

No.104 April 1957



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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BUSINESS NOTES

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1ST BATTALION IN CYPRUS



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1. The destruction of the Sarandi Hide
 2. Dukes versus Locusts
 3. Nicosia Cordon
 4. Helicopter landing in snow
 5. "A" Coy. in the mountains
5,290 feet up
-



EDITORIAL

The 1st Battalion notes present a lively and vivid picture of their life in Cyprus. The novel form of operations in which they are engaged seem to provide everything most dear to the heart of the British soldier—unspeakable discomfort, hair-raising motoring, unconventional attire, and chances for everyone, however humble his rank to display resource, cunning, and initiative. Needless to say, the 1st Battalion have plunged eagerly into this whirl of excitement and seized their opportunities with both hands. Their exploits have once again hit the headlines in the Press, and we congratulate them on their bag of five thousand pounders.

In the last IRON DUKE it was stated that Cyprus was to become their permanent station, but recent reports now indicate that Plymouth is to be their next home. Many old hands will recall with nostalgia their stay in that pleasant city more than a quarter of a century ago. May the younger generation enjoy its amenities as much as we did.

We would forestall criticism by pointing out that the 1st Battalion notes were written under very difficult conditions, among the rocks and desert caves of the Cyprian mountains—far from typewriters and other aids to conventional warfare. In consequence they were not always easy to decipher, and place and proper names may assume strange forms.

We offer our heartiest congratulations to the 7th Battalion on their outstanding success in the Northern Command Shooting Championships and the Territorial Army Rifle Association Decentralised Competition.

In the October number of THE IRON DUKE we reported the discovery of a 33rd button in Antigua, by Mr. Macdonald, Secretary of the Leeward Islands, among the ruins of the old fortifications. He now writes to say that he has found a 76th button. This raises an interesting problem. The 76th Hindustan Regiment did not visit the West Indies till 1834, nearly thirty years after they exchanged the 76th button for one bearing the elephant. There is a possibility that the button may have belonged to one of the earlier 76th Regiments, but there are also objections to this theory. Perhaps this short notice will elicit some expert opinions on the matter.

The annual dinner of the Officers' Dinner Club and the regimental tea will be held at the Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge, London, S.W.1, on Friday, May 31, 1957.

The following communications have been received from various sources.

Army Art Society

The Society, which exists to encourage art in the Army and sister services, is holding its 26th Annual Exhibition in London during October 1957.

All ranks of the Army, the Royal Navy, and the Royal Air Force, past or present, permanent or temporary, may submit works for consideration.

The Society is an entirely unofficial organisation, and for several years very successful exhibitions have been held in London each autumn. Service artists can derive more interest from their hobby by aiming at submitting works for the exhibitions, which also give them an opportunity to compare their standard and style with others.

As the Society is non-profit making, the entrance and hanging fees are kept as low as possible.

Intending exhibitors are invited to apply after May 1 for particulars. Applications should be addressed to: Hon. Secretary, Army Art Society, P. J. Golding, 26 Lewgars Avenue, Kingsbury, London, N.W.9.

* * *

The Forces Motoring Club

In its first three years of life the Forces Motoring Club has become one of the 10 strongest motoring clubs of the 220 in the British Isles. Open only to those who wear or have worn service dress, the club is a voluntary association with independent and unofficial character. Nevertheless, it is formally recognised by the three Services and its 3,000 members are able to meet in their small groups all over the world and take part democratically in normal club functions.

The club has a bright atmosphere and is obviously run by gay, vital personalities, although the majority of the administrative posts are of an honorary character and there is an exceedingly small number of paid employees. For an organisation that has been in existence only three years it says much for the energy of the general committee that it has attained the 3,000 membership mark in such short time, especially as Service personnel are "always on the move."

The groups, too, show vitality and adaptability. Indeed they must, if they are to survive, as whole committees are sometimes uprooted and sent travelling, as at the time of the Suez crisis. There are nearly 200 of the club's members now serving with the British Army of the Rhine, and there are others in the Low Countries and with N.A.T.O.

Details may be had from H.Q., Forces Motoring Club, 2 Charterhouse Mews, London, E.C.1, or from the numerous Group Officials worldwide. It costs 25s. to join, and £1 a year thereafter.

* * *

The National Association for the Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen

During 1956, the number of men and women from the Regular Armed Forces of the Crown placed in employment by the National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen was 22,070, which was 86% of those who registered at one or other of the Association's 52 branches covering the whole of the United Kingdom. It is of interest that of this number, 8,616 were from the Army and 29 were from this Regiment.

At some time or another, whether he serves a short or a long engagement, every Regular eventually returns to civil life. When he does, looking for a decent job can be a trying and lengthy business.

This is where the National Association comes in, completely free, to help you to start right. If you are not absolutely sure of your job, get in touch with the local Jobfinder. Incidentally he is an ex-Regular like yourself so you will be quite at home when you meet him. He knows the employers and the vacancies they want to fill and can therefore, give you an up-to-the-minute picture of the local employment possibilities.

If, when you get home, you have forgotten, lost or have never been told the address of your Area Jobfinder, apply to any big Post Office, or to your own Regimental Association. They'll be able to give it to you.

Lord Chandos, chairman of Associated Electrical Industries Ltd., will be the principal speaker at the 72nd annual general meeting on Friday, May 10, at the Royal United Services Institution, Whitehall, S.W., of the National Association for Employment of Regular Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen.

Lord Chandos, joining the Army at the outbreak of World War I and the Grenadier Guards in December 1918, was three times mentioned in dispatches, was awarded the D.S.O. and M.C., and became Brigade Major in 1918 (in World War II, of course, he was a member of the War Cabinet).

Other speakers at the annual meeting will include General Sir Charles Loewen, Adjutant General; Air-Marshall Sir John R. Whitley, Air Member for Personnel; Rear-Admiral Sir David Lambert (of the Association's Management Committee); and Brigadier R. C. J. Chichester-Constable, chairman of the Hull local committee, with Colonel the Lord Astor of Hever (president of the Association) in the chair.

* * *

22,000 Placed in Employment in 1956

The Association, the short title of which is the Regular Forces Employment Association (known in the Services as "the National") is the only one of its kind sponsored by and almost entirely financed by the Services, no fees being taken from applicants or employers.

During 1956, 25,362 men and 293 women registered with the Association, of whom 21,879 men and 191 women were placed in work, a percentage of 86.

Most placings in 1956 were in Glasgow (1,344 out of 1,467 registrations) with Central London (1,194 out of 1,196), which had the most placings in 1955, second. Other areas with high placings included: Bristol (946 out of 983); Portsmouth (842 out of 954); Liverpool (827 out of 960); Hull 806 out of 977; Stoke-on-Trent (674 out of 719) and Birmingham (634 out of 783).

Notes for the July number of THE IRON DUKE should reach the Editor not later than June 1.

1st BATTALION

SUB-EDITORIAL

These notes will either be a repetition of Company notes, which will be boring, or all you will get, which will not give one full picture, or they will not be in time for publication at all, in which case no one will read them, which gets us nowhere really. We came back from assisting Limasol to keep the peace whilst Cyprus was debated by U.N.O., and companies etc. were asked to write their notes, as we thought there might be a lull of three days at least in which to enjoy the delights of our base in Nicosia, but we were whisked out to the mountains in less than three days—notes uncompleted. Then we got a gentle reminder from the Editor to have our notes in, and as there is a possible 36-hour lull in the operation, companies may be able to complete their notes in the silence of their lonely tents on the mountainside by the light of a pressure lamp. But on the other hand they may not—and even this may not get to the avid hands of the printers in time, so, we repeat, the reader of the 1st Battalion notes may get too much, too little, or nowt.

In brief, we have cordoned, searched, screened, ambushed, curfewed, observed or otherwise annoyed such places as Polystipus, Polis, Pomos and Polencidhia.

In detail, our last notes finished with "Golden Rain" and the approach of Christmas, in our new camp near Nicosia. Christmas was the best we could make it, the highlight being an Officers' v. Sergeants' football match, where the ball was kicked off by being dropped from a light aircraft, the pilot of which was obviously bribed by the Sergeants, because the ball landed well in the officers' half. All went moderately well until a certain person, not William Webb Ellis, picked up the ball and ran. He was stopped. Fights appeared to develop in various parts of the field, so we carried on with donkey polo and races.

After this there was a definite three-weeks lull, while we, in our usual way, attempted to drain and beautify the camp. This task smacks somewhat of the Augean stables—but slowly things are taking shape and we shall leave our usual mark on the earth with a better and brighter camp. You should just see the mud when it rains. We also had two companies at a time out in the mountains on training in shooting, ambushes, etc., and then we started.

"Black Mac," eight days, Saraudi, Laponthera, Polystipus, Livadhia, Askas and mountains roughly north—our first real experience of the local

mountain roads, which are really, and we mean really, frightening. To look back and see 3-tonners packed with enthusiastic platoons, grinding and winding up almost sheer mountainsides is not conducive to the quiet of one's ulcer. On this operation, however, we struck oil—we were told there was a hide in the priest's house in Larandi—and there was—and three £5,000 terrorists were found therein. Space does not permit details of how we found their hide, and another at Lapondhera, but we hope one day an account of this may be separately published. We also acquired one bell of a disused monastery—it just fell into our hands, as it were.

Four days back in camp and then "Brown Jack" started in the same area, but Alona and Pterylehoudi were included. There is a carol called "In the Deep Mid-winter" wherein the line "Snow in Snow" occurs twice. Well, there was snow. Our progress through to our area resembled Hannibal's crossing of the Alps, except for "elephants" read "three-tonners." It was quite ghastly but nothing seems to stop these northerners of ours.

After 36 hours in the snow we embarked on "Red Knight," having spent half a night in Petra to collect ourselves again. This operation was rather tame, consisting of a cordon, screen and search of Ponros-by-the-Sea, and other villages, all in the northwest corner of one island. Village gangs were rounded up and your sub-editor smelt his first fruit blossom and narcissi, somewhat like Private Angelo—or was it Ferdinand the Bull, or the Reluctant Dragon?

Back to Wellesley camp for a whole four days to find the camp looking far better through the labours of the 2IC and Major Davis, who seemed to have done far more with a small rear party in a few days than the whole Battalion did in a few weeks. The five-barred gate and dry walling at the camp entrance look particularly effective.

Then off on "Phantom" for ten days—the aim being to dominate Limasol and its environs so that EOKA would be unable to implement their threat to increase terrorism, whilst Cyprus was debated at UNO. The aim was certainly achieved, but whether because of our pressure or because Cyprus did not come before UNO until the day after we left is not really known! The south of this island is lush and certainly warmer than Nicosia or the north. We had "D" Company in Episkopi—the "married patch" of Cyprus—whose main object was to prevent the new C-in-C MELP's quarter being blown up again; "B" Company followed by "S" Company were in the town of Limasol in some comfort compared with Wellesley camp, to quieten the streets by land-rover and foot patrols and "A" and "S" Companies followed by "B" Company were in outlying villages to dominate the area and prevent killers and arms coming into the town. During this time we cordoned and searched two villages, not very exciting; "snatched" at Leitas; the man was not there but his sister-in-law was, to the fascination of the various people taking part in the "snatch." We also searched hills, and more villages, for hides.

We feel we should define the word "snatch." A "snatch" is where, acting on pretty definite information a small party goes in in a civilian lorry or land-rover, and throwing off a small cordon, darts into the specified house and "snatches" the dormant terrorists from their very beds—if they are there—which they usually are if the information is good.

Home Saturday afternoon—three or four days in camp we were told—Sunday passed peacefully. Monday started to pass peacefully then came the message, "at two hours notice to move as from 1600 hrs." then an hour later, came the word, "ready to move at 1400 hrs." This occasioned us hardly any concern—we were ready almost as soon as we returned—and at 1400 hrs. we did move out on "Green Dragon," in the autumn of which these notes are being written. It was back into the mountains again, and by approximately 1700 hrs., we had sealed off a large area of road to prevent terrorists breaking out. Next day we moved into a slightly more southern position in our normal ride—Ops. by day, ambushes by night. The next day news came through that a very high-ranking terrorist was in the village where that august body of men, Battalion H.Q., were—so companies were redeployed to cordon and search this village—with no luck unfortunately, despite a meticulous search. Give us a week and we would find it, if it was there. Give us more reliable information and we would find it (the hide)—but in the time given—no. These mountain villages are terraced and a labyrinth of passages and pens and rooms and levels and roofs, and the veriest moron could pop an almost undetectable hide almost anywhere.

As these notes are written we are to finish this operation the day after tomorrow and after possibly 24 hours in Wellesley camp we shall be out on another operation. And we think we are expressing one general opinion of the land when we say we prefer to be out living on our wits.

No 1st Battalion notes should finish without a reference to our morale in case some choleric retired reader wonders what is happening to the 33/LXXVI of Foot and what we are doing about it. Suffice to say, come Hell and High Water (or is it Hull, Hell and Halifax?). We are, to coin a phrase, utterly on the ball and though our name may not appear in print so often (we are not yet publicity minded), the "Dukes" are there.

OFFICERS' MESS

During the last three months the dominant factor in the life of the Officers' Mess has been one of movement. As a result of this the usual routine and continuity of Mess life have become somewhat altered.

On arrival in Cyprus three and a half months ago the officers lived in both the R.A.S.C. and R.E. Messes at Golden Sands Camp, Famagusta. As a result of this necessary division, composite Mess life was not possible for this period of four weeks.

Early in December, when the Battalion moved to its present camp on the outskirts of Nicosia, the Mess again became a real entity. Its centre is a

combined series of marquee tents which house the dining and ante-rooms. Although this may sound frugal, a steady stream of improvements has made the tent comparatively luxurious by this stage.

After becoming installed in the new camp Mess life soon returned to some degree of normality and during December and early January, before operational commitments became extremely frequent, a dinner night was held weekly.

The majority of officers (excluding a fortunate few who returned to the U.K. for leave) spent a fairly quiet but enjoyable Christmas here. Many friends, both old and new, attended a curry lunch party on the Sunday before Christmas and the occasion, our largest entertainment here to date, appeared to be much enjoyed by everybody.

As the ways of the Mess were settling down to a recognised routine in January our operational movements started and during the last six weeks very little has been seen of the Mess by the majority of officers. All except a mere week or so having been spent away from camp on operations, we return to the Mess only for a brief spell to relax a little and get together again prior to our next move.

However, much as we enjoy our operational duties, during which we are becoming very well acquainted with the mountains, towns and villages of this island, we look forward to some periods during which we may remain here long enough to return to our conventional way of living in the Mess.

During this period we have been rejoined by Lt. Gilbert Smith, whom we welcome back. We were sorry to say *au revoir* to "Baron" Emmett, who has returned home to go as an instructor to the School of Infantry, and to Duncan Lupton, who joins the Parachute Regiment, and Simon Berry, who has returned to the Depot. We have said goodbye to 2 Lts. Russell, Clegg and G. Naylor and wish them the best of luck as civilians.

We congratulate Chris Wood and his wife on the birth of a baby daughter in December, and our Unit Paymaster, Alan Taylor Smith, and wife on the birth of a son here in Cyprus three weeks ago.

SERGEANTS' MESS

Since our last notes went to press much water has flowed under the bridge and life has had its ups and downs. Before leaving Malta we said goodbye to R.S.M. Corke and welcomed R.S.M. Randall, affectionately known to all as "Big Harry." We left Malta early in November aboard the H.M.S. *Theseus* and had a comfortable journey to Cyprus, where we disembarked on November 14. Since that date we have not had a great deal of Mess life. A month at Golden Sands Camp as guests of the R.A.S.C., then we moved to our own camp just outside Nicosia. Since our occupation of the camp it has been renamed Wellesley Camp. But life in the camp has been limited to a few days owing to calls on I.S. operations.

At least we had the pleasure of celebrating Christmas and New Year in the traditional manner, officers and sergeants serving the early morning tea well laced with rum, and then the Christmas dinner, which was up to its usual high standard.

On Boxing Day we were entertained by the officers prior to the Officers *v.* Sergeants football match, which ended in a goalless draw. The C.O. played a magnificent game as goalkeeper behind his barbed wire entanglements. Added to the usual hazard of kicks, knocks and bruises was the bombardment of flour bombs thrown from a spotter plane. After the final whistle, when all players heaved a great sigh of relief, we commenced the Donkey Derby. The Company races provided some thrilling finishes, but the C.S.M.s' race proved a walk-over for R.Q.M.S. Dawson. The C.S.M.s' mounts, I am certain, had been sabotaged by the officers, i.e. loosening the saddle harness, as all the C.S.M.s bit the dust. Pity was taken upon the donkeys when the R.S.M. was about to lower his 17-stone body on one and the race meeting was closed.

After the New Year life once again resumed its normal course and off we went into the mountains. We are pleased to be able to say "A" Company had the first catch during the operation known as "Black Mac." Three terrorists and a quantity of arms, ammunition, grenades and explosives.

We congratulate Sgts. Morris and Cleator on their recent promotions and welcomed them into the Mess with the usual greeting, "Congrats, mine's a pint."

C.S.M. Williams and Jobling have left us for a tour at the Regimental Depot and we hope they settle down to their respective posts and send us some A1 recruits.

C/Sgt. Erswell was greeted with "Congrats, mine's a pint" on his promotion to C.S.M. in place of "Blondie" Williams.

Sgt. Tom Pratt is an old familiar face that we are pleased to see again after his tour at the Depot.

At the time of writing we are out on Operation "Green Dragon" and we must say it is quite pleasant after the cold and snow of December and January. In fact, it is every bit as warm as an English summer. If it is an omen of the sunshine to come, we are liable to be mistaken for foreigners on our return to the U.K.

Some of our members have been on leave to England and they have all returned saying it was cold at home but well worth the £60 air fare.

There has been very little social life; in all only two social evenings. We had a farewell party for the Somerset Light Infantry and some of our members attended the house-warming party of the Glostons. Needless to say, both parties went with a swing and a pleasant time was had by all.

Before putting these before the sub-editor, who is waiting impatiently for them, we must mention our skiffle group. It is hardly necessary to add that the Rock 'n Roll sessions of the skiffle group are greatly appreciated by our younger members.

As we said earlier, the sub-editor is waiting, so here's hoping that we have more news and more bandits captured for the next edition.

"A" COMPANY

During the last six months the Company has matured in its new operational role of a Rifle Company. The members are largely drawn from

two drafts who joined the Battalion immediately prior to its move East, and they took easily to the new and unaccustomed task which we had assumed.

Major Emmett led the side and the other members of his team were Major Brown (from the 7th Battalion), 2 Lts. Cumberlege ("B" Company), Parnham ("H.Q." Company) and D. P. Miles (who joined the unit on the night we were mobilised). C.S.M. Clark, who has been with the Company longer than most people can remember, "Q" Batty and the "terrible trio"—Sgts. Wilson, Mountcastle and Simpson, the latter pair hotfoot from Depot—completed the team.

The turn of the year saw a shuffle of command at various levels. The Battalion had to bid farewell to the "baron" on his appointment to the School of Infantry, and we especially were sorry to have to say goodbye, since we had all grown to know and respect his powers of leadership and command. We wish him the best of fortune during his absence from the Battalion. Major Brown was lost to "H.Q." Company and to take command we welcomed Major Sugden, who was soon settled in his new role. Sgt. Wilson left us for the Depot, and Sgt. Creighton, who came to us in Malta upon promotion, stepped into the breach.

So full had been the life of the Company that the most we can do is to draw at random from a wealth of memories. Major Emmett's "blazing the trail" with the Company's visit to Malta's second island, Gozo, when £50-worth of fig trees perished in the flames of a bonfire. The Company's soccer match with "D" which fully merited the impressive Gezira stadium in which it was played, the game resulting fittingly in a draw. The privilege of providing H.E. the Governor's guard for two weeks just after Christmas.

But perhaps the most important contribution to the cause so far as the Company is concerned has been its part in the capture of three terrorists at Sarandi, when No. 2 Platoon's search party and in particular Pte. Davies discovered the concealed entrance to the secret room in which they were hiding. This event must inevitably overshadow our second, but in its way equally exciting visit to Sarandi when the manhandling of our transport through driven snow on the mountain roads drew comparisons of the difficulties that Hannibal must have suffered in getting his elephants over the Alps.

As we write, barely eight weeks after Christmas, the sunbathing season is well under way and two of the most keen exponents are Cpl. Connor and Pte. Buglass, on whose forthcoming marriages to Swindon girls we offer anticipatory congratulations.

In closing we offer our congratulations to those persons, too numerous to mention, who were members of those original drafts and who have earned themselves promotion both within the Company and to other parts of the Battalion.

"B" COMPANY

Kato Myios is a very small village high in the hills of Cyprus and is under curfew. Whilst we await further orders, and the villagers are hoping that the cordon will be removed, our sub-editor has demanded his notes during this temporary lull.

On this perfect day we are very content with our life and our Battalion role. As a part of the island Reserve Brigade we are continually on the move visiting new areas. The cordons, searches and ambushes are very tiring but always interesting. The possibility that every person may be a member of EOKA or that every wall, bush or floor may conceal an arms cache or "hide" demands a high degree of alertness from all. Map reading is never a dull subject when using these maps!

The last Company notes almost completed the stay of our life in Malta and the sub-editorial in the January issue covered our first few weeks in Cyprus. A glance at the present order of battle will show a number of changes. The day before our departure from Malta, Major Davis became Administrative Officer and was succeeded by Captain Shuttleworth. Captain Tree left for Brigade and Captain Hoppe became 2IC. Sgts. Spring, Cleater, Painer and Chadwick have arrived and Sgt. McKenzie, M.M., is now Provost Sergeant.

There have been a large number of other changes too numerous to detail. To those who have left we wish good fortune and to those who have joined a hearty welcome.

After our experiences on the "Golden Rain" operation we spent a month training the Company in the techniques of the F.N. rifle, the ambush, the cordon, the search, the O.P. and in the art of living in the hills.

Christmas was a pleasant interval in the training. Wellesley Camp is not the ideal place in which to spend Christmas, but the festivities were enjoyed by all. The Company party in a dining tent was very successful.

Training continued until the middle of January, when the present series of operations began. The preparation period will be long remembered by those who accompanied the 2IC on his afternoon stroll—to the top of a small hill rather more than 4,000 ft. high. The author was not present, but all accounts compare very favourably with other more famous marches.

The Company area was illuminated during the Christmas period by a number of tent fires. The C.S.M., who has never been recognised as a Battalion sprinter, claims that during this period he was regularly doing "even-time" along the road from the Sergeants' Mess to the Company area. We were very relieved to find that the biggest blaze, which appeared to be in our lines, was actually across the road in the Battalion H.Q. area.

"Black Mac," "Brown Jack," Exercise "Phantom," "Green Dragon" and many other operations have followed. The order to "pack up" causes little disturbance. We are able to move quickly and smoothly. Even now we are waiting for precisely that order.

ORDER OF BATTLE, FEBRUARY 22, 1957

Company Commander	Capt. D. W. Shuttleworth
2IC	Captain P. B. L. Hoppe
C.S.M.	W.O.2 W. Robins
C.Q.M.S.	C/Sgt. A. Arundel

No. 4 Platoon

Platoon Commander .. 2 Lt. A. Skinner
 Platoon Sergeant .. Sgt. Cleater

No. 5 Platoon

Platoon Commander .. 2 Lt. H. M. P. Miles
 Platoon Sergeant .. Sgt. Spring

No. 6 Platoon

Platoon Commander .. 2 Lt. T. T. Carter
 Platoon Sergeant .. Sgt. Smith

"D" COMPANY

This is Operation "Green Dragon." We found that out this morning after much enquiry; perhaps "White Elephant" would be more appropriate. The Brigade lumbered up the Troodos Mountains, sat down, and no terrorist has even tickled its trunk. However, we are by no means discouraged; after the recent successes of "Black Mac" we feel that the Company's hour of glory cannot be far away. The men are still as keen as when we first went on operations in Cyprus. Surely we ourselves will soon be able to draw a line across a photograph in our little books of wanted men and write "Captured by 'D' Company," but until such time we must be content with the finding of a hide in Lagoudhera.

The last Company notes were written far in the past. To cover the period since then would take many pages and already memories of Famagusta and the latter days at Malta grow dim. So the reader must be content with a brief sketch of the Company activities since Christmas.

Christmas was celebrated, as usual, with an excellent dinner, but luckily the Company were unable to witness the struggles of Majors Harris and Emett in the cookhouse queue. "A" Company were eventually defeated, as Major Harris contrived to carry no less than 16 plates of turkey on a "bench folding flat G.S." through the mud and rain to the canteen tent. On Boxing Day the Company distinguished itself in the Donkey Derby and other activities.

Soon after this welcome but all too short holiday the Company went out into Makerhes Forest to train for further operations and to try and sort out what we had learnt from "Golden Rain." Lt. Birch put us all through an exacting and interesting jungle firing course, which gave us much confidence in our new self-loading rifles. We were trained in the uses of Ops. and we practised the best way to ambush terrorists on mountain tracks. Perhaps the most interesting part of the programme was the training with helicopters; about 15 of the Company practised jumping out of them and climbing down ropes from them. All who have since used helicopters on subsequent operations are fully agreed that it is much the best method of travel in the mountains. The exercise lasted for just under a week. During the second half the weather turned against us; platoons were pushed up into the mountains and found themselves establishing bases in the clouds. On the final night they were all but washed away by streams that, docile and tinkling

the night before, were roaring torrents in the morning.

With hardly time to dry our blankets we were out again on a Brigade signals exercise, and then with very little respite we were on "Black Mac." We set out on this operation fortified with over 20 men from "C" Company. We were all very sorry to see the Company disbanded, but we were greatly in need of the men to make up our platoon strengths. We extend a very hearty welcome to all of them. The hide in Lagoodra, after two days of searching one house, was a great morale booster. Somewhat maliciously we all enjoyed the spectacle of it being blown up. In the next hide we hope to find some terrorists, or at least some ammunition. The operation ended for the Company with four days at the Makerhes Monastery, where Afexentiou, the No. 2 terrorist in the island, was thought to be hiding. After a most dramatic swoop in helicopters and jeeps the Company all but took the old building apart. All this was somewhat an embarrassment for Major Harris, who only two weeks earlier had been accepting the abbot's hospitality—his bath and board.

While the rest of the Battalion were suffering in pup tents we had 10 days guarding the construction works in the ever-growing Army town of Episkopi. This stay was mainly remarkable for a happy liaison with the W.R.A.C. in the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes and at an all ranks' dance.

The next event was "Green Dragon," which brings us up to date. Certainly we are enjoying life in Cyprus. Although we are always glad to finish an operation and get back to camp, we are always eager to get up to the mountains again and to be on the job.

Many have come and gone since the last notes and there is not space to mention all. We were very sorry to lose Lt. S. A. Berry as 2/ic and we wish him the best of luck at the Depot. In his place we welcome Lt. C. M. Wood and congratulate him on the recent birth of a daughter. C.S.M. Jobling has also gone to the Depot. His is a great loss to the Company after many years of loyal and excellent service. It is, in fact, difficult to think of "D" Company without him and we wish him every success as R.S.M. We welcome C.S.M. Burke in his stead. I hope that his stay will be as long and happy. We welcome back Sgt. Chilvers and all others who have joined the Company. Many others have left. To them all we say thank you and good luck in Civvy Street. We congratulate Sgt. Morris and all others on promotions.

"S" COMPANY

After a lot of rumours of freezing in Blighty or sunning in Tripoli we eventually arrived in Cyprus after a speedy journey on H.M.S. *Theseus*.

After a short stay at the holiday camp at Famagusta we moved in December to our permanent base just outside Nicosia.

As the Battalion is a member of the island's striking force, we spend most of our time in the hills. Although the Battalion has captured several terrorists, alas, we have as yet had no luck ourselves.



ON RECONNAISSANCE

Left to Right: Major D. M. Harris; Capt. P. B. L. Hoppe; The C.O., Col. G. Laing; Major E. J. P. Emmett; Major J. Davidson; Major J. H. Davis

Several personal events have taken place in the Company and to mention a few:

We bade farewell to C.S.M. "Blondie" Williams after six years as Sergeant-Major of "S" Company, who is now imparting his knowledge to young recruits at the Depot.

We say hello to C.S.M. Erswell from the Officers' Mess and trust his stay will be a long, happy and prosperous one. It has not started so well, as on his first day in the Company a three-tonner turned over with him in it. Unfortunately, Cpl. Cage was injured in this accident and is now in hospital with a broken leg. We trust he will soon be fit again.

We congratulate L/Cpl. Wells on becoming a proud father. News of this first reached us over the Battalion wireless net on Operation "Black Mac."

We would like to take this opportunity of saying goodbye to our reservists and thanking them for their noble work during their stay with us.

We go to press once again in the mountains on Operation "Green Dragon."

ORDER OF BATTLE

Company Commander .. Major R. H. Ince
 C.S.M. C.S.M. S. Erswell

C.Q.M.S.	.. .. .	C.Q.M.S.R. Webb
Mortar Platoon Commander	.. .. .	Sgt. Dickie
M.M.G. Platoon Commander	.. .. .	Sgt. Houghton.
A/Tk. Platoon Commander..	.. .. .	Lt. P. A. Mitchell
A/Tk. Platoon Sergeant ..	.. .. .	Sgt. France
A/Pnr. Platoon Commander..	.. .. .	2 Lt. Gladwin
A/Pnr. Platoon Sergeant ..	.. .. .	Sgt. Wood

ANTI-TANK PLATOON

Since we last had a contribution in THE IRON DUKE, a great deal has happened to the Platoon. As followers of our progress may have noted, we were last reported as being with 45 Commando, R.M., with a strength of 56 men—we missed the Suez action as a 17-pdr. is not a helicopter load—and are now acting as a normal rifle platoon, with a total strength of 21. For reasons of space it is impossible to chronicle all our activities since arriving in Cyprus. We have been on numerous operations, some more successful than others, but as yet we have had no luck either in searches or ambushes but we feel sure our day will come. Cpl. Chivers had a brief moment of glory on his first ambush when he and his patrol nearly massacred some innocent animal roaming the wilds, since that day we haven't fired one round in anger. L/Cpl. Lawton, who is to be congratulated on his pro-

motion, plays for the Battalion rigger side and appears to have a fairly large and vociferous fan club. Comings and goings have been many, but the vast majority being of the latter variety—we have, however, gained the “Duke’s” answer to Elvis Presley, in one Pte. Mullen.

On the whole Cyprus is a fairly healthy existence and as long as our work is showing results we are quite happy to rush around the mountains. To Pte. Barnes, who is in hospital and reputed to be evacuated to U.K., we send our best wishes and to all ex-anti-tank men we send greetings for 1957.

“H.Q.” COMPANY

Having brought out “H.Q.” Company and taken part in the Battalion’s first initiation in the mountains from the administrative angle, Major R. E. Sugden has at last got his “field command.” He already looks the better for it, having shed the admin. burden to Major K. W. Brown. We wish Major Sugden a happy and successful tour with “A” Company and joy to his successor.

Shortly we fear that C.S.M. Munro will be leaving for the Depot. After nine years with the Company, and did somebody say 24 Company Commanders? He will be greatly missed. It is believed that he is the one man who knows where everybody in “H.Q.” Company hides. When the Battalion is out on ops. it is amazing where some “Independent Operators” in camp tend to hide and much to their surprise find themselves on guard.

Of the old hands in “H.Q.” Company, we are sorry to lose C/Sgt. Erswell who has been promoted to C.S.M. of “S” Company, Sgt. Chadwick to “B” Company and Cpls. Earnshaw, Playford, Mallinson and Stoddart who have plunged into the world of plain clothes.

The Drums have packed their instruments, moved *en masse* to “C” Company and now call themselves the “S.O.E.” Platoon (which they interpret as “special operations and experimental”). We wish them every success in their new role.

A very recent and sudden departure has been R.Q.M.S. Dawson to have an operation. We wish him a speedy recovery and congratulate him on getting his first-class certificate of education. May his ambitions be fulfilled.

We also wish a speedy recovery to a very old member of the Regiment, the father of C.S.M. Norman.

After long years of noble service with the Regiment, Cpl. “Pop” Dodds has, we are told, reached the status of an old soldier and we look forward to his being presented with his L.S. and G.C. Medal in the near future.

Our congratulations to Captain and Mrs. A. Taylor-Smith and to Lt. and Mrs. M. J. Campbell-Lammerton on the births of their sons.

The order of battle is as follows:

Company Commander	..	Major K. W. Brown
C.S.M.	.. ..	C.S.M. Munro
C.Q.M.S.	.. ..	C.Q.M.S. Waite

SIGNAL PLATOON

It is some time since the Signal Platoon last appeared in print, and the number of times that “How do you hear me?” has been waffled over the Battalion frequency on the 19 sets since then is inconceivable.

Since arriving in Cyprus we have been kept very busy on various operations, long and short. The result is that our standard of signalling is improving steadily. It is a far cry to those bitter days in Chisledon when we were pleased with ourselves if we managed to establish contact over five miles and when we never got through to anyone on the move. Sgt. Gunn has developed a remarkable faculty for finding wireless stations in need of fresh batteries with the help of the minimum of navigational aids and information. We suspect that it is all done by radar hidden under the sandbags in Perkin’s Land Rover. Sgt. Falkingham has rejoined us, after a stay in hospital and recuperating at Kyrenia. However, his return coincided with the R.S.O.’s absence on an operation and he has been kidnapped by Company H.Q. He has been carefully briefed to find out exactly what is in “H.Q.” Company stores.

Our life is still ruled by packing. Cpl. Senior, in the stores, says that he can hardly remember the time when he was neither preparing to move nor recovering from doing so. However, now that we have settled in to a permanent camp and have persuaded the M.T. to let us have our own three-tonner, life is easier as we have fitted our three-tonner with shelves and keep the necessary stores packed, permanently, on wheels.

During the last few months we have been sorry to lose several members of the old Platoon, among them Cpl. Mallinson, who eventually left us for civilian life and his own fireside. His place in the C.V. is being ably filled by Cpl. Shaw. Others to go have been Ptes. Kiely, Wastell, Russel, Cavagin, Griffiths and Atha, to the last of whom we offer our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

No notes from the Signal Platoon would be complete without some reference to the “Brigade rear link” mounted in the half-track. It is the proud boast that they have never completed a journey without either breaking down or going the wrong way. Their best effort so far is to take 12 hours on a journey which took the rest of us about four. However, they hope to improve on this next quarter.

S.O.E. PLATOON

The S.O.E. (Special Operations Experimental) Platoon was formed when “C” Company of the “Dukes” was broken up at the beginning of the year to become a training Company.

The purpose of the Platoon was to train new arrivals from England, to put on demonstrations for the Battalion, to carry out trials with equipment, and to experiment with new and unorthodox ideas.

The members of the Platoon were found from the Corps of Drums, volunteer drummers from the latest draft out and just pure volunteers for a bit of adventure from “C” Company.

We started off with about 25 in number all told, but like the Pied Piper of Hamelin we have been adding here and there until at the time of writing we are 33 strong.

Despite the cosmopolitan mixture in the Platoon it has turned out to be an extremely happy one.

We are lucky to be blessed with three very good leaders in Cpls. Plows, Welsh and Simonet. In addition we are fortunate to have three natural-born comics, these being Curtis, Parkin and Clifton.

At one time we boasted three sergeants, but at present we have two only, Sgt. Innes looking after the operational and training side and Sgt. Wild the administrative side.

We started off with some hard and intensive training which included some expert instruction from the R.S.M., to whom we are very grateful for the help and personal interest he has given the Platoon.

Our first operation was to assist in the cordon and search of Nicosia. We were fortunate to be given Archbishop Makarios' palace and we set to with a will.

Unfortunately, we unearthed no bombs, but spent a most interesting day.

Hardly had we finished that than we were whisked off into the snow-clad hills on operation "Black Mac."

On this we came under the C.O.'s direct command and spent a great deal of our time in friendly if not keen rivalry with the I.O. and his private army.

We were present at the time that three terrorists were unearthed from the Sarandi hide.

Pte. Davis of "A" Company, who were also madly searching and cordoning, due to his curiosity, managed to unearth the trapdoor to the hide.

The reader can well imagine the general excitement and delight when on investigating the hide three 5,000-lb. bombs were unearthed.

The S.O.E. Platoon, having provided some of the cordon and searchers in addition to the Search Party Commander, were more than happy to have had a share in the Battalion's success.

Since operation "Black Mac" we have been out almost constantly with the Battalion on operations.

We had eight very pleasant days in a village just north of Limassol. We were given this village to "dominate" during the time the Cyprus debate was meant to be going on at UNO Headquarters.

The experimental side of the Platoon really came into its own. One successful experiment was carried out by Cpls. Welsh and Simonet when they staged an ambush killing with the appropriate "noises off." This had a pretty telling effect on the village and for two days we had not a sound from them.

During the course of our snap checks and searches we unearthed one fairly "hot" suspect who had the operational orders for Operation "Pepperpot" in his possession. In addition, Ptes. Morley and Allatt were firmly convinced that the priest in the village of Palodlua to the south of us was Grivas himself.

Although they were later proved wrong, he did turn out to be a fairly active EOKA sympathiser.

We have since been assisting with search teams, ambushes, cordons and raiding parties, which we

have all enjoyed immensely. On one occasion Pte. Forrest thought he had found a hide all to himself and was all prepared for a press conference to tell "how he did it." However, unfortunately, it turned out to be an old one and known to the police.

The Platoon spent two pleasant days at Episkopi by the sea, although on one of the afternoons they were led like reluctant lambs to the slaughter to do some battling over an 80-ft. sheer drop. Even Parker ceased clowning for a moment as he lowered himself over a ledge to the strains of "So long, it's been good to know you" from the rest of the Platoon.

Other noteworthy news is the sudden craze that sprang up for growing moustaches in the Platoon. Pte. Cardwell, the youngest member, is still trying with his first one.

Drn. Pollard came to us very much overweight, but much of that has already been remedied. More will follow later.

L.Cpls. Walker and Riley, directed by Sgt. Wild, have looked after us extremely well from the catering angle, they being our Aden group. Their experimenting to date has had no disastrous effect on the Platoon, fortunately.

Finally, we would like to say that the Platoon has shaken down extremely well and it is in our present state of high morale that we close these notes.

RUGBY

Wellesley Camp, Nicosia, has one great advantage: it is situated about 600 yards from the best Rugby pitch on the Island. The Nicosia Locusts have very kindly allowed us to use the ground whenever we wish.

Our one-game season in Malta proved that we were potentially very strong. Some time after arriving in Cyprus we were joined by Lt. Gilbert-Smith and were able to face the Cyprus season with a complete XV.

The first game was played on Sunday, December 16, and our opponents were the French Airborne Brigade. This contest was arranged at very short notice and the team practice took place on the morning of the game and immediately before the match. We won comfortably by 27-0. Comfortably is perhaps the wrong word to use: there was a fierce forward battle with no quarter given. The French were excitable and impetuous, but extremely colourful. By "no-side" both sides were sadly depleted, but the fight had been won. As far as the Rugby was concerned, we were undoubtedly the better side. The forwards did their part well and although the backs were kept on a strict ration with the ball, they were extremely effective and produced a number of spectacular tries.

On Boxing Day the "Dukes" fielded a seven-a-side team in the Cyprus Sevens held at the Locust's ground, Nicosia. Although most of the team were suffering from Christmas Day festivities, they did manage to pull themselves together for the moments that mattered to walk off eventually with the winners' cup.

Lt. Duncan Lupton, playing at scrum-half, was the star of the team, scoring tries in each round,

including the winning one in the final. Pte. Lawton also had some brilliant moments when he left his opponents vainly clutching at him.

In the first round we had a barely comfortable win over the Wiltshire Regiment. In the second a gentlemanly tussle with the French, and finally a very gruelling battle with R.A.F., Nicosia, whom the team eventually overcame in extra time.

The game will be long remembered by those present. One does not often see a group of angry French paratroopers led on to the field by a British padre during play with the intention of lynching the French hooker, whose doubtful tactics the French and Padre were unable to accept. It would be wrong to quote the Padre on this occasion and in his defence it must be recorded that a large scarf was around his neck.

Peace prevailed, although the referee considered it expedient to end the game some 10 minutes early.

The team that day was first class, but since then we have been affected by the departure of a number of our players. We were very sorry to lose Lt. Lupton, Cpl. Daish, Cpl. Stoddard and Cpl. Earnshaw.

We have played very few games owing to the operational commitments and we are still waiting to play the Grenadier Guards in the second round of the Cyprus Army Cup.

The following have been regular members of the XV:

Full-backs: Cpl. Earnshaw, Pte. Hidied. R.W.: Lt. Dasent. R.C.: Cpl. Daish. L.C.: L.Cpl. Lawton. L.W.: Lt. Lupton. Stand-off: Captain Hardy. Scrum-half: Captain Shuttleworth (capt.). Forwards: Captain Hoppe, L.Cpl. Brown, Cpl. Barron, Lt. Birch, Cpl. Stoddard, Lt. Campbell-Lamerton, 2 Lt. D. Miles, 2 Lt. Skinner, 2 Lt. Gladwin, Lt. Gilliard-Smith, Cpl. Connor, Pte. Flynn.

The results to date are:

1st D.W.R. v. French Airborne Brigade	27—0
1st D.W.R. "A" v. K.O.Y.L.I.	0—8
1st D.W.R. v. Locusts	22—11
Army Cup—1st D.W.R. v. Wiltshire Regiment	22—11
1st D.W.R. v. Locusts	46—8

THE SARANDI HIDE

The train of events which led to a loud explosion reverberating round the mountains of the main Troodos massif on the morning of Tuesday, January 22, 1957, and which spelt the end of a career of murder for three hardcore EOKA and the capture of a bren gun, tommy gun, other weapons and a large store of explosives and ammunition, really started on the night of Thursday, January 18. On this night Private Davis of "A" Company, an ex-Mexborough miner, a real West Riding man, was spending an uncomfortable night on a bare hillside round a miserable village called Kaphedes in a newly issued bivouac tent, having already spent three nights out under the pine trees in "A" Company training camp.

As a cover plan to the real operations which started as a result of information received, the "Dukes" had moved up to Kaphedes—about 40 road

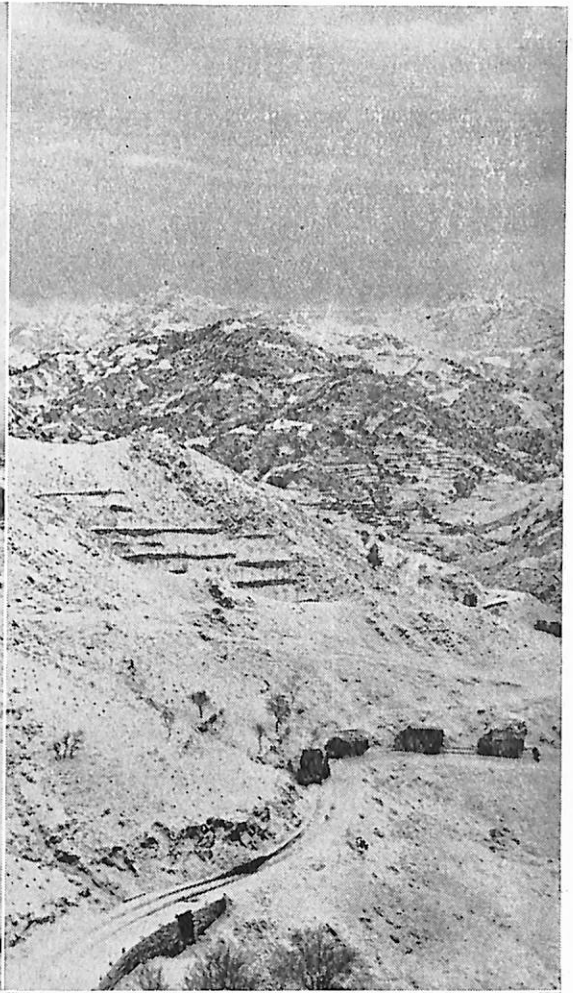
miles from their real destination—to spend the night. Three other battalions were also doing the same in various parts of the mountains. On this night also, however, 2 Parachute Regiment made a snatch raid on a house in a village in the operation area, which was highly successful. Three hardcore terrorists (of Afxentious' gang, on whom we were due to operate) and two village gangmen were captured. One of these talked—as he talked the "Dukes" moved on the Friday morning, leaving Kaphedes at 4 a.m. in R.A.S.C. three-tonners. Dawn found them embarking on a most frightening and precarious track from the tarmac. As they wound down into each village, snugly tucked into the mountainside, the church bells rang the warning to all good EOKA to take care or cover. The Cypriots are not supposed to ring the church bells, but as no troops were in the area there is no means of stopping them, and so the "Dukes" toiled to their objectives, creating a Sunday atmosphere in every village they went through. And thus the "Dukes" arrived—immediately O.P.s were rushed up the mountainsides, and cordons put round villages. "A" Company had the rather comfortable job of looking after two villages—Sarandi and Lagoudhera—comfortable but wearing, because the call on manpower was severe.

And still the questioning of the talkative terrorist went on, by Special Branch.

On Saturday, January 19, "S" Company were directed as a result of the talkative terrorist to a perfect specimen of hide—absolutely invisible, unless one knew where it was. It was a classic mountain hide, nearly completed, ready no doubt for the summer. The C.O. was all for whipping the wood from the roof until he was told the place had to be photographed.

On Sunday Sarandi and Lagoudhera were searched—quite meticulously—but nothing transpired, except that a sick priest in Sarandi was viewed with a certain amount of suspicion. He had medical documents to prove how ill he was—he looked ill. He mostly stayed in bed with two decrepit women coddling him, but when his house was first searched he was sitting with his back to the plastered-in door to the hide where the terrorists were eventually found.

On Monday (January 21) morning, however, the "Dukes" received a message from the Special people to say that there was a hide under the earthen floor of the kitchen in the priest's house. The hide was purported to contain 500 lb. of explosive. A high-powered search team under command of Lt. David Gilbert-Smith came into Sarandi, supported by the C.I.D. Special Branch and "A" Company. The priest was lifted in his bed to his sunny verandah and the search went on. A pile of logs was moved from the floor of a small room, but there was nothing underneath except a mound of earth. Then Pte. Davis stirred the pile of earth with his foot and he saw the rim of a wooden box, the sort of box one plants seedlings in. He cleared the mound away, and there was a flat surface of earth. He prodded at it with his bayonet and it sounded hollow. Having cleared more earth



MOTRING IN THE MOUNTAINS OF CYPRUS

away till the box was really visible, he lifted up the box and there was the hide, but one could see nothing with a torch. Gilbert-Smith lowered himself into the orifice and thereupon said "Oo-er" or words to that effect, because there were three men cowering away from him. The men were pulled up, the hide entered, and a plastered-over door unbricked. The air vents to the hide were two hollow pipes which supported a shelf over the wall where the priest had been sitting against in the first search.

Quantities of weapons, ammunition, explosives and letters (Grivas' orders and so on) were found. The terrorists' and the priest's morale were undoubtedly low, as one of these terrorists is already talking, which will perhaps lead to further searches elsewhere.

It is unfortunately impossible, for Security reasons, to record the reply made by Pte. Davies when asked by the Brigadier, 3 Infantry Brigade, under whom we operate, how he found the hide.

REGIMENTAL H.Q. and DEPOT

SUB-EDITORIAL

The main event during the past quarter has been our annual inspection by Brigadier D. J. B. Houchin, D.S.O., M.C., on February 19. A considerable amount of painting and spring cleaning was carried out beforehand, and we trust he was pleased with what he saw. After lunch the Brigadier presented two attractive candelabra to the Mayor of Halifax, on behalf of East and West Ridings area.

For some time past we have experienced a spate of visitors—paymasters, education officers, R.E.M.E. inspectors, hygiene inspectors, security team, ammunition inspectors, catering advisors, fire inspectors, P.T. staff officers—even a gentleman who rejoiced in the title of fuel technologist! One hopes the frequency of some of these visits will die down a little.

There have been two pass-out parades since our last notes were written; one on November 29, at which the salute was taken by the Commanding Officer owing to Lt.-Colonel Hugh Dixon's illness and the other on January 9, which was inspected by Lt.-Colonel P. Miller, M.B.E., R.A.P.C.

Various changes of Permanent Staff are taking place at the present time. We welcome Lt. S. A. Berry who has come to replace Lt. Camidge, and we offer our congratulations to Lt. (Q.M.) R. Callaby who has just been granted a Quartermaster's Commission. Congratulations also to R.S.M. J. C. Jobling on his promotion and appointment as R.S.M. We welcome too C.S.M. Williams, who is taking over from C.S.M. Wood, who is shortly to join the 7th Battalion as a P.S.I. C/Sgt. Lancaster, who we trust has fully recovered from his sojourn in hospital, is shortly to be relieved by C/Sgt. Munro.

All at the Depot were delighted to read of the exploits of Pte. Davies in Cyprus—he had only left the Depot on completion of his recruit training about a fortnight before he hit the headlines.

Sgt. Wilkinson and L. Cpl. Bamforth assisted at the recent Wellington Ball in London, dressed, as were our representatives last year, in full pre-war scarlet.

The Band is making a sterling effort to raise money for the Band Fund by running fortnightly

dances in Barracks. So far they have been most successful, and will help to meet the large expenditure which has been incurred on account of repairs and replacements.

OFFICERS' MESS

All past members of the Mess will be interested to learn that a television set has been installed in the library. Lack of funds has hitherto precluded the acquisition of this amenity, and it was eventually decided to hire one.

Shortly before Christmas we held a cocktail party for about 60 private guests of members of the Mess, and during it we showed the film of the presentation of new Colours to the 1st Battalion. This film has just been edited and appropriate titles inserted. We have also entertained various guests to lunch, which included the Chief Constable of Halifax, Colonel Trevor Bentley, Major Fred Allsop and Mr. Roy Clegg.

We offer our congratulations to Lt.-Colonel J. Davidson on his promotion and appointment to command the 7th Battalion. We were very pleased to have him living in the Mess while his house was being got ready. Other visitors have been Lt. J. Pell who came to help us prior to going on a course, and 2 Lt. Stevens who came from Sandhurst and stayed a few days before doing his small-arms course at Hythe. Captain W. Blakey, who is earmarked for a staff appointment in Gibraltar, has just joined us and will be here until July.

We were very glad to see Major and Mrs. A. B. M. Kavanagh who came up for a flying visit at the end of January. Major Kavanagh came for a reunion of his old company in the 7th Battalion, which was a great success.

The *Yorkshire Evening Post* is publishing a series of articles on the museums of Yorkshire regiments, and we had a visit recently by Mr. Clay, himself an ex-Green Howards officer, and Mr. Dewhurst, to get some information concerning our museum.

Lt. R. G. Southerst has twice represented Northern Command at hockey, and is now undergoing the rigours of a P.T. course at Aldershot.

Finally, we should like to congratulate Lt. Callaby on his promotion, and welcome him as a member of the Mess.

SERGEANTS' MESS

Many changes have taken place since our last notes and in opening these notes we do so on a very happy strain, namely the promotion of R.S.M. R. Callaby, M.M., to a Quartermaster's commission, and all members take this opportunity of congratulating him on his well-earned promotion and wish him success in his new sphere.

We welcome and congratulate R.S.M. J. C. Jobling, M.M., on his promotion and hope that his stay will be long and happy.

C.S.M. Williams arrived from the Battalion with a nice tan and has now taken over from C.S.M. Wood, who joins the 7th Battalion T.A. in place of C.S.M. Nichols who is bound for the Battalion. Sgts. Sullivan and Wilson arrived as replacements on the training staff for Sgts. Battye and Pratt. To those arrived and those departed we say welcome, farewell and good luck.

Sgts. Carmen and Craven arrived from the R.N.F. Depot and M.E.L.F. respectively, awaiting posting—Sgt. Carmen to the Battalion and Sgt. Craven at the disposal of Records. We soon fully employed them: Sgt. Carmen as Mess Caterer and Sgt. Craven in C/Sgt. Lancaster's place. Harry Lancaster, we are sorry to report, is still in hospital, but he expects to be fully recovered in time to start his pre-release course in April.

New members are Sgts. Bell and Crawshaw of the Regimental Band, to whom we extend our welcome and congratulations. Sgt. Crawshaw recently marched smartly down the aisle, and we offer our best wishes for a long and happy married life to him and Mrs. Crawshaw.

Congratulations to Sgt. Thomas on his appointment to Band Sergeant and gaining substantive Sergeant; also to Sergeant and Mrs. Wilkinson on their recent happy event in the birth of a daughter, Caron Leslie.

The administrative inspection is now over and we are all hoping for a good report. All ranks put their backs into the effort and are to be congratulated on the results, which we hope pleased the inspecting officer as much as they pleased us. The midnight oil was observed to be burning in two notable places, namely the Orderly Room and the Clothing Store, and now O.R.Q.M.S. Bill Akrigg and C.Q.M.S. Joe Quest have taken a well-earned leave.

The Christmas draw again exceeded all expectations and we hope it will continue to do so each year. We must congratulate Sgt. Holmes (A.C.C.), our Cook Sergeant, on the excellent buffets he always provides on these occasions. We are sorry to report that he will soon be leaving us on promotion, and all we can say in appreciation is that it will be our loss and his new unit's gain.

We were sorry to say farewell to Sgt. Pratt to the Battalion and Sgt. Towell (R.A.E.C.) to civilian life, where we hope his architectural knowledge will help the housing situation. To them we say farewell and good luck.

Ex-members of the Mess who have been on a well-earned leave from the Battalion are Sgts. Mountcastle and Simpson. Sgt. Mountcastle paid us a fleeting visit and we were all pleased to greet

him. Sgt. Simpson we have seen quite a lot, as he lives in barracks, and we are always pleased to see him and Mrs. Simpson on their visits.

We are pleased to say that Mr. Lupton, the B.I.A., is still amongst us, and we very much enjoy his company and hope he will be with us for a long time to come.

Two stalwarts of the R.A.P.C., Ovenden, are welcome guests to the Mess, namely W.O.1 Ploughman and Sgt. Anderton.

In closing we like to take this opportunity of offering our sincere best wishes for success and happiness in civilian life to ex-W.O.2 Waterman and ex-Sgt. Appleby, whom we are pleased to say still visit us most week-ends.

A late arrival before we go to press is Sgt. Costello who has arrived from the R.N.F., and we wish him success and offer a warm welcome.

BAND NOTES

First and foremost we should like to congratulate Sgt. Thomas on his appointment to Band Sergeant, and to Sgts. Bell and Crawshaw on their promotion. Congratulations also to Cpls. Cuff, Hiley, Heslop, and L/Cpls. Ellis and Smith on their promotion.

Over the past few months we have managed to keep busy with our concerts in the Gymnasium and fortnightly dances. The proceeds of the dances are helping to pay for the extensive and costly repairs to our instruments. Good progress is being made all round, and we hope to be in first class form on rejoining the Battalion.

Not much can be said of our sporting activities to date owing to the rather inclement weather, but we are still managing to hold our own at basket-ball.

We should all like to offer our heartiest congratulations to Lt. Callaby on his promotion and a sincere welcome to R.S.M. Jobling. We wish them both all the very best.

We have heard recently from ex-Sgt. Appleby, who has settled down well at Keighley. Ken Waterman, while not yet Governor of Wakefield Gaol, is making good progress and hopes shortly to graduate to the staff of a Borstal Institution.

TRAINING COMPANY

For the first time since last May the intake of February 21 was sufficiently large for two platoons to be formed; furthermore, by this date the number of regular recruits waiting to begin training was comparable with the number of National Servicemen joining the Depot.

The No. 41 and No. 42 intakes have both gained second place in their respective inter-Depot P.T. competitions, but it will not be until the middle of April before we see whether the No. 42 Intake can improve on this.

Since our last notes we have seen several changes on the training staff: Sgts. Pratt and Battye and Cpl. Matthews have now joined the 1st Battalion, where we wish them every success. In their places we welcome Sgts. Sullivan and Wilson and Cpl. McGowan, the last two arriving with enviable sun tans which are unfortunately fast disappearing. We also welcome Lt. S. A. Berry who has recently

arrived from the 1st Battalion, much to the relief of Lt. Southerst, who had visions of being the sole training subaltern until his departure in the summer. Last, but by no means least, we welcome C.S.M. Williams, also well bronzed, to take over from C.S.M. Wood, whom we wish to thank for his loyal and faithful three years of toil in the Company and to whom we wish success in the 7th Battalion.

We noted with some pride both in the daily newspapers and in the *Illustrated London News* and the *Soldier*, a photograph of Pte. Davies, who left us only last November, having trained with No. 39 Intake.

Among the regular soldiers who recently returned from the 1st Battalion The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers were Ptes. McGreavy and McAvan. They went to do a period of continuation training, as they were too young to go overseas, and we should like to congratulate McGreavy on winning that battalion's individual bantam-weight boxing title; also McAvan who was closely connected with the arrest of a member of the I.R.A. during the recent disturbances in Northern Ireland.

Results of the last two intakes were as follows:

40th Intake.—Parade on November 28, 1956, taken by Major D. C. Roberts.

Mons Platoon.—Sgt. T. Pratt.

Best Recruit: Pte. Connolly, R.C.

41st Intake.—Parade on January 8, 1957, taken by Lt.-Colonel P. Miller, M.B.E.

Dettingen Platoon.—Sgt. R. Wilkinson.

Best Recruit: Pte. C. Tyrrell.

The next pass-out parade will be taken on March 13, 1957, by Lt.-Colonel J. Davidson, O.C. 7th Battalion (T.A.), and the one following that on May 1 by the Colonel of the Regiment.

SPORT

With the restrictions on the use of transport, it has not been possible to arrange fixtures with other units since our last notes. However, basket-ball has been in full swing; apart from continuing the league within the Depot, the Depot team fought gallantly in the Area Basket-ball Competition against the Army Apprentices School at Harrogate and lost by only 18 points to 23, a very creditable effort.

Lt. Southerst on two occasions represented Northern Command at hockey against Western Command and Nottinghamshire.

On the rugby field we are to take part in three events, namely the Command seven-a-side, the Halifax seven-a-side, and a match between a "Dukes" XV and a Halifax R.U.F.C. XV, the provisional date being Thursday, April 25, in the evening, at Ovenden Park.

MUSEUM LIBRARY

We have received the following gifts and would express our thanks to the donors for their kindness.

LIBRARY

Donation from Mrs. W. M. Watson.—Books, photographs, diaries of Lt.-Colonel A. G. Horsfall and Brig.-Gen. W. M. Watson.

Donation from Lt.-Colonel W. G. Officer.—"The Conversations of the first Duke of Wellington with George William Chad."

Donation from Lt. R. W. Shorthouse, R.A.S.C.—Medals of his father, Lt. (Q.M.) W. Shorthouse, D.W.R., who served in the Regiment from 1904 to 1931. (a) G.S.M. 1914-18; I.G.S.M. 1908 with bar, "Afghanistan N.W.F. 1919"; L.G. & G.C. Medal, King George V. (b) Set of miniatures of the above.

MEDALS

The Regiment purchased from Glendinnings the Waterloo Medal belonging to Captain John Twigg, 33rd Regiment.

LATE NEWS

MARRIAGE

On March 23, at the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, Sywell, Northamptonshire, Capt. Kenneth Malcolm Leonard Frazer, eldest son of the Rev. K. A. Frazer, Rector of Sywell with Overstone, to Elizabeth Jane Hinchcliffe, only daughter of Col. W. A. Hinchcliffe, T.D., D.L., and Mrs. Hinchcliffe, of "Rhinefield," Greenhead Road, Huddersfield.

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Ballard H. L. P.	Lieut. At Sea 1942	Hosker D. E.	Lieut. M.C. West Europe 1944
Bedford W.	Lieut. Burma 1944	Hounsfield K. D.	Lieut. West Europe 1944
Benson P. P.	Major M.C. Italy 1944	Kington S. B.	Lt. Col. Britain 1943
Birkhead T.	2nd Lieut. France 1940	Knight C. A.	Lieut. West Europe 1944
Bolt J. S.	2nd Lieut. France 1940	Locatelli E. P.	Lieut. E. Africa 1941
Brewer B. M.	Lieut. West Europe 1944	McHarg K. W.	Major West Europe 1944
Bridge H. T. D.	Lt. Col. T. D. Britain 1943	Merrills G. L.	Lieut. West Europe 1945
Buttery H. E.	Lieut. Italy 1944	Mitchell A. C.	2nd Lieut. Italy 1944
Campbell H. A.	Lieut. West Europe 1945	Mitchell, C. L. E.	2nd Lieut. Britain 1941
Carey P. V.	Lieut. At Sea 1942	Munro P. N.	Capt. Burma 1944
Cartwright G. V.	Major Burma 1945	Naylor J. L.	Lieut. Italy 1943
Christison J. A. A.	Capt. Burma 1942	Owen H. B.	Lt. Col. Burma 1942
Cobb G.	Lieut. Burma 1945	Reynolds J.	2nd Lieut. France 1940
Coleman D. W.	2nd Lieut. West Europe 1944	Riches D. J.	Capt. West Europe 1944
Coningham W. D. M.	Capt. Burma 1942	Robinson J.	Major M.C. Italy 1942
Crann D. W.	Lieut. Italy 1944	Roche D. J.	Capt. India 1943
Crossland J.	Capt. West Europe 1944	Rowlandson C. G.	Capt. West Europe 1944
Dawson L.	Lieut. West Europe 1945	Scholes F. C.	Capt. West Europe 1944
Dean C. H. H.	2nd Lieut. Burma 1944	Sketcher E. K. C.	Lieut. Burma 1944
Denham G.	2nd Lieut. E. Africa 1942	Skinner E. J.	2nd Lieut. Burma 1942
Denman L. B.	Lieut. M.C. N. Africa 1943	Skinner H. P.	Major M.B.E. Britain 1942
Duell K. K.	Lieut. India 1944	Skinner W. W.	Major Britain 1946
Fielding H. N. W.	Lieut. Italy 1944	Skirrow P. E.	Capt. France 1940
Gerrard R. A. H.	Major France 1940	Slater F. H.	Lieut. Burma 1942
Gresham A.	Capt. Britain 1942	Smith D. G.	Lieut. West Europe 1944
Hall D.	Lieut. Britain 1944	Smith K.	2nd Lieut. France 1940
Halse W. J.	Lieut. West Europe 1944	Smith R. H.	Lieut. West Europe 1944
Hargreaves J. R.	2nd Lieut. Britain 1940	Sutherland J. H. C.	Lieut. Burma 1942
Harris E. R.	Lieut. India 1944	Thackeray R. E. M.	Capt. France 1944
Harrison J.	Capt. France 1940	Titterton L.	Lieut. West Europe 1945
Heaton J. V.	Lieut. Burma 1944	Tonge R.	Lieut. Britain 1943
Helme R.	Major West Europe 1944	Travis O. E. M.	Lieut. Burma 1942
Hill, C. H.	Capt. West Europe 1944	Wellington The Duke of	Capt. Italy 1943
Hobday E. W.	Lieut. Burma 1943	Wells O.	Lieut. West Europe 1944
		Whipp S.	Major T.D. Britain 1944

ROLL OF HONOUR IN THE ROYAL MILITARY CHAPEL, SANDHURST

The Book was designed and written by Miss Elizabeth FRIEDLANDER between August 1951 and March 1956. The binding was designed and made by Mr. Roger POWELL.

(It is regretted that for technical reasons it was found impossible to print a facsimile)

7th BATTALION, T.A.

SUB-EDITORIAL

Owing to the sad loss of our late Commanding Officer—Lt.-Colonel T. Haighton, no notes from the Battalion were included in the last issue. Lt.-Colonel Haighton's career was, however, fully covered and it only remains for us now to extend to his widow the very deepest sympathy from All Ranks of the Battalion.

We welcome Lt.-Colonel J. Davidson who arrived from 1st Battalion to take over command on December 1, 1956, and Mrs. Davidson, and wish them success and happiness during their stay with the Battalion.

The decision not to call up National Servicemen for training this year will have a great effect on the Battalion. For the first time since 1948, camp this year will be for T.A. volunteers only. It will be a smaller but a happy family camp.

It is important to realise that although National Service officers and men are not attending camp this year, they are in no way released from their obligations for future years. At the same time it is "a sign of the times" that the Territorial Army will one day revert to its traditional voluntary basis. To those National Servicemen who are completing their part-time service, we say farewell, and offer our thanks for their enthusiasm and keenness shown while serving the Battalion. It is hoped that many will, in the future, come along and join the select band of volunteers.

It is with great pleasure that we have to announce the tremendous success of the Battalion in the Northern Command Shooting Championship and the Territorial Army Rifle Association Decentralised Competition. The Battalion won the Territorial Army M.M.G. Cup, and, in the Northern Command Championship, the Kennedy Cup (M.M.G.).

In addition, we were 2nd in the Savile Cup (Young Soldiers Rifle) and 3rd in the Yorkshire China Cup (Rifle and L.M.G.) and 3rd in the West Riding T.A. Challenge Trophy (L.M.G.). To the teams and instructors we offer our congratulations.

Camp this year takes place at Proteus Camp, Ollerton, from July 27 to August 10, 1957. Proteus Camp is a hutted, well-furnished and comfortable camp, situated in Sherwood Forest. Old "Dukes" will be interested to know that Lt.-Colonel J. Cook, D.S.O., M.C., is Camp Commandant of this camp.

We offer our congratulations to R.S.M. J. Frier, now a proper "Duke," on his appointment as R.S.M. and wish him a happy tour of duty.

On January 31 Major Lewis Kershaw departed to take up his appointment as O.C. Northern Army Group Defence Unit. We thank him for all his hard work on our behalf and will miss him in the future. To both he and Mrs. Kershaw we wish "God speed."

Major R. W. J. Naismith (R.A.M.C.), who has been our Unit Medical Officer for some time, has now transferred to the Reserve, and in his place we welcome Lt. H. L. Roberts (R.A.M.C.).

OFFICERS' MESS

In December we held a very successful dinner when we dined-in our new Commanding Officer, who we welcome to the Battalion.

On February 8 we held our annual "Military Ball," postponed from last November. Once again it was a great success, made so, no doubt, by the organising committee led by Major Gordon Ashton and the tremendous work of Major (Q.M.) Bert Burrows and his team of helpers, who transformed the Hall from a bare space into a delightful setting in the short period of one day. The Hall, so transformed, with the display of colours, drums and silver, with the bunting and flower arrangement, set the tone of the dance.

Our chief guests, whom we were delighted to have with us, were the Mayor and Mayoress of Huddersfield and of Halifax. It was delightful to see old faces like Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. George Taylor, Major and Mrs. John Pyrah and many others.

Our new Brigadier, Brigadier R. A. Gwynn, O.B.E., and the Bandmaster, Major Dudley West, lunched in the Mess on the occasion of the Annual Administrative Inspection on December 2, 1956.

We are most grateful for the presentation to the Mess of a silver bell in memory of our late Commanding Officer, by his mother, Mrs. E. M. Haighton.

We say farewell to Major Lewis Kershaw on his departure for Germany and wish him success in his new job. At the same time we welcome new officers to our fold: 2 Lt. C. J. G. Taylor who has joined as a volunteer officer; Christopher Taylor has just completed his National Service with the Royal Ulster Rifles. Also 2 Lt. J. W. Lee from King's African Rifles and 2 Lts. Martin Russell and George Naylor from 1st Battalion who have joined as National Service officers.

SERGEANTS' MESS

For the second time running we have to say farewell in our notes to our R.S.M. R.S.M. Randall was recalled to take over the 1st Battalion and our "H.Q." Company P.S.I., C.S.M. Frier, has been promoted to take his place. We offer him our congratulations.

Partly due to these change-overs, the last few months have been quiet ones from the point of view of the Mess. However, one or two functions have taken place, including the visit of our new Brigade Commander, Brigadier R. A. Gwynn, O.B.E., to the Sergeants' Mess for coffee on the occasion of the Annual Administrative Inspection on Sunday, December 2, 1956.

Arrangements were also made for a Children's Christmas Party, held in conjunction with the Officers' Mess, at Fitzwilliam Street, T.A.C., on December 15, and for New Year's Dinner at Arden Road, T.A.C., Halifax. An enjoyable evening was had at the former by "children" of all ages, the

highlight of the occasion being the arrival of Father Christmas with a sleigh full of presents.

Unfortunately the New Year Dinner had to be cancelled, owing to the petrol rationing preventing the caterers providing a meal. On February 14 we restarted our monthly pie and pea suppers, and a good time was had by all and we are looking forward to many more.

Word has been received from Alf Hawksworth (ex-C.S.M. of "H.Q." Company), who is at present residing in the Isle of Wight, and he sends his best wishes to all his friends.

A number of new faces are to be seen in the Mess, namely, Sgt. Ewart to whom we offer our congratulations on his promotion, and C.Sgt. Pearce and Sgt. Bacon who have recently joined us and who must surely be remembered by members of the 1st Battalion and the Regimental Depot.

It is with deep regret that we report the death of ex-Sgt. E. Smith, who was our Provost Sergeant until he moved to Lincolnshire last year.

"H.Q." COMPANY

This has been a quiet period of training for "H.Q." Company and we have been mainly concerned with practising rifle shooting on the .22 range.

We are at present taking part in the T.A. small-bore league and are lying second in our heat.

On Armistice Sunday, "H.Q." Company personnel paraded [with members of the British Legion at a service in Golcar Parish Church. We are glad to welcome Lt. K. M. McDonald as Assistant Adjutant and Lt. W. P. Duckney as Assistant M.T.O.

We would like to congratulate C.S.M. Frier on his promotion to R.S.M. of the Battalion and we shall miss him in "H.Q." Company.

"A" COMPANY

During the period under review we have run a three-month cadre in combination with "C" and "SP" Companies. We covered a tremendous amount of ground, including sand table exercises, wireless procedure and films and the attendance was quite encouraging. We hope shortly to start a similar programme.

The administrative inspection, during which we met our new Brigade Commander, passed off without a hitch, although the existence of "ghost" companies at Elland and Sowerby Bridge entailed a certain amount of rapid point-to-point motoring for Company Commanders.

Sgt. Todd of "SP" Company has arranged regular games of basket-ball at the Depot on which he has had a good turn-up. Arden Road lends itself to basket-ball, and we hope eventually to play regular games against visiting teams.

The Officers' Mess at Arden Road has become quite a busy little place on Monday and Thursday evenings, and the level of consumption there should gladden the heart of the P.M.C.

Since our last notes we have finally said good-bye to C.S.M. Bye on completion of well over thirty years' service, mainly regular. We should like to thank him for all he has done, for "A"

Company in particular. "Dicky" Bye never served in anything other than the best Company in the best Regiment in the Army. We hope to see him often at our social functions.

May we congratulate Sgt. Pratt on the birth of a son. He has now settled down in quarters at Hunger Hill with his family. Ex-R.S.M. Pearce has just enlisted in the T.A. There is, we understand, a possibility that he may come to "A" Company, but perhaps we had better wait upon events before welcoming him amongst us.

Sgt. Pollard and the Company Commander opposed each other at Rugby on Saturday March 2, and found themselves leading their respective packs. Sgt. Pollard at any rate demonstrated his powers of leadership as Halifax Vandals registered a decisive victory over Halifax R.U.F.C. "A" team.

"B" COMPANY

We have managed to keep the spirit of "B" Company alive during the last few months, though on occasions we have almost despaired. However, we have a few regular attenders at both Slaithwaite and Mossley, and while they still attend our flag will always fly. The prospects for the future look quite promising, as during the last two weeks five lads have applied to join the Company—we hope there are more to follow.

On drill nights we spend a great deal of time on the miniature range. Our finest shot is Captain Stallard who often gets G.G., but one or two of the lads can top 90. So far this year in the small-bore league knock-out we have only lost two matches. We seem evenly matched with the team from the Special Constabulary who came to Mossley to shoot against us.

The Sunday training days we have had this year have proved very popular with "B" Company, in fact, at the last one held in Halifax, three lads from Mossley were on parade—Sgt. Larnder, Cpls. Newton and Williamson. Cpl. Williamson, a very keen member, has been known to cycle the twenty miles from his home "over the top" to Huddersfield to attend parades. Sgt. Larnder and Cpl. Newton are more leisurely—they prefer the train. Our members from Marsden also attend parades but they aspire to the luxury of car-travel—that is when Pte. Wrigley can get it going. Sgt. Bailey finds his motor-bike more reliable.

The bar takings at Mossley are increasing—that is always a good sign. Perhaps this year we may even make a profit.

"C" COMPANY

Since we have written the last notes practically every army manoeuvre and ceremony has been carried out by this Company.

It is probable it will never fall to the lot of a Territorial Battalion again (and certainly never has previously) to take part in the same year in such momentous and tragic ceremonies, which require such careful practice and timing, and depends so much on all ranks for their successful conclusion.

We can be proud of all ranks of "C" Company in that they have been able to carry out every demand upon them so cheerfully. Finally, when

praise was received by the Regular Army observers of the efforts which the men of "C" Company and the 7th D.W.R. have put in during these occasions, so fully described elsewhere, it is praise indeed.

We are now about to prepare for the outdoor activities period, and this year will be the first all Territorial year since the commencement of the National Serviceman's association with the T.A.

We should like to pay great tribute to the National Servicemen who have been with the T.A., to thank them for all their efforts and to say that we have appreciated their company and their point of view, and it has certainly been interesting and instructive to be able to have for exercises and administration the large number of men that National Service has provided at annual camp.

Whilst "C" Company is now rather thin on the ground, what we lack in quantity we make up in quality. Sgt.-Major Nicholls is still keeping us up to date on Civil Defence, whilst C.Q.M.S. Stringer is a tower of strength in Stores, and is secretly practising for the mile handicap once again at camp this year.

Our latest recruit is Sgt. Bacon who, of course, will be well known to older members of the 1st and 2nd Battalions, having served with the "Dukes" prior to 1939, and so well known for his sporting activities. May we wish him very happy times in the 7th D.W.R. and we know we can look forward to the fruits of his experience, which will help to make the camp a real pleasure this year.

With regard to old stagers, Sgt. Goodbody is hoping to be able to get back to rifle training after his brief spell on special weapons in Support Company.

"D" COMPANY

It would be very satisfying to report that on Monday and Thursday evenings, Fitzwilliam Street T.A.C. was a mass of milling soldiers, with P.S.I. Sgt. "Spud" Taylor rushing hither and thither, advising or chastising—but alas, we have to report otherwise. Due to the fact that National Servicemen are not obliged to do evening drills, we have to rely on our volunteer old faithfuls to keep the Drill Halls aired. We offer our congratulations to Drum-Major Noon on his promotion to Colour-Sergeant, and also to Pte. Brown who has become a T.A. volunteer after completing his National Service. On Monday evenings one or two gallant gentlemen from the Corps of Drums are always willing to convince any passers-by in Fitzwilliam Street that "Rock and Roll" has serious competition. Our Company canteen, the Quartermaster's Arms, still continues to flourish under the stewardship of R.Q.M.S. George Machen—we are pleased to welcome there on occasions, members of the local branch of the O.C.A. Unfortunately, our Company social evening at Christmas was somewhat spoilt by poor attendance, due to the very thick fog that fell on Huddersfield. Thanks to Mrs. Machen, however, those present enjoyed some excellent sandwiches.

Our P.S.I., Sgt. "Spud" Taylor, has recently taken to displaying his prowess as a sign-writer;

printed name cards, decorated file covers and "Jumbos" galore now adorn the Company Office and form a colourful background for his very interesting reminiscences of violent death in Korea and his defeat of the Imperial Japanese Army in Burma. The miniature range is a very popular place these days, and although Sgt. Laherty, C/Sgt. Thorpe and L/Cpl. Dawson are always ready to improve their marksmanship; for some reason recently they have shown a preference for instructing the W.R.A.C. contingent shooting team. During January and February our T.A.C. has been used for a first-aid and light-rescue cadre and although as infantrymen we have a natural aversion to this sort of thing we realise its importance, and much interest has been shown during this course.

Our Company headquarters remains much the same as at last year's camp:

Company Commander	Major E. A. Woodhouse
2/ic	Capt. C. Barnes
C.S.M.	W.O.2 H. Sykes
C.Sgt.	C/Sgt. L. Thorpe
P.S.I.	Sgt. F. Taylor

Finally, we wish as a Company to extend a rather belated greeting to our new Commanding Officer, Lt.-Colonel J. Davidson, and wish him every success in his new command.

"S" COMPANY

Having to cover a period of six months for these notes taxes the memory quite a bit if the best is to be made of personalities and events of importance.

By far the most outstanding feat performed by men of "S" Company was the winning in October 1956 of the M.M.G. Challenge Cup in the National Decentralised Competitions. Although our margin of two points was small, it was sufficient to bring to the Battalion and the Company for the first time the undoubted honour of a National Award. To Sgt. Kenny, as team captain, Cpl. Taylor, L/Cpl. Carey and those non-machine gunners who trained so hard for success in an unusual role, go our thanks for being "good enough" this time, and hopes that this single success will be repeated in 1957. In helping to coach the team we offer our thanks, too, to those ex-machine-gunners—Major Young, Captain Barnes and R.S.M. Frier. Their enthusiasm and expert knowledge certainly balanced the scales in our favour.

CONGRATULATIONS

While we are busy with congratulations it would be as well to mention two more deserving cases. Sgt. Todd, our P.S.I., recently passed part of the exams. for his 1st Class Certificate of Education. To him we wish final success for the remainder. To Captain Crowther, our 2/ic and Anti-Tank Platoon Commander, our congratulations on the birth of his son and heir. I should like to deny the rumours going around that he is spending all his time (Bristo fashion) peering in all toyshop windows at electric trains! The real truth is that he is considering "borrowing" one of his 17-pounder guns as a plaything for the young "Duke" until he can afford a train set in the future.

A most welcome sight at Arden Road T.A.C. these days is the gradual construction of a .22 miniature range which, when completed in the very near future, will prove a time-saver and popular addition to our amenities.

Unfortunately, our usual Christmas Party at the T.A.C. had to be cancelled, due to it clashing with too many other functions. The idea, however, has not been shelved and will now probably take the form of a spring party towards the end of March.

The inclusion of our T.A.C. as a part venue for winter cadres will, I hope, prove a success, as many "cadreites" are from the general area of Halifax. While with the present C.D. cadre, we appear to have passed the gruesome displays of bomb-shattered bodies, it was pleasing to note that no present serving member of the Company had to receive practical first aid! At one stage it almost seemed as though the first Sunday of the cadre training was to be a "passing-out" parade!

As this will be the first time in print since our new C.O. assumed command, the occasion cannot be allowed to pass without wishing the very best of success and happiness during his tenure to Lt.-Colonel J. Davidson. He is assured of the loyal support of all ranks of "S" Company, who look forward to much interesting training under his tuition.

7th D.W.R. REUNION

A reunion of those who served in "D" Company, 7th D.W.R., from 1942 to 1946 was held

at The Princess Cafe, Huddersfield on January 26.

This excellent party was completely organised and run by ex-Cpl. W. Downs and ex-Pte. D. Hayer. Major B. Kavanagh (the Company Commander) presided.

Among the 70-odd members present were ex-Lts. W. Horne, M.C., and Alexander; ex-Sgts. Winder (3-in. Mortar Platoon, M.E.C.), Landy, Marshall, Downs, Simpson (M.A.) and Ward; ex-Cpls. Downs, Kirkham, Longmore, Stevenson, Bowen, Mansfield and Gentle (ex-Sigs); ex-Ptes. T. Simpson, Radcliffe, Walton, Hayes, Curran, Seaman, Butter, Wilson and Baker (D.C.M.).

Short speeches were made by Major Kavanagh and ex-Cpl. Down—first reminding members of the old days and then exhorting members that their brothers or sons(!) should join the 1st Battalion or 7th D.W.R. T.A., where the spirit and comradeship of the old days exists very greatly today. A unanimous vote was taken to have a meeting next year and also to start a small fund to cover future costs. An attempt was made to trace old "D" Company members who have changed their addresses. Such are asked to contact the ex-"D" Company secretary, Mr. W. Downs, 5 Tunnaclyffe Road, Ashenhurst, Huddersfield, York.

The meeting was a great success, and battle stories were retold again and again with a few angles that not even O.C. "D" was aware of.

The meeting passed a vote of thanks to ex-Cpl. W. Downs (now a very successful owner of an iron foundry in Huddersfield) for all his kindness and hard work.

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Obituary

WE DEEPLY REGRET TO ANNOUNCE THE FOLLOWING DEATHS

COLONEL R. CHAMBLEY

Colonel R. Chambley, died on February 7, and was buried at Portmadoc. Colonel G. B. Howcroft, M.C., T.D., and Major P. B. Tanner represented the Regiment at the funeral.

Colonel G. B. Howcroft, writes:

Colonel Chambley joined the 7th D.W.R. shortly after its formation in 1908 and before long commanded the Saddleworth Company. He went with the 1/7 D.W.R. to France in April, 1915, in command of "D" (Springhead and Saddleworth) Company and in spite of indifferent health survived a winter at Ypres and the battle of the Somme and continued with his company till September, 1916—a long life for a company commander in those days.

He was invalided out in 1917, but was able to rejoin his beloved "D" Company again in 1923. From 1929 to 1935, he commanded the Battalion, with those qualities of thoroughness and meticulous attention to detail which marked all his activities.

He retired to his wife's home near Portmadoc, was Adjutant of the local Home Guard during the last war, and for the last seven years, though no golfer, was secretary of the Harlech Golf Club. He struggled valiantly against declining health but his last months were saddened by the death of his only son and he died on February 7, 1957.

The 7th Battalion has been unfortunate in losing its old commanding officers and Colonel Chambley's death at the age of 65 takes away yet another link with the early days of the 7th, and with the period, now gone, when the Battalion strength lay on the Lancashire side of the watershed.

MR. M. W. NORMAN

Mr. M. W. Norman, late Drum-Major, died at Sheffield, on February 8, 1957.

His brother, Mr. J. B. Norman, late Q.M.S. (O.R.S.), on the 1st Battalion, writes:

Drum-Major Norman, known as "Jock," enlisted into the D.W.R. from the T.A., on April 15, 1912, and joined the 2nd Battalion at Dublin. He went to France with the Battalion and served until October 21, 1916, when he was discharged on medical grounds (after gas poisoning). He regained some measure of fitness and re-enlisted on September 16, 1919, again joining the 2nd Battalion. He served with that Battalion continuously until March 19, 1934, when he was again discharged on medical grounds. He took over Drum-Major at Ahmednagar and was discharged in that rank.

He has had continuous illness and suffering for some years.

He left a widow, three sons and a daughter. The oldest son is at present serving with the D.W.R. in the rank of C.S.M.

MR. WILLIAM SHORTHOUSE

Mr. William Shorthouse died on January 2, at 233 Warstones Road, Wolverhampton, in his 77th year.

Major R. Wood, writes:

He was with the 1st Battalion for most of his service. I am not certain of the year of his joining but I remember putting him through his recruits musketry either in 1903 or 1904. He was a good shot when he joined as he had some training in a Volunteer Battalion of the South Staffordshire Regiment. He was a C.S.M. when I left the 1st Battalion in 1919. Later I met him when he was on the permanent staff of the 4th Battalion at Halifax. He was later appointed Lieutenant and Quartermaster there. He had been an invalid for some years following the last war. He leaves a widow and one son.

Personalia

The engagement is announced between Major Henry George Dormer, R.A., only son of Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Dormer, of 4 Gainsborough Street, Sudbury, Suffolk, and Susan Louise, only daughter of Major Sir Nugent Everard, Bt., and Lady Everard, of 1 Alanbrooke Gardens, Palace Barracks, Holywood, co. Down.

* * *

We congratulate Major-General R. N. H. C. Bray, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., on his appointment to G.O.C., 56 Infantry Division (T.A.), in April 1957.

* * *

We also congratulate Lt.-Colonel G. F. Upjohn, O.B.E., on his appointment as Commander of an Infantry Brigade, Malaya, in August 1957, and Major W. Skelsey, M.B.E., on his appointment as A.A.G., G.H.Q., East Africa in April 1957.

* * *

Major C. J. MacLaren retires in May 1957, and will live at Bridge-of-Weir, near Glasgow.

* * *

Lt.-Colonel R. G. Collins has given up the "George and Dragon" at Hurstbourne Tarrant in favour of a retired officer's appointment in the War Office.

* * *

Mr. Allen Bell, formerly No. 4609908 1st and 2nd Battalions.—Mr. Bell used to live at Barnolds-wick, but has now been admitted as a permanent resident of the British Legion Lister House at Sharow, near Ripon. He is aged 77 years and suffers from disseminated sclerosis and spastic paresis of both legs. This may catch the eye of one or two of his contemporaries and they may like to write him now and then. No doubt he would be pleased to hear from some of his old comrades.

Reminiscences of a Subaltern in the Boer War, 1899-1902

BY LIEUTENANT-COLONEL M. V. LE POER TRENCH

11TH INSTALMENT

BLOEMFONTEIN, APRIL 3

Lieutenant Oakes rejoined looking very pulled down still. On 4th, we were roused at 2.30 a.m. and the Brigade moved out to some kopjes three miles to the north; troops were on the move in all directions. We took up positions expecting an attack, but none developed, though there was some heavy firing in the distance, believed to be General French's cavalry in action. The 12th Brigade, under General Clements, arrived having marched up from Norval's Point, and we were relieved by one of his battalions, the Wiltshire Regiment, next day. We found that bell tents had arrived for the officers, and so had good shelter after weeks without any, but the men's tents did not arrive for some time after. Their clothing, especially boots, was in a very bad state, and there was no hope of any movement forward till supplies came up. We had visits from two officers detached from the Regiment. Lieutenant Gatehouse, of our M.I., gave us an account of the fight when Wallis was killed and Wilson wounded. Captain N. G. H. Turner* of the 2nd Battalion, serving with the Burma M.I., told us of the surrender of 300 men of the Royal Irish Rifles and 200 M.I., some 30 miles south of here. They had put up a good fight and only gave in when all their ammunition was exhausted. That evening, April 5, I dined at the Club with Colonel Lloyd and Captain Houghton, when we had a very good dinner, and saw Prince Alex of Teck and General French.

On April 6, we had news of the capture of 50 Boers by Lord Methuen, and the death in action of Colonel Villebois Mareuil, the French artilleryman, who planned all the Boer forts, and was believed to have been destined to take supreme command at Pretoria. On 7th, we had another visit from Gatehouse, and Henry Umfreville, who has grown a beard, and Captain Gibbs, commanding the 2nd Battalion Company of the Burma M.I. We have been very short of water, as during our retirement from Sannah's Post the Boers captured the waterworks about 20 miles out of Bloemfontein. It was our chief supply, and we had to rely on wells, which had rather foul water; this together with the hardships of the previous months were believed to have started the epidemic of enteric fever which was now raging among the troops. Hospitals were being opened in all the large buildings in the town including the Radzaal, the parliament house. On April 11, Major Marshall arrived with a draft of Section D reservists, and also a company made up from our Volunteer Battalions. Captain O. Taylor was with them, having recovered from his wound, and he took over "B" Company again. Captain

Greenwood, also recovered from his wound, rejoined the next day. We were having a lot of rain, and outpost duty was very unpleasant. On 19th, the men's tents arrived, which was a blessing for them. On 22nd, khaki-serge suits for the men arrived, and our heavy baggage left at Cape Town also came up. Kelly-Kenny visited us, and his C.S.O., Benson, told us that there would be a forward movement next week. The next day the whole Division was inspected by Kelly-Kenny, and we marched past in quick-time and at the double, with the massed bands playing. Troops were beginning to move out, the 18th Brigade and the Guards had already had some fighting near the waterworks and that day the Highland Brigade and others left camp. Acworth and Strafford were promoted to Captain about this date, and on 24th, Captain Harris took over the M.I. Company, and De Gex, recovered from his wound, and Tidmarsh rejoined, the former still limping a bit. On 26th, we buried Corporal Marsh of "B" Company and 13 other men of the Regiment; all died from enteric. Deaths in Bloemfontein at this time averaged about 15 a day, it was said, and Sergeant Hill died the next day. On May 1, I was down with it, and was admitted to the Dames' Institute, which had been converted from a girls' school into a hospital. It was run by Canadians and the nurses were a very pretty and efficient lot, and wore a smart khaki uniform with a double row of brass buttons down the front. Captain Macleod, who had been wounded at Magersfontein, joined the Battalion that day. Lord Roberts came round the hospital next day and spoke a few words to each of us in the ward. He was accompanied by Lady Roberts, who had just come out from England. This was just before the victorious advance of his army, and there was daily news of his success. On May 21, we had the news of the relief of Mafeking. I had many visits from officers of the Regiment including Colonel Lloyd and Major Le Marchant, who came several times and kept me up to date with news of the Battalion. The 6th Division had been left to guard Bloemfontein when the advance began, and on May 24, there were parades, sports and general rejoicings to celebrate the Queen's birthday. On 27th, I heard that a draft under Captain Becher from the Depot, had arrived and with it four new subalterns, Carlyon, Jubbs, Harman and Ernle Taylor. On 28th, the troops paraded in the square to hear the proclamation, read by General Pretymann, announcing the annexation of the Orange Free State, now to be called the Orange River Colony. The next day the Battalion marched off to Winburg. Major Le Marchant had been to say goodbye, and Colonel Lloyd sent a kind letter saying he was sorry not to be able to come and see me, but that he was so busy before the move. I never saw him again. I had started to get up that day, but on the

* He died shortly after from enteric; May 25, 1900.

next had a relapse, which eventually turned out to be scarlet fever, and I took little interest in life until June 5, when the news came of Lord Robert's entry into Pretoria. It was not until June 20, that I was fit enough to go out, and I was told that I was to be sent home on sick leave. On 22nd, I joined some 12 officers and 200 men all being sent down to Cape Town to embark for home. I shared a compartment of the hospital train with a Major Hughes-Onslow of the 10th Hussars. He was a noted steeplechase rider, and had ridden in the Grand National and he was a most interesting and amusing companion to have for the three days'

journey. I was kept at Wynburg in the general hospital for about a fortnight; the P.M.O. was a Colonel Grier, who had known the 2nd Battalion very well in Halifax, Nova Scotia. It was a pleasant spot with a view of the North-side of Table Mountain, and the weather was perfect. On July 16, I embarked on the *Avondale Castle* and arrived at Southampton on August 2. The Hon. F. S. Jackson, the famous cricketer, was on board and played deck cricket with us; he was most charming and modest. Soon after arrival home he was playing in county cricket and scored a century.

Colonels of the Regiment

BY J. W. HAYES

Henry Hawley, Soldier, Sportsman and Man. Colonel of the 33rd Regiment, 1717-30

Picture a large man of ponderous build, harsh of face and rough of tongue, bluff, boastful and boisterous, and there you have Henry Hawley, fifth Colonel of the 33rd Regiment.

Hawley must have found it strange to come to command a regiment of foot, since he had spent the previous part of his military life, over 20 years of it, in a regiment of dragoons; although having fought alongside the 33rd in Spain he would be bound to know some of its officers. He was a veteran soldier who had been present on many a battlefield in Flanders and in the Spanish peninsula during the wars of Dutch William and Anne, and he had long been Lieutenant-Colonel of the 4th Dragoons. His father had been a professional soldier too, Lieutenant-Colonel of a regiment of horse when he was killed in action at Steinkirk in 1692.

Hawley was essentially the dragoon, and always thought of himself as such. Years after he left the 33rd, to command the 13th and then the 1st Regiments of Dragoons, he wrote in humorous vein to his friend Charles, Second Duke of Richmond, on the subject of quartering his regiment in the Duke's part of Sussex. Hawley's spelling was even more erratic and individual than the average at this period. "Your Grace knows that wee Draggoones comonly choose (when the Campagne is over) to take our Winter Quarters in an Enemy's Country, but I have made my Dispositions to be in a Friend's Country for this winter, but as tis the way now I muste aske your leave first, for unless I have youre consent I marche in upon some less powerfull Prince . . . I shall take no step in this till I know your Grace's pleasure, for 'tis equall to me where I go, so I do but change."*

A few of Hawley's letters and papers have survived, and they leave a strong impression that he was a very rough and ready, bluff, forceful man of intense national pride. Witness his letter to Richmond from Flanders in 1742, when he described the confusion, ineptitude and mismanagement that characterised the handling of the British

expeditionary force and those of its allies in no-uncertain terms, ending, "In short, wee cant believe what wee are told, 'tis so contradictory to common sense; 'tis no matter how many men the French have here nexte spring, for this body of men who came withe us muste be destroyed—exclusive of our Enemy, I put that out of the question—nor I dont speake as a Collonel, having been no more here this five weeks paste, but I speake as an Englishman, and so I am resolv'd to acte and speake too if I am ever to be looked on here above a Collonel, and so are others besides me," he went on dterminly.

Hawley's reputation as a soldier has foundered on two rocks: his unenviable collusion with the Duke of Cumberland in the repressive measures adopted in Scotland after the 'Forty-Five rebellion; and his unnecessary defeat at Falkirk in February 1746, which seems to have been the result of his supreme contempt for the Scots rather than of any lack of military talent on his part.

Hawley believed in strong measures—he was that sort of man—and he resigned the Scottish command that he had held for some months after Culloden, when it was decided to adopt less severe policies. Writing to Richmond he disclosed the reasons for his action. "I hope the worlde wonte thinke that I putt myselfe upon a foot to choose where I will serve, as some of late have done, for once more I assure you I am no longer fitt for this employ, for the very reason you are pleas'd to mention. If his Majesty would leave me the Foot here, and the Parliament give the men a guinea and a pair of shoes for every rebell's head they brought in,† I would still undertake to clear this country, but as to Law and Polliticks I beg to be excused. I have no Tallent that way." Of the Duke of Cumberland, his Royal master and the Scots, he wrote: "I won't, nor cant stire, untill the Duke does, and now he dont go to Flanders I believe he'll stay to try to breake theyr hearts, but I defye him to make any

*The quotations used in this article are all taken from original letters printed in Lord March's "A Duke and his Friends," a life of Charles, Second Duke of Richmond, published in 1911.

†Hawley was not the only bloodthirsty soldier. Major-General John Bland, author of a celebrated military treatise and a soldier of repute, who was Commander-in-Chief in Scotland a few years later held similar opinions. See "Albemarle Papers" (1902), vol. 1, p. 191.

one of the Countrey honest or sincere, God did not make them so, and that you will all be convinced off at laste as well as youre Grace's moste obed[ient] humble H. Hawley." The General was fond of these forecasts of divine intentions. Of Edmund Mortin, the veteran Lieutenant-Colonel of the 8th Regiment, he wrote in lofty style: "As to your Friend Martin, I cant helpe saying he is 'un pauvre sujet' in a Military way . . . I assure you I have nothing to say against the man but that he is beyonde his sphere and was surely intended by God Almighty, when made, to be only a Capt."

With his long career as a cavalry soldier and his forceful character, it is not surprising that Hawley was a thrusting sportsman. Despite his great bulk and his advancing years, he was a great rider to hounds. His performances would have delighted Surtees' heart. He was often at Charlton, the Duke of Richmond's hunting-lodge, for the fox-hunting season. One famous chase ended with only three persons in at the kill, the Duke of Cumberland, Billy Ives the whipper-in, and General Hawley, "all seventeen stones and as many campaigns," as the chronicler recorded! He had, too, an enviable reputation as a judge of horseflesh. When his old friend the Duke of Richmond was appointed Colonel of "The Blues" in 1750 and carried out his first inspection he was greatly pleased with what he saw and wrote home saying, "nor would Hawley hardly change a horse in it."

¶ Hawley died in 1759, and his will, drawn up ten years previously, is typical of the man. He wrote, signed and sealed it himself, "and this I

did," he said, "because I hate all priests of all professions, and have the worst opinion of all members of the law." The preamble was typical of the man. "Therefore, as I began the world with nothing, and as all I have is of my own acquiring, I can dispose of it as I please. But first I direct and order (that as theres now (1749) a peace, and I may die the common way) my carcasse may be put anywhere; 'tis equal to me; but I will have no more expense or ridiculous shew, than if a poor soldier (who is as good a man) was to be buried from the hospital. The priest, I conclude, will have his fee: let the puppy have it. Pay the carpenter for the carcasse box. Debts I have none at this time; some very small trifles, of course, there may be; let them be paid; there is wherewith to do it . . . "‡

Hawley's prediction was fulfilled; he did die "the common way," and with his death there passed one of the most colourful personalities of the Army in the early Georgian era.§

‡The will is given in the "Gentleman's Magazine," vol. 29 (1759), p. 158.

§A coloured equestrian portrait of Hawley in the uniform of Colonel of the Royal Dragoons was printed in the Journal for Army Historical Research, some years ago.

Private Sherlock Atkins

(Lines suggested by the recent exploits of the
1st Battalion)

You stand on watch among the Cyprian snows,
You comb malodorous villages for those
Misguided patriots, who like as not
Will greet your kind enquiries with a shot,
You ferret out their lairs; in sober truth
You are at once the soldier and the sleuth.
The earth reveals her hidden stores of bombs
To your keen eyes. You have out-Sherlocked

Holmes,
Lord Peter Wimsey owns your higher art,
And Poirot clasps you to his ample heart.
And far beyond this isle extends your fame,
The world's great gangsters tremble at your name.
In Sing-Sing, Lubianka, Pentonville
Kings of the Underworld deplore your skill.
On lonesy heath, in crowded city street,
In dives, where crooks and thugs and hoodlums
meet,

Palatial mansions where the wide boys live
The master-criminal and super-spiv,
In gambling hells, in haunts of gilded vice
With crooked croupiers and loaded dice,
In grim baronial halls, where wicked earls
Put auntie on the spot and pop the pearls,
In boudoirs where the glamorous female spy
Lurks like a spider for the guileless fly,
Attics where kidnapped babes bewail their lot,
Cellars, where victims' corpses stink and rot,
Tensely they wait to hear the dreaded word,
"Take cover, boys, here comes the 33rd."

O.P.

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

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

8th Battalion (145 R.A.C.).—Hon. Secretary: Major F. B. Murgatroyd, 9 Marshall's Road, Braintree, Essex.

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

UNION JACK SERVICES CLUBS

BY ADMIRAL SIR WILLIAM JAMES, G.C.B.

PRESIDENT, THE UNION JACK SERVICES CLUBS.

July 1, 1957, is the 50th Anniversary of the opening of the Union Jack Club by King Edward VII, as a National Memorial to soldiers and sailors who had lost their lives on active service. His Majesty accepted the Club on behalf of the Navy and Army and entrusted it to the two Fighting Services to be their London Club.

Since that day the doors of the Club have never been closed and, today, the Club is also the London Club of the Royal Air Force and of Members of the Commonwealth and Colonial Forces visiting this Country.

The Club buildings have also been greatly expanded and now include an Annexe which provides 210 extra beds, a Families Club and a Women's Services Club.

That the Clubs are fulfilling the hopes of the founders is evident from last year's annual report which showed that during the year 324,163 beds were provided and 630,959 meals were served in the three Clubs. To these impressive figures may be added as further evidence, the 9,000,000 beds that have been provided in the Union Jack Club alone since the Club was opened.

So, in this anniversary year, men and women of the Fighting Forces can look back with a feeling of gratitude to those who founded the original Union Jack Club and with pride and satisfaction to the steady progress and the developments that have culminated in the three Clubs as they now know them.

This too, is a time when the present Members will be interested in the history of the Clubs, when they will wish to know something about those who initiated the project, how the funds were raised, when each new expansion took place and how each new major development was financed.

It was a Miss Ethel McCaul, R.R.C., who conceived the idea of a London Club for the men of the Fighting Forces. That was in 1902, when 200,000 soldiers and sailors were passing through Waterloo annually, most of them strangers to London and many of them arriving at Waterloo too late to continue their journey until next day.

The available accommodation in the vicinity of the station was meagre and of a low standard; on and close to the site now occupied by the Union Jack Club were no less than eight public houses.

Many young servicemen were wiser and poorer when they eventually reached their homes.

Miss Ethel McCaul, when nursing in Field Hospitals in South Africa, had heard first-hand accounts of these mean streets from her patients and she returned to England after the War fired with determination to remedy the sorry state of affairs. Her enthusiasm soon bore good fruit. At a great gathering at the Mansion House on February 25, 1903, the Lord Mayor launched a scheme to build a Club and so good was the response to his appeal for funds that the Foundation Stone was laid by the Prince of Wales (afterwards King George V) on July 1, 1904.

One of the pioneers who so skilfully shaped a great future for the Club was Mr. J. R. Hayward, M.V.O., M.B.E., who was for many years Comptroller and is now a member of the Council.

Within a few weeks of the opening of the Club it was evident that the 208 bedrooms fell far short of the demand for sleeping accommodation and three years later 147 further bedrooms were made available. Twelve years later 188 more bedrooms and 102 dormitory beds were added and in 1928, through the munificence of Sir Heath Harrison, Bt., a "Heath Harrison Wing" was completed, bringing the total accommodation to 800 beds.

The latest extension of bedroom accommodation was completed in 1940 when the Nuffield Trust for the Forces generously provided funds to build the Holmes Terrace Annexe, with 210 beds to replace a building which had been rented to meet the enormous demand which had followed the rapid expansion of the Fighting Services after the outbreak of war.

Throughout the war more than 1,100 beds were occupied every night. Walking round the corridors of the bedroom floors is like walking down the corridors of history, for on every door is a brass plate commemorating a serviceman who died on active service, a ship that was lost, or a regiment that suffered heavy casualties.

Though the resources of the Club were fully extended during the First World War, the peak years in the Club's history were the years of the Second World War. Of that period the Secretary of State for War said "The Club carried on its work under the shadow of death from German bombs but like other institutions over which the Union Jack presides, it has survived and will survive. From my flat in London I have looked out on most mornings of the past five years and have always been encouraged to see it still standing, four square to a great deal besides all the winds that blow, and during that five years, it has provided lodgings for more than a million servicemen and some three million meals."

It was fortunate that the Union Jack Families Club (originally the Union Jack Hostel) was completed before the First World War, because the number of servicemen's families in transit increases considerably in war time. The fund for building the Club were donated by the South African Garrison Institutes.

The original building soon proved too small for its purpose but it was not until 1940, that through the generosity of the Nuffield Trust a wing was

added. Even with this addition it is not always possible to meet all requests for accommodation. Last year, 61,573 beds were booked for men, women and children.

When, in 1949, the W.R.N.S., Q.A.R.A.N.C., W.R.A.C. and the W.R.A.F., became an integral part of the Armed Services, the Club accepted the responsibility of providing a residential Club for them. Fortunately, a site adjoining the Families Club was available and on November 5, 1951, The Princess Royal unveiled a tablet commemorating the foundation of "The Union Jack Women's Services Club." The new Club was officially opened on October 30, 1952, by H.R.H. The Duchess of Gloucester and since that date an average of 10,000 servicewomen have been accommodated each year.

During the Second World War, the buildings were damaged by bombs but all renovation and repair work was in abeyance throughout the War. By the end of the War, the time had in any case come to modernise the Clubs and improve the amenities. To this end a public appeal was launched at the Mansion House in 1945 and the good response to the appeal enabled the Council and Committee to embark on a six-year programme of work which when completed, would bring the Clubs up to high standard, and one in keeping with the Clubs' tradition. That programme has been completed.

Throughout its history, the policy had been to keep the prices charged within the purse of the lowest paid serviceman and servicewoman and it has been possible to adhere to this policy because capital expenditure has largely been met by subscriptions, grants and funds bequeathed in memory of those who have died on active service and in gratitude to those who have preserved the Country from its enemies. But the cost of maintenance is always rising and the current revenue falls short of what is required to keep the Clubs up-to-date in all respects. For this reason, an appeal for additional funds is being launched within the Services in this Jubilee Year and the Council and Committee hope that all men and women of the Fighting Forces will welcome the opportunity of supporting their London Clubs: 1s. a head for every man and woman would go far towards establishing financial stability and make possible further improvements.

In conclusion, it may be of interest to explain how the Clubs are conducted. In all the main Service establishments and Units, there is a member of the Club, who is selected by the Commanding Officer to represent the Clubs and keep in touch with members. There are 175 of these representative members in the United Kingdom and a proportion, nominated by Commanding Officers, become the elected members of the General Committee. This Committee is the vital link between the members of the Clubs and the Council.

The members of the Council, who serve in an honorary capacity, are elected or re-elected at the Annual General Meeting, which is attended by all the representative members. The men and women of the Fighting Forces—the members of the Clubs—are thus directly represented at all meetings by their own chosen representatives.

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