis; 42nd, Lt. Birch.

In the N.R.A. meeting, Sgt. Kingdom won the Kinnaird rifle match, and C.S.M. Norman was 7th in the Service Rifle aggregate and 4th in the standing snap match.

In the small-bore field, C.S.M. Norman shot for the Army team and scored 396 out of 400, and came 13th in the Individual Army Championship with 297 out of 300.

A successful meeting, and now we are looking towards Bisley 1957, and hoping that we shall be near enough to send a team. As yet, that is an unknown quantity.

ATHLETICS

The whole of our athletics was confined to the last three months under review. Quite a lot was packed into this time and it was a common sight to see men in track suits all over the place.

The first event was the Inter-Company Athletics Meeting, run on a team basis in between showers. "D" Company won this year, and although the meeting was all team running and jumping, the Commanding Officer awarded the cup for the best athlete of the meeting to L/Cpl. Parker of the Regimental Police who ran the 440 and 880 yards very well.

From this we selected our team and training started in earnest, first in Swindon, then at Shrivenham, where the Officer Commanding the Royal Military College of Science kindly allowed us to use his athletics ground.

We entered a team for the Purton Village Sports medley relay race and managed to win a handsome cup called the Red House Challenge Cup. Purton is only a small village, but we ran against R.A.F. Yatesbury and civilian teams from Swindon, Cheltenham and Bath. Our team was Lt. Dasent, 2/Lt. Cumberlege, Cpl. Beaufort-Jones and Pte. Kenyon.

The next event was the eliminating at Devizes to see which teams would get through to the Salisbury Plain District meeting proper. Our opponents were R.A.P.C. Training Centre, Devizes, C.A.D. Corsham, Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, and R.P.O. R.E.M.E. We came in a handsome second to R.A.P.C. Training Centre, the other teams being nowhere near us. All members of the team ran well, but special mention being made of L/Cpl. Parker, who ran a magnificent 440 yards with a large gash in his foot, caused by his being spiked when taking over the baton. L/Cpl. Wilcock also pole vaulted well, considering that in practice he had spiked himself and had to stop jumping whilst his stitches healed; in fact, they had only just healed before he jumped.

Being second meant we went on to the proper District Meeting, where the opposition was far more strong. 6th R.T.R. (winners of the Army Meeting last year), R.A.P.C. Training Centre (hot favourites), 1st R.T.R., 1st Battalion R.A.O.C., 18th Medium Regiment R.A. L/Cpl. Parker could not run owing to his previous injury, but our strength was held the same as L/Cpl. Bailey from the Depot joined us.

Again all the team did extremely well, and although the meeting developed into a battle between the 1st R.T.R. and R.A.P.C. Training Centre for first place, we held our own and were a comfortable third. This was very creditable because we could not train anything like as much as the two leaders could. We wish them both success when they reach the Army Meeting, as they almost certainly will.

In the District Individual meeting Lt. Dasent was 1st in the pole vault, Lt. Campbell-Lamerton was 2nd in the shot and 3rd in the discus, and L/Cpl. Parker was 3rd in the 440 yards.

In the Army Individual meeting Lt. Dasent was 2nd in the pole vault and L/Cpl. Bailey 4th in the mile, and as a result received invitations to represent the Army in various meetings. Both are to be congratulated on this and, together with L/Cpl. Parker, for their help in forming and training the Unit team.

We were to have entered a team in the Swindon Athletics meeting medley relay, but the sudden move prevented that.

Those representing the Battalion were as follows: Captain Hoppe, Lts. Dasent, Mitchell and Campbell-Lamerton, 2/Lts. Cumberlege and Laurence, Sgt. Wilson, Cpls. Beaufort-Jones, Halliday, Connor, Nolan and Ryan, L/Cpls. Rushbrooke, Walker, Parker, Wilcock, Embleton, Wragg, Worthington and Bailey, Ptes. Peel, Bates, Kenyon, Pearce, Blench, Dowdall and Larvin.

GOLF

During the summer, golf became more and more popular. Almost every evening officers played on the local course at Ogbourne St. George and then returned for more practice in the fields adjoining the Officers' Mess. It was here that numerous theories about the way to play the game were discussed and put into practice. The result—a vast bill from the Q.M. for broken windows!

Early in June the Divisional meeting was held at Tidworth and we entered two teams of four. The "A" team finished second, six points behind the Gunners. Roberts returned the best nett score for the day. Those representing the two teams were:

"A" Team: Lieutenant-Colonel Moran, Majors Beuttler and Roberts and 2 Lt. Miles.

"B" Team: Major Davidson, Captain Hardy, 2 Lt. Cumberlege and Pte. Tuffs.

In mid-June we competed for the silver putter at Ogbourne. As always, the opinions of the senior officers of their respective games took a sudden turn—one day their golf was excellent, the next a kink or jink in the swing had appeared and more strokes were required! The great day arrived and the battle commenced at 0930 hours and finished at 1800 hours. One could write a book about what occurred during those hours. The Colonel, with the second-in-command, went at such a speed that his batman, Pte. Sage, who was caddying, had to retire lame and winded at half time. Reserves were called in and off they went again up and down those treacherous hills at Ogbourne.

What a day the gremlins had! The holder, Jimmy Davidson, had one riding on his back from the very first tee. Jimmy made several determined efforts to shake it off, but not until the 15th was it satisfied. Here a beautiful spoon into the wind caught a tree and the ball remained in the branches!

After 36 very long holes Michael Miles won by four shots from Derek Roberts, and the Colonel was third.

Those with handicaps over 18 competed for the wooden spoon, which was won by Denis Shuttleworth; a brilliant effort as he had to play one-handed due to an injury.

Mrs. Moran very kindly presented the prizes in the Officers' Mess in the evening.

Finally, two excellent matches were played against H.Q. Salisbury Plain District. The first at Ogbourne we won by 4 matches to 2; the second at Tidworth was over 36 holes. After the singles, our opponents were leading by 4 matches to 2, so we had to win all the foursomes, which we proceeded to do. Those who played for the Battalion were: Colonel Moran, Majors Beuttler, Davidson and Roberts, Captain Hardy and 2 Lt. Miles.

We wonder where the Silver Putter will be played for next year—Gezira Club, Wuppertal or Ogbourne? No doubt the second-in-command would prefer Lake Como!

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REGIMENTAL H.Q. and DEPOT

SUB-EDITORIAL

Reference will have been made elsewhere to the achievements of the 1st Battalion at Bisley. It is with pride that we also record that three members of the Depot qualified for the Army 100, namely Captain J. D. P. Cowell, Cpl. G. Holliday and L/Cpl. C. W. M. Johnston. The latter went on to come 2nd in the Army Championship Class "C" (Young Soldiers), an outstanding effort for a first visit to Bisley. This is the third successive year the Depot has sent a small team to Bisley, and it appears that the experience gained is beginning to produce results. We have yet to get a place in a team event, but this year's results are encouraging for the future.

We have had only one passing-out parade during the quarter. This took place on July 18, when we were very pleased to have the Mayor of Halifax, Alderman F. H. Swire, J.P., with us. The Mayor of Huddersfield, Alderman H. A. Bennie Gray, C.B.E., J.P., has promised to take our next parade, which will be on September 5. Our only other function of a ceremonial nature was when No. 37 Intake represented the Depot at the laying-up of the Old Colours of the 6th Battalion at Skipton on June 24. At that time the intake had only completed seven weeks' training. Nevertheless their bearing, marching and turnout was a credit to the Regiment. The writer of these notes has been at the Depot over two years and never ceases to be impressed by the rapidity with which the new recruits settle down and assimilate their training.

In recent months much progress has been made with the various works' services in the barracks. The new baths and showers in the two main barrack blocks are in operation, central heating in the Officers' Mess and Education Centre has been installed, and the modernisation of the second block of married quarters will be completed any day now. Work is well in hand in erecting a new fence at the back of the barracks and the walls of the new Sergeants' Mess annexe are beginning to rise. In the near future we hope to see work commence on a new medical and dental centre and construction of a new M.T. garage. None of this work has changed or is likely to change the face of the barracks; but the improvement in amenities has been considerable.

The barracks received some publicity in the National Press when the report of one of the Parliamentary Committees was published; reference was made to "a nasty smell in the air." We presume this was a dig at the foundry at the back of the barracks. Be that as it may, we note that the foundry now has a new chimney, for which Mr. Birch (the groundsman) is no doubt duly grateful; as in the past the smoke, if not smelly, has caused considerable damage to the grass of the bottom football field.

The sudden departure of the 1st Battalion was another case of "it being an ill wind, that blows nobody any good," for we now have the Regimental Band with us. We welcome them once again to

Halifax and hope they will enjoy their stay, be it short or long. The 1st Battalion's move received considerable publicity, culminating with a full-page photograph on the front of one of the more widely read newspapers, which has not earned a reputation for being sympathetic to the activities of the Services.

One felt that Kipling might have summed it up as he did once before:

*Oh! it's Tommy this, an' Tommy that, and
Tommy, go away,*

*But it's "Thank you, Mister Atkins,"
When the band begins to play.*

Despite the recent increases in pay there has been no upsurge in recruiting, at any rate as far as the Infantry is concerned. The numbers enlisting are no more than before the pay rise, from which one concludes that most of those enlisting would have done so whether the pay had been altered or not. This cannot but be very disappointing for those who have argued that recruiting would improve if pay were made more nearly equal to that earned by men in industry.

OFFICERS' MESS

The period since our last notes has been relatively quiet. We had a Guest Night on July 18, and our guests were Lt.-Colonel P. M. Miller, M.B.E. (R.A.P.C.), Major R. W. Asquith, M.C., and Mr. M. Pitt, Headmaster of Rishworth School. Three other guests, including the Area Commander had been invited, but were unfortunately not able to come.

Visitors have included Mr. Maurice MacMillan, M.P., the member for Halifax, who had lunch with us on August 17, having visited the barracks at the invitation of the Commanding Officer.

For the week-end July 7-8 we had the pleasure of seeing Lt.-Colonel Moran, Major Kavanagh and Captain Hardy, who had come up North for the presentation of new Colours to the 7th Battalion.

We welcome 2 Lt. Clegg who has joined us *en route* for the 1st Battalion, and Wright who is destined for K.A.R. Also Huffam and Greenway, who have just arrived from Sandhurst and will stay here until their various courses of instruction have been completed. As a result the Mess is now fuller than it has been for very many months.

With a cunning born, we fell sure, of long practice, our new central heating system was given a full-scale test on the one day when the sun was shining and the day was hot. We cannot yet judge, therefore, how effective the system is going to be; but we are optimistic.

Major Hugh Dixon, that very good friend of the Regiment, being unable himself to attend the third Test Match at Leeds, very kindly sent us two tickets for each day of the game. We are most indebted to him. We wish him speedy return to full health and hope that he will be able to attend all next summer's matches without fail.

SERGEANTS' MESS

We open with news of a very important event that took place on July 28, 1956, and that was the wedding of R.S.M. Callaby; we extend our very best wishes to him and Mrs. Callaby for a long and happy married life.

For the presentation of New Colours to the 7th Battalion (T.A.) we were fortunate in having in our midst for a long week-end the new Bandmaster, Mr. Martin, C.S.M.s Waterman and Burke, C.Q.M.S. Arundel, Sgts. Appleby, Thomas, Galley and Perrin. We thoroughly enjoyed their company and hope that they all had an enjoyable time.

Congratulations to C.Q.M.S. Quest and S.S.I. Clarke, A.P.T.C., on their recent happy events—C.Q.M.S. Quest was presented with a baby boy, Christopher Joseph, and S.S.I. Clarke a baby girl, Karen Dawn. We also congratulate R.S.M. Randall on his promotion and appointment to the 7th Battalion and Sgt. Battye on his recent promotion.

R.S.M. Randall is now fully in office with the 7th Battalion. We are pleased to say that he is still resident with us and we hope he will remain so for a long time.

A very quick departure was that of Sgt. Simpson. He is greatly missed for his witty remarks and wonderful personality. We hope he is now enjoying the sunny climes and wish him success and happiness in his new sphere, where we know he has many friends. Many are wondering if that happy team of Sgts. Mountcastle, Sargeant and Simpson has once again combined. We were sorry to bid farewell to S.S.I. Clarke, A.P.T.C., and wish him every success and happiness wherever he may be. In his place we welcome S.S.I. Winnings, A.P.T.C., and hope that his stay will be long and happy. Sgt. Sykes, R.A.E.C., whom we stated in our last notes would have departed in actual fact did not, but he leaves before these notes go to the Editor and we wish him a very happy and successful life in the teaching profession, where we know he will be a great asset. In his place we welcome Sgt. Barrett, R.A.E.C., and we were not long in finding him a job, as a side line, in charge of the Mess accounts, just to keep him in trim for his civilian work.

Ex-members who still find the Mess has a magnetic draw are, to mention the more recent ones, ex-R.S.M. Pearce, Harry Benner, "Spike" Stringer and Sgt. ("Duggie") Hatton who is in the R.A.P.C. in Halifax.

One very staunch honorary member is Mr. Spencer, father-in-law of Major and Q.M. N. Jackson, and himself an ex-R.S.M. of the West Yorkshire Regiment. We helped him to celebrate his 80th birthday recently. We know he enjoys his visits, and we thoroughly enjoy his company and miss him when he is resident outside Halifax. Recently we, who thought we were approaching the old soldier stage, had a somewhat rude awakening and felt like young soldiers again when we helped Mr. Spencer to celebrate in the proverbial style his 62nd anniversary of accepting the Queen's Shilling.

We were pleased to see Bandmaster Seed, who stayed for a few days en route to York, where we wish

him good luck and success in his new appointment. Ex-C/Sgt. Hallsworth whom we had not seen for a long time, called and we were very pleased to see him but he left us in doubt as to whether it was a social visit or perhaps to see if there was any chance of his being recalled.

The powers that be have decided that the services of Sgt. Busfield are really necessary so his return to civilian life has been delayed. However we are pleased, as we shall continue to have the pleasure of his cheerful company. Sgt. Morley leaves soon for the rigours of civilian life, where we hope he will find success and settle down; he carries with him our very best wishes.

O.R.Q.M.S. Bill Akrigg still graces the Orderly Room chair and desk and enjoys his frequent visits to Bridlington. He is, as always, helpful and cheerful even when he found all his new pay increase was needed for a new T.V. tube at home.

Ex-R.S.M. Pearce is now one of the employed and no longer a publican—perhaps he prefers to be served with drink as opposed to serving. Johnnie Horner has joined the ranks of British Railways in Halifax and Harry Benner the Post Office.

We are looking forward to the O.C.A. Dinner and soon we shall be in the midst of preparations, but it will be a labour of love as we are always pleased to see the old and young faces each year.

To all ex-members and serving members we say good luck and good health and there is always a welcome awaiting them when they care to pay us a visit.

CORPORALS' MESS

Congratulations this time to Sgt. Battye, Cpls. Hattersley and Parker-Smith and L/Cpls Longfellow, Smith and Eddershaw, on their recent promotions.

We welcome L/Cpl. Lee from the Battalion and hope his stay will be a happy one.

We say goodbye to Cpl. Smith and L/Cpl. Stead, who have left us to see service with the Battalion.

On the entertainments side we had a very enjoyable outing to Blackpool and as it was not very favourable weather we followed the old saying, "Wet outside and wet inside." During the journey back we found that we had quite a reasonable choir, owing no doubt to the amount of liquid refreshments consumed. Some members were rather disappointed having paid to see what they imagined was the "Folies Bergeres," but found, upon seeing the show, that it was not up to expectations.

We received three photographs from Lt.-Colonel W. G. Officer, showing the officers of the 1st Battalion in India 1906-07, and the Battalion on parade in Quarter Column. Drill was much spoken about until these photos were seen, but now all is quiet and members can be seen looking at this photo and scratching their heads, no doubt wondering how it is done. We thank Lt.-Colonel Officer for these photographs which help the Mess to look more homely.

TRAINING COMPANY

It is with regret that we announce the death of Pte. K. Frear. He had completed his training with No. 37 Intake when he went into hospital for

observation as the result of a routine X-ray examination. He was recently transferred to Leeds General Infirmary and died on August 22, due to a mediastinal tumour. He was a regular soldier, always cheerful and will be missed very much.

In May last the size of National Service Intakes dropped to about 15 instead of the usual 50, and will remain at that figure for the remainder of the year. This has entailed considerable pruning of the training staff, and the following changes have taken place during the last six months. Sgts. Mountcastle and Miles, Cpls. Richmond, Cleator, Collins, Doherty and Kitching, and L/Cpls. Wragg, Stewart, Bailey and Johnson, have left us to go to the Battalion; Cpl. Sutcliffe has assumed the appointment of Provost Corporal, Cpl. Cross that of Ration Corporal, and L/Cpl. Graham has taken over the Weapon Training Stores. The most recent move has been the sudden departure of Sgt. Simpson, who went to the Battalion with L/Cpl. Stead and No. 37 Intake, just before the move to foreign parts, and S/Sgt. Clarke (A.P.T.C.), who joined 20 Field Regiment R.A., at short notice. Sgt. Busfield, who was due for discharge has been retained, which we gather suits him very well.

We congratulate Sgts. Wilkinson and Battye, and Cpls. Hellawell, Parker-Smith and Hattersley on their promotion and welcome L/Cpls. Eddershaw, Barker and Longfellow, who have joined the instructional staff after a cadre at York. Our congratulations also to Lt. Southerst and Sgt. Battye who obtained "B" gradings on Fire Duties and Small Arms Courses respectively.

It was thought at one time that, as a result of the Battalion's move overseas, we should have to have quite a number of National Servicemen who were ineligible to go overseas, and that the recruits at present under training would have to do continuation training here. It now seems that neither of these contingencies will occur.

Since our last notes there has been only one passing-out parade—that of No. 37 Intake, which was the first for some time to consist of only one platoon. The salute was taken by the Mayor of Halifax, Alderman F. H. Swire, J.P., who seemed very impressed.

The platoon was "Dettingen" (Sgt. Wilkinson) and the best recruit was Pte. Petty.

The percentage of passes in the 3rd Class Certificate Examination has steadily increased and in the case of No. 36 Intake, which sat on May 21, it was 94, and evoked a letter of congratulation from the Area Commander.

The new bathrooms in "Wellington" and "Musgrave" blocks are a splendid improvement on the previous bathing facilities, and will be specially appreciated when winter comes.

We should like to take this opportunity of saying farewell to Major Connolly, our Personnel Selection Officer. We are extremely sorry that he is leaving the Army and offer him our very best wishes for the future.

CRICKET NOTES

The Depot Cricket XI has had a good season and between showers managed to win 9 of 14 games played. One game was drawn and four lost.

Our main interest was in the Northern Command Cricket Cup in which we had hopes of again reaching the final as we did in 1952 and 1954. We did not do so; but we got through to the semi-final before being well beaten by 3 Training Regiment Royal Signals, at Catterick. We were incidentally the only Infantry Depot in the Command that entered a team for the competition.

In the knock-out competition in the local Amateur league we were also optimistic; but were eventually knocked out in the fifth round and were only saved from disgrace by an aggressive innings of 60 not out by Pte. Pearce.

Our difficulty was that because of the rapid turnover of individuals, we were never able to field the same side in any two of our games. The backbone of the team was formed by Cpl. Curtis, who headed both the bowling and batting averages, and Sgt. Sykes, the wicket keeper. Others who distinguished themselves at one time or another were, Lts. Southerst and Camidge, Sgt. Pratt, Cpls. Graham, Hellawell, Sivyver and Hattersley, and Ptes. Evans and Patrick.

Apart from the competition, we had several "friendly" games particularly against the R.P. (R.A.O.C.) team at Ovenden Park and the Depot The York and Lancaster Regiment. The former we played three times and beat twice. Against the latter we had one particularly exciting match. Having been set 79 to win and having scored 52 for 3, we suddenly became 72—9 and were only saved from defeat by a noble innings by number 11.

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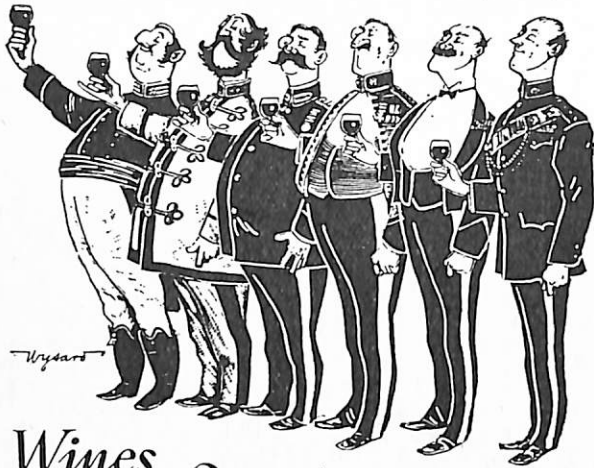
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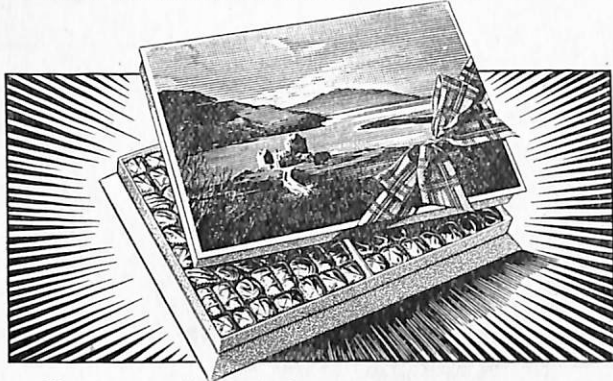
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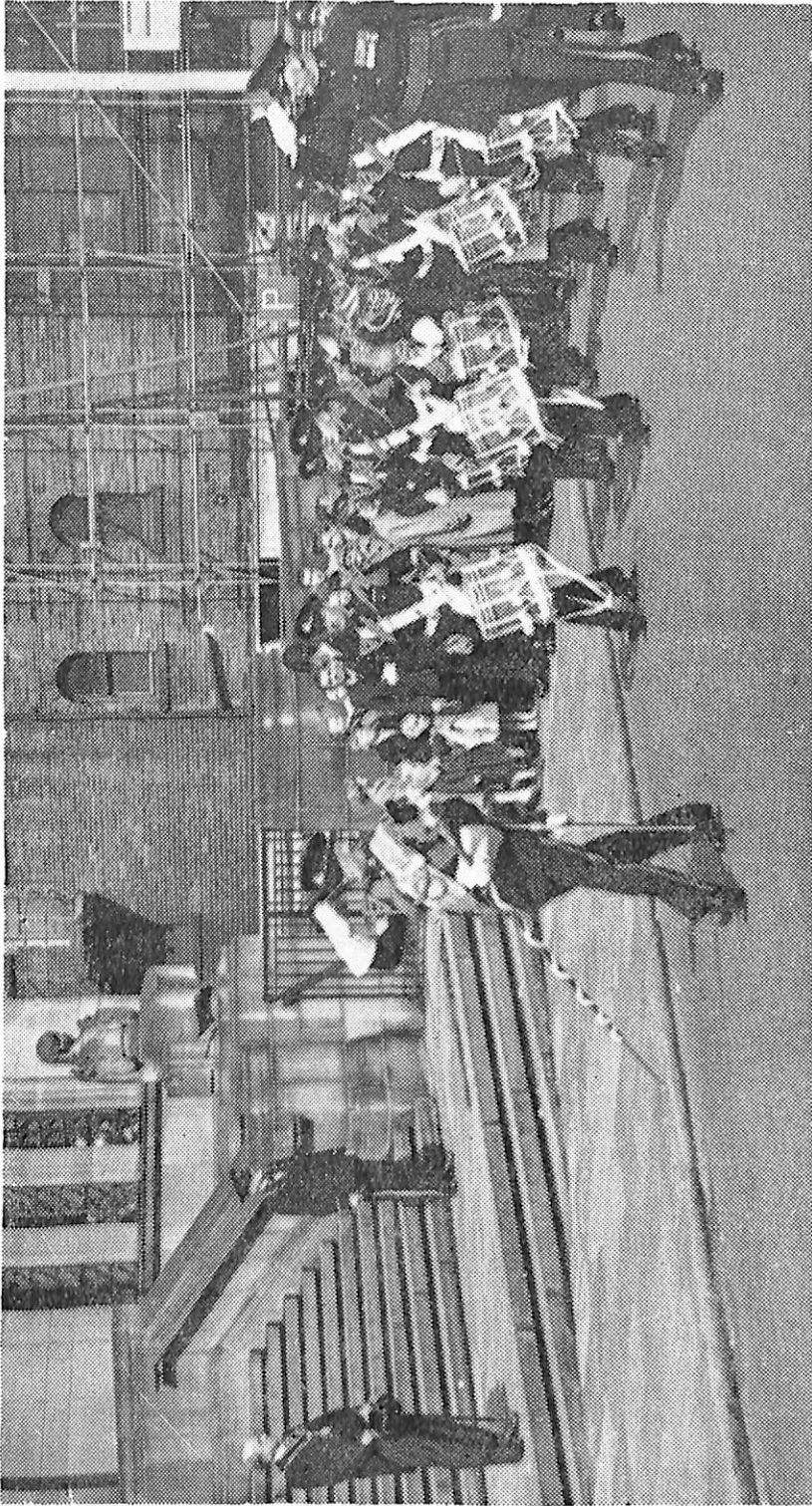
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THE MAYOR OF HUDDERSFIELD TAKES THE SALUTE AS THE BAND MARCHES PAST

Presentation of New Colours

TO THE 7TH BATTALION

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

By HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCESS ROYAL, C.I., G.C.V.O., G.B.E.

GREEN PARK, HUDDERSFIELD · JULY 7, 1956

On Parade

Officers handing over New Colours:

Major G. V. ASHTON, T.D.
Major H. S. HEATON

Officers carrying the New Colours:

Lieutenant T. H. ROTHERY
Lieutenant G. A. REDDINGTON

Officers carrying the Old Colours:

Lieutenant R. C. CURRY
Lieutenant B. M. JANTET

Colour-Sergeants bringing on the New Colours:

Colour-Sergeant F. H. STRINGER
Colour-Sergeant H. THORPE

Guards

No. 1 Guard: Major J. C. MONCRIEFF
No. 2 Guard: Major H. S. HEATON
No. 3 Guard: Major D. R. SIDDALL, T.D.
No. 4 Guard: Major E. A. WOODHOUSE

Field Officers in Waiting:

Major L. F. H. KERSHAW, D.S.O.
Major J. C. K. YOUNG, M.C.

Programme of Music

The Battalion marches on "The Happy Wanderer"
Duke's March

Inspection .. "My Girl's a Yorkshire Girl"
"I'm Ninety Five"

Slow March by Band and Drums "Logie O'Buchan"

Quick March by Band and Drums "Ilkla Moor"

Escort for the Colour takes Station
"British Grenadiers"

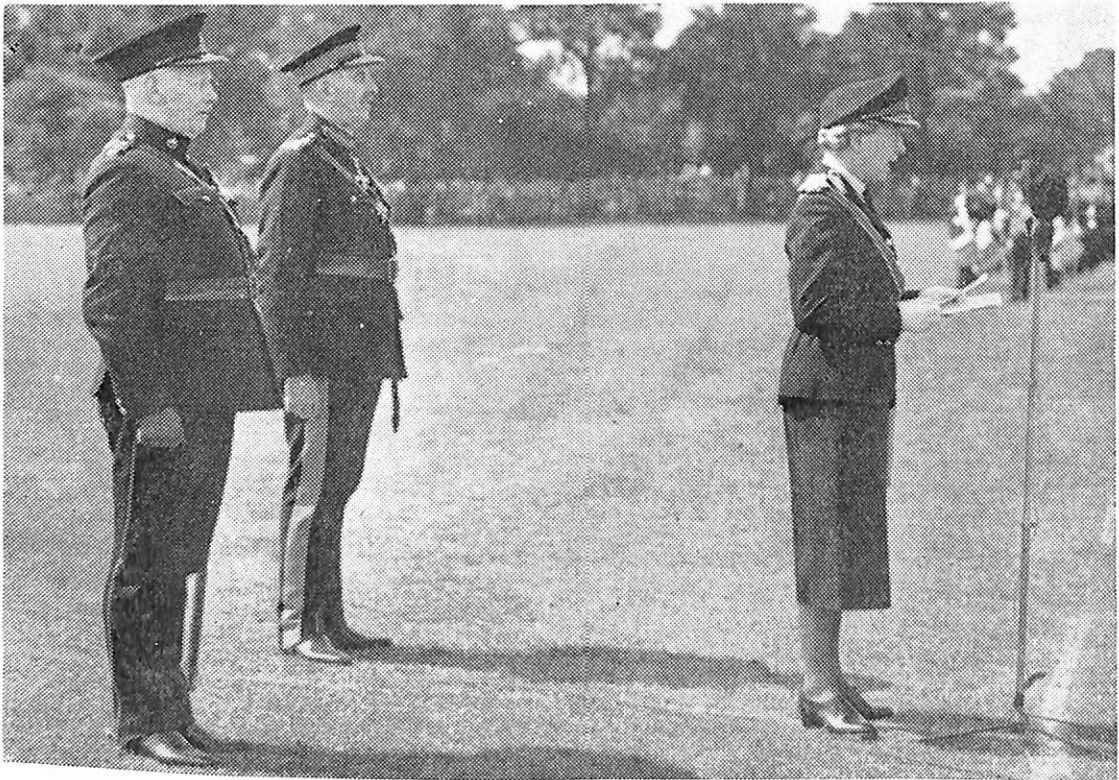
Old Colours received on parade National Anthem

The Troop Grenadier's Slow March

The Old Colours march off parade "Auld Lang Syne"

March in quick time "The Wellesley"

The Battalion marches off parade "Ilkla Moor"
"The Happy Wanderer"



By courtesy of the Huddersfield Examiner

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS ROYAL ADDRESSING THE PARADE

In rear of H.R.H. are the Colonel of the Regiment and the Honorary Colonel of the 7th Battalion

**ADDRESS BY
HER ROYAL HIGHNESS
THE PRINCESS ROYAL,
C.I., G.C.V.O., G.B.E.**

Lieutenant-Colonel Haighton, Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of the 7th Duke of Wellington's Regiment:

It gives me the greatest pleasure to be given the honour, by Her Majesty The Queen, of presenting you with your new Colours. Especially as I know so many of you in the 7th Battalion are from the West Riding.

Life in every age has centred round a flag, and Colours are still the link uniting all ranks, the sacred symbol of their allegiance to God, their Sovereign and their Country.

This presentation to-day marks the first occasion on which a Territorial Army Infantry Battalion has paraded with the 1939-45 Battle Honours emblazoned upon their Colours.

It is a very solemn occasion and the beginning of a new chapter in the history of a Regiment, for the Colours are the centre and the mainspring of its whole life. One generation passes away and another comes, *but* the Colours remain the outward and visible sign of the tradition of the Regiment, the record of its service and triumphs, and a memorial of all officers and men who have given their lives in the discharge of their duty to their Sovereign and Country.

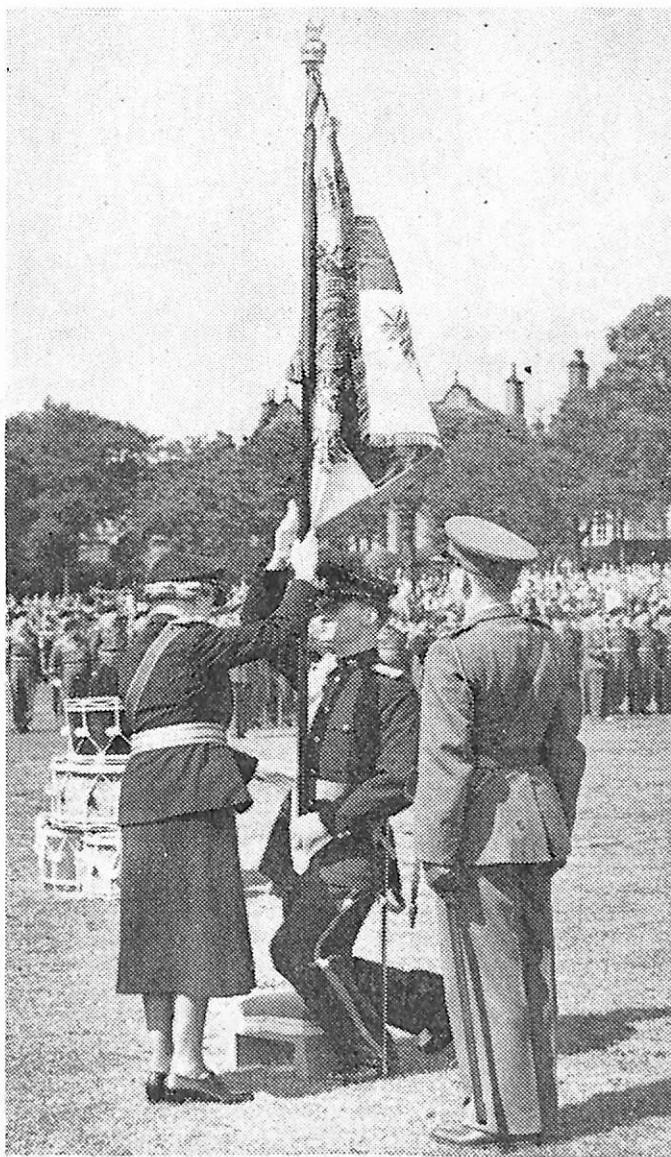
There is much to be learnt from the Colours; the young soldier should be taught the story of past deeds, thus handing down the glorious Regimental traditions, while ever instilling into him a strong sense of duty.

It is the voluntary spirit that has made our country so great, and I am sure that the people of Huddersfield will do all they can to foster this spirit in order to keep their own County Regiment well up to strength. This calls for the co-operation of the local authorities and employers. Ninety-five per cent. of your unit are civilians with ordinary daily jobs to do, the time available for training is limited, and yet you give up willingly your spare time to carry out this training.

I am deeply impressed by your turn-out on parade today, and congratulate you warmly.

Your Battle Honours in the last war are world-wide, a record of which you can be justly proud.

I am delighted to see the Cadet Battalion also on parade. To them will fall the task of carrying on the fine traditions of the Regiment. Also, to remind you all of these great traditions, there are with you on parade today, *those* who have helped to make the Regiment great—the *Old Comrades*, who have given glorious service since the South African War up to the present time.



By courtesy of the Huddersfield Examiner

The Presentation of the Regimental Colours

On behalf of Her Majesty The Queen I commit these Colours to your keeping, confident that All Ranks will ever regard them as the most valued and sacred possession of the Regiment.

**Notes for the January number
of THE IRON DUKE should
reach the Editor by Dec. 1st.**

REPLY BY LT.-COLONEL T. HAIGHTON, T.D., COMMANDING 7th BATTALION THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

Your Royal Highness, on behalf of the Officers, Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of this Battalion, I thank you for the honour you have bestowed on us by presenting us with new Colours, and also wish to say how much we appreciate the inspiring words which you have addressed to us.

We are extremely proud to be a part of such a famous Regiment, and you can rest assured that

the honour of the Colours will always be upheld by all ranks. The spirit of the Battalion and the Regiment is as proud as it ever has been.

If there is ever another war, and please God there will not be, and we are called upon to serve our Queen, the soldiers you see on parade today will acquit themselves as nobly as did the veterans to whom we owe the honours inscribed on the Colours.

7th BATTALION, T.A.

SUB-EDITORIAL

On July 7 this year, we had New Colours presented to us by H.R.H. The Princess Royal, full details of which appear on other pages in the Journal, and from all reports received it seems to have been a very successful affair.

We managed to get in a certain amount of practice at Camp, although it meant working longer hours as we had to carry out our normal training before doing any rehearsals. We returned to Huddersfield on the second Thursday, having two rehearsals on the Friday, with the parade on the Saturday afternoon in Greenhead Park. Saturday morning was very wet indeed, and it rained continuously until about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, but the local Park staff, under instructions from Captain Irons, worked like Trojans in the morning, and by 3 o'clock, when the sun emerged, the ground was reasonable.

Huddersfield Corporation gave a Civic Lunch, and after the parade, H.R.H. was entertained to tea at Wellesley House, during which time all the Warrant Officers and their wives were presented, together with the officers and wives who had not been presented previously at the Town Hall.

It is estimated that approximately 8,000 people watched the parade in the park, and there were at least as many lining the route when we marched through Huddersfield exercising our rights as Freemen of the Borough.

We were delighted to have with us on parade the Old Comrades from the Huddersfield Branch, O.C.A., and also our own Cadet Battalion.

The Old Colours were laid up in Huddersfield Parish Church, on the Sunday morning, and although the ceremony was kept as simple as possible it was very inspiring indeed, and in his address the Vicar of Huddersfield, The Rev. Canon Horan, made it quite clear that Huddersfield was the right and proper place in which the Old Colours should rest, and he settled once and for all certain arguments that had been raised as to why the Colours were being laid up in this town and not in the Colne Valley.

Many former members of this Battalion were with us during the weekend, and we were delighted to see them all, and it is only hoped that they will

all turn up on November 10, to the Regimental Dinner, which is being held at Milnsbridge.

I should like to express through these columns my appreciation for the help given to us by the Huddersfield Corporation, and also by Colonel Bryce, Secretary of T. and A.F. Association, which certainly went a long way to making the whole show such a success.

OFFICERS' MESS

The activities of the Mess at camp this year were somewhat restricted in view of the forthcoming presentation of new Colours at Huddersfield. Nevertheless, we were able to have an excellent time at Wathgill, North Yorkshire, and at the same time keep our finger on arrangements in Huddersfield, some 75 miles away.

It was suggested that "Topper" Brown's sword drill parades at 6.45 a.m. rather dampened the spirit in Mess in the evenings. However, the candle was burnt at both ends and most of us have been revived since.

Friday, June 29, was our guest night and we were pleased to have with us the Deputy Mayor of Huddersfield (Alderman J. T. Gee), the Mayor of Halifax (Alderman F. H. Swire), the Town Clerk of Halifax (R. de Z. Hall, Esq.), and our Divisional Commander (Major-General Colquhoun).

Unfortunately we were unable to have officers from the other Regiments in the Brigade with us as our camp this year did not coincide with the remainder.

Our civic guests visited the Sergeants' Mess during the evening, and this had the effect of revitalising the party which continued until about 3.30 a.m., when it became all too difficult to find and distinguish our guests' cars in the dark.

Brigadier F. L. Martin, D.S.O., our Brigade Commander, unfortunately was unable to be with us on guest night, but he was able to dine with us during the week. Brigadier Martin will be relinquishing command of the Brigade this summer (the rainy season in Huddersfield), and it was on the occasion of his visit that he presented us with a seat of an Ashanti king in the form of a jumbo carved from a solid block of teak and fitted with a suitably

The Old Colours



By courtesy of the Huddersfield Examiner

inscribed plate. We are indeed indebted to our Brigadier for this most generous gift.

On Wednesday, July 4, we moved back to Huddersfield and established ourselves in the 5th Battalion Mess which Lt.-Colonel Crossley had kindly put at our disposal. Most officers lived out for the next few days, the officers living locally giving up all their spare rooms.

On Saturday, July 7, after the Colour ceremony, Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal took tea with the officers and their wives in the Officers' Mess, Wellesley House.

Not all the officers could be present as there remained a considerable amount of work to be done.

In the evening some 350 guests attended our cocktail party at Wellesley House, and we were pleased to see so many officers of the 1st Battalion were able to attend. Many of our guests had travelled a considerable distance and it was heartening to have them with us. The evening was rounded off most adequately when the officers moved almost *en bloc* to the Sergeants' Mess Ball.

We were all very sorry that Jimmy Mallalieu was taken to hospital during camp and was unable to be on parade. He is, however, now fully recovered.

SERGEANTS' MESS

Another "summer" is over, and also the highlight of the training and social year, Annual Camp. Due to holidays afterwards, and the preparations for camp previously, all Mess activity this quarter was concentrated in the camp period, but it is hoped to recommence the monthly pie and pea suppers in the Mess this Autumn.

Unfortunately, we had to say farewell at camp to R.S.M. Atkinson, M.M., who left us immediately afterwards to join a T.A. Battalion of his own Regiment (7th West Yorks). He was dined-out on the second Tuesday at camp, an excellent meal being put on by the A.C.C., at the end of which the P.M.C., C.S.M. Fitton, presented Mr. Atkinson with a table lighter on a stand inscribed, "To R.S.M. T. Atkinson, M.M., from W.O.s and Sgts. 7th Dukes," towards which all members had subscribed. The officers were invited into the Mess after dinner and entertainment was provided by various members, a good time being had by all.

We are sorry that Mr. Atkinson has to leave us (but as he is only at Leeds we look forward to seeing him again on social occasions, perhaps the two 7ths may have some joint functions), but are pleased to extend a hearty welcome to his successor, R.S.M. H. Randall, who joined us from the 1st D.W.R., on July 8, 1956. Mr. Randall came to camp with us for a "Preview" of his new unit. We trust he liked what he saw, and that he will have an enjoyable tour of duty with us. We also welcome into the Mess, Sgts. D. Booth, J. O. Holt and A. J. Larnder, who were promoted at camp, and also Sgt. F. G. Dews who has recently rejoined the unit.

The climax to Annual Camp this year, was of course the Presentation of New Colours on July 7, and to mark the occasion the Mess held a dance in Milnsbridge T.A.C. Invitations were extended to neighbouring Sergeants' Messes, Old Comrades' Associations, all ex-members of the Mess, and to the officers, who joined us at the termination of their own function at Wellesley House. The New Colours were on display, the T.A.C. was draped in maroon and french grey, and with the assistance

of Ronnie Ball and his Band, a good buffet supper, and of course a bar, the evening was regarded as a fitting close to a memorable day.

" A " COMPANY

As " A " Company notes come before those of the other Rifle Companies, there is present a temptation to steal their thunder in the choice of subject matters. In order to give them plenty of scope therefore, we will leave most of the Presentation of New Colours to other pens.

At camp we received the Cup for the Best All-Round Company, 1955. C.S.M. Bye is still convinced that we were robbed of the Cup for the best kit lay-out, which went elsewhere. We hope to carry this one off in 1956 however. In order to better our efforts, an official patrol departed in a Landrover to Leyburn to make various purchases at an ironmongers' shop. Whether this will win the Cup or not, the Company Commander was highly satisfied when a member of the Company approached him and asked, " Can you find me anything else to whiten, Sir ? "

On our move to Arden Road we have of course, much to the relief of the 2IC of the Company, had to close our Bar. He should not be too sure however, because we think we may be able to find him some more books to prepare for audit.

" B " COMPANY

Once again Annual Camp has been and gone, but we can safely say that this year's camp will remain in our memories forever. The highlight of course, was the Presentation of New Colours to the Battalion. We helped to form No. 2 Guard, which was commanded by our late Company Commander, Major Heaton. In order to make the parade the success that it was, a great deal of practise was necessary while we were at camp—at the time this proved rather tedious, but the results more than justified the effort.

We were one of the smaller companies at camp, but even so we managed to hold our own—in the sports we reached the semi-finals in two events and we won the tug-of-war. Incidentally, we would like to congratulate " C " Company, who with even less men than we had, managed to win most events.

There were many new faces in the Company this year, faces which we regret to say we shall not be seeing again. It is hoped that a few of the National Servicemen will join the T.A. All the men admitted that they had had a good time and enjoyed themselves. The food was fairly good, the accommodation ample, and the company spirit grand, but for some reason or other they were just not interested.

As a camp site and training area, Wathgill is first class, but unfortunately the facilities for amusement are rather poor. To compensate for this, we arranged a day-trip to Redcar and just about the whole Company went—apparently a good time was had by all.

Congratulations and thanks are due to Sgt. Larnder who handled the " Q " side of the Company

most efficiently. Congratulations also go to Sgt. Holt on his promotion.

" C " COMPANY

We took to camp this year a small but select body of men and, though the numbers were so small, their activities were legion and their success stupendous, when it is considered that " C " Company won the Battalion Sports against the other larger companies.

It represents a great deal of credit to the senior ranks who organised, imbued and gave the Company the will to win and for the men responding so well.

It was particularly noticeable that the food, camping conditions and administration generally, were very much better than the previous years, probably owing to the smaller numbers which enabled more personal attention to be given to smaller items.

We can look forward with pleasure if we have the same material and same spirit—which we are sure we will have—to next year's camp.

" D " COMPANY

Annual Camp this year was at Wathgill near Catterick, and although most of the time was spent in rehearsing for the Colour Presentation Parade, the Company was able to carry out some useful Platoon and Section training. Our Company strength was approximately half that of last year, but in spite of this, we were able to operate on a two-Platoon basis, and thus work some competitive spirit into the training.

Much will have been written elsewhere about the Colour Presentation Parade, which of course was a Battalion effort, but suffice it to say all members of the Company who took part were very proud to do so.

During the autumn and winter we are hoping to have a few Company social evenings at Fitzwilliam Street.

Congratulations to Pte Dawson on his recent appointment to Lance-Corporal and a welcome to Cpl. Holberry who joined us from " H.Q. " Company in time for camp.

On July 14 (Civic Sunday), with members of " B " and " H.Q. " Companies, we formed a Duke's Contingent to escort the Mayor of Huddersfield to Church, the weather was poor, but the Battalion Band in No. 1 Dress added some colour to the scene.

Finally, we go to print with the hope that very soon the number of volunteers within the Company will increase so that we can really be a voluntary organisation.

At the moment, the Company Commander is on leave and it is rumoured that he is doing a recce of the cushy billets in the Suez area, as he left a note for the 2IC to see that the Company is clued up in camel maintenance.

" Ur-le Nasser is Watching You ! "

" S " COMPANY

Whew ! Who said the Territorial soldier of today does " nowt " at camp ? Most certainly such a statement did not apply to us at camp this

year. Although the weather was rather more unkind than it was last year, at Wathgill, we still managed to fire the M.M.G.s on two occasions. With the help of their former Platoon Commander, Captain Barnes, the Anti-Tank Platoon "towed" with their 17-pounder, and the Pioneer Platoon were fully occupied with their Civil Defence tower and a cadre which kept N.C.O.s from all Companies busy most mornings of camp. Only the 3-in. Mortar with a sadly depleted Platoon were unable to carry out specialist training—a state of affairs we trust will never exist again at future Annual Camps.

As the afternoons were spent in rehearsals for the Colours parade which turned out to be a huge success, there is little doubt but that we were "busy as bees" throughout the whole fortnight.

A fine afternoon for the great parade put everyone in good heart and drew from all their best in honour

of such an auspicious occasion. Although, on such a parade it is difficult to single out individuals, especially when all members of the Company worked so well, I feel we should be proud that Sgts. Prince and Kenny were Colour Guards to the Old Colours on parade for the last time and part-taking of what can be termed a "sentimental" journey.

At the moment we are looking forward to active and intensive winter training, and, having amalgamated with "A" and "C" Companies for this purpose, it is anticipated that we shall have sufficient numbers in personnel to make for a worthwhile winter cadre.

"H.Q." COMPANY

Another Annual Camp is now over, during which Company H.Q. bore a very unusual appearance. Our Company Commander, Major Young, had to return to Huddersfield to prepare St. Paul's Street Drill Hall for the Battalion, so the M.T.O., Captain Kingdon, took over. The "Q" staff were extremely busy, partly due to the fact that many uniforms had to be issued and exchanged, and C.S.M. Woodcock was required to assist them. W.O.2 Frier, the P.S.I., was able to attend camp for two days only. As a result, C.Q.M.S. Walker was acting C.S.M., and Sgt. Thackra acting C.Q.M.S. To release infantrymen for the parade, R.A.M.C. personnel were employed in Company Office and Stores, and did a very good job.

The M.T. Section were well below strength but coped adequately with the situation, providing recreational transport in the evenings on top of their other duties. The Signal Platoon was also small but efficient, S/Sgt. Harris of the Royal Signals being attached to them to assist in their training. On them, unfortunately, fell most of the Company duties, which they tackled with the minimum of complaint.

During camp we added to our laurels by winning the inter-Company football competition, beating "D" Company in the first round, "S" Company in the second round, and "C" Company (despite the fact that several of our team were unable to play and reserves had to be found) in the final. Mention must be made of Pte. Barrett, of the Signal Platoon, who played in goal in all three matches, although not his normal position, and saved the situation on numerous occasions, and L/Cpl. Shaw our centre-forward, who had a hand in most of our goals. A satisfactory position was also obtained in the inter-Company sports, but we hope to improve on third place next year.

Promotions at camp included L/Cpls. Ewart and Abba, M.T. Section, to Corporal; L/Cpl. Riley, Signal Platoon, to Corporal; and Pte. Wilson, Officers' Mess, was appointed Lance-Corporal.

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382 MEDIUM REGIMENT, R.A. (D.W.R.) T.A.

The major part of these notes, quite naturally refer to our Annual Camp.

This year the camp was held at the Royal Artillery Practice Camp, Westdown, which is situated on Salisbury Plain, and to nearly all gunners is considered to be the best all-round gunner camp. All accommodation is hutted and the camp amenities are good.

The main body travelled by motor coach on Saturday, July 28, leaving their Drill Halls at about 10 a.m. The reason for the move by road instead of rail, was to avoid having to leave home stations very late on Saturday evening and travelling through the night. It was considered that that was not the best of ways to start a fortnight's camp.

The first three or four days was taken up with individual training and making certain that our new members were found a place in the team.

We carried out our first shooting on Friday and on this day we had a visit from the Brigadier, Royal Artillery Northern Command. It was one of those days when everything went right and both the shooting and the gun drill were "copy book." The Regiment was delighted to receive from the B.R.A. a few days after his visit, a letter congratulating the unit on what he had seen.

On the Saturday, buses were hired and the majority of the unit went off to Southsea and, from all reports, this was a very fine outing.

The second week also went with a swing and we had with us during the week our Brigadier, the Commander of the 86th Army Group Royal Artillery, Brigadier W. E. Hulse, O.B.E.

On the Monday the Mayor of Halifax and the Chairman of the Watch Committee witnessed the firing, along with our Honorary Colonel, Colonel G. H. Aykroyd, T.D., and Colonel N. T. Bentley, T.D. The weather was not too kind at the Op. in the morning but was gloriously summerlike in the afternoon. The Mayor showed a tremendous interest in the work of the Regiment; he went for a long ride on one of the Cromwell Op. tanks, and ended his visit on the Tuesday morning by taking on a target with a troop of guns. His quick grasp of the art of shooting and his successful neutralisation of the target astounded some of the more experienced gunners.

On the Thursday the Regiment was visited by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Defence, the Earl of Gosford. He spent about half an hour with the Regiment and spoke to many of the officers and other ranks. He later wrote to say how impressed he had been with the enthusiasm and keenness shown by all ranks.

The camp ended with a night occupation and the engagement of the targets by predicted fire at 6.0 a.m. on the last morning of camp.

Altogether a very successful camp indeed. The Regiment is now completely welded into one team, which is a great joy for all those who have laboured with determination and enthusiasm to bring this about.

OFFICERS' MESS

There was never any doubt from the first moment that the spirit of the Mess was a really happy one, and our new National Service officers and several attached officers felt absolutely at home within minutes. A great deal of the credit for this goes to our very able Mess Secretary, Captain Arthur Ballantine, who is an untiring worker.

Our Guest Night was held on Bank Holiday Monday. It is likely that we made military history that night, for amongst the military personnel present were our former C.R.A., Brigadier David Welsh, D.S.O., our present C.A.G.R.A., Brigadier W. E. Hulse, O.B.E., and our future C.A.G.R.A., Brigadier G. C. Wells, M.C., T.D., and our former C.O., Colonel N. T. Bentley, T.D., our present C.O., Lt.-Colonel J. F. Crossley, M.B.E., T.D., and our future C.O., Major Ray Simpson. As one might ask in the National Press, is this a record?

SERGEANTS' MESS

If, as we believe, the centre of any Regiment is the Sergeants' Mess, then there can never have been any doubt from the first moment that this was to be a successful camp.

The Mess was very well run and was not too big and unwieldy, as was rather the case at Otterburn last year. It was most interesting to notice that the Mess worked as one happy and efficient team, and this, without doubt, had its effect throughout all ranks.

On the Friday night of the first week, the Sergeants entertained the Officers and took this opportunity of presenting to the Commanding Officer a very fine silver cigarette case, suitably inscribed, to mark his retirement later in the year.

There is now a lot to be done to complete the reorganisation on to a 3-Battery basis, and this has to be completed by October 31, 1956.

Certain personnel will have to be interposted to form the new battery and Keighley Drill Hall is to be reopened very shortly. The new Battery is to be named "P" (4th) D.W.R. Medium Battery, R.A.—its Commander will be Major A. V. Fawell, R.A. (T.A.).

"Q" (5th D.W.R.) MED. BTY., 382 MED. REGT.

July 23 marked the conclusion of the term of office of Colonel Keith Sykes as Honorary Colonel of the Regiment. We, as the "5th Dukes Battery," feel we may be privileged to pay our own special tribute to Colonel Sykes and congratulate him on his wonderfully long and active association with the 5th Dukes. We know that although his official connection may be severed, Colonel Sykes will always be an inspiration to us and that we shall always be assured of his ready and active support.

We are very pleased to welcome a new officer, 2 Lt. Christopher Mason, who joined us at camp

direct from National Service in Germany. His father is well known to many as an old member of the 5th Dukes and a keen and regular supporter of the Officers' Dinner Club.

The main event of the past three months has been, of course, the annual camp, which this year was at Westdown, on Salisbury Plain. It was, from every point of view, a most successful camp. Last year the amalgamation was far too recent an event to expect other than an honest endeavour on everyone's part to become a completely integrated unit, but there is now no question that the spirit of the Battery is undivided and, moreover, it is one of which we are very proud indeed.

The shooting was good and attracted quite complimentary remarks from the several V.I.P.'s who visited us. The food was excellent, and our hard-working and competent team of cooks—most ably led by Sgt. Wallace—were almost embarrassed by the generous praise with which their efforts were received. Above all, the accommodation was good, and although there may be an occasional hardy spirit who still delights in the rigours of life in a tent, he would have found no one to support him at Westdown this year, particularly during the high gales and lashing rain of the first Sunday.

A most pleasing tradition of the old 5th Dukes was that during the middle week-end of camp several of the former Commanding Officers of the Regiment—referred to collectively, if irreverently, as the Aged Gentlemen—would visit the Regiment. This year we were delighted to welcome a very strong representation who, despite the unusually long trip, travelled south to visit us. Led by Colonel Keith Sykes, who we were very pleased to see looking much better than of recent months, the party included Colonel Hirst, Lt.-Colonels Laurence, Huxley and Brooke, Major Liversedge, and Major Bearder who, due to his active interest in the Battery as Honorary P.M.C., and his comparative youth, hardly qualifies as an Aged Gentleman.

We were also very pleased to welcome several guests who were visiting the Regiment officially, including the new Honorary Colonel, Colonel G. H. Aykroyd, and His Worship the Mayor of Halifax.

This was the last camp at which the Regiment will be commanded by Lt.-Colonel J. F. Crossley, who will shortly be retiring after five most successful years as Commanding Officer. For him it must be sad, yet a very proud occasion, for he leaves the Regiment at a time when its achievements and its spirit are at the very highest level. It was indeed a most dramatic and moving moment when shortly after dawn on the last morning of camp, the Colonel conducted a most brilliantly successful shoot. When the engagement was ended he paused for a moment and then passed his final message over the air: "Message from Sunray; good shooting; thank you." And the silence in the O.P. was broken by the Brigadier: "Well done the Colonel." It was indeed a job well done.

COLONEL K. SYKES O.B.E., M.C., T.D., J.P.

In July, Colonel Sykes relinquished his appointment as Hon. Colonel of 382 Medium Regiment, R.A. (D.W.R.) (T.A.), thereby completing 42 years' continuous service in the T.F. and T.A. Commis-

sioned in the 5th Battalion in 1914, he went with them to France in 1915 and was later appointed Adjutant. This post he retained till the end of the war, refusing promotion as it would have meant leaving the 5th "Dukes." He had a most distinguished record, being awarded the M.C. in 1914, a bar to his M.C. and the French Croix de Guerre with palm in 1918; he was twice mentioned in despatches and once in French Army Orders. After the war he continued to serve in his beloved 5th Battalion and in 1932 was appointed Commanding Officer. During his tenure of command, in spite of his protracted and spirited opposition, the 5th Battalion was converted to a searchlight battalion, R.A.

But his struggles were not fruitless, for he won permission for the Battalion to retain its name, buttons and badge and to keep and carry its Colours, thereby establishing a helpful precedent for other units who were converted later. He relinquished command in 1939 and was promoted substantive Colonel, and on the outbreak of war was appointed a sector commander in the Home Guard.

In 1949 he became Hon. Colonel of 578 (5th D.W.R.) H.A.A. Regiment, R.A. (T.A.), and when this was reduced to battery status Hon. Colonel of 382 Medium Regiment.

Perhaps only members of the 5th Battalion can properly evaluate his long and devoted service, but all those of us who have had the privilege of knowing him for many years as a staunch friend of the Regiment and a formidable defender of its privileges will wish him many years of happy retirement.

Personalia

BIRTHS

TEDD—On June 15, 1956, at the B.M.H. Nairobi, to Gwendoline, wife of Major G. C. Tedd, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, a son, Jonathan Charles.

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES

The engagement is announced between Peter Bartholomew, only son of Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. Owen Price of Highfield, Temple Ewell, Dover, and Catherine, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Playfair Price of San Luis, Minorca, Spain.

Major A. C. S. Savory completes his tenure of command at Regimental H.Q. in November. The Editor cannot let him go without expressing his gratitude to Major Savory for the invaluable support he has given to THE IRON DUKE. He has supplied much that is of great historical interest, and also provided most of the items in these personalia columns, which without his assistance would be sorry affairs. We wish him the best of luck in his new post.

He will be succeeded by Major D. C. ROBERTS

We learn that Major A. H. G. Wathen, O.B.E., is due to retire in October. We also understand that he will continue to live and work in York.

R.S.M. G. B. Cook at present serving in B.A.O.R. has been awarded the M.S.M.

Correspondence

20 Sutcliffe St., Bellow,
Halifax, Yorks.
August 26, 1956

THE EDITOR—Sir,

May I suggest that a concession be made to old age pensioners, who are members of the Regimental Association in their payments made for the Annual Dinner Reunion tickets and also for the subscription to THE IRON DUKE.

Could this be published in the next issue of the Journal for the consideration of readers.

Yours faithfully,
J. YAXLEY.

* * *

With regard to Mr. Yaxley's letter:

Reunion Dinner: If any member knows of any Old Comrade who wishes to attend the Reunion Dinner, at any time but, through his circumstances finds he cannot afford it, then my committee would see to it immediately. No member of the Association needs to stay away because he is down on his luck; he only has to apply to the General Secretary who will look into his case on behalf of the Committee.

THE IRON DUKE Subscriptions: For many years THE IRON DUKE Business Manager has kept a "free list" for those who cannot afford the subscription and many receive free copies in this way. Some subscribers pay a further amount in order to cater for the infirm and aged. Colonel Stewart is always sympathetic towards cases brought to his notice, of people deserving a "free copy." Again, will any member who knows of an Old Comrade who really wants THE IRON DUKE regularly and cannot afford the yearly subscription of 6s., please write to Colonel Stewart or myself.

GENERAL SECRETARY.

* * *

August 1, 1956.

DEAR SIR,

Yesterday I went to Bulford Fields Camp, which 1 D.W.R. were running for the Cadet Force. I saw some soldiers (it was hard to tell whether they were cadets or not) and enquired where in the camp—a huge camp—I could find the Duke of Wellington's Regiment. The reply was: "Oh, the 'Dukes,' Sir—well, they are everywhere." On the strength of this, do you think we might apply to have "Ubique" subscribed to our badge and Colours?

Yours,
DICK COLLINS.

* * *

The Editor.

DEAR SIR,

In the July issue of THE IRON DUKE you reported that officers of the Regiment serving in East Africa held a dinner in Nairobi earlier this year. Perhaps you would be kind enough to allow me some space in your columns to expand upon the announcement.

By the end of 1955 there were quite a number of us in East Africa, the majority in Kenya, and we thought it would be a sound idea to emulate the

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example set in B.A.O.R., by holding our own Regimental Dinner and to inaugurate "the East African Branch of the Dinner Club."

This we duly did in the Tudor Room at Torr's Hotel, Nairobi, on May 31, and those officers listed in your announcement all attended—plus young John Lee, a National Service officer serving with 23 K.A.R.—who maintained the London tradition by finally leaving the Equator Club at 3.30 a.m.!

Brigadier John Birkbeck had a triple claim to be our guest of honour. The majority of "Dukes" in Kenya serve under his command in 70 (E.A.) Infantry Brigade; his uncle, Colonel John Birkbeck, once commanded our 6th Battalion; and lastly, he lives in one of the "Duke's" tribal areas, in Settle, near Skipton. He has a soft spot for West Riding people, he said in his speech, and added that the local "watu," or natives, were a friendly lot and not at all aggressive!

We had also asked Brigadier John Macnab, a Cameron, and friend of General Christison, who commands G.H.Q. Troops, but he was in Tanganyika with the Commander-in-Chief.

Peter Wilkes will be remembered by all who served with the 1st Battalion in Strensall. He is now in the R.A.S.C., and is G.S.O.3 with the East African Brigade H.Q. at Nyeri. Officers who were with the 1st Battalion in the early days of the War may remember James Smart, who is now Secretary to the Mayor of Nairobi.

We were sorry Pat Cousens couldn't come over from Mauritius, but he made up for it a few weeks later when he spent two weeks in Kenya—and we all met up again one evening at Swazi Waller's cocktail party.

Philip Woodcock also couldn't come—he is Signals Officer with 26 K.A.R. in Tanganyika.

We hope to continue to hold a dinner of this nature for so long as there are a reasonable number of us in East Africa—so the more officers who come to the K.A.R. the better.

I am, Sir,
Yours sincerely,

G. C. TEDD,
(Major, D.W.R.)

Obituary

COLONEL BASIL ST. JOHN LE MARCHANT

We deeply regret to announce the death of Colonel Basil St. John Le Marchant on July 28, 1956, at a nursing home in Cheltenham, in his 98th year.

Colonel Le Marchant, the last surviving son of the Rev. Robert and Mrs. Le Marchant of Little Rissington, Gloucestershire, was born on February 11, 1859. He was commissioned in the 76th Regiment from the Militia on February 19, 1881. In July of that year he was posted to the 33rd Regiment, and joined them in India. He served continuously with the 1st Battalion until the end of the South African War, except for a brief period from 1895-1898, when he was District Inspector of Musketry in the Portsmouth District. He went out to South Africa with the 1st Battalion in 1899, and took part in all the actions the Battalion was engaged in. He was mentioned in despatches three times, and was made a Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel in November 1900. Colonel Le Marchant was wounded in the train disaster on August 31, 1901, when the Boers ambushed a train bringing a draft from England to the Battalion, north of Pretoria. From February 1902, to March 1903, he was in command of a provisional battalion, and on January 23, 1904, he was appointed 2IC of the Royal Munster Fusiliers, whom he subsequently commanded.

Colonel Le Marchant married the widow of his closest friend, Major Owen Harris, of the 33rd Regiment, in June 1905. Their only son, Major Guy Le Marchant, was born in August 1906, and Mrs. Le Marchant died in October of that year. In 1910, Colonel Le Marchant married Miss Sarah

Cheetham, daughter of Mr. J. M. Cheetham of Eyford Park, Gloucestershire, and she died in 1951.

Lt.-Colonel M. V. le P. Trench writes: "Colonel Le Marchant was the last surviving officer—probably the last survivor of any rank—of the 33rd and 76th Regiments. He joined the 33rd at Nowshera in 1881, and was Adjutant to Lt.-Colonels F. J. Tidmarsh and Cecil Connor from 1886 to 1890. Incidentally, Lt.-Colonel Tidmarsh's son, Lt.-Colonel R. M. (Bob) Tidmarsh and I are now the only surviving officers who embarked for South Africa with the 1st Battalion in 1899.

"It was during the period of Le Marchant's adjutantcy that the 1st Battalion won their great success on the polo field, and he sometimes told me of those days, and spoke of such fine sportsmen as Bruce, Anderson, Wrench, Harrison and Watson. I often tried to persuade him to write up some reminiscences of those days for THE IRON DUKE, but he was too diffident.

"When I joined the 1st Battalion in 1899, he was the junior Major, and one was struck at once by his kindness, especially to young subalterns, which was rather uncommon in those days. He was a good cricketer and a very keen fisherman and shot, and he always encouraged young officers to take part in all games and sport whatever their lack of skill.

"It was a great disappointment to many of us that he never commanded the Battalion. But promotion was very slow, and when he was offered 2IC of the Royal Munster Fusiliers he took it as the only chance of ever getting command of a battalion, as had he remained on he would have been retired for age before promotion came to him. Nevertheless he remained a devoted member of the Regiment,

and attended as many regimental gatherings as he could until age, with arthritis and partial blindness prevented him from leaving his home in Gloucestershire. He was an enthusiastic supporter of THE IRON DUKE from its start, and in the last year or two when he could no longer see to read, always had his copies read to him. We corresponded regularly during the past 30 years until his accident last year.

“Salute to a loyal regimental soldier, a kindly man, and a true sportsman.”

Lt.-Colonel R. M. Tidmarsh writes: “I can only endorse John Trench’s most excellent appreciation of Colonel Le Marchant. With the exception of the period of the S.A. War, my only recollections and sidelights of him have been from what my father told me as his Adjutant. Keen on all kinds of sport, more especially fishing and shikar, an excellent adjutant, a kind and fair adjudicator. The Regiment and the present day world can ill afford to lose his like.”

LT. COLONEL S. E. BAKER, M.B.E., T.D.

We also deeply regret to announce the death of Lt.-Colonel S. E. Baker, M.B.E., T.D., at Coney Weston Hall, Norfolk, on July 17, 1956, aged 64. In the First World War he served with the 8th Battalion in Gallipoli, Egypt and France: he was wounded twice and mentioned in despatches. Between the wars he was a house-master at Sedbergh, Cranbrook and Cheltenham, but when war broke out in 1939, he was recalled and posted to the Depot. Here during the war he did valuable work, both in the Depot and outside in organising welfare work for the troops and in helping to start the Regimental Association. Many who worked with him in Halifax will recall him with respect and affection. When the Depot was closed as an infantry centre, he remained to command the Regiment at Party, and at this time collected much material for the Regimental History. Both his sons are now serving in the Royal Navy.

MR. A. POULTER, V.C.

We also deeply regret to announce the death of Mr. A. Poulter, V.C., at his home on September 29, after a long illness. Mr. Poulter won his V.C. in 1918, whilst serving with the 4th Battalion, and the following appeared in I.D. Vol. IX No. 25, June 1933.

From the *London Gazette* of June 25, 1918, War Office, June 28, 1918.—“His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the Victoria Cross to the undermentioned Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men: No. 24066 Pte. Poulter, W.Rid.R. (Wortley Leeds), for most conspicuous bravery when acting as a stretcher bearer. On ten occasions Pte. Poulter carried badly wounded men on his back to a safer locality, through a particularly heavy artillery and machine-gun barrage. Two of these were hit a second time whilst on his back. Again, after a withdrawal over the river had been ordered, Pte. Poulter returned in full view of the enemy, who were advancing and carried back another man who had been left behind wounded. He bandaged up

over forty men under fire, and his conduct throughout the whole day was a magnificent example to all ranks.

“This very gallant soldier was subsequently seriously wounded when attempting another rescue in the face of the enemy.”

Until his death he resided at 4 Florence Road, Armley, Leeds. He was aged 62. Mrs. Poulter died two years ago but there are seven surviving sons and two daughters. Another son, Arthur, died in 1927 as a direct result of privations suffered as a P.O.W. in Germany.

Many hundreds of local people turned out to pay their last respects when Mr. Poulter’s funeral took place on Saturday, September 1, for he was a popular figure in the Armley District. Besides many service representatives, many of his work-mates from Messrs. Price’s (Tailors) Leeds, attended. In the cortege were Mr. W. Edwards, V.C. and Mr. W. B. Butler, V.C. (both Leeds V.C.s), Major A. C. S. Savory, C.O. D/D.W.R., representing the Regiment; Mr. S. E. Code, M.B.E., representing the Regimental Association; Mr. F. A. O’Kelly, M.M., Mr. T. McMahon, representing the 4th Battalion O.C.A. and representatives of the British Legion.

THE VEN. T. J. WILLIAMS

The 10th (Service) Battalion of the Regiment suffered a severe blow on July 4 when the death took place, with tragic suddenness, of the Archdeacon of Craven (the Ven. T. J. Williams) who was, at one time, the Battalion’s Padre during the Great War. He was 67 and died in his study at Otley Vicarage—he had been Vicar of Otley for 19 years—less than an hour after attending a committee meeting of Prince Henry’s Grammar School, Otley. He and Mrs. Williams should have gone to Wales for a holiday on the morning following his death.

Born in Swansea and graduating at Durham University, Archdeacon Williams was ordained at Ripon in 1914 and the following year applied for an Army chaplaincy which enabled him to serve with British troops until 1919. He was awarded the Military Cross in 1918. After the War he took a chaplaincy in Mysore State (India), combining with this the position of Principal of a school in the Kolar Gold Field. In 1932 he accepted an invitation to become Vicar of St. Matthew’s Church, Bankfoot, Bradford, and five years later went to Otley. He was made a Canon of Bradford Cathedral in 1939. In the last war Archdeacon Williams served as a Territorial padre for two years with the rank of Senior Chaplain, but the then Bishop of Bradford (Dr. A. W. F. Blunt) and his own parishioners appealed for his release. This was granted in 1942 and he was appointed the same year Rural Dean of Otley. He had been Archdeacon of Craven since 1950.

At the end of 1951 he went into a nursing home for a heart complaint and was away from his duties for some months, but he made a good recovery, and at the Bradford Diocesan Conference in June this year asked the Honorary Secretary of the 10th Battalion O.C.A. the date of this year’s

Reunion Dinner in order to keep it open so that he could once again meet his comrades of the Great War. He said then that he felt very well. Consequently, his death so soon afterwards came as a great blow to the men of his old Battalion. He leaves a widow and one son.

At the funeral service in Otley Parish Church on July 9 the building was filled with a congregation of over 1,000 people, which included clergy from the Bradford Diocese, representatives of civic, social and sporting organisations—Archdeacon Williams was known as the "Sporting Parson" when he was in Bradford because of his close connection with Bradford Northern R.L.F.C. (he was Chaplain to the club)—the Bishop of Bradford (Dr. Donald Coggan), the Rural Dean of Otley (the Rev. A. Edgar), the Archdeacon of Bradford (the Ven. Kenneth Kay), the Rev. F. J. C. Marshall (Curate at Otley), the Canon R. Tindall, of Bentham, and members of Amity Lodge (Shipley) with which the Archdeacon was connected. Canon Williams's son—who has served in the Duke of Wellington's Regiment—was unable to be present as he is in Borneo.

PRIVATE ENTWHISTLE'S BEAR

LUCKY ESCAPE OF A NORTH COUNTRY NATURALIST
IN AN INDIAN CAVE

(Reprinted from *The Times* of July 3, 1956, by kind permission of the Editor)

(From a Correspondent)

The hill station of Dalhousie used to be a pleasant place in which to pass the stifling months of an Indian summer. Yet even the gayest subaltern tired sooner or later of the endless round of parties and dances to which he was bound to be bidden. It was then that one departed with a sigh of relief to the mountain warfare camp situated high above Dalhousie just below the snow line.

There one could revive the jaded spirit by clambering up and down the steep slopes, and practise the art of mountain warfare which used to be the old Indian Army's pride. And, sometimes, the Gurkhas would come and show us how professionals went about the business, holding their sides and laughing till the tears ran down their leathery cheeks as we clumsy English came tumbling down the grassy mountainside, tripping and falling over our feet.

We worked hard, but the evenings were usually free. Then the men used to clamber about among the rocks in search of fox cubs in the earth scraped out below the crags. We had one, named "Quorn," which ran about the camp as tame as a dog, unless one came upon it suddenly. There was a man in my platoon who had a passionate affection for animals, and who spent much of his time wandering about in the forests and crags observing them. He had promised to find a fox cub for the C.S.M.'s young son and much of his time was spent on this quest.

LOVER OF WILD PLACES

His name was Entwhistle and he was a "Geordie"—indeed he might well have been the model for Surtees' James Figg, so closely did he resemble the immortal huntsman in appearance and manner. His rendering of "Blaydon Races" at a company "smoker" always brought down the house (we were a North Country regiment) and he played the flute with zeal if no skill. Poor Entwhistle—he liked the wild places of this earth and his grave could not be in a wilder; he perished as a prisoner on the Three Pagoda Pass while building the notorious Burma-Siam railway.

I was lying on my bed one afternoon, digesting my lunch and watching the sun turn the distant Himalayan snows through all the colours in the spectrum, when my platoon sergeant appeared in the tent entrance. "I'm sorry to worry you, Sir," he said, "but Private Entwhistle has had an accident." I hoped it was nothing serious. Sgt. Taylor pursued his lips. "Well, as to that, I'd not like to say, Sir," he said. "The trouble is he's been bitten twice on the bottom by a bear!" There was no hint of drama in this announcement. In Sgt. Taylor's view, being bitten by a bear was one of the normal hazards of military life, like contracting bubonic plague or being knifed by a pathan.

SOMEWHAT SHAKEN

A somewhat shaken Pte. Entwhistle saw the matter in rather a different light when I went to inspect his injuries. He was lying face downwards on a stretcher while an admiring audience looked on ghoulishly as the medical orderly poured iodine into his wounds. These were two deep gashes on either side of his buttocks—a right and a left as it were! He was recounting his experiences in the best dramatic tradition. "I were looking for't foxes," he said in his broad North Country accent, "and I found an 'ole in some rocks. I started to crawl in, and soodenly I 'eard an 'urrrh' sound. I knew that weren't no fox, so I started to crawl out. And I 'adn't roon more than fower yards before ruddy bear bit me twice on t'bottom!"

What he omitted to tell us at the time was the fact that he had fallen nearly 40 feet down the mountainside when attacked by the bear. It was quite true that he had crawled inside a cave where a she-bear was nursing her cubs, and had beat a rapid retreat when she went for him. Outside the

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cave was a ledge, perhaps three feet wide, and a sheer drop below it. In the constricted space below ground, the bear had no room to use her wicked claws and, luckily for Entwistle, there was only time for two quick slashes before he launched himself into space off the ledge. The story would otherwise have been vastly different. How he survived the fall is just one of those things—but he did and without a broken bone.

He came back to us from hospital a few weeks

later, his enthusiasm for natural history in no way impaired. He showed me with pride his discharge slip which he said he intended to have framed and hung in the best parlour back in "canny Newcassel." One of the columns had the heading "reason for admission," and underneath had been typed, "deep scratches in both buttocks, inflicted by a she-bear." Entwistle grinned broadly as he showed it to me, and said, "Just like them poor kids in the wood with Elisha, ain't it, Sir!"

O. C. A. NEWS

6th BATTALION D.W.R.

(from the *Yorkshire Observer* of June 25)

More than 100 men who served in the 6th Battalion, the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, most of them veterans of the First World War, yesterday for the last time paraded with their battalion Colours through the streets of Skipton.

The Colours were being taken to the Parish Church, there to be laid up now that this Territorial unit has ceased to exist.

It was in 1908 that the Battalion was formed, succeeding the old 3rd Volunteer Battalion of the West Riding Regiment. The first Colours were presented to the Battalion the following year at Windsor Castle by King Edward VII. These Colours were damaged by fire when lightning struck Skipton Parish Church in 1925, and new Colours were presented to the Battalion later that year by Lt.-Gen. Sir Charles H. Harrington. They were carried until the outbreak of war in September, 1939.

When the Territorial Army was re-formed after the war, the 6th "Duke's" were replaced by the 382 Medium Regiment, Royal Artillery. As the Royal Regiment of Artillery do not carry Colours, it was thought fitting that the Colours of the Battalion should be laid up in the Parish Church.

The Colours were carried to the service by Lts. J. M. Scott and K. Brown, of "R" Battery, 382 Medium Regiment, Royal Artillery (D.W.R.),

T.A., the unit which now occupies the Skipton Drill Hall. Their escort consisted of Sgt.-Major T. Hawkins, Sgt. Lancaster, and Bombardier R. Staincliffe.

ON PARADE

On parade, in addition to members of the Old Comrades' Association of the 6th "Duke's," were a detachment from the Duke of Wellington's headquarters, at Halifax, men of the 382 Medium Regiment, Royal Artillery, and the Army Cadet Force, whose drum and bugle band led the column.

In the church, the Colour party handed the Colours to Colonel F. Longden Smith and Captain H. J. Lawson, president and secretary, respectively, of the Old Comrades' Association, as representing the Battalion. Colonel Smith handed the Colours to the Rector, Canon A. Sephton, "for safe custody within these walls."

MAYOR PRESENT

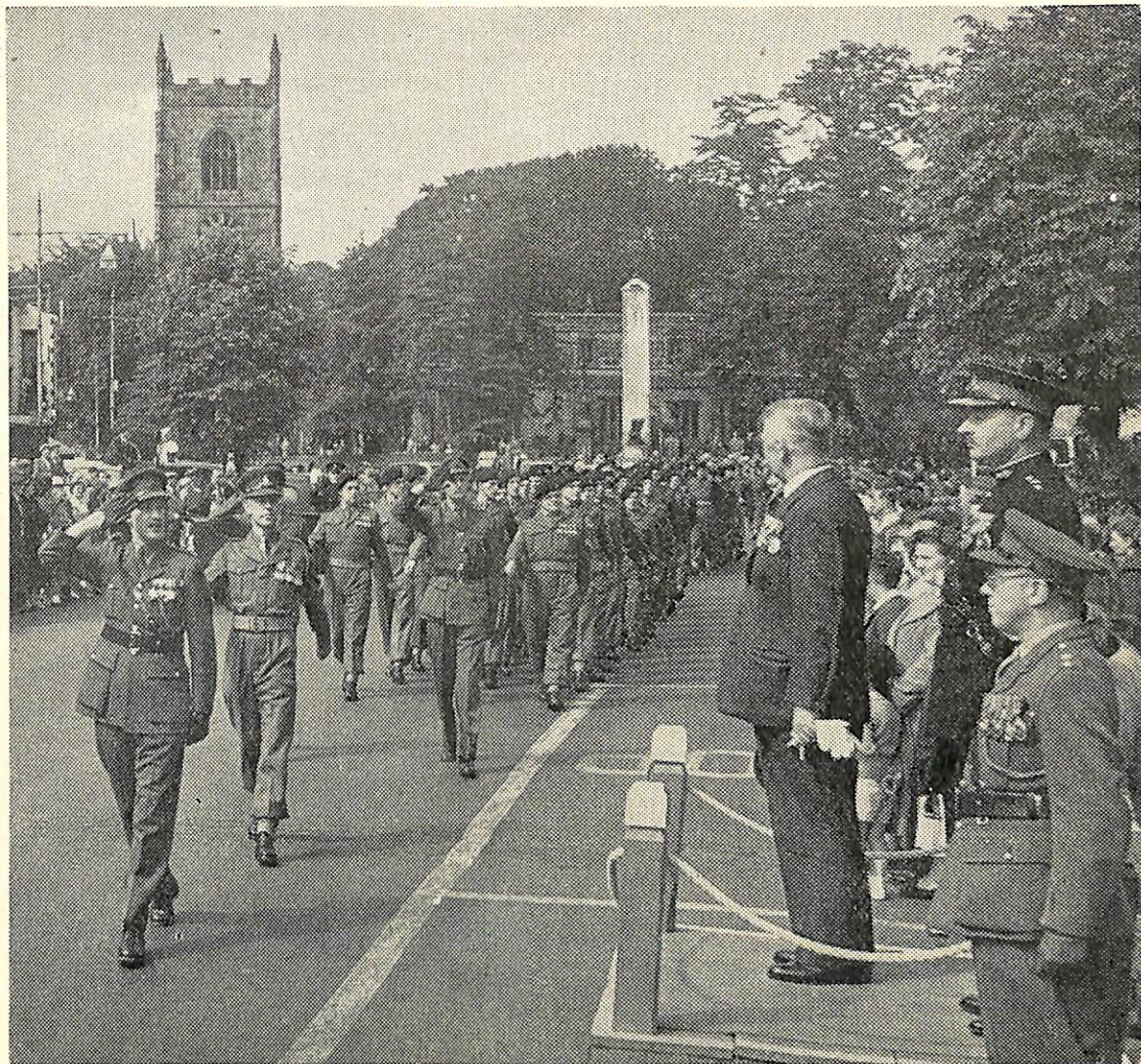
The Rev. J. F. Wrangham Hardy, Senior Chaplain, 49th (W.R. and M. Division), Territorial Army, was the preacher at the service. Lt.-Colonel J. F. Crossley, C.O., 382 Medium Regiment, Royal Artillery, who had charge of the parade, read the lessons.

The Mayor of Keighley, Alderman J. A. Taylor, and the vice-chairman of Skipton Urban Council, Councillor J. A. Kenyon (representing Councillor W. Smith, chairman), were present at the service.



By Courtesy of the *Craven Herald and Pioneer*.

THE OLD COMRADES



By Courtesy of the Craven Herald and Pioneer.

THE MARCH PAST

5th BATTALION D.W.R., O.C.A.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND DINNER

The Annual General Meeting and Dinner will be held on Saturday, November 10, 1956, in St. Paul's Street Drill Hall, Huddersfield. Dinner at 6.30 p.m., 6s. per head.

A.G.M. to follow dinner at approximately

7.30 p.m. The Association invite all ex-5th "Dukes" to this function, whether they are O.C.A. members or not. The Association will, of course, be pleased to enrol new members at 2s. 6d. per annum. There is no entrance fee.

D.W.R. REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION—GENERAL ACCOUNT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Printing, Stationery and postages ..	199	9 1	Subscriptions	80	10 0
Wreaths	23	6 0	Donations	10	5 0
Travelling expenses	65	10 5	Interest on Investments (gross)	15	0 0
Donations to branch	16	17 6	Transfer from Old Comrades' Association Fund	69	0 0
IRON DUKE—Subscription	20	0 0	Transfer from Regimental Association Fund	120	1 11
Miscellaneous expenses	117	1 3	Excess of expenditure over income for year	147	7 4
				<u>£442</u>	<u>4 3</u>
				<u>£442</u>	<u>4 3</u>

OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION (1st and 2nd D.W.R.) FUND

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Grants to sundry individuals	405	7 11	Interest from investments (gross):		
Transfer to General Account	69	0 0	2½% Defence Bonds	7	10 0
Excess of income over expenditure for year	134	12 3	3½% War Loan	126	9 4
			3½% Conversion Loan	257	13 10
			3% Savings Bonds	24	0 0
			4% Consols	24	17 0
			3% Defence Bonds	9	0 0
			3½% Defence Bonds	3	10 0
			4% Funding Stock	106	0 0
				<u>559</u>	<u>0 2</u>
			Grant from Regimental Charitable Fund, 2nd Battalion Account	50	0 0
				<u>£609</u>	<u>0 2</u>
				<u>£609</u>	<u>0 2</u>

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION FUND

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Grants	417	7 8	Donations, subscriptions and grants:		
Honorarium Secretary	525	0 0	Sundries	49	16 6
Transfer to General Account	120	1 11	Army Benevolent Fund	250	0 0
Excess of income over expenditure for year	42	6 3	Transfer from McGuire Bate Fund	50	0 0
				<u>349</u>	<u>16 6</u>
			Interest on investments:		
			3% Savings Bonds	294	16 0
			2½% National War Bonds	62	15 9
			3½% Defence Bonds	35	0 0
			3% Defence Bonds	30	0 0
			2½% Defence Bonds	13	15 2
			3½% Conversion Loan	17	10 0
			P.O.S.B. Interest	76	10 10
			2½% Funding Stock	19	7 6
			3½% Treasury Stock	87	10 0
			4% British Transport	100	0 0
			4% Defence Bonds	16	13 1
				<u>753</u>	<u>18 4</u>
			Profit on sale of badges, etc.	1	1 0
				<u>£1,104</u>	<u>15 10</u>
				<u>£1,104</u>	<u>15 10</u>



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