

No.109 July 1958



# 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 Suva  
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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# THE REGIMENT

## Colonel of the Regiment :

MAJOR-GENERAL K. G. EXHAM, C.B., D.S.O.

## Deputy Colonel of the Regiment :

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

## Commanding Officers :

|  |   |
|--|---|
| 1st Battalion, Palace Barracks, Holywood, Belfast,<br>Northern Ireland .. .. . | Lieutenant-Colonel P. P. de la H. Moran.<br>Major D. C. Roberts.<br>Designate: Major R. H. Ince |
| Regimental H.Q. and Depot, Wellesley Barracks, Halifax                         | Hon. Colonel: Colonel G. B. Howcroft, M.C.,<br>T.D., J.P.                                       |
| 5/7th Battalion (T.A.), Drill Hall, St. Paul's Street,<br>Huddersfield .. .. . | C.O.: Lieutenant-Colonel J. Davidson.   |

## AFFILIATED ROYAL ARTILLERY REGIMENT OF THE TERRITORIAL ARMY

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 382 Medium Regiment, R.A. (D.W.R.), T.A., Drill Hall,<br>Prescott Street, Halifax .. .. . | Hon. Colonel: Colonel G. H. Aykroyd, T.D.<br>C.O.: Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. Simpson, R.A., T.A. |
| "P" (4 D.W.R.) Medium Battery, R.A., Drill Hall,<br>Prescott Street, Halifax .. .. .      | Major A. V. Fawell, R.A., T.A.  |
| "Q" Medium Battery, R.A., Drill Hill, Mirfield ..   | Major B. Farrow, R.A., T.A.   |
| "R" (6 D.W.R.) Medium Battery, Drill Hall, Otley<br>Street, Skipton .. .. .               | Major R. H. Morant, T.D., R.A., T.A.  |

## ALLIED REGIMENT OF THE CANADIAN ARMY

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Le Regiment des Voltigeurs de Quebec, Menage Militaire,<br>Grand-Allée, Québec .. .. . | Hon. Colonel: The Right Honourable Louis-S.<br>St. Laurent, M.P., C.P., C.R., LL.D.<br>C.O.: Lieutenant-Colonel R. Caron, E.D. |
|--|--|

## AFFILIATED UNITS OF THE ARMY CADET FORCE

|   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| 382 Cadet Medium Regiment, R.A. (D.W.R.), The Hut-<br>ments, Hunger Hill, Halifax .. .. . | Lieutenant-Colonel S. W. Jamieson. |
| 7 Cadet Battalion (D.W.R.), Drill Hall, St. Paul's Street,<br>Huddersfield .. .. .        | Major W. A. Briggs.                |
| A.C.F. Contingent, Heckmondwike Grammar School ..   | Captain A. M. Hey.                 |
| Independent A.C.F. Company, Eshton Hall School ..   | Captain G. H. Slee.                |

## AFFILIATED UNITS OF THE COMBINED CADETS FORCE

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Leeds Grammar School C.C.F. Contingent .. .. . | Lieutenant-Colonel R. W. Whitmore, O.B.E., T.D. |
| Giggleswick School C.C.F. Contingent .. .. .   | Major S. Wardle.                                |
| Rishworth School C.C.F. Contingent .. .. .     | Lt.-Commander P. D. Job, R.C.N.(R.), Ret'd.     |

## REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

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The Right Honourable The Earl of Scarbrough, K.G.

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Major-General K. G. Exham, C.B., D.S.O.

### General Secretary:

Mr. S. E. Code, M.B.E.

## EDITORIAL

Our readers will be very sorry to hear that, owing to his having to undergo an eye operation, Lt.-Colonel Owen Price has relinquished the editorial of **THE IRON DUKE**. We all hope that Colonel Price will soon be recovered completely and be able to resume the editorial duties he has wielded with such success for eight years.

Meanwhile the harassed Deputy Colonel, having approached various officers, with a view to them filling the gap, and being repelled with loss on every occasion, has taken the desperate remedy of having **THE IRON DUKE** edited at the Depot. He fired this shot at the horrified Depot Staff in the course of a visit in January with the airy comment that plenty of regimental journals are run at the Depot, and rapidly left for the south.

The editorial pen—so recently guided by the firm hand of one gifted person—is now in the trembling grasp of an ill co-ordinated team consisting of the Deputy Colonel himself—mostly as a destructive critic—the O.C. Depot, his wife, the Administrative Officer and any other member of the Depot Staff who cannot produce a medical certificate to excuse him from participation.

The ponderous procedure, officially described as the reorganisation of the Army, grinds slowly on. The Brigade cap badge was assumed by the 1st Battalion and the Depot on April 24. Its design—harmless, if uninspired—was marred by extraordinary shoddiness of production. Its reception by all regiments of the Yorkshire Brigade was uniform and was summed up—in a masterpiece of understatement—by the War Office as “not being accepted with universal approbation.” We understand the further issues will be of better manufacture. The setting up of the Brigade Depot at Strensall recedes into a haze of ambiguity. It is dependent in the first place on the preparation of barracks at Shrewsbury for the Light Infantry Brigade, who still lie snugly in Strensall.

We have to record an interesting acquisition for the Regimental Museum. It is the sash and memoir-book of Sgt.-Major Colbeck, who was Sgt.-Major—in those halcyon days there was only one—of the 33rd Regiment from 1813 to 1821. Colbeck was wounded and taken prisoner at Quatre Bras but was released after Waterloo, rejoining the Regiment in the Bois de Boulogne on July 4. His Waterloo medal is already in the Museum and these articles form a valuable addition to our relics of the Waterloo Campaign.

We congratulate Major R. H. Ince on his appointment to command the Regimental Depot. Major D. C. Roberts is retiring and will be living near York.

## 1st BATTALION

### SUB-EDITORIAL

We fear these notes will be shorter than usual as there seems to be so little to write about; the excitement of the rigger is over and Bisley is not yet really upon us.

As sports news is limited, we might as well get it over before getting down to the less serious aspects of our life here!

The Bisley Company (to call this vast conglomeration of firers, butt-markers, rifles, Bren guns, score cards and team managers, etc., a *team* is somewhat short of the scale of effort involved), has gone into its annual seclusion, this time down at Ballykinlar, and, apart from a few mutterings about which range is theirs and when, we rarely hear from them. They have, however, very successfully warmed their barrels by winning by a handsome margin at the 39th Independent Infantry Brigade Annual Meeting, and carrying off most of the prizes, under difficult weather conditions and at incredible ranges. We congratulate Captain Wood and Pte. Kelly on being Champion Shots in their respective groups. Just prior to this, S/Sgt. Kingdon, on loan to the nearby R.E.M.E. Workshops, Kinnegar, had shot very well at the R.E.M.E. Annual Meeting at Bisley and helped the Workshops to bring back five cups.

Cricket has started well, with very good results so far. Rigger is rapidly filling its fixture list for next season and the R.S.M. rubs his hands whenever any soccer player, however embryonic, comes near his web!

The first event of importance after rendition (?) of our last notes was the administrative inspection, which went amazingly well and our Brigadier was very complimentary. A typical example was “H.Q.” Company; the Brigadier had said he wished to see a barrack room and the men in battle order. Everyone knows what a barrack room in “H.Q.” Company is usually like, and the men in battle order, well—that’s just plain anti-social, let alone impossible. But, on the day, the selected room was so good and the battle order so well fitting that it went to O.C. “H.Q.” Company’s head and, in what the C.O. and 2IC thought was a mad fit, he led the Brigadier into almost every nook and cranny of that sprawling mass which is “H.Q.” Company. Everything, however, was very good, and the Brigadier very pleased, but for a short time it was a very alarmed C.O. who followed the entourage.

The next big event was the St. George’s Day Parade, which was attended by H.E. The Governor of Northern Ireland and The Lady Wakehurst, Lt.-General Sir Brian Kimmins and Lady Kimmins and Brigadier Brooke. Our Deputy Colonel, Brigadier Webb-Carter, whom we were very glad to see, had arrived the day before for a short visit, and accompanied the Governor during the inspection and on the saluting base. This parade, apart from being a success, was the last occasion on which we wore our “Dukes” cap badge. A fitting way to mark the end of our greatly loved emblem. After the parade, to which about 100 guests,

military and civil, had been invited, His Excellency, Sir Brian Kimmins and the Deputy Colonel visited the Sergeants' Mess, and then proceeded to lunch in the Officers' Mess. Altogether a highly successful and cheerful day, and the many complimentary remarks made by both military and civil afterwards were sincerely meant and very gratifying.

Soon after this a large draft of N.C.O.s. and men, who were ineligible on time service to go to Cyprus with their Battalion, arrived from 1st East Yorks. Although we shall have the paper work (not inconsiderable) of releasing them from now for the next six months, their advent is a great joy to us. They are all trained men and have immediately fitted in well with us. We extend to them a hearty welcome and only hope that, though they have left their parent regiment, they will enjoy their last few months with us.

They soon got caught up in the whirl of activities that life is in Palace Barracks. For the Territorial Army's Golden Jubilee Parade, attended by H.M. The Queen Mother, we had to deploy pretty well the whole Battalion. All officers below the rank of Major were involved for three days in a wide range of duties: there were 100 men lining the Royal route to the parade ground, there were spectator control officials, stand and tent erecting parties and many other jobs to be done, all of which, as normal, we took more or less in our stride and again earned many complimentary remarks, not only for our smartness on route lining but also for our speed and cheerfulness in all the quite back-breaking fatigues. We had the honour to provide the first Guard of Honour for Her Majesty at Government House, and even our own officers who were there said our drill was good—which is a rare compliment.

For some time before this, both for the parade and the rehearsals and for the opening of Parliament, we had, on various occasions, accommodated and fed approximately 100 Royal Navy, 50 Royal Marines Band, 50 Irish Guards Band, 250 R.E.M.E. T.A. and, with great interest, 20 W.R.N.S. At times the barracks looked like an all services transit camp.

Training continues, where it can in between guards, fatigues, jubilees and parades, and three Companies, "A," "D" and "S" have completed annual range classification, with good results. "S" Company spent a fortnight at Ballykinlar ranges and "A" and "D" at Magilligan ranges. Except for "D" who are now in Londonderry, the Companies lived out in the huts provided near each range. A life on the open range is not everyone's cup of tea, particularly in Irish weather, but all came back brown and fit to face the rigours of life in Palace Barracks.

Continuation training for recruits from the Depot continues more or less steadily in "C" Company, and we are now branching out into an outward-bound type of training for selected cadres. Officers and N.C.O.s are away on courses, studying the ramifications of this type of training, canoes and ropes are being purchased and the most alarming loughs, scarps, ghylls, cwms, bogs and beckes have been reconnoitred!

There was a faint drama not long ago when Robbie the guard dog, whilst on sentry, left his post without being relieved. How he got out of the wire fence surrounding the armoury is still a matter of conjecture, but get out he did. As the news of his absence gradually percolated through, children were locked indoors, police and civilian population were alerted, senior officers and N.C.O.s manfully manned their offices with the doors shut, and the I.O. prowled far and wide with a worried look. A rather drastic retribution overtook Robbie, however—he was run over by a train.

Our alarm still goes off on its own, but we think we have tracked down the cause of the trouble—it's a mouse with frivolous tendencies. Perhaps by our next notes we may be able to report we have caught the mouse. This brings to mind our recent fire practice when the fire adviser was here—everything was arranged, but, when the crucial moment came we could not sound the alarm as we had temporarily mislaid the bugler. Apart from chaining the bugler to a tree, there seems to be no other course open to us than to train the mouse to blow a bugle, in addition to its prowess in touching off the alarm.

Work has started again on the modernisation of our barrack blocks, and the new cookhouse and junior ranks club are coming on apace.

The Corporals' Mess held a very enjoyable dance in the Queen's Hall, Holywood.

The Band and Drums beat Retreat twice recently. Once on the parade ground, attended by about 150 boys from Campbell College, with the Headmaster and about eight other masters and their wives present. This was by way of a practice for the main Retreat beating at Londonderry in front of the Guildhall. The Mayor, officials and people of Londonderry have been so friendly to our companies stationed there, that we asked the Mayor if we may beat Retreat as a token of our appreciation. He agreed and it became quite an occasion. He invited quite a few guests, including the Lieutenant of the County and the Lieutenant of the City, the senior Naval Officer, N.I., the senior R.A.F. Officer, and the senior United States Naval Officer. To a crowd of about 2,000 the Band and Drums really excelled themselves and gave a very creditable performance. After the ceremony the Mayor invited the guests into his parlour, where he was presented with a plaque bearing the Regimental Crest, which now hangs on the wall in his parlour.

This was our Bandmaster's (Mr. Martin's) swansong, as he is now emigrating to New Zealand. We thank him for his excellent service to us and wish him luck. We also welcome Mr. Bowyer, from Kneller Hall, in his place.

As we go to press, the Band and Drums had the honour to lead the procession during the Lord Mayor's Show in Belfast. From reports coming in, it appears they again acquitted themselves exceedingly well. A few "Dukes" soldiers and children supplied the "actors" on the Army float in the procession.



### OFFICERS' MESS

It is rather difficult to say where the Officers' Mess really is these days, for what with detachments at Londonderry, shooting at Ballykinlar, and field-firing (at Magilligan) there are often more officers at these outposts of the Battalion than at Palace Barracks. However, going on the consumption of pink gins, Palace Barracks has it.

Obviously, St. George's day has been the highlight of this quarter. Amongst the distinguished guests were His Excellency and The Lady Wakehurst, the G.O.C., N.I.D., General Sir Brian Kimmins, and the Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier Webb-Carter. After the parade, whose excellence is no doubt stressed elsewhere, several of the Regiment's friends were entertained in the Mess at drinks and luncheon. It was a most enjoyable function, rather spoilt for the senior officers by the sight of the majority of the subalterns sporting large cigars after the luncheon. It appears that the senior officers had not been told that the cigars were . . . still, it is rather a long story, and sure to raise bad feeling!

The monthly Band Sundays when wives and friends are invited into the Mess are as popular as ever, the now large colony of officers living out at Bangor making the trip whenever possible.

Dick Birch and John Gladwin left us for civilian life, the former probably being responsible for the London bus strike! Mike Hardy has gone to take up an appointment at Sandhurst, and John Butterfield is at present on a course at Shrivenham. Congratulations to "Dolly" Dawson on his commission, and we welcome both he and John Bishop from the East Yorks to the Mess.

A new system, whereby an officer is to run the Mess as a full-time job, is being given a trial, and Jim Shenton has volunteered to be the first to attempt it. Sgt. Creighton is still here to back him up, assisted by Cpl. Collman.

The new Mess has eventually been made more habitable, but the pictures have been changed around so often in order to find the best effect that it took a brave man to walk into breakfast, not knowing whether he was going to be looking at a Russian in the process of having his head blown off or a John Leach horse gone mad.

The subaltern's "Hops," organised originally by Peter Hoppe, are here to stay! Ted Duckney and Danny Marsay arranged another informal dance with a Spanish mantil which was a great success, in fact so much so that a Mess meeting decided that such a dance would make a pleasant finale for Waterloo Day.

It is rather unusual to have a "Dukes" Mess with only one dog, but Robin Steven's "Nut" does his utmost to make up for this. On the other hand, cars never having been our strong point, it is now difficult to enter the car-park because of motley veterans and near veterans. The majority seem to belong to that veteran of T.V., Bob Huffam (one appearance on a programme devoted to a vintage car rally).

### SERGEANTS' MESS

Pride of place in this quarter's notes must be given to St. George's Day. The parade was a very good one, several spectators remarking it was the best they had seen in Northern Ireland. After the parade the Governor of Northern Ireland, His Excellency The Lord Wakehurst, K.C.M.G., honoured us with a visit to the Mess, and consented to have his photograph taken with a Mess group. This may prove a rather important photograph in the Regimental history, as it was the last occasion when we could wear the "Dukes" cap badge. The sadness felt at the time was slightly relieved when the photographs were delivered. They were very flattering to most Mess members and we are sure the photographer will receive many more orders.

Due to some hard work by Sgts. Battye and Garrity, and the Mess staff, an excellent buffet lunch was served. In the evening a social was held which was very well attended. The caterer heaved a great sigh of relief when the R.S.M. called "Last drinks," as it had been a very heavy day for the staff.

Since our last notes we have said goodbye to Sgts. Mc'kenzie to M.P.S.C., Colchester, Bill Pounder to M.D.C., "Taffy" Thomas, A.C.C., to Barnard Castle and Barry Thomas to the School of Music. We shall miss them all, but mostly the perpetual plea of "Mac" to "lend us a poond." We wish them all the best of luck in the new jobs.

We congratulate Lt. Dawson, ex-R.Q.M.S., on obtaining his commission. His presence in the Mess will be greatly missed as he has been a stalwart for many years. C.S.M. Robins took over the reins of R.Q.M.S. but, to the dismay of all members, refused to buy drinks all round in the Mess. He offered several reasons for this, but most members believe he is saving his cash for some reason. He even buys a tombola ticket now, obviously believing that to accumulate one must speculate! C/Sgt. Kirk was promoted C.S.M. but still holds his job of C.Q.M.S. until the "Voice" (C/Sgt. Mountcastle) returns from a very long leave.

We welcome to the Mess Sgts. Parker, Brown, Delaney and S/Sgt. Scott, and hope that their stay will be a long and happy one.

### CORPORALS' MESS

It seems no time at all since we were being badgered into writing the notes for the April number of THE IRON DUKE and, now, here we are in the middle of May with Ireland showing us that there are at least a few months in the year when she lives up to the name of Emerald Isle. The hard outlines of the barracks are now softened by the abundance of fresh, green trees and grass which have sprung up, almost un-noticed, in the flurry of a Royal visit and the St. George's Day parade.

With the coming of spring a new spirit has entered into the Corporals' Mess and cricket has become a popular game. It is not the energetic variety, let it be confessed at once, and the imagination of the writer boggles at having to picture 11 white-clad N.C.O.s rushing madly about a field in

pursuit of a small leather ball! 'No, this game is more subtle by far and is played in a small annexe of the main Mess from whence can be heard the characteristic cries of the participants: "Sink the black, Pete!" or "snooker him behind the brown!" It is certainly a very subtle game.

Anyone who read the last notes will remember that we were just getting "into the swing" with our Sunday evenings of tombola and it must be confessed that they are now a very popular feature of the local weekend entertainment and the guests number at least one Austin Princess and several Ford Zodiacs! (There is, as yet, no sign of a 1937 Buick!)

At the time of writing, preparations are being made for the traditional St. George's Day ball, and harassed members of the committee trudge about wearing worried frowns and mumbling vaguely about tickets, invitations and booking halls. Reporting on that event should provide the writer of the next notes with enough material to fill a short book. We envy him!

There have been the usual arrivals and departures, rather more of the former than the latter it is pleasing to note. To all the new "Dukes" from the East Yorkshire Regiment we extend a hearty welcome, and to those who have gone we say: "Floriat via Civilis!"

#### "H.Q." COMPANY

At last we can report success on the sports side. Our rugby team beat "C" Company in the inter-Company final by 3 points to nil. It was an excellent game, the very close result only being decided in extra time. The C.S.M. held on to the Rugby Shield grimly for three days but, alas, had to return it to the Sergeants' Mess on instructions from the R.S.M.

The Employed Men's "B" team, consisting of Pioneers, Q.M.'s staff, Company Office staff and Police reached the final of the inter-Platoon soccer. They played the Drums, and this also was a very good game which went to extra time. The Drums finally won 4-2.

The inter-Platoon basketball competition has just got under way. Cpl. Connor, our P.T.I., assures us that it will be "a virtual walk over" for "H.Q." Company—we wonder!

Judging by the few practices we have had, we should do very well at cricket. The inter-Company competition starts in two weeks; maybe another shield will be on view in the Company Office at the end of the season.

In the Battalion athletics trial we produced several men, who, with some more training, will do very well. We expect the names of Sgt. Kirk, R.A.P.C., and Pte. Schofield to be prominent in N.I.D. athletics. Our tug-of-war team reached the final, but were beaten by "A" Company. We think that the voice of C/Sgt. Dickie exhorting "A" Company finally beat our team. The M.T. members of our team stated that the voice sounded like a 3-tonner, badly needing a gear change. It completely put them off. Despite the disapproving eye of Captain Kenchington (Q.M.), the C.S.M.

still insists that all members of the team were under 11 stone.

We welcome all men of the East Yorkshire Regiment who have been posted to the Company. Although their stay will be a rather short one, we hope it will be a happy one.

Amongst our recent departures have been Ptes. Evans and Donkersley, Pioneers; Ptes. Rape and Andrews, Orderly Room Staff; and last but not least our butcher, Pte. Miller. We wish them all the best of luck in civilian life.

#### "A" COMPANY

Since our last notes, we have disembarked from H.M.S. *Sea Eagle* and reslung our hammocks in Palace Barracks. Our stay in Londonderry was thoroughly enjoyed by the whole Company, and we became firm friends with the Royal Navy, the R.U.C. and the T.A. Although everybody was hoping we might get a chance at shooting some of the I.R.A., the only real danger was from fierce dogs (owners anonymous) who made the Company Office their playground.

The monotony of Palace Barracks was broken recently by a fortnight's Company musketry camp at Magilligan, a hutted camp apparently well within the Arctic Circle. May the man who fixed the starting date for Army summer (no coal) time come to a sticky end!

On a more serious note, we must say that our shooting results were not as good as they might have been—a disappointment partly due to the very strong cross-winds.

At this point a word of congratulation must be made to Sgt. Carman and Sgt. Delaney, who, despite the lack of telephones, managed to organise their butt parties with outstanding efficiency.

The Company canteen in camp, with an excellent range of goods, and the added luxury of a TV set was an absolute life-saver, despite the scandalous price they charged for what they jokingly called tea on the range. Well done Cpl. Baldwin and Pte. Holt.

On several occasions the "B" Special Constabulary visited us for night firing. They showed great enthusiasm, while several members of the Company showed equal spirit in chasing the 2-inch illuminating parachutes all round the range. The climax was a rocket launcher demonstration, when it was well nigh impossible to stop the Police putting their faces behind the launcher at the moment of firing.

Now, once more in Palace Barracks, guard duties and fatigues are coming up with unpleasant regularity. However, we are able to develop a garden in front of the Company Office, which we hope, in time, will be a mass of colour. Pte. Young and Pte. Whitehead are making an excellent brick border for it.

In the past month or two we have had several sporting successes. Our football team has beaten the Royal Marines three times, 2-1, 5-1, 2-1; the Seamen's Mess, H.M.S. *Sea Eagle*, 4-0; and H.M.S. *Stalker*, 11-0. Goals were scored on various occasions by Sgt. Carman, Cpls. McLough-

lin, Sampson, Waite, Burns, Oldfield, Shaw, and Pte. McGreavy.

The Company has played several games of basketball and netball, the most memorable being against the T.A. W.R.A.C. up at Londonderry. The writer noticed several members of the team who seemed to be more interested in things other than putting the ball into the net. We hope to win the inter-Platoon Basketball League.

The tug-of-war team, excellently coached by C.Q.M.S. Dickie, pulled its opponents with no difficulty at all, thus winning the inter-Company competition. They are now training with the Battalion athletics team, together with Sgt. Todd, hammer; Cpl. McLoughlin and Pte. Coates, long jump, and hop, step and jump; Cpl. Broadbent, javelin; and 2 Lt. Sharp, high jump.

Lastly, we welcome 2 Lt. G. Fawcett, Sgt. Delaney, and several N.C.O.s and men from the East Yorkshire Regiment, who are settling in very well. We say good-bye, and at the same time congratulate Sgt. Costello who has been promoted C.Q.M.S. "C" Company, and Cpl. Parker who has been promoted Provost Sergeant.

#### "B" COMPANY

Events of great importance have taken place since our last notes. Firstly, the administrative inspection went with a swing, with "B" Company, trussed up like chickens, wearing Battle Order! Secondly, the St. George's Day Parade went well, with the Company forming the basis of the No. 1 Guard. We hope to publish a photograph of the guard taken before the dress rehearsal.

It was a notable parade, not only because His Excellency the Governor took the salute but also because it was the last big occasion when we were to wear the "Dukes" badge in our caps. Furthermore, it was C.S.M. Robins' last parade with the Company. C.S.M. Robins was C/Sgt. of "B" Company in July 1954 and has been C.S.M. of the Company since August 1955. There can be few C.S.M.s his equal for getting the best out of everybody, both officers and men! His loyalty to this Company and his sense of humour in times of stress will be greatly missed, but all are delighted that he has been appointed R.Q.M.S. He is now to be seen walking about like a sleep walker and muttering Vocab. numbers and other "Q" incantations.

Shortly after this we welcomed a large draft of N.C.O.s and men, ex-East Yorks from B.A.O.R. We are delighted to see them and we hope to re-learn minor tactics from them whilst we might give them a few tips in return on Internal Security! Sgt. Brown arrived to find himself Platoon Sergeant of 6 Platoon, A/C.S.M. and chief instructor. He is still looking dazed and will continue to do so until C.S.M. Kirk arrives from "H.Q." Company. We will be delighted to welcome him when he is allowed to come in a few weeks time.

Sgt. McKenzie, M.M., has been transferred to H.M. Prison Service after some years of good and faithful service with the Regiment. We wish him and Sgt. Pounder, who has gone to the Mobile Defence Corps, the best of luck in the future.

Sgt. Collins is back from his Guards drill course a very fit man but has found a spot of leave to his liking before taking up his duties as Platoon Sergeant of 5 Platoon.

2 Lt. Bray is off on an "Outward Bound" leadership-development course to learn the technique before hounding members of the Regiment all over the mountains and bogs of Ireland.

The following N.C.O.s have gone: Cpls. Reid, Mooney and Bingley; L/Cpls. Carter and Bowmer; and also Ptes. Sykes, Todd and Beever (about to go). Before this issue is out, Jones, Shoesmith, Sgt. Pratt and Cpl. Jacks are all due to leave. The very best of good fortune to them all in the future. Many, if not all, served us well and truly in Cyprus and we shall miss them.

Pte. Brocksopp also left on posting to the School of Infantry. We hope he will sign on and come back as he was becoming a very promising full-back at hockey!

#### ORDER OF BATTLE

Company Commander: Major H. S. Le Messurier

2IC: Captain P. B. L. Hoppe

C.S.M. (elect): C.S.M. S. Kirk

C.Q.M.S.: C/Sgt. A. Arundel

##### No. 4 Platoon

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. W. M. Plewman

Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. T. A. S. Pratt

##### No. 5 Platoon

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. E. M. E. Garner

Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. J. P. Collins

##### No. 6 Platoon

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. M. R. N. Bray

Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. A. Brown

#### "C" COMPANY

Due to some unaccountable mistake, no notes from this Company appeared in the last two IRON DUKES. We hasten to write, lest anyone has been unduly worried, that the Company's star is still in the ascendant.

Our role is as a training Company. Since our arrival in Northern Ireland we have seen several recruit intakes from the Depot, and these have been trained further before being loosed on the Battalion at large. N.C.O.s' cadres have ceased for the time being, but plans are afoot for greater schemes during the summer months.

Despite the fact that almost the whole Company's personnel changes regularly every five weeks or so, a high standard of Company spirit has been maintained, and one has always felt the loss at the end of each intake, only to replace it immediately each new intake finds its feet. All we ask is that whilst in "Charley" Company, each recruit discovers and fosters that feeling of pride in one's Battalion that is even yet important in the face of amalgamation and axes.

This spirit has been manifest in various ways. One has always noticed a good keen spirit in training, while in the more depressing side of training, "internal economy," the spirit has triumphed over the drudgery, and the standard of personal turnout and room cleanliness has always been high—high enough to win the Commanding Officer's barrack-room inspection by a goodly margin.



The recruits have fitted in well with the other two branches of the Company, the Band and Drums, both of which have been attached to "C" Company to relieve the strain on "H.Q." Company, who, even so, house half the Battalion. Doubtless they have their own notes elsewhere in this edition, but we would like to compliment them here on their high standard.

The Company on the whole has been happy and successful. We won the inter-Company soccer, beating "H.Q." Company, having already accounted for the favourites, "A" Company. In rugby, with a small, untrained team which contained some who were playing their first games of rugby, we reached the final, via "S" Company, to meet "H.Q." Company, the white-hot favourites with those two "old campaigners" and several more Battalion players. Few who saw the final will fail to remember the spirit with which "C" Company fought to a draw at full-time. A scrambled try in extra time gave the cup to "H.Q." Company. They deserved it for skill, but there should have been another trophy for determination.

The Company's early days in Northern Ireland were guided by Captain D. W. Shuttleworth, who has since handed on to Major A. B. M. Kavanagh, M.C., whom we welcome. C.S.M. Nichols has been about the only ever-present member so far, and carefully broke in each new acquisition to suit his own requirements. On the "Q" side we have had C.Q.M.S.s Waite and Mountcastle, and now C.Q.M.S. Costello, whom we congratulate on his promotion. Training subalterns have been several, especially during the rugby season, when the usual "C" Company officers were always liable to disappear across the water. They have included Lts. J. R. P. Cumberlege, D. S. Gilbert-Smith, M.C., and 2 Lt. J. A. Shenton as more permanent fixtures, but many more in hours of need.

Platoon sergeants have been Sgts. Smith, Simpson, Wilkinson, Fenn, Pratt and Welsh. Platoon corporals have been even more various, including Cpls. Johnson, Titherington, Robins, Jacks, Nunn, Saville, Lawson and L/Cpl. Ashton.

Congratulations to L/Cpls. Bottomley, Self and Quayle (all of Company H.Q.) on their promotion.

#### ORDER OF BATTLE

Company Commander:

Major A. B. M. Kavanagh, M.C.

C.S.M.: C.S.M. F. Nichols

C.Q.M.S.: C/Sgt. Costello

No. 8 Platoon

Platoon Commander: Lt. D. S. Gilbert-Smith, M.C.

No. 7 Platoon

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. A. J. Shenton

Platoon Sergeants: Sgts. Simpson and Wilkinson  
Platoon Corporals: Cpls. Robins, Nunn, Jacks, Lawson, Titherington, Johnson and L/Cpl. Ashton

PS.—Rumour has it that we in "Charley" Company are holding private atomic tests. This is not true, but David Gilbert-Smith does give a fair impression when laying on his training demonstrations. Though neighbouring householders may suffer from the initial blast, we can assure them that there will be no "fall-out" to follow.

#### "D" COMPANY

These notes are being written in a very different place from our last contribution. "D" Company has moved again. We are now on detachment in the City of Londonderry, having taken over from "A" Company in April and are living as guests of the Royal Navy in the barracks of H.M.S. *Sea Eagle*.

The past three months have seen many changes in the Company, the biggest change being in strength. From being only 50 strong we have now risen to our full strength of 110. Indeed, for the first time since coming back to England, each Platoon Commander can command out in the field a full platoon of 35 men.

Unlike other Companies, our Company Commanders have also changed. Major Butterfield went on a long course in England in mid April and Major Kavanagh took command for a most "genial" month. We welcome back again Major G. C. Tedd, who, having been in the clouds with the visit of the Queen Mother, has descended to a more earthly level. With his arrival came a number of imaginary soldiers—of what rank we don't know—but all with the same name, "Crippen."

Our big event before leaving Holywood was, of course, the St. George's Day Parade, at which we formed No. 3 Company.

Shortly after arriving in *Sea Eagle*, the Company was honoured by being inspected by the Commander-in-Chief, Plymouth. He also inspected the barrack rooms, and we hope that what he saw was in keeping with the high standard that "D" Company normally maintains.

Our role in Londonderry is that of I.S. and support to the R.U.C., and a daily liaison is maintained. However, by careful arrangement of essential duties, we manage to get two full platoons out on training every day, and we are managing to produce and keep to a very full and extensive training programme.

In the field of sport we are certainly holding our own against the local challengers—even in netball against the W.R.A.C. (T.A.). The experienced ladies had a psychological advantage over us, but, with the excellent refereemanship of Pte. Stansfield, who thought he knew the difference between basketball and netball—we won.

At soccer we have lost only one game since arriving here. Unfortunately that was the semi-final of the Combined Services League against the Navy, the score being 3—2. As these notes go to press our Sports Officer (2 Lt. Marsay) is, we believe, organising another sports evening with the T.A., to which all ranks are looking forward.

Here we would like to congratulate the following members of the Company on their very happy occasions: Cpl. Beaumont, Ptes. Robinson and Merrin on their marriages; Pte. and Mrs. Maplestone on the birth of twins; Cpls. Fairbanks, Hill and Beaumont on their promotion to Sub-Corporal.

Sgt. Chilvers has rejoined the ranks of Delta with a wider knowledge of drill from Pirbright and a thinner measurement round the waistline. Sgt. Fenn is still battling with the training and prospect of Bisley—we wish him good luck.

Finally, we extend a welcome to 2 Lt. Raimes from Eaton Hall and Sgt. Pratt from the 5/7th Battalion, T.A., also all our recent arrivals from 1st East Yorks.

#### ORDER OF BATTLE

Company Commander: Major G. C. Tedd  
 C.S.M.: W.O.2 W. Burke  
 C.Q.M.S.: C/Sgt. Pennington  
 Clerk: L/Cpl. Buttle  
 Runner: Pte. Goulding  
*No. 10 Platoon*  
 Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. Duckney  
 Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. Chilvers  
*No. 11 Platoon*  
 Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. Raimes  
 Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. Pratt  
*No. 12 Platoon*  
 Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. Marsay  
 Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. Morris

#### "S" COMPANY

##### ORDER OF BATTLE

Company Commander: Major R. H. Ince  
 C.S.M.: C.S.M. S. H. Erswell  
 C.Q.M.S.: C.Q.M.S. R. C. Webb  
*Assault/Mortar Platoon*  
 Platoon Commander: ?  
 Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. D. Innes  
*M.M.G. Platoon*  
 Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. C. W. Ivey  
 Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. A. J. Spring  
*Anti-Tank Platoon*  
 Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. R. S. Stevens  
 Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. C. Curling

Since our last notes in THE IRON DUKE we have had the annual administration inspection, we have taken part in the St. George's Day Parade, we have carried out our annual range classification and, lastly, we have butt marked in the Brigade Rifle Meeting. All these activities have, without exception, gone off extremely well. We were lucky that for our rifle classification we picked the one week when summer came to Northern Ireland.

We are now sending as many of the Company as possible on leave before going to camp at Magilligan in July.

We have recently welcomed a number of men from the East Yorkshire Regiment. They came to us as a result of the amalgamation of the East and West Yorkshire Regiments, and all seem to have settled down very quickly. We also welcome 2 Lt. Stevens to command the Anti-Tank Platoon.

We are very sorry to have just said good-bye to Lt. Pell, who is on his way to Malta to take over as Adjutant of The King's Own Malta Regiment. It seems that "S" Company is breaking up. Our Company Commander, Major Ince, has just heard that he is leaving us in July to take over command of the Depot at Halifax.

#### M.M.G. PLATOON

Since our last notes, we welcomed back into the fold our Platoon Commander and Cpl. Rusby, who (so they tell us) are very glad to be back, particularly after "lugging" machine-guns across Salisbury Plain in the middle of winter.

After somewhat tedious and numerous duties, we were relieved to hear that we were going away on a Company classification meeting. Ballykinlar, in the middle of nowhere, and at the foot of the "Mountains of Mourne," turned out to be good fun!

It was a week-end camp for the Territorial Army, and its big attraction was that we were far away from the Battalion.

A fortnight later, after much merry-making, we left for Palace Barracks with the following marksmen: Ptes. Holmes, Holbrook, Helliwell, Clarke, Boardman, Garth, Liburd and Britchford. The Commanding Officer was so pleased with our excellent results that he sent us down again to do butt party for the Brigade Rifle Meeting! After a somewhat boring job (in comparison with last time) we left a week later for barracks.

Arriving back in barracks, the next escapade was to secure our own hut for training purposes (and anything else we think of)! Our Platoon Commander and Sgt. Spring proceeded to "recce." the ground, and once they decided on what hut we wanted, put it up to the Major to "fix it." As our recently acquired real estate was not exactly ours "officially," we had to use our wits to furnish it! (much to the horror of the Battalion). Once we were settled in the next thing to do was to let everyone know we were there, and Ptes. Culloden and Helliwell were duly installed as "permanent fixtures." Between the two of them they soon had a Platoon sign erected and are now starting on a garden!

The next step in the "letting people know we are here" policy is a Platoon party. This will, we hope, be a terrific success, and up to normal M.M.G. standards (ex-machine-gunners please note).

Pte. Liburd, who is a "calypso expert," is in charge of the entertainments and we are all expecting some "super calypso."

Before we close, we must wish Pte. Mullaney "all the best" in civvy street, and to all our readers we extend good wishes.

#### ASSAULT/MORTAR PLATOON

By the time these notes are published we will have said goodbye to Mr. Pell, who has been our Platoon Commander through so many vicissitudes, and we take this opportunity to wish him great success and happiness in his new post under the blue skies of the Mediterranean. As is seemingly inevitable there is another farewell, Pte. Tinker, who is at Millom on a Civil Defence course before retiring to civvy street.

We welcome Cpl. Bolan, L/Cpls. Levick, McLean and Young, and Pte. Sharpe, who have joined us from other units in the last quarter. Although they are highly trained pioneers, we have no doubt that the assault/mortars will absorb them readily into our combined traditions.

Remembering again our stay in Londonderry, congratulations to Cpl. Kelly (80) on his effort to show us how to be happy though married.

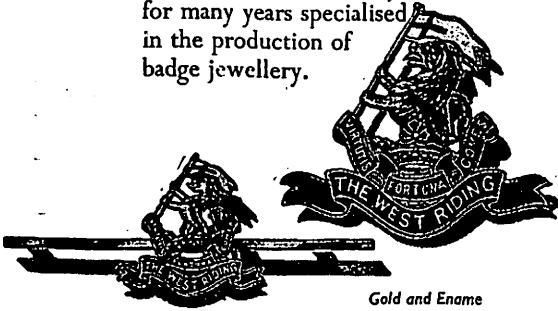
Although no great progress has been made on the training side as yet, owing to the very heavy commitments of duties and fatigues, we are going to have a couple of camps in the near future and the devil take the hindmost. We hope to get quite a few



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bombs away at camp and no doubt we'll soon learn to send them in the right direction.

#### ANTI-TANK PLATOON

First we should welcome 2 Lt. Stevens and Sgt. Curling, our new Platoon Commander and Platoon Sergeant, into the Platoon. They have both wandered through several companies in the past, but now we believe they have reached their spiritual home. Long may they stay.

Life in Palace Barracks over the past three months has not been helpful to anti-tank gunners, for our specialist training has been reduced to almost nil by guards and fatigues. We started a cadre, but, in spite of fair promises, it did not survive a week before people started being pinched for other things. Now we train in the evenings, after hours, at the risk of offending our trade union. We hope to fire the guns on one day at the beginning of July, to act as a "warmer" for the Company camp in the middle of the month.

Much of the last month has been spent on Ballykinlar Ranges: the first week of our fortnight's classification was real "shirt-sleeve" weather; the second, we returned to our frog feet and aqua-lungs. In spite of this we returned with seven marksmen and only one second class.

Cpl. Smith (96) here deserves a mention; he is the only trained instructor in the Platoon and it has been on him that the burden of training has fallen; he has borne it very well.

Now we are looking forward to the chance of firing the guns with other-than-drill rounds, and to the arrival of a new draft to swell our ranks.

#### SIGNAL PLATOON

Since our last IRON DUKE notes the Platoon has had quite a bit of internal activity and we welcome a new draft of classified signallers from the East Yorkshire Regiment. Unfortunately they only have a few months to serve, but we hope to glean something from the experience they gathered in Germany.

The signal cadre has ended and, considering the many interruptions, they have done extremely well with 95% passing—we take this opportunity of congratulating the following in passing their classification: Ptes. Beets, Bruce, Greenwood, Hall, Jinks, Lancaster, Seage, Waddington, Whittaker, Wood (55) and Tock.

The Platoon has only done one major signals exercise in the past few months, which we are happy to say was successful; communications by the Battalion were maintained throughout, including the wireless side, which is an experience worth recording!

We welcome Lt. Campbell-Lamerton who has just come back from Hythe and taken over as Signals Officer from Captain Huxtable who has now become Adjutant, and wish him the best of luck in his new post and trust that he will keep a genial eye cast on the Signal Platoon.

On the games field the Signal Platoon has not exactly shone! The basket-ball ended up in a rugger scrum, with Pte. Jinks bulldozing his way to the basket leaving behind him a trail of irate bodies. The Platoon also played a new game

called *Crocker*, the name of the game achieving its object: 50% of the Platoon were on sick parade the following morning—there was, however, a R.S.M.'s parade that morning! Possibly the casualties in the game were increased by the thought of *drill!*

We welcome Sgt. Gunn back off his first-aid course—he now goes around the Platoon with a white coat and a stethoscope!

Congratulations to Pte. Wells on his marriage; we would like to take this opportunity of wishing him and his wife every happiness for the future.

#### BAND

We open these notes by wishing Band-Sgt. Thomas, who has left us for a Bandmasters' Course at Kneller Hall, a fond farewell and wish him all the best in the future. We welcome Sgt. Bell as Band-Sergeant and also give our congratulations to the following on their promotion: Sgt. G. C. Jennians, Cpl. B. Cooper, L/Cpls. B. Dobson, M. Cowburn, and H. Pogson.

We will shortly be losing our Bandmaster, Mr. Martin, who has decided to try life in Civvy Street and is emigrating to New Zealand. He has already started cheering for the New Zealand cricket team. We now await the arrival of our new Bandmaster, Mr. Bowyer, and we hope his stay will be a long and pleasant one.

So far we have not met with much success in the field of sport, but now the cricket season has opened we hope to be able to field a useful eleven.

Band engagements so far have been few, but, as we hope, well done. We anticipate more engagements in the summer.

We welcome back to the Band Bdsm. Ellis, who found the rigours of civilian life too strenuous. We also welcome Bdsm. Airey and Vevers who, we hope, will prove valuable assets to us.

We conclude these notes with best wishes to all ex-members of the Band and look forward to hearing from them in the future.

#### DRUMS

Undoubtedly the highlights of the past three months have been the St. George's Day Parade and the Beating of Retreat, both in barracks and at Londonderry.

We spent a lot of time in rehearsals for these three events and we hope, and think, that the results justified the amount of work that we put in in preparation. We certainly had a good reception in Londonderry, where a large crowd, both in the square and on the walls, watched the parade.

We should like to congratulate L/Cpls. Worthington and Wilson on their appointments as Lance-Corporals.

#### CHRISTMAS CARDS AND REGIMENTAL DIARIES

*Cards* approximately 12s. a dozen. It will be a Regimental Card designed by the 1st Battalion. Further details will be published in the next edition.

*Diaries* 5s. 3d. post free. The usual A.S.C.B. diary with a Regimental Section. These may be obtained from the Administrative Officer, Regimental H.Q.

## 39 INDEPENDENT INFANTRY BRIGADE RIFLE MEETING

## SHOOTING RESULTS

The Battalion rifle team won the 39 Independent Infantry Brigade Rifle Meeting at Ballykinlar. Points were gained as follows:—

|                                    |    |        |
|------------------------------------|----|--------|
| 1 DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT .. | 22 | points |
| 1 ROYAL WARWICKS .. .. .           | 16 | „      |
| 15/19 HUSSARS .. .. .              | 10 | „      |

Teams in separate matches gained places as shown below:—

|   | Match                                     | Team          | Placing | No. of teams entered |
|---|---|---------------|---------|----------------------|
| 1 | Army Hundred .. .. .                      | Battalion     | 1       | 6                    |
| 2 | “Roberts” Cup .. .. .                     | Battalion     | 1       | 6                    |
| 3 | “Whitehead” Cup .. .. .                   | Battalion     | 1       | 6                    |
| 4 | “Roupell” Cup .. .. .                     | Battalion     | 1       | 6                    |
| 5 | “Worcestershire” Cup (L.M.G.) .. .. .     | Battalion “A” | 1       | 7                    |
|   |   | Battalion “B” | 3       | 7                    |
| 6 | “Parachute” Cup (Sterling) .. .. .        | Battalion “B” | 2       | 10                   |
|   |   | Battalion “A” | 4       | 10                   |
| 7 | Small Arms Cup (rifle and L.M.G.) .. .. . | Battalion     | 1       | 5                    |
| 8 | “Britannia” .. .. .                       | Battalion “A” | 2       | 10                   |
|   |   | Battalion “B” | 4       | 10                   |
| 9 | “R.U.R.” Cup (falling plate) .. .. .      | Battalion “A” | 2       | 24                   |

Individual placings are shown below by classes:—

(a) RIFLE. Aggregate score in matches 1, 2, 3 and 4 of above table.

| Class “A”                 |          |       |  | Class “B”                |          |       |  |
|---------------------------|----------|-------|--|--------------------------|----------|-------|--|
| Name                      | Position | Score |  | Name                     | Position | Score |  |
| Captain Wood .. .. .      | 1        | 405   |  | Pte. Kelly .. .. .       | 1        | 332   |  |
| Captain Cowell .. .. .    | 2        | 397   |  | Cpl. Owers .. .. .       | 2        | 326   |  |
| C.S.M. Norman .. .. .     | 5        | 372   |  | Pte. Cox .. .. .         | 3        | 325   |  |
| S/Sgt. Kingdon .. .. .    | 9        | 357   |  | Cpl. Braithwaite .. .. . | 4        | 324   |  |
| Captain Robertson .. .. . | 12       | 342   |  | L/Cpl. Ware .. .. .      | 6        | 317   |  |
| Sgt. Fenn .. .. .         | 17       | 306   |  |                          |          |       |  |

(b) STERLING S.M.G.

| Name                  | Position | Score | Name                   | Position | Score |
|-----------------------|----------|-------|------------------------|----------|-------|
| Sgt. Bailes .. .. .   | 2        | 78    | Captain Wood .. .. .   | 9        | 74    |
| C.S.M. Norman .. .. . | 5        | 75    | S/Sgt. Kingdon .. .. . | 9        | 74    |
| Cpl. Holliday .. .. . | 5        | 75    |                        |          |       |

## SHOOTING NOTES

Once again we enter the lists at Bisley. This time with a full team, more experience and, we hope, more chance.

Training started seriously after the St. George's Day Parade on April 23, as far as the open range was concerned. Up to then we had been running a three-week shooting cadre for the best young shots in the Battalion. On April 25, with muscles tuned, bolts oiled, and theory taped, the Bisley bullets disappeared to Ballykinlar Camp to stay with the 1st Battalion The Royal Warwickshire Regiment, and use their open ranges.

After three weeks' shooting in strong winds and lashing rain, the original platoon had been whittled down to a dozen, and with tempers frayed and faces bronzed we entered the 39 Brigade competition with considerable apprehension. Our great rivals, 1st Warwicks, had been practising for even longer and were obviously taking it very seriously. Their local knowledge of the incredible weather and difficult run-downs, coupled with vague rumours of high scores made us wonder if we were ever going to be able to hold our heads up back at Palace Barracks, where a highly critical,

and horribly successful rugby team were beginning to wonder if shooting wasn't an even bigger racket.

Happily our fears turned out to be ill-founded. The Brigade shoot took place at Ballykinlar from May 20 to 23, inclusive. The weather was normal, winds varying direction but constantly strong, light varying in intensity but normally poor, and the rain varying in quantity but inevitably wet. The bank between your target and the next became a favourite aiming mark, and the question of shooting “wet” or “dry” the normal topic of conversation.

The North Irish Brigade were also taking part in the meeting with 39 Brigade, and entered in all the matches, but as they were really only strong Depot teams, it was only to be expected that they soon found themselves considerably outclassed.

The results of the meeting can be summarised as follows.

Out of the seven team matches for rifle and L.M.G., 1 D.W.R. came 1st in six and 2nd in the seventh, and most of these matches were won by a clear 60 to 80 points.

In the Sterling and falling-plate matches we came 2nd.

In the individual placings the Battalion was



## CORRESPONDENCE

*The following letter was received from Captain M. C. Williams, Master of H.M.T. Dilwara.—Ed.*

Limassol.

January 21, 1958.

DEAR COLONEL MORAN,

It is with pleasure that I write to thank you for your very nice Regimental Shield commemorating the happy voyage of your regiment from Cyprus to Southampton.

Your shield has been placed along with the others in the Smoke Room, and all "Dukes" who sail in the *Dilwara* in the future will know that we had the privilege of carrying their regiment.

We have all been fortunate to spend Christmas and New Year in Britain, hence the delay in writing this letter. We are now on a voyage to Singapore and Hong Kong.

Will you please convey our kindest regards to all your officers and men, and in particular those who sailed with us.

Yours sincerely,

M. C. WILLIAMS.

## REGIMENTAL H.Q. and DEPOT

## SUB-EDITORIAL

At this time of the year the Depot looks at its best, the flowers in full bloom outside the Officers' Mess, the lawn—a rich green and expertly cut by our reliable groundsman—and all the notice-boards repainted after the long bleak winter.

We were delighted to have the Deputy Colonel of the Regiment staying with us for two days before Whitsuntide. He took the salute and presented prizes at what may well be the last pass-out parade, consisting of both regular and National Servicemen. The York and Lancaster Regiment very kindly sent their Band from Barnard Castle, where they are stationed with the rear party of their 1st Battalion. The Deputy Colonel was kept busy during his stay with a visit to the Regimental Chapel in York Minster, the Depot Sergeants' Mess and the Regimental Museum and, of course, attended the Depot Cocktail Party. As usual, the latter was a great success, and we much enjoyed entertaining our friends from the Halifax area and many serving officers and their wives, who had travelled long distances.

At the end of March, Brigadier R. A. Gwyn, O.B.E., Commander 146 Brigade (T.A.), took the salute at a pass-out parade, and the Cambrai Band of the R.T.R. came from Catterick for the occasion. Shortly after, Brigadier C. S. Howard, D.S.O., O.B.E., D.D.M.T., spent two days here before going over to the 1st Battalion. He was much impressed with the improvements which have been carried out since he last visited the Depot in 1948.

Recruiting is very much in our minds at present,

and, with invaluable help from the 1st Battalion, we have managed to put on some good displays in shop windows and local cinemas. The Army Rugger Cup, caps and shooting trophies have attracted much favourable comment. Our friends in the *Halifax Courier* and *Yorkshire Post* have given these displays much prominence and we are most grateful. The recruiting figures are just satisfactory and a constant effort is necessary if we are to maintain our numbers and, more important still, improve the quality. We frequently meet teams from the local boys' schools at rugger, cricket and basketball and we hope that they are duly impressed with all that they see. At present we have one all-regular squad of recruits under training and another just about to start. More time has been allotted to their training and all recruits are being taught to play games.

On St. George's Day a small parade was held in the Barracks and the remainder of the day was devoted to sport.

We also put on a recruiting display in Halifax and were fortunate to have the Infantry Recruiting Van from the School of Infantry, Warminster, for the occasion. It was a pity it could only operate for one day in this area. His Worship The Mayor very kindly came along to open the display officially.

On May 4 a detachment of 80 took part in the Thanksgiving Sunday Parade in York. This was the first occasion the new cap badge was worn in public, and we marched with other detachments from the regiments of Yorkshire, all wearing the same badge.



Field Marshal Lord Ligonier and his personal Secretary Mr. Richard Cox. From a contemporary painting by David Morier in the possession of the Coz's & King's Branch of Lloyds Bank Limited.

## Two hundred years' service

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Sport continues to flourish and the seven-a-side team are to be congratulated on reaching the final of the Northern Command Competition and winning the Halifax Sevens. The cricket team has got off to a good start and all we want is good weather and luck.

An ambitious programme has been prepared for the summer, which includes a rifle meeting, officers' training and Civil Defence, to mention a few.

### OFFICERS' MESS

Spring has at last arrived at Halifax and Wellesley Barracks is slowly recuperating from a long, cold winter. On more than one occasion the Mess staff were called upon to dig us out of the snow for muster parade.

In the middle of March we enjoyed a visit from Brigadier C. S. Howard, O.B.E. (D.D.M.T.), who came to inspect our training curriculum. In the evening we held a guest night to which he was invited. Other guests included Lord Savile, Lt.-Colonel Jimmy Davidson, Majors Pearson and Ashton, Mr. Pease and Michael Granger. The following morning, during a tour of barracks, the Brigadier took a small wager off one of the recruits in the miniature range. Little did that soldier know just how handicapped was his opponent.

During the last three months we have enjoyed seeing Lt.-Colonel Walter Skelsey, who stayed with us for a couple of nights prior to setting off for Nyasaland and civilian life. The C.O. of the 1st Battalion also spent a night with us and we were entertained by listening to the exploits of the rugby team in Germany. Baron Emmett, John Streatfeild, Derek Booth and John Gladwin have also called to see us.

Finally, we extend our heartiest congratulations to Donald and Sheila Isles on the arrival of a son.

### SERGEANTS' MESS

Since our last notes we have had some very enjoyable evenings in the Mess.

In early April a games and social evening was held, our enemy being the Old Hillcrest Bowling Club from Sowerby Bridge. Despite our small numbers, we held our own against a strong side. However, in the boat-race we returned worthy winners, and now look forward to a return meeting.

On May 2 we entertained Halifax Electricity Board Social Club, and this time we were strengthened by having the Depot Officers on our side. This was a very good night, and thanks to the officers and their skill we finished on top.

A special vote of thanks must be given to our Cook Sergeant (Sgt. Holmes), for two excellent buffets.

Mr. Snowden, of the Electricity Board, presented to the Regiment a picture of the Regimental Chapel; this was deeply appreciated, and was accepted by the Commanding Officer. We thank them for their very fine gesture. The picture has been given a place of honour in the Regimental Museum.

Also on the social side, we entertained, in the Mess, the team of the Halifax Vandals Rugby

Club, after a game arranged to mark the departure of S/Sgt. Mason, R.A.E.C.

We have also said farewell to C.S.M.I. Winning, A.P.T.C., on posting to the Northern Command P.T. School.

We welcome to the Mess S.I. Throssell, A.P.T.C., and Sgt. Browning, R.A.E.C.; we hope their stay will be a long and happy one.

Finally, we wish all members of the Regiment good luck, wherever they may be, and invite them to visit the Depot Mess when in Halifax area.

### CORPORALS' MESS

Since the last notes were published we have acquired a few new members, namely, L/Cpls. Campbell-Lamerton, Cridge, Hayton, Mitchell, Boakes, Phillipson and Armitage. We also welcome Cpl. Saville (back from the Battalion, having shared in the success of winning the Army Rugby Cup). We have said our farewells to L/Cpls. Desmond, Arnold, Cox and Robson, but we hope to see L/Cpls. Desmond and Arnold back at the Depot as officers shortly.

With the football season finished our minds have turned once again to cricket, and we hope to arrange some matches with the Sergeants at a later date. (Watch out, Sergeants' Mess!)

The Depot basketball team, in which a few of the members are playing, were beaten recently by Halifax Basketball Club, but we are hoping for the day when we will be able to reverse the score.

The results of the snooker and billiard knock-out were not very surprising: L/Cpl. Townend won the snooker and L/Cpl. Garside the billiards. (Some members only play for money!)

### TRAINING COMPANY

As these notes are being written our last big N.S. Intake is on leave, prior to joining the Battalion. When they have left us we shall be left with one all-regular platoon—Dettingen—undergoing training.

There have been two pass-out parades: One on March 2, when Brigadier Gwyn, O.B.E., commanding 146 Infantry Brigade (T.A.), inspected the parade and presented the prizes; the second on May 21, when we were pleased to have Brigadier B. W. Webb-Carter, D.S.O., O.B.E., as the Inspecting Officer. On the first parade we were fortunate to have the Cambrai Band of the Royal Tank Regiment, and on the second the band of our near neighbours, the York and Lancaster Regiment.

We congratulate L/Cpls. Desmond and Arnold on passing their W.O.S.B., and L/Cpl. Everard, son of Major Sir Nugent Everard, D.W.R., on passing his R.C.B. for Sandhurst.

On April 20 the Company gave a demonstration on Internal Security to T.A. officers of 146 Infantry Brigade. Lt. Berry made an ideal oriental magistrate, and Sgt. France was excellent as a dusky mob leader!

Thanksgiving Day, May 4, or Military Sunday, as it used to be called, found the Company on parade in York as part of the Yorkshire Brigade contingent commanded by Captain Isles.

## PASS-OUT RESULTS

## 50th Intake:

Winning Platoon: Alma (Sgt. France).

|                               |                                 |                 |             |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|-------------|
|                               | <i>Dettingen</i>                | <i>Waterloo</i> | <i>Alma</i> |
| Best Recruit:                 | Pte. Firth                      | Pte. Lodge      | Pte. Spivey |
| Best Rifle Shot:              | Pte. Frost                      | Pte. Dean       | Pte. Stott  |
| Best LMG Shot:                | Pte. Frost                      | Pte. Eccleshall | Pte. Spivey |
| Best Combined Shot of Intake: | Pte. Frost (Dettingen Platoon). |                 |             |

## 51st Intake:

Winning Platoon: Delhi (Sgt. Wilson).

|                               |                                    |                |                   |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|
|                               | <i>Delhi</i>                       | <i>Corunna</i> | <i>Paardeberg</i> |
| Best Recruit:                 | Pte. Scroby                        | Pte. Deakin    | Pte. Wilkinson    |
| Best Rifle Shot:              | Pte. Beetham                       | Pte. Hicks     | Pte. Jackson      |
| Best LMG Shot:                | Pte. Scroby                        | Pte. Cust      | Pte. Lucas        |
| Best Combined Shot of Intake: | Pte. Warcham (Paardeberg Platoon). |                |                   |

## RUGGER NOTES

In the period covered by these notes the Depot has played in three seven-a-side tournaments. We won the Halifax District and East and West Ridings Area competitions, and were beaten in the Northern Command final by 1st Training Regiment Royal Signals.

The Area competition at Harrogate was used as a trial for the Northern Command competition but, unfortunately, the opposition did not prove to be very strong and a false impression of our strength was gained. It was obvious that we had the talent, but would we be fit enough to hold stronger teams?

At Catterick, we started by playing the Signals O.T.W. seven, who had been well trained and were to prove a difficult obstacle, but we eventually won. In the semi-final we beat 1st Training Regiment "B" seven in extra time. This was a good game, and very hard. We eventually won by 9-6, but the extra time was to prove to be too much for our suspect fitness. The final against 1st Training Regiment, who had had an easy passage to the final, was a very fast and open game. We were able to hold them until the last few minutes, when their fitness and excellent teamwork won the day. We were beaten 18-6. The writer would like to point out that the margin may look large, but with three minutes to go it was 8-6 and the Depot was pressing hard, and he, personally, was caught from behind when it looked as though he was certain to score, which would have been a great morale booster. His only excuse is the same as other spindle-legged thoroughbreds, that the going was not to his liking—"wet underfoot"! Two breakaway tries were then scored and converted by the Signals.

In the Halifax sevens we proved to be too strong for the opposition, and in the final beat Heath Grammar School after a good game.

Special praise must be given to L/Cpl. Oddy on his excellent performances in all games. He was well backed up by the remainder, who played with great determination.

Next year, as long as we have soldiers, we are determined to win the Northern Command Cup. The main lesson learnt from this year is, that however good the team is individually, a week's training is not enough, and a full-scale fitness campaign must be in motion at least six weeks before the event.

The following represented the Depot in the seven-a-side competitions: Captains E. J. H. Dasant and D. E. Isles, Cpl. Saville, L/Cpls. Arnold and Oddy, Ptes. Field, Jones and Scroby. Reserve: Pte. Baxter.

## THE IRON DUKE

## Editing THE IRON DUKE

Has fallen to our lot,  
Whether by a "lucky" (?) fluke  
Or some well-thought out plot,  
We do not know; but let us say  
That had we known what it involves—  
(So much work for no pay!)  
And how the poor old brain revolves  
With "B.D.M's." cartoons, Mess notes,  
Corrections, commas, bulging files,  
Should this phrase be put in "quotes"?—  
We would have run ten miles!

From all subscribers old and new,  
For Colonel Price's well done task  
We feel our grateful thanks are due.  
Now for a volunteer we ask,  
Who, in his leisure time,  
With pen in hand and worried frown,  
Would like to edit prose and rhyme,  
And chop the copy up and down,  
Allot the space and fill the gaps,  
Deal with printers, type and press,  
Pay the bills and take the raps,  
And help THE IRON DUKE in distress.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND  
REUNION DINNER, 1958

The Regimental Association Annual General Meeting and Reunion Dinner will be held at Regimental Headquarters, Wellesley Barracks, on Saturday, October 4, 1958. Annual General Meeting will take place at 1730 hrs. in the TV room and will be presided over by the Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier B. W. Webb-Carter, D.S.O., O.B.E.; Reunion Dinner will, as usual, be held in the Dining Hall, at 1930 hrs., the Deputy Colonel of the Regiment presiding.

Tickets for the Dinner, price 8s. 6d. each, can be obtained from the General Secretary at Regimental Headquarters.

Although dinner notices are sent out to all concerned and a notice is put in the *News of the World*, there is usually a complaint from someone bewailing the fact that he missed the Reunion because he didn't know the date. The probability is that we have not the member's address or he has removed and neglected to inform us of the new abode. Therefore, it would be helpful if members coming across other "old stagers" and "new 'uns" would pass on the information about the annual gathering.

## St. GEORGE'S DAY, 1958



His Excellency the Governor of Northern Ireland, accompanied by Brigadier Webb-Carter, Lt.-Col. Moran and an A.D.C., inspecting the Parade, St. George's Day 1958



The W.O.s and Sergeants, 1 D.W.R., with His Excellency the Governor of Northern Ireland, G.O.C Northern Ireland District and the Deputy Colonel of the Regiment—St. George's Day 1958

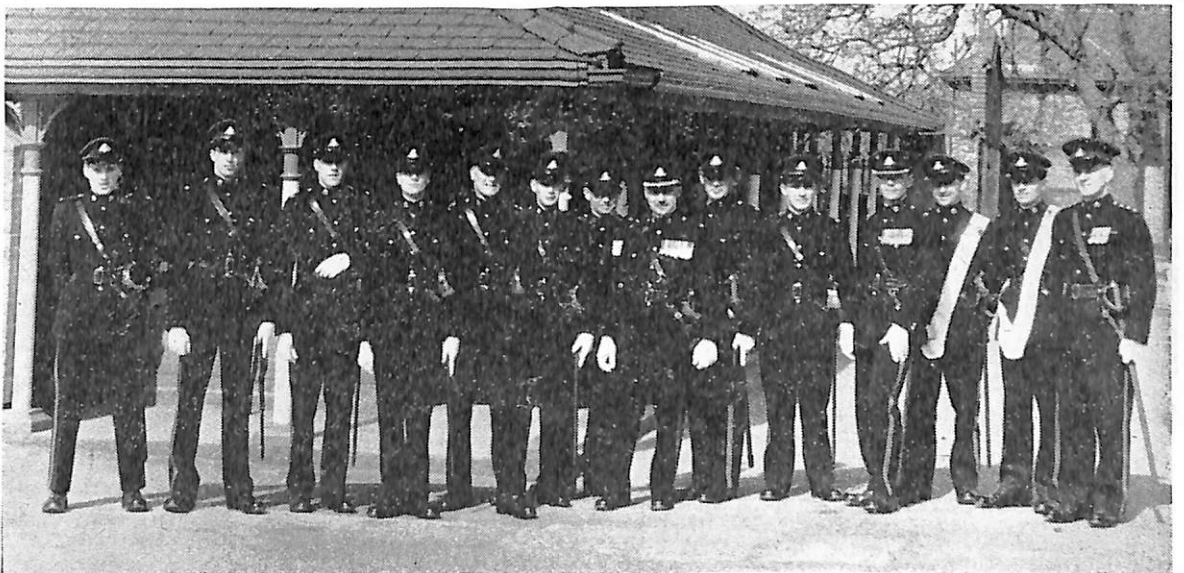
*(Note : This will be the last photograph of the W.O.s and Sergeants wearing the Dukes' cap badge.*



**St. GEORGE'S DAY, 1958**



**March Past in Slow Time, St. George's Day 1958**



**The Officers on Parade, St. George's Day 1958**



Pass-Out Parade at Wellesley Barracks on May 21. Inspection by the Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier Webb-Carter



March Past—the Salute being taken by the Deputy Colonel of the Regiment



London and Home Counties Branch, D.W.R. Regimental Association, Annual Dinner 1958



From Left to Right: Colonel Armitage, General Bray, Mr. Hearsam in Committee prior to Reunion Dinner, May 10

## 5/7th BATTALION, T.A.

### SUB-EDITORIAL

By the time these notes appear, the T.A. Golden Jubilee Celebrations will have come and gone, and annual camp will be with us once again to crown the year's achievements.

This is the year for the resuscitation of the T.A. as a full-strength force of young men bound together by the volunteer spirit, and to this end a crescendo of publicity has been building up since early March. Advertisements are now to be seen wherever one looks in shops, buses, cars, bars and cinemas, and the character of these becomes more precisely related to the Jubilee as the time draws near.

Already the drift of recruits to the Battalion is becoming a steadier flow, and this year's figures now top the 30 mark. The cynic may say "Short time int' mill," but that is not the reason; the new men have work aplenty and are as good as we have seen from many walks of life.

The week-end training has been both full and interesting, and the way in which the tough spirit has come out during the "Wide Sky" and "High Wind" exercises, which required guts and self-discipline, really illustrates the value to be drawn from tough training.

Now, with our heads full of the prospects of the Huddersfield T.A. Jubilee Display, the London Celebration, which will be attended by 17 members of the Battalion, and the annual camp at Whitburn, we look forward to a period full of enjoyable diversity.

Once again a prayer is uttered for fine weather to tide us over till August, and to add to the pleasure of time off by the seaside when each day's full programme at camp is finished.

### OFFICERS' MESS

After the functions around Christmas and New Year's Eve, and a most enjoyable Dinner Night in February, the last three months have seen somewhat of a decline in our Mess activities—a decline which has no doubt been greatly appreciated by the Mess staff. However, the social activities of the Mess were not allowed to have too long a pause, and in March a most enjoyable, if somewhat unusual, evening was arranged; the officers dined in Mess with their ladies.

One must always remember the very real sacrifices which a Territorial Army officer's wife makes in quietly submitting to her husband's frequent, and occasionally prolonged, absences on duty, and it was, perhaps, a graceful gesture of appreciation to our wives acknowledging their forbearance. It was amusing to see, as the evening drew to a close, the married officers departing at an unusually early hour with their ladies, wearing a little self-consciously their newly-acquired domestic haloes! The evening was a great success—which was, of course, fortunate as a precedent has now been established. Our very grateful thanks are again due to Henry Crowther and the Mess staff for once more producing a really excellent meal.

Although Sgt. Taylor, our Mess Sergeant, has recovered from his recent illness, and we are very pleased indeed to see him fit and well again, he has reluctantly decided that the time has come for him to retire. His services to the Mess of the old 5th, and, since the amalgamation, to the 5/7th, will long be remembered with gratitude by the officers he has "looked after." Whatever the situation, Sgt. Taylor always had the correct approach and a real sense of the occasion. His care, his thought and indeed the love he had for his job made the Mess run with a smooth and quiet efficiency. However, it is inevitable that in the course of time such changes must occur and we are extremely fortunate in having found a successor in Sgt. Hannan. We wish him well in his new role as Mess Sergeant.

The best wishes and congratulations of the Mess went out to Gerald Reddington on May 17, the day of his wedding to Miss Valerie Gaunt, whom many of us met at the New Year's Eve Ball.

Bob Aspin departed with our good wishes to Cyprus in mid-April and his place has now been taken by Bob Callaby, for many years a stalwart member of the 1st Battalion. Bob the second seems to have fitted already into the appropriate niche and we are happy to have him with us.

A lull has now descended on our activities while we pause for breath prior to the coming celebrations in connection with the Jubilee of the T.A. which will take place at the end of June. We are all looking forward to this most important occasion. Thereafter the tempo increases to annual camp and its usual whirl of activity.

### SERGEANTS' MESS

We are pleased to announce that our Mess at last is looking very pleasant, having been newly decorated and we have acquired a suitable new carpet. All members are now eagerly awaiting the beginning of the autumn and winter season so that we can make full use of our pleasant Mess for a number of functions.

At present, we are all looking forward to Annual Camp, which, we are pleased to say, will be at Whitburn on the north-east coast.

The T.A. Jubilee takes place in London on June 21, and a number of our members have been selected for the Battalion representative party and they will be accompanied by the R.S.M., who will work behind the scenes. We hope they have a good time and shall give a full report in our next notes.

Two of our members, Sgt. Bacon and C/Sgt. Dews, obtained Marksmen at the Annual Rifle Classification at Strensall, and we extend our congratulations. Sgt. Bacon, who will be remembered by many regular members of the Regiment, obtained the highest score of 81 out of a possible 85.

We extend a welcome to S.I. Marsden who did his National Service training at our Regimental Depot and completed his service with the A.P.T.C. and has joined us as a volunteer. Congratulations to Sgt. Holberry on his recent promotion, and we welcome him to the Mess.



C/Sgt. Thorpe, we are pleased to report, has decided to stay with us for a further period, and all members are pleased with his decision as it did seem at one time that we should miss his smiling face among us.

We are shortly to say farewell to Sgt. Denis Taylor, Officers' Mess Sergeant with the Battalion, and for many years in the same appointment with 5th Dukes. "Red coat," in the *Huddersfield Examiner* of May 23, 1958, writes: "We have all regretted that age or circumstances compel retirements and we pay tribute to the individual concerned." But I can sincerely say that on no occasion have I been sorer than in recording the retirement, at the age of 62, of Sgt. Taylor. To say that is no disparagement to any other past member of the T.A., nor does it mean that their services have been less valuable or readily given. I know it will be a bigger wrench for him than for many others, and a more conscientious, hardworking, courteous and capable man would be difficult to find.

We are delighted Sgt. Taylor has so fully recovered from his recent serious operation, and to him and Mrs. Taylor we wish the best of good fortune.

In closing, we would like to extend an open invitation to the Mess to all Sergeants' Mess members of the Regiment whenever they are in Huddersfield. We are open on Monday and Thursday nights each week, and most week-ends.

#### TRAINING NOTES

During the past three months there has been a steady influx of volunteers to the Battalion, and as many of these have had no previous army service it has been necessary to start a basic training programme for them. C/Sgt. Thorpe and Sgt. Wood (P.S.I.) have already "got a grip" on these recruits, and the way they are progressing augurs well for the future. Most of the evening training at T.A.C.'s has been devoted to preparatory lectures, sand model exercises and films in readiness for the week-end training that has been successfully carried out. The officers learnt much and thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the Battalion T.E.W.T. "Keeping the Peace" organised by the Commanding Officer. Thanks to the officers and men from the Depot, who, on this occasion, gave an excellent demonstration of how to keep an unruly mob in order: Alan Carter, please note, that the Ministry of Education would hardly approve of these methods in school. Deer Hill Range has again been the venue for the shooting team practices and quite good results have been obtained, in spite of the customary wind and rain. The weekend May 17-18 was spent at Strensall Ranges, where rifle classification was carried out in more summer-like conditions. Jimmy Young's shooting on this occasion was restricted to the target instead of lines or grouse as at Deer Hill. During all these weekend activities we have been excellently victualled by Sgt. Wallace and his cooks, with Sgt. Hannan keeping a watchful eye upon the welfare of the officers. One often hears about the "fog of war," and the fog was certainly catered for on Exercise "High Wind," arranged by Eric Woodhouse for the weekend May 10-11. An eight-mile

advance to contact in thick fog and heavy rain on the Saturday afternoon was greatly enlivened by the fact that the 88-set operators were receiving the Rugby League Cup final commentary from nearby Holme Moss TV Station. Part of the night raid on an enemy-held bridge had to be cancelled due to bad weather, but many of those taking part had already had their share of night operations the previous week at Ollerton. Stan Heaton again organised night patrolling for regular service troops, as part of their infantry training weekend at Ollerton and those taking part thoroughly enjoyed themselves. We now look forward to annual camp at Whitburn, where we hope to do some very useful training, perhaps Rodney Harms, our Adjutant, will produce some up-to-date training ideas. He claims to be a "Warminster Warrior," and we are waiting to find out if he has actually spent the past two months on a Company Commander's course at the School of Infantry or merely been continuing the night life of last year's camp!

#### NOTES FROM THE COMPANIES

In continuation of our notes from the last issue, firstly, our hearty congratulations go to the team of the 1st Battalion on their magnificent performance in winning the Army Rugby Cup.

The Pennine moors have become our second home these last few months, and we've known snow, rain, sun and wind. Exercise "Wide Sky" on the Yorkshire-Lancashire borders indeed gave us the severe extremes, but it was an exercise that everyone enjoyed (especially the lads from Mossley after they found that the escaped "lunatic" they were chasing was one of their fellow citizens!). Instruction on rock climbing during this exercise was given by members of the Halifax Mountaineering Club, much to the enjoyment of Cpl. Chew, our enthusiastic Permanent Staff Corporal, who has now joined the 1st Battalion. With him go our best wishes.

Exercise "High Wind" over Holme Moss (of TV fame) again brought wind, rain and fog, but this did not in any way dampen the enthusiasm of the songs in the "George and Dragon," where we formed up in preparation for an attack on Woodhead tunnel. Sgt. George Kenny, Vic Prince, George Tolson, and many others, including our new recruits, Ptes. Adam, Peel, Bradley, Hale, Goldsbrough, Berry and Lodge entertained, and enjoyed "soldiers' songs (and words)" which were sung with gusto to the accompaniment of Drum-Major Noon with his faithful guitar.

A 100 per cent. turn up at Strensall for the Annual Range Classification produced some excellent shooting, with marksmen Sgt. Bacon and C/Sgt. Dews heading the list.

Sports news, for so long absent from our columns, although bringing no trophies is of the awakening to life of the 5/7th Battalion sporting activities. A heroic display in the Divisional six-a-side hockey tournament held at Lincoln brought us within sight of victory, but we had to be content with beating our Brigade contestant, The Hallamshire Battalion. Our team was composed of Lt. Bill Duckney, C.S.M. Jack Fitton, C/Sgt. Bert Thorpe, Cpl.



Frank Foster, Cpl. Dennis Carey, L/Cpl. Eric Williamson and Cfn. Jeff Lodge.

For the first time since the reformation of the T.A., personnel from the Battalion headed by Lt. Alan Carter, competed in the 49th Division Individual Athletic Meeting which was held at Chilwell, and again, although no prizes were won, our lads put up a really first-class performance. Sgt. Albert Pollard came in fourth in the three miles, while S.I. Bob Marsden, our new A.P.T.I., did himself credit by a narrow defeat in the 100 yards and reaching the final of the 220 yards. Cfn. Philip Berry, one of our new lads from Marsden, battled valiantly in the one mile, but the competition of the 5th South Staffords and the 6th North Staffords was a little too much. Now, however, enthusiasm grows, and different stories are forecast for the future. S.I. Bob Marsden, now serving with us as a volunteer on completion of his National Service, is going to weld the sportsmen of the Battalion together, and now—how long the day before the 1st Battalion receive a challenge to rugger?

The Halifax sportsmen, including C.S.M. Fitton, C/Sgts. Pearce and Stringer, Sgts. Pollard, Booth, Bacon, Cpl. Carey and others have been challenged by the Huddersfield lads to battle: cricket, soccer, rugger, hockey and shooting are the sports, and, with inter-town rivalry, sparks should begin to fly. Badminton, table tennis and billiards will follow—we're out to put the unit on the map once again in the sports world.

R.E.M.E. chaps alongside the "Dukes" have always teamed well, and the enlistment of two of them from Marsden, Cfn. Jeff Lodge and Philip Berry bodes well for our unit vehicles, sports and athletics, and together with the new blood of Ptes. Jeff Hale and Bryan Goldsbrough from this border village there is an expectant air throughout the Battalion of "things to come." Led by our faithful L/Cpl. Eric ("Tiger") Williamson, we hopefully await the formation of the "Colne Valley Platoon" once again.

From the Halifax side we welcome Boy Prince, the son of Sgt. Victor Prince, also Boy M. A. Boon, the son of R.S.M. B. Boon, ex-Duke of Wellington's Regiment. If this lad follows in his father's footsteps we shall be proud, for R.S.M. Boon was a member of the 1st Battalion rugger team which defeated a team chosen from the rest of the whole British Army at Aldershot in 1934. Other volunteers are rolling in—more about them in our next issue.

## Arthur Sunley

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## 7TH BATTALION DINNER CLUB

The Dinner Club of the 1/7th and 2/7th Battalions D.W.R. held a reunion dinner recently at the 5/7th Battalion's Officers' Mess, St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield.

This most enjoyable dinner followed the usual, rather informal, pattern of the past which has made these functions so much fun. Some attempts at serious speaking were gallantly made, both by the Honorary Colonel of the Battalion, Colonel G. B. Howcroft, M.C., who spoke of the pleasures of the amalgamation of the 5th and 7th Battalions, and how smoothly it had gone (in replying to the Toast, the "Dukes").

Colonel Hinchcliffe, T.D., who proposed the "Dukes," told us a story and reminded Colonel "Gilbert" he always followed on!

We were then kept alert by the Toast Master, Major D. R. Siddall, T.D. (the only original pre-war 7th Duke still serving in the 5/7th T.A.), followed by Colonel George Taylor, Majors Stanley Waite, "Pip" Haigh and Derek Roberts (our traditional guest, the Depot C.O.) and others, who were "hoist" to their feet for brief words.

Thanks were extended to the Joint Secretaries, Majors Pyrah, Haigh and Siddall who, in turn, wish to state that they hope many more will support the future functions. Those present were: Colonel W. A. Hinchcliffe, Lt.-Colonel G. B. Howcroft, Lt.-Colonel G. Taylor, Majors J. W. Pyrah, S. Waite, G. A. Fontes, B. V. Tomlinson, P. A. Haigh, M. Wimpenny, D. R. Siddall, G. Ashton, R. Gradd, I. Brown, Captains R. Harnes, P. Haws, B. Webster, R. Hawkins, J. Bailey, R. H. Sutcliffe, E. J. B. Mowat, W. L. Denton, D. G. Shaw, R. F. Harrold, J. R. Mason, S. L. Scarlett, G. Driver, R. L. Bates and our guest, Major D. Roberts (C.O. Depot), Major V. Gledhill, Major and Q.M. Firth, Majors A. Woodcock, T. Whippert, W. A. C. Johnson, Captain R. A. H. Farrar.

The role and function of the 7th Battalion Dinner Club are repeated for information, action and subsequent filing:

*Object:* To hold a reunion dinner from time to time.

*Membership:* All ex-officers of the 1/7th and 2/7th D.W.R. shall be members, also serving officers of the 5/7th Battalion, and subsequent ex-officers.

*Subscription:* Is included in the cost of the dinner tickets.

*President:* Honorary Colonel of the 5/7th Battalion.  
*Committee and Officials:* As shall be appointed by the members.

*Guests:* One official guest only who shall be the Depot Commander. Private guests are only permitted on prior application to the Joint Secretaries.

D. R. SIDDALL (Hon. Sec.).

Readers are asked to support the  
advertisers in these pages when  
placing orders or asking for estimates

## Obituary

It is with regret that we hear from Lt.-Colonel "Tuppence" Harvey that his mother, Mrs. Kate Harvey, passed away suddenly on March 26 at her home near Sheffield. She was in her 94th year and was on the telephone a few hours before she died.

We deeply regret to announce the death of Captain D. F. Peacock, 6th Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, on Friday, March 28. A solicitor by profession, he served as a Captain with the 6th Battalion during the 1914-18 War. He was a member of the Committee of the 6th Battalion O.C.A., and a member of the Craven District Branch Committee of the Regimental Association. He did a tremendous lot of work for ex-servicemen in the Craven District. He had wide and varied interests—a member of the Castleberg Lodge of Freemasons, a patron of the Craven Drama Festival, the Craven District representative on the Yorkshire County Cricket Committee, to mention only a few.

### MR. R. P. BUTLER

On March 16, at Halifax, aged 58 years. Mr. Butler joined the D.L.I. in March 1918 and served with them until the following October. He also served with The Oxford and Bucks Regiment before transferring to the "Dukes" in February 1923. During his service with D.W.R. he was employed as Officers' Mess waiter, and, during the latter part of his service, as Depot postman. He completed his service in 1930 and took up employment with the Post Office, where he remained until quite recently.

Mr. F. Fothergill and other members of the O.C.A. attended the funeral. We extend our sincere condolences to his widow and family.

### MR. HARRY WHITE

On May 30, 1958, at the Royal Halifax Infirmary, aged 57 years. Harry joined the "Dukes" in November 1919; he was posted to the 1st Battalion the same month and joined the F.S. details in Palestine. He subsequently served with the Regiment in Egypt, Gibraltar, Turkey and Malta. For many years he was Signal Sergeant of the 1st Battalion until his promotion to Colour-Sergeant in 1936. As Depot Colour-Sergeant on the outbreak of the second World War he did a first-class job, coping with mobilisation problems and the extra stresses that fall on the "Q" Department at such times. He was demobilised in September 1945.

Imperturbable at his job, steady and reliable always; all those who served with him in those now far-off happy days will remember "Chalky" with much affection. We extend our deepest sympathy to Mrs. White and Miss Margaret White in their sad loss.

### MR. T. C. WHITE

On March 14, at his home, 24 Tawney Common, nr. Epping, Essex, aged 85 years. Mr. White enlisted at Hounslow, for the West Riding Regiment, on February 20, 1893. He served in Malta with 1st Battalion in 1895 and in South Africa, 1899-1901. He held the Queen's S.A. Medal with clasps for Relief of Kimberley, Paardeburg, Driefontein, Johannesburg, Diamond Hill, S.A. 1901, and Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. For many years he was servant to the late Colonel J. A. C. Gibbs, C.B. Mr. White is survived by his widow and two daughters.

## PERSONALIA

Lt.-Colonel Sir Nugent Everard, Bart., retired in February of this year. His son Robin has just completed his training at the Depot and, having successfully passed his R.C.B., is now waiting to go to Sandhurst in September.

Lt.-Colonel W. Skelsey, M.B.E., has also retired and has taken up an appointment with the Department of Agriculture of the Nyasaland Government.

Major "Jock" Huffam writes to inform us that two of the daughters of the late Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. Basil Owen have recently got married. The eldest, Biddy, to Anthony Rylands on June 15, 1957, from her grandmother's home near Wakefield, and Airlie to Michael James Angell, R.N., on March 29, 1958, in London. The third daughter, Valerie, is studying radio-therapy at Guy's Hospital, London.

Two letters have recently been received from Mr. R. E. Shearer (formerly C.Q.M.S. Shearer), who is now very well established in Perth, Western Australia. Apart from building his own home and working for the State Housing Commission (where any old friends passing through are requested to get in touch with him), he has become a member of the Committee of the Returned Soldiers League and a sub-warden of the State War Memorial. We wish him every success in these new ventures. His present address is c/o The National Bank, St. George's Terrace, Perth, Western Australia.

The following letter has been received from Lt.-Colonel G. Taylor, D.S.O., late 7th Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

Dear Sir,

I have just returned from a trip to the West Indies and felt that the following would be of interest to many old members of the Regiment.

When in Trinidad I was awakened one morning at 7.30 by the sound of band and drums and looked out to find that a large parade was taking place on the Savannah. This is a very beautiful area in the centre of Port of Spain and contains a race-course and many sports grounds.

I walked across to find that the local volunteers, the police, the mounted detachment and the fire brigade, and other local units were rehearsing for the Queen's birthday, and you can imagine how delighted I was when the band and drums played both "Ninety-five" and "Wellesley."

A week later, when in Port of Spain, Jamaica, it gave me a lot of pleasure to run into Lt.-Colonel Maurice Davie, whom I have not met since he was Adjutant of the 6th Battalion in about 1936.

The following day he called for us to take us to his house. We travelled up a track for about five miles and must have gone round fifty or sixty bends in this distance, and I rather wondered where we were getting to. Throughout all this distance we were travelling through coconut, banana and cocoa plantations with no houses except a few native huts. Round a bend I saw two gate-posts with wrought-iron lamps on top, and we turned into the drive to see a lovely house with a swimming pool in front and a fine view over the bay of Port Antonio.

We went up some graceful steps, and having got inside one could have imagined oneself in Mayfair. The address is "Look Out," Port Antonio, Jamaica.

The house was beautifully furnished in period furniture, with Georgian fireplaces, lovely pictures, and delightful furnishings, and there we were greeted by Maurice's wife, Phil.

They have bought this plantation and built this house and they grow coconuts, bananas and cocoa, and are really happy there.

They have made a deep impression on their native labour and the people living in the vicinity.

After a very happy party and some very good "Planters' Punch," Maurice drove us back to the hotel to collect our luggage and take us to the ship.

It really gave us a lot of pleasure running into him again, and both he and Phil were anxious to know all about the Regiment and their friends and wished to convey their kind regards to them, and this is the reason for this letter.

Yours faithfully,

GEORGE TAYLOR.

Telephone 3198

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## "LEST WE FORGET"

The following articles were written by the late Lt.-Col. Sir Robert Henniker, Bart, M.C., just before he died and were forwarded by Lady Henniker.

### The 2nd. Battalion Drum

One morning early in 1919, Lt.-Colonel R. H. Goldthorp, D.S.O., at the time commanding a battalion of The Artists' Rifles, was walking along a road in the comparative vicinity of Mons. He was a member of the 4th D.W.R. Happening to see a small group of his men talking to a Belgian good lady, who was showing them an exhibit, he went across and "listened in." She had the circular copper case of a drum, and she described how, on Sunday, August 23, 1914, she had seen a British soldier "hareing" down the road from the Canal and who rushed up to her and handed over a drum, which was arresting a progress to the rear in which so many of us were taking part! Gasping "Alley-mans, Alley-mans," Drummer Mellish (whom it turned out to be) went on. Shortly German infantry came down the same road. Some of them came to her cottage. With wonderful presence of mind (and, probably, vividly abusive remarks!) the good lady had stood over the drum, which was completely hidden by her long skirts. The Bosche searched her cottage and then left. Later she had buried the drum, and had, on the day in question, displayed it to the group of Artists' Rifles. Goldthorp inspected the drum—or what was left of it—recognised the "Hathi" in red paint dimly visible, and rescued it, afterwards presenting it to the 2nd Battalion. But for the fact that Lt.-Colonel Goldthorp was a "Duke," it is doubtful if we would ever have recovered this trophy.

It is worthy of consideration that the centre portion of the gold drum of the King of Abyssinia, which is an exhibit "A" in our 1st Battalion, should have as companion this relic of Mons.

It must be remembered that we went into battle at Mons, officers encumbered by utterly useless swords, "drummers" with their drums!

The drum is now in the Regimental Museum.

### The Willingdon Salver

In 1933 Lord Willingdon was Viceroy of India and, as such, visited Nagpur—the seat of government of the Central Provinces. The "Dukes" were stationed in Kamptee, a station about 10 miles from Nagpur, and we were given the privilege of entertaining the Viceroy and his lady to luncheon.

"Security precautions" were strict. Apart from police stationed at every 300 yards or so from Nagpur to Kamptee, the Officers' Mess Compound was "sealed off," no native personnel being allowed in without a pass, specially printed, signed by the Adjutant, etc., etc.

As 2IC I was facing Lt.-Colonel J. C. Burnett, D.S.O., our C.O., and H.E. After a good lunch, during the "coffee period" Burnett showed one of the passes to H.E. He looked at it, laughed,

and passed it across the table to Lady Willingdon—who was on my right. The native printer—in the excitement of this comparatively great occasion—had mixed up the titles.

The original heading, in large block capitals, was:

“THE DUKE OF WILLINGDON’S  
REGIMENT”

Lord Willingdon intimated that the first time he had had a regiment called after him deserved some permanent recognition. To our delight, some weeks later we were honoured to receive the silver salver (now in our Depot Mess) which places on record a most felicitous occasion.

## Regimental Association

### LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES BRANCH

The annual dinner of the above branch was again held at the Westminster Dragoon’s Drill Hall on May 10, 1958. From observations gathered from many who attended, it was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by everybody there.

It was a great pleasure to see many of the old faces again, also many new ones. Amongst two of the many new faces was Colonel Bobby Turner and “Camser” Fitter, and although we knew Bobby Turner at one time served in Russia, it would have strengthened our belief in that knowledge if he had turned up in a Cossack uniform with an astrakhan hat or collar. “Camser” was there to the last and when he said good night to the last remaining members and stated he was going back to his hotel, I had the feeling that the night was young for “Camser,” and who knows what fun might still be had in Victoria.

After the great get-together from 7.30 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the bar, all adjourned to the dining room to enjoy a well-prepared dinner. Grace was given by Colonel Armitage and as we had two Generals present (Bray and Exham), it was decided to call on one of them for the usual speech re the activities of the Regiment. The choice fell on Major-General Bray and his speech, although not too long, covered quite a bit of ground and was much appreciated. In the chair was our Treasurer Ben Hearsam; that duty being delegated to him by our chairman Bob Temple.

Finally, just a few words expressing our pleasure in seeing such a large contingent from Halifax and Huddersfield with their Secretaries, Spike Stringer and George Machin. Also pleased to see Jim Myatt with our Gosport friends and Kennedy with his party from the Isle of Wight.

Present at the Dinner were the following: Major R. A. Scott, Brigadier F. H. Fraser, Col. R. G. Turner, Major-General R. K. Exham, Major-General R. H. N. C. Bray, Colonel F. R. Armitage, Major Huffam, v.c., Colonel C. R. T. Cumberlege, Major Sills and Messrs. Benson, Temple, Ambler, Hartwell, Simmonds, Hearsam and wife, Handyside and wife, Coppack and wife,

Fitter, Myatt and wife, Cherry and wife, Bennet, Kingston, Kennedy and party and the Halifax and Huddersfield parties.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from Major-General Ozanne, Group Captain Wilson, Colonel Pat Woods, Colonel Bill Woods, Rev. Keet, Captain Bolton, Captain Barker, Brigadier Grimley, Colonel Price, Colonel Paton, Messrs. E. Smith, Crouch, Warren and Chelsea Pensioners Willcocks and Pentlow.  
B.H.

### DO YOU KNOW

that the

### NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR EMPLOYMENT OF REGULAR SAILORS, SOLDIERS AND AIRMEN

(Regular Forces Employment Association)

exists for the sole purpose of assisting ex-Regular members of the Forces of good character to resettle themselves in civil life?

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The National Association has at its disposal in its 52 branches a great variety of employment. It may not always be possible to find, within reasonable daily travelling distance, the special job a man may have in mind, but the Regular who calls at the Branch office covering his home area will have at his disposal the detailed local knowledge of the Jobfinder, who will gladly use it to find him the best job available consistent with his qualifications and wishes.

The Armed Forces now face a reduction in numbers under the terms of the Defence White Paper. The National Association claims that you can find better employment through its agency than through any other, better even than you can find for yourself.

If you are in any doubt, even before you are due to leave the Services, write to:

REGULAR FORCES EMPLOYMENT ASSOCIATION,  
62 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

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Telephone 4893

## Regimental Tea and Dinner at the Hyde Park Hotel

The Annual Regimental Dinner was held at the Hyde Park Hotel on Tuesday, May 27. In spite of the date so closely following Whitsun weekend, 64 members sat down to dinner, which was very gratifying.

In the absence of The Colonel of the Regiment, the Deputy Colonel, Brigadier B. W. Webb-Carter, took the chair. We were very pleased to have The Duke of Wellington as our guest and disappointed that his duties as Lord Chamberlain detained Lord Scarbrough, Lord Lieutenant of the West Riding, who was to be our other guest.

In his speech, Brigadier Webb-Carter welcomed our guest and then read out messages from H.M. The Queen and "Dukes" in all parts of the world. The following message was received from the Colonel of the Regiment. "I am very disappointed that I cannot be at the Dinner this evening, especially as it is the first since my appointment as Colonel. It is also a great pleasure to have the Duke of Wellington with us again and I hope you are having a successful and enjoyable evening and that there has been a good turn-out of past and present officers. I know how pleased everyone will be to hear how well the first Battalion are doing in Northern Ireland where they are maintaining our highest standards and best traditions. Of course, we expect them to do this, but it is good to know that all is going so satisfactorily under Pip Moran's leadership. I should like to express to General Christy our very grateful thanks for all he has done for the Regiment over the many difficult years since the war; that we are in our present strong position is largely due to his wise guidance, and we all wish him every success and happiness in the future. Finally the formation of the Yorkshire Brigade is a challenge to the Regiment which we have taken up and are determined to make a success of. I hope to be home in August for a few weeks when I shall visit the 1st Battalion in Belfast, and also York, Halifax and Huddersfield. I am sure I will also see many of you at the Rag, where I shall be staying."

Brigadier Webb-Carter then stressed most firmly that the Regiment's connection with the West Riding must and will be maintained in spite of the re-organisation of the Army and the eventual move from Halifax—a connection of which we are very proud.

Congratulations were offered to Pip Moran and Denis Shuttleworth for the great achievement in winning the Army Rugger Cup, to the Battalion as a whole for the way they are carrying out their varied duties in Northern Ireland and for their success there in the Brigade Rifle meeting.

A word of praise followed for the peaceful and successful amalgamation of the 5th and 7th Battalions and for the skill and guidance of Colonel Jimmy Davidson during this manoeuvre.

Of the new cap badge, Brigadier Webb-Carter said: "the design, though not inspired was comparatively harmless. The eventual result for

the other ranks was, I fear, not all that hot, but that I think was possibly the result of, if one may say so, the Treasury intervening and saying that the cheapest tender must at all costs be accepted. I think, however, that by the time the authority for the War Office, who I gather were affronted seeing the result, have had their say, a far better production will be the eventual outcome."

He concluded by expressing the warm thanks of all members to Bertie Bolton, who has arranged so many excellent evenings. It is with regret that we learnt that his threat to resign turned out "not to be a bluff after all."

List of those attending the Dinner—as taken from the Dinner register:

Guest: His Grace The Duke of Wellington, K.G.  
Brigadier B. W. Webb-Carter (Deputy Colonel of the Regiment).

Major-Generals R. N. H. C. Bray, R. K. Exham and W. M. Ozanne; Brigadiers C. W. G. Grimley, H. G. P. Miles and C. W. B. Orr; Colonels F. R. Armitage, L. E. Bishop, W. A. Hinchliffe, E. W. Stevens, R. G. Turner, A. H. G. Wathen and G. C. H. Wortham; Lt.-Colonels E. C. Boutflower and L. B. B. Beuttler; Wing Commander H. A. Crommelin; Lt.-Colonels P. G. L. Cousens, J. H. Dalrymple, J. Davidson, P. P. de la H. Moran, R. de la H. Moran, D. Paton, O. W. Price, D. J. Stewart, A. E. H. Sayers, R. M. Tidmarsh and N. R. Whitaker.

Majors J. E. V. Butterfield, R. V. Cartwright, J. H. Davis, J. P. Huffam, P. B. Hall, H. R. Kavanagh, J. H. S. Lane, J. A. Lennon, J. G. Lepper, H. S. Le Messurier, C. J. McLaren, D. C. Roberts, J. Scott-Milligan, J. L. Streatfeild, J. K. Sugden and F. H. V. Wellesley.

Captains G. H. Beyfus, R. H. D. Bolton, P. B. L. Hoppe, D. E. Isles, J. R. Keatley, J. A. d'E. Miller, P. A. Mitchell, J. N. H. Naughton, J. M. Newton, The Lord Savile, R. Scott-Evans and D. W. Shuttleworth; Lts. S. A. Berry, J. R. P. Cumberlege, C. D. Miller, D. S. Smith and G. F. Naylor; 2 Lts. R. R. St. J. Barkshire and J. B. K. Greenway. Total, 64.

List of those attending the Tea Party:

Captain and Mrs. R. H. D. Bolton; Brigadier and Mrs. B. W. Webb-Carter; Mrs. Rusbridger; Colonel and Mrs. C. W. G. Ince; Colonel and Mrs. F. R. Armitage; Brigadier and Mrs. C. W. G. Grimley and Mrs. Wallersten; Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. D. Paton; Brigadier and Mrs. C. W. B. Orr; Mrs. J. V. Kirkland; Major-General and Miss Ozanne; Brigadier and Mrs. H. G. P. Miles; Major and Mrs. R. V. Cartwright; Major C. J. McLaren; Major and Mrs. J. P. Huffam; Colonel and Mrs. A. H. G. Wathen and Miss Wathen; General and Mrs. R. N. H. C. Bray; Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. E. C. Boutflower; Colonel and Mrs. R. M. Tidmarsh; Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. A. E. H. Sayers; Wing Commander and Mrs. H. A. Crommelin; Major and Mrs. J. H. Davis; Major-General and Mrs. R. K. Exham.



## THE COUNTY CONNECTION

(or *Requiem for a Cap Badge*)

Some years ago I wrote an article on the subject of "Halifax and the Dukes" in which I endeavoured to trace the Regiment's connection with Halifax and the West Riding from the earliest recorded date. I was unable to put this date much earlier than 1776, my authority being "The History of the 33rd Regiment," wherein it is stated that the title of 1st Yorkshire West Riding Regiment, granted on July 31, 1782, "was given because nearly all the men serving with the Regiment during the American War had been recruited about Leeds and Halifax."

Recently an article was published in the "Journal of the Society for Army Historical Research," which throws further light on the subject.

The article relates to the papers of Colonel Adam Williamson, who in 1782 was Deputy Adjutant General, Southern Britain. These papers include the replies received from 54 regiments, which were circulated during the early part of 1782 with a request that they inform the D.A.G. of their wishes in the event of county names being given to regiments. Many of the Regiments appear to have shown little interest in the scheme; but a few (including the 33rd Regiment) were enthusiastic.

Through the courtesy of Mr. G. H. Cleare, who wrote the article, the reply sent by Lord Cornwallis (the then Colonel of the 33rd Regiment), is reproduced below.

Albermarle Street,  
July 1st, 1782.

Sir,

I am to desire that you will please to inform General Conway that the 33rd Regt. of Infantry has always recruited in the West Riding of Yorkshire, and has a very good interest, and the general good will of the people, in that part of the Country: I should therefore wish not only to be permitted to recruit in that country, but that my regt. may bear the name of the 33rd or West Yorkshire Regt.; If that district is thought too extensive to give a name to one regt. only, I should desire to have my regt. called the 1st West Yorkshire; and am fully sure that no older Regt. can claim so long and intimate connection with the West Riding of Yorkshire.

I am, Sir,  
Your Most Obedt.  
& Most Humble Servant  
CORNWALLIS (sgd)

Col. Williamson, D.A.G.

It has been a traditional belief within the Regiment that its connection with the West Riding dates back almost to the year of its raising and it is therefore gratifying to have written proof that the tradition is very well founded.

The statements made by Lord Cornwallis that the 33rd "has always recruited in the West Riding of Yorkshire"; "has . . . the general good will of the people" and "has a long and intimate connection with the West Riding" sound so familiar, it requires an effort of imagination to appreciate that they were written exactly 176 years ago.

Time marches on and changes are inevitable; but it is surely not reactionary to regret that in this year of grace 1958 we said goodbye to our cap badge, which included not only the crest of the Duke of Wellington, but also the words "The West Riding."  
A.C.S.S.

## IMPERIAL WAR GRAVES COMMISSION BROOKWOOD MEMORIAL

Her Majesty The Queen has graciously consented to unveil the Brookwood Memorial on Saturday, October 25, 1958, at 2.30 p.m.

This is the only memorial to the missing dead of the Land Forces to be built in this country and the commission intend that this occasion shall, as well as being the dedication of the Brookwood Memorial, be also an act of remembrance of the dead of the Commonwealth armies commemorated on all memorials to the missing, and in the cemeteries, in all theatres of war.

The Brookwood Memorial commemorates 3,500 men and women of the Land Forces of the Commonwealth who died at sea, in raids and missions mounted from the United Kingdom or on active service outside the main theatres of war, and who have no known grave. It stands in the cemetery in which are buried 3,900 soldiers from every army of the commonwealth and from the armies of many of their Allies.

The Memorial, which is being built by the Imperial War Graves Commission to the design of Mr. R. Hobday, A.R.I.B.A., is in the Brookwood Military Cemetery near Woking, Surrey. It takes the form of an open Rotunda of Portland stone with 14 piers radiating from a grass court in the centre. Each pier has on either face a panel of green Broughton Moor slate bearing the names. Facing the central court is a curved stone wall, on one side of which is the bronze box containing the memorial register, and the other side the following inscription:

1939-45

THIS MEMORIAL BEARS THE NAMES OF  
THREE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED MEN AND WOMEN  
OF THE FORCES OF THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH  
AND EMPIRE WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN THEIR  
OWN COUNTRY AND IN MANY FOREIGN LANDS  
IN HOME AND DISTANT WATERS  
IN THE CAMPAIGN OF 1940 IN NORWAY AND  
IN LATER RAIDS ON THE COAST OF EUROPE  
AND TO WHOM THE FORTUNE OF WAR  
DENIED A KNOWN AND HONOURED GRAVE

On a frieze immediately above this inscription appear the words from the Book of Deuteronomy:

THE ETERNAL GOD IS THY REFUGE  
AND UNDERNEATH ARE THE EVERLASTING ARMS

Surrounding the Memorial will be wide grassed walks bounded by curved yew hedges with recessed seat features and flower beds, the whole being

framed by eight weeping birches. Four adjacent quadrants are to be planted with rhododendrons, azaleas, heathers and other shrubs and flowers.

Colonel F. R. Armitage, O.B.E., is attending the unveiling as the Regimental representative and will lay a wreath on behalf of the Colonel of the Regiment and past and present members of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment. Three members of the London branch of the Regimental Association will also be present.

A list of those Officers, N.C.O.s and men of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment who will be commemorated on the Memorial, or who are buried in the cemetery, is shown below:

The Brookwood Memorial:

Lt. H. L. P. Ballard  
Lt. P. V. Carey  
L/Cpl. H. Tunstall  
Pte. L. T. Jackman

Brookwood Military Cemetery:

|                       | Plot | Row | Grave |
|-----------------------|------|-----|-------|
| L/Cpl. J. Cockburn .. | V    | C   | 7     |
| Pte. H. Cohen ..      | XII  | BB  | 10    |

### THE MEDJEZ-EL-BAB MEMORIAL

Mrs. Hemblys, mother of the late C.S.M. A. J. Hemblys, recently visited the War Cemetery at Medjez-el-Bab, where her son lies buried along with many others of his comrades of the 1st Battalion. The visit was under the auspices of the British Legion and was free of expenses to those relatives who had come out to North Africa to attend the unveiling of the Memorial last year and who, because of the torrential rain and floods which swept the area at that time, had to be flown home again without having had the opportunity of paying homage at the graves of their loved ones.

Of this second visit Mrs. Hemblys spoke in glowing terms of the great care taken, by the Imperial War Graves Commission, of the last resting places of our war dead. Flowers bloom on the graves with a rose tree between each; the grounds are most beautifully kept and one gets the feeling of quietude and peace. The surrounding hills appear to keep watch and ward over this corner of a "foreign field now for ever Britain." Mrs. Hemblys also visited the resting places of other "Dukes" in the Cemetery whose names I append herewith, and should they catch the eye of their relatives or readers of our Regimental Journal who are able to pass on this information to them, they will find some solace and quiet satisfaction in knowing that the last resting place of their menfolk is so well kept and they that gave their all are not forgotten.

#### REGIMENTAL GRAVES VISITED BY MRS. HEMBLYS

4607944 C.S.M. R. J. Shilleto, 4623062 Pte. W. Sunderland, 4626403 Pte. C. A. Stuart, 4627147 Pte. G. Cooper, 5891800 Pte. G. W. Davis, 4626978 Pte. R. Edley, 4617274 Pte. T. A. Hadley, 4609514 Pte. G. Hatto, 5891655 Pte. W. M. Harris, 4606245 C.S.M. A. J. Hemblys, 5891660 Pte. A. J. Hornby, 14292480 Pte. G. H. Hunt, 5890776 Pte. F. Hutt, 4621045 Pte. A. E. Page, 4627427 Pte. C. Thompsett, 4626968 Pte. W. G. Whiteley.

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

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

Continued from page 59, The Iron Duke, No. 108  
*Gruny and Crèmercy, Wednesday, August 9, 1815*  
Halting day.

*Gruny and Crèmercy, Thursday, August 10, 1815*

Marched at 4 o'clock for Gournay, but when I went on to get quarters I found the place filled with Dutch troops and a part of the 88th Regiment, and was therefore under the necessity of getting the detachment lodged in a village which I had passed on the road called Cuvilly. After resting an hour at the inn at Gournay I went on to the next stage, Pont St. Maxence, and secured quarters for the detachment in the place for tomorrow. The country we had passed through up to Roze was not much hurt by the invading army, but after that we found the greatest change, whole villages ruined and deserted by the inhabitants and others laid in ashes marked the route of troops more barbarous and worse disciplined than ours, who take nothing from the people of the country except by purchase. The Prussians had crossed this part of the country, which (although they found no one making opposition) they ravaged with fire and sword; the cruelties they commit wherever they go exceed description. The distance from Roze to Pont St. Maxence is 12 leagues, and from Gruny to Roze one.

*Cuvilly, Friday, August 11, 1815*

The detachment came in about 10 o'clock.—Pont St. Maxence is a neat small town on the River Oise, over which is thrown a handsome stone bridge of five arches, it is close by the beautiful forest of Compiègne, which covers the hills on one side of the rich valley in which the town is built.

*Pont St. Maxence, Saturday, August 12, 1815*

Marched at 3 in the morning and were quartered in the village of Marly-la-Ville on the right of the chaussee, about a league from the small town of Louvre—we traversed a considerable part of the forest of Compiègne today and also passed the beautiful-looking town of Senlis. The whole country is pillaged and ruined.

*Marly-la-Ville, Sunday, August 13, 1815*

Marched at 6 o'clock in the morning to St. Denis, five leagues; here we separated and the men of each division were conducted to their respective regiments by all officers.—Our Division was encamped, together with the greater part of the Duke of Wellington's Army, in the Bois de Boulogne, about a mile and a half from the proud though twice captured capital of France.

*Bois de Boulogne, Monday, August 14, 1815*

My arm being at last healed over, I commenced my duties this morning with fresh alacrity—received two letters from my father.

*Bois de Boulogne, Tuesday, August 15, 1815*

After morning parade went into Paris with a party, visited the Louvre and the Musée Royal

des Monuments Français, was struck with admiration at everything I saw, above all the buildings; the most beautiful is the yet unfinished Palais des Arts. In The Louvre I was most pleased with the statues, of Apollo with the Griffin, a group in marble said to have been dug out of the earth near Tivoli—of Demosthenese opening a volume on his knees in white marble—of Ménander (?) the Greek comedian, supposed to be a real portrait; it is in white marble and was brought from the Vatican at Rome—of Ceres in Parian marble, the drapery of which is so exquisitely wrought that the cords which tie the under robe below the bosom are seen as it were through the upper one; it was also brought from the Vatican where Clement 14th had ordered it to be placed—Marius Junius Brutus and Lucius Junius Brutus, the former in marble and the latter in bronze, both from the Capitol at Rome—of the wounded warrior—the Vernes of Medicis—the youth pulling a thorn out of his left foot—of Mercury—Apollo Belvidere above all—and one of Bacchus.

In the gallery of paintings I was charmed with every one, but I must visit it frequently before I can particularise the best—the “Descent from the Cross” and “Transfiguration” are, of course, admired by everyone—several paintings have been claimed and taken away by the King of Prussia.

In the museum of Antiquities I had wherewith to amuse me for hours the statues and tombs of the Kings of France and the famous French authors are each of them studies. The subject of each century found arrangements in rooms apart. In the garden is the tomb containing the remains of Abelard and the monuments of Joan of Arc, Voltaire, etc.

*Bois de Boulogne, Friday, August 18, 1815*

No evening parades for officers but I take the Regiment out to drill, brigade field days every morning at 6 o'clock, Sundays excepted, when the men are taken by the Captain of the day and Orderly Officer to the Seine to bathe and have the afternoon to themselves.

*Bois de Boulogne, Saturday, August 26, 1815*

Got the Commanding Officers' permission to promote all the most deserving Corporals and Privates who were in orders accordingly.—Clabon joined from Brussels with a detachment.—Went with Captain Davison (whom I met here yesterday), Major Colclough and Mr. Stoddart to L'Hopital des Invalides, a noble institution for the reception and maintenance of old discharged officers and soldiers; it was founded by Henry IV.

In the upper storey is a large collection of the finest models of fortified places perhaps in the world, it however only comprises the principal frontier towns of France and of these the Prussians have taken away Lille, Valenciennes, etc. The finest remaining are Brest, Toulon, Calais, Arras and one or two others in the Pyrenees. The former, which includes all the entrance to the harbour and the vicinity, is so beautifully exact that even the number of guns are placed in each battery, and

from them all you may learn the nature of the soil and the situation with respect to woods, rivulets, hills. They are in large wooden frames like billiard tables of different sizes, the houses, batteries, quays and ships are made of painted pieces of wood, but I could not make out what the surface of the earth and trees were composed of, the former was of a sandy substance on something that very much resembled the cloth paper that rooms were sometimes hung with and appeared to have been put on in a liquid state. The chausees, seas, rivers and streets on paper, coloured so as to represent these different parts of the models.

The Dome which Bonaparte added to the chapel (otherwise insignificant) is the most beautiful I ever saw and the monuments which he raised therein to the memory of Marshals Turenne and Vauban are truly noble. It requires the pens of an architect and painter to describe the various parts of this magnificent edifice.

*Bois de Boulogne, September 29, 1815*

Appeared before a Medical Board at St. Denis to get papers for remuneration for my wounds.

*Bois de Boulogne, October 30, 1815*

The whole Army struck tents and went into cantonments not before we were all heartily tired of camp, the 33rd put into Nevilly and the 12th, 30th and 41st in our brigade occupied Clichy and Villiers, villages at a very short distance from Paris and on its north side.

*Nevilly, November 1, 1815*

The brigade assembled this morning to take up fresh quarters. We marched through part of the Bois de Boulogne to the village of Pussy, crossed the Seine by the bridge of Jena (now of Invalids), crossed the Champs de Mars and were cantoned in the village of Issy, Vanves and Clamart, our regiment in the former.—These villages have been very pretty but are ruined by war—they are situated on the left bank of the Seine and close upon the Plaines de Grenelle. Issy is three quarters of a league S.E.(!) of Paris, the College or Seminary have a country house here which was formerly inhabited by Queen Margaret—upon a height in front of the church is an old Gothic building which was once the country seat of Childebert.

*Issy, November 3, 1815*

Another change of quarters, our Regiment and the 41st were marched into the village of Vangirard close upon the walls of Paris, the houses have almost all been Traiteurs, etc., where the Parisians came out every evening to dance and regale themselves, but they are now quite deserted and all gardens, etc., destroyed, affording only a picture of the greatest ruin and distress. There is a manufactory of sal ammoniac, alum and vitriolic acids, but none of them are at work. The Prussians hitherto occupied all the places on this side of the Seine.

*Vangirard, November 4, 1815*

Dined yesterday with a party in Paris at the

Rocher-de-Comeale, dinner and wines excellent, went in the evening to the Opera and returned afterwards to Vangirard from where we marched this morning on our route to Boulogne to embark for England—the 12th, 30th and 33rd under the orders of Colonel Stirke of the former paraded for this purpose on the Champ de Mans at 8 o'clock. We marched, colours flying and drums beating through Paris on our way through St. Denis to Loisselle where we were to halt for the night. I got leave from Colonel Parkinson (Colonel Elphinstone having obtained permission to go on before us to England) to remain behind and breakfast with my good friend Mitchell who was appointed to stay on the staff of the army, our contingent. Our Regiment went on to the village of Maffliers on the left of the road. I was billeted with Headquarters in the Chateau of Mr. Talleyrand Perigord, Prince of Chablis and cousin German of the famous Prince Talleyrand.

### THE WAR IN ARABIA, 1915-18

BY LT.-COLONEL F. G. PEAKE, C.M.G., C.B.E.

In the first World War when great nations for the first time harnessed every available man and woman to the war machine, and when vast Navies, Armies and Air Forces fought in every quarter of the earth, it may be wondered why a side-show in a tiny corner of Arabia should have created so much attention and interest throughout the world. This may be accounted for by the inspired leadership of a young man, known now as Lawrence of Arabia, who, previous to 1914, had been an archaeologist without any practical military training, by the success of the operations he directed, and by the novelty of the forces at his disposal. The number of trained soldiers never exceeded a hundred British and Frenchmen, employed in four armoured cars, a mule battery of guns, a camel company of a hundred Egyptian conscripts and a few Arab prisoners and deserters from the Turkish Armies. By far the greater part of his force was drawn from the Bedouin (nomads) of the desert.

In order to get the best out of any nation and its fighting forces, it is recognised that they must have a clear idea for what they are fighting. For one the slogan may be "For King, Country and Freedom," for another, "A place in the sun," while another may be told that they are supermen, destined to conquer and rule the world. For the Bedouin none of these slogans would have had any effect. They had no Arab King to revere—in those days no one could possibly have desired to conquer the desert (oil had not then been found beneath it). Freedom? They already possessed more than any other people. They already had a place in the sun, and they had always believed themselves to be the salt of the earth, but had no ambition to conquer others of the lesser breeds.

For Lawrence, therefore, it was left to find the necessary incentives which would win over the active help of the Bedouin tribes.

Desert dwellers always live in a state of semi-starvation during several months of the year, so they were promised ample rations. Every Arab

above the age of eight, loves, above all things, to have a rifle and several bulging bandoliers. Lawrence promised to fulfil this ambition. Regular pay there was none, but they were promised British gold for participation in all successful enterprises. Among the nomads, robbery (politely called raiding) of one's neighbour's camels, sheep and chattels was, from time immemorial, the national sport of the Bedouin. All males were inured to its dangers and hardships from infancy. Lawrence promised that a reward for victory would be unlimited looting of the vanquished.

The latter two incentives were particularly astute because the nomads would never have agreed to remain concentrated in one place. But since news spread like wildfire in the desert, Lawrence was assured that there would always be plenty of nomads present for all his forays. Had a brass hat suddenly arrived from the War Office at Lawrence's headquarters, he would have had a shock. There would have been no army in sight, for it was scattered throughout the desert camps. The warriors would have been with their wives and families, consuming their rations while awaiting news of some projected enterprise. They would then have streamed in from all directions and been present on the appointed day. If his visit had happened at the end of the month, he would have seen a different but no less unusual state of affairs—wild unkempt Arabs in their native clothes hurrying from their scattered camps. Then a gesticulating shouting mob, accompanied by hundreds of roaring camels, assembled round the Depot. As each received his lawful rations, and what else he could lay hands on, he would rush off to his camels, dragging the bags, tie them on, and speed away to his distant camp as fast as his overloaded beasts could move. By evening all the tumult and the shouting had died. The Army had gone home!

I was sent to Aqaba, a small port on the Red Sea, with a party of Egyptian Camel Corps to work in close co-operation with the armoured cars. The fact that the cars moved at thirty, and my overloaded camels at three, miles per hour, worried nobody. I started two or three days or more ahead.

Soon after my arrival, Lawrence and I, with about twenty Camel Corps men, set off to blow up a train on the Hijaz Railway, which was about seventy miles away. As we marched, the Bedouin joined us. When we were about one and a half miles from his objective, I hid the Bedouin and Egyptians in some hills, and then, after dark, Lawrence and I went forward to a small bridge, in which we placed a charge of guncotton. Then, having connected this by a wire, hidden in the sand, Lawrence sat beside the exploder, and I returned to the hidden army. During the next day we lay about in a burning sun, anxiously scanning the track. Towards evening smoke was seen in the north, and then a very long train slowly puffed into view. Excitement was acute, as the longer the train the more the booty. As it was coming from the north it was obviously carrying stores to the Turkish Army in the south.

Lawrence's timing was beautiful. The explosion occurred as the engine passed over the bridge, off

# THE RANGOON MEMORIAL

## The Duke of Wellington's Regiment

As promised in our last issue here are the names inscribed on the Rangoon War Memorial and of those buried in the two cemeteries

Continued from page 56 of the last edition of THE IRON DUKE

|                           |                        |                   |                 |
|---------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| <i>Major</i>              | <i>Lance-Sergeants</i> | Barningham, H.    | Meegan, T.      |
| Robinson, J., M.C.        | Bonser, C. S.          | Bestall, A.       | Metcalf, A.     |
|                           | Bowen, C.W.            | Bingham, J.       | Mills, C.       |
| <i>Captain</i>            | <i>Corporals</i>       | Burnell, A. E.    | Morris, J.      |
| Coningham, W. D. M.       | Cavagan, J. T.         | Chambers, H.      | Naylor, H.      |
|                           | Gamewell, D.           | Cleary, G. A.     | Nicholson, E.   |
| <i>Lieutenants</i>        | Goodaire, F.           | Cook, J.          | Norbury, J. H.  |
| Bedford, W.               | Greenwood, G.          | Corker, D. M.     | Oldfield, H. T. |
| Cobb, G.                  | Hardwick, T. H.        | Cottenham, N. F.  | Ottaway, A. F.  |
| Heaton, J. V.             | Jones, W. J.           | Denning, J.       | Payne, R. J.    |
| Hobday, E. W.             | Meik, R.               | Dockray, A.       | Pearce, J. C.   |
| Sketcher, E. K. C.        | Mew, W. E. C.          | Dunn, J. A.       | Perry, A.       |
| Slater, F. H.             | North, J.              | Ellis, F.         | Redshaw, J.     |
| Sutherland, J. H. C.      | Wagstaff, A.           | Enion, J.         | Rich, J. W.     |
| Travis, O. E. M.          | Wilson, J.             | Fenton, R. J.     | Riley, J. A.    |
|                           |                        | Fitzpatrick, M.   | Rodwell, F. W.  |
|                           |                        | Frankland, E.     | Rourke, O.      |
| <i>Second Lieutenants</i> | <i>Lance-Corporals</i> | Geldard, D.       | Rowley, A.      |
| Dean, C. H. H.            | Axisa, A.              | Giggall, A.       | Shepherd, G.    |
| Skinner, E. J.            | Beckett, T.            | Greenwood, A.     | Theaker, G.     |
|                           | Bell, L. R.            | Griffiths, D.     | Thompson, J. A. |
| <i>Warrant Officer II</i> | Boynton, G.            | Griffiths, G.     | Walls, T. A.    |
| Iggo, E.                  | Davies, E.             | Halpin, L.        | Walton, J. T.   |
|                           | Foster, G.             | Hanson, L.        | Warner, D.      |
| <i>C.Q.M.S.</i>           | Harland, G. W.         | Hill, C.          | Wass, H. J.     |
| Aynsley, J. W.            | Richards, H.           | Hirst, N.         | Wharvell, J. H. |
|                           | Sampson, R. J. H.      | Hurst, J.         | Whelan, A. E.   |
|                           | Saville, A.            | Jeffery, H.       | Winter, A. C.   |
|                           | Smith, T.              | Kay, H. S.        | Wright, D.      |
| <i>Sergeants</i>          | <i>Privates</i>        | Leather, J.       | Young, D. C.    |
| Hatch, A. R.              | Bailey, E. A.          | Littlewood, C. W. |                 |
| Henry, C. L.              | Barnard, H. R.         | Lofthouse, J. A.  | <i>Drummer</i>  |
|                           |                        | Maddock, G.       | Lucas, W. S.    |

## TAUKKYAN WAR CEMETERY

|                      |                      |                      |                         |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Sergeant Spencer, A. | Private Conway, E.W. | W.O.2(CSM) Brown, G. | Lt.-Colonel Owen, H. B. |
| Private Cleary, F.   | L/Corporal Vince, J. | Corporal Stacey, H.  | Major Cartwright, G. V. |

## RANGOON WAR CEMETERY

|                                 |                       |                         |                      |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Captain Christison,<br>J. A. A. | Private Nicholson, H. | Corporal Mountain, E.   | Private Wood, J.     |
| L/Corporal Cooney, J. C.        | Private Goodall, L.   | Corporal Bailey, W.     | Private Bartram, A.  |
| Private Holt, R.                | Private Moore, T.     | L/Corporal Appleton, J. | W.O.2 (CSM) Hird, J. |
| Corporal Maddocks, A.           | Private Shaw, D.      | Private Callear, S. F.  | Private Mollett, W.  |
| L/Corporal Elias, T. D.         | Private Abramson, B.  | Corporal Burbridge, W.  | Private Sykes, S.    |
|                                 | Private Dutton, H.    | Private Sainsbury, W.   |                      |

## DOCTOR JOHNSON, JAMES BOSWELL AND SIR ALEXANDER MACDONALD

BY J. W. HAYES

There have been three regiments bearing the figures LXXVI. The last to do so was the old LXXVI of 1787 which lost its separate identity in 1947 when it was amalgamated with the 33rd after a century and a half of distinguished service. The first to bear the number was raised during the Seven Years' War, oddly enough as the 2nd Battalion of the 33rd, and saw service on the French coast and at the capture of the Havannah, a Spanish treasure-house in the West Indies. It was disbanded at the peace and thenceforth there was no 76th in the Army List until Alexander Lord Macdonald of Slate, County Antrim, raised another regiment bearing the same number in 1777. This regiment, known as "MacDonald's Highlanders," saw much hard service in America during the War of Independence and, like its predecessor, was disbanded at the peace.

The gentleman responsible for raising this regiment was no soldier, but in time of war this mattered less than his ability to attract men to the colours. A Scottish baronet and Irish peer (there is no such place as "Slate"—it was designed to rhyme with Sleat, his Scottish territorial title), he was the descendant of the great Macdonalds of the Isles of former days and, as such, commanded the loyalty and following of the great body of his clansmen in the Western Isles. However, this article is concerned not with the regiment but with something of the man who raised it.

In the course of a not undistinguished public life, Alexander Macdonald had the misfortune to entertain the great Doctor Johnson and his friend and biographer, James Boswell, during their celebrated tour of the Highlands in 1773. Alexander's misfortune, however, is our gain, since what passed between the three was recorded by Boswell and provides a great part of what scanty knowledge we possess respecting Sir Alexander's character and circumstances. Boswell, it may be remarked, was no friend of Macdonald. The latter had on occasion criticised Boswell's English and, besides, had married a young lady upon whom Boswell had once cast his eye with serious intent. Boswell's remarks then, suitably couched in his master's language, were not free from spleen. The first edition of the *Tour* so aroused Sir Alexander's ire that he is reported to have threatened to beat Boswell, and a contemporary cartoon shows him shaking that industrious scribe with a firm grip whilst pointing to a copy of the offending words with a large stick. Certainly, certain passages were either omitted or amended in the second edition of the work. Boswell, of course, blamed Dr. Johnson, saying he was only recording what the great man had said.

The Macdonald of Boswell's study is a mean-spirited, miserly kind of man who is hard on his tenants and is regrettably unheeding of the responsibilities of a highland chieftain. It need hardly be said that this portrayal in the style and words of

Dr. Johnson is doubly effective as a satire, and it is no wonder that Sir Alexander was annoyed.

Boswell was inclined to find fault from the beginning. Because of a fire in his large house, Sir Alexander had to receive his two guests in a smaller one belonging to one of his factors. This move was constructed, "as we believe, that he might with less reproach entertain us meanly," wrote the Doctor, who remarked that Boswell, unable to restrain his indignation at such conduct, "waxed angry and reproached him with his improper parsimony"; and further, that since so many tales were abroad respecting the "injudicious parsimony" of their friend, "Boswell had some thoughts of collecting them and making a novel of his life."

The Doctor's ponderous wit was exercised on Sir Alexander on several occasions. Respecting the latter's attempts at miserliness, Johnson said cynically: "He has not learnt to be a miser; I believe we must take him apprentice!" Boswell: "He would grudge giving half a guinea to be taught." Johnson: "Nay, Sir, you must teach him gratis!" At the end of another tale of niggardliness the Doctor exclaimed: "Sir, he values a guinea more than an old friend." Poor Sir Alexander!

Sir Alexander's conduct as a Highland Chief did not please our two travellers who, says Boswell, were by now "full of the old Highland spirit and [were] dissatisfied at hearing of racked rents and emigration." They did not take kindly to their host's conduct towards his tenants, and in this connection, on hearing that Sir Alexander was frightened at being on water, the great man said: "Sir, *he* may be frightened at sea. *They* are frightened when he comes to land." The Highland air seems, in fact, to have gone to the Doctor's head, for Boswell records the following conversation.

"My endeavours to rouse the English-bred Chieftain, in whose house we were, to the feudal and patriarchal feeling, proving ineffectual, Dr. Johnson this morning tried to bring him round to our way of thinking:

"Johnson.—'Were I in your place, Sir, in seven years I would make this an independent Island. I would roast oxen whole, and hang out a flag as a signal to the Macdonalds to come and get beef and whiskey.'

"Sir Alexander was still starting difficulties.

"Johnson.—'Nay, Sir, if you are born to object, I have done with you. Sir, I would have a magazine of arms!'

"Sir Alexander.—'They would rust.'

"Johnson.—'Let there be men to keep them clean. Your ancestors did not use to let their arms rust!'

"We attempted in vain to communicate to him a portion of our enthusiasm. He bore with so polite a good nature our warm, and what some might call, Gothic expostulations, on this subject, that I should not forgive myself, were I to record all that Dr. Johnson's ardour led him to say.—This day was little better than a blank."

The upshot of this and similar discussions led to the Doctor proclaiming: "Sir, the Highland Chiefs



should not be allowed to go further than Aberdeen. A strong-minded man like Sir James Macdonald (Sir Alexander's elder brother) may be improved by an English education; but, in general, they will be tamed into insignificance." The Doctor "had been very well pleased" with Sir Alexander in London, but this satisfaction had not followed him to the north, where the great man expected conduct and capacities of a different kind.

Whether or not there is any truth in these tales one cannot be sure: there is seldom smoke without fire. On the other hand, Sir Alexander was not exactly a rich man. He could hardly be so with a barren Scots estate, whose inhabitants could hardly make ends meet and were seeking in emigration abroad a solution to their most pressing problems. However, he had received an excellent education—he had been an Eton scholar—which evinced itself in his composing Latin verses in honour of the Doctor's visit, and he was possessed of a vanity of talents, not least of which was his musical capacity, being one of the best amateurs on the violin and one of the foremost musical judges of his time. One may therefore be sure that the pipers of the LXXVIth were of a high calibre!

It need hardly be said that Hong Kong is not the ideal place for biographical or other regimental research, and this episode is only a part of Sir Alexander Macdonald's career respecting which I hope to have the opportunity to write on a subsequent occasion.

### "UNCLE COX"

#### Two hundred years of banking for the Armed Forces

How much pay and allowances was the Iron Duke drawing at Waterloo? What was the cost to the East India Company of the cannon supplied to Colonel Clive for his expedition against Gariah in 1756? Or of the "Ianthorns Muscovy, aprons of lead and linstocks without cocks" issued then to Lt. Thos. Hussey "to march with the party who have not had the small-pox"?

The answers to these questions, together with countless other fascinating glimpses into the past (e.g. rate of exchange for the *pagoda* in 1761), are to be found, down to a penny, in the ledgers preserved at Cox's and King's branch of Lloyds Bank in Pall Mall.

The story of this banking office goes back exactly 200 years, to the day in 1758 when Mr. Richard Cox was appointed Secretary (*de facto* financial agent) to the 1st Foot Guards (Grenadiers). Such was the origin of the bank which was in time to earn the affectionate sobriquet "Uncle Cox" in the course of its service to tens of thousands of British officers in peace and war.

Mr. Cox received his appointment at the hand of Jean Ligonier, famous cavalry leader, whose eminent services had, in the previous year, been acknowledged by a Viscountcy, promotion to Field-Marshal and succession to the Duke of Cumberland as Commander-in-Chief, and Colonelcy of the 1st Foot Guards.

Such colonelcies were by that time sinecures: the extensive work of accountancy for pay and purchases was delegated under Power of Attorney to a Secretary.

For Mr. Cox this agency was a reward for devoted service as personal secretary to Ligonier in the field and at home.

Cox was a man of distinction: among his friends were Dr. Johnson, Burke, Goldsmith, Garrick, Reynolds and other notables. That he was also a very competent business man the rest of his life story proves. By 1803, when Richard Cox died, his bank was agent to numerous regiments. And by 1815, when his Cousin Charles Greenwood was senior partner, the firm was agent to the entire Household Brigade, the majority of cavalry and infantry regiments, the Royal Artillery and the Royal Waggon Train (forerunner of the R.A.S.C.).

In presenting Greenwood to George III, the Duke of York described him as "the gentleman who keeps my money." Greenwood commented dryly: "I think it is rather His Royal Highness who keeps my money." Among his royal customers was the Duke of Kent, Queen Victoria's father.

As the multifarious duties of the Regimental Agent (they included such details as trusteeship for "officers labouring under mental delusion") were gradually taken over by the Army itself, the personal banking business of Cox's expanded.

It reached a peak with the First World War, during the course of which the names of more than 250,000 officers passed through the books. The address was by now 16 Charing Cross. Here a 24-hour service was given, including Sundays and holidays, for officers returning from the front; and "Dear Mr. Cox," as the bank was often light-heartedly addressed, was patriotically understanding in the matter of subalterns' overdrafts. Associated in their minds with the hectic pleasures of leave in London, he became "Uncle Cox." A gallant young Colonel, who fell on the Somme, had a habit of singing, when there was a moment for conviviality:

"The soldier boy is full of joy,  
As pleased as Punch you'll find him,  
With Father Grim in front of him  
And Uncle Cox behind him."

At the height of the war 50,000 cheques a day were cleared and up to 20,000 letters dealt with. Branches were set up behind the lines in France, and on any front an officer could draw on his account without troubling to prove his identity.

Cox's did far more than merely issue pay and keep an officer's banking account. The Insurance Department would arrange to insure his kit, the Income Tax Department would deal with his tax returns, and the Standing Order Department would see that the instalments to his tailor were paid regularly. A kindly and spontaneous service was to send a cashier with a supply of money to every hospital ship as it arrived, in case wounded officers wanted cheques cashed.

Cox's provided another humanitarian service. A careful record was kept of all officers posted as missing. Often the bank had the first indication that the missing officer was alive and a prisoner, by

the presentation of a cheque he had negotiated and which reached 16 Charing Cross through neutral channels. Mrs. Reginald Cox, the wife of the Senior partner, played her part in keeping the families of missing officers posted with any information reaching the bank.

In 1912, Cox's were appointed agents to the Royal Flying Corps, and when the Royal Air Force was established in 1918 they were privileged to continue this appointment.

Cox's was taken over by Lloyds Bank in 1923. But it preserves the memory of its founder in the title Cox's and King's Branch, and remains an "institution." Among banking offices it is in many ways unique. At 6 Pall Mall (the address since 1924) there is still a separate office labelled "Guards and Cavalry," and separate counters for sections of the military—lettered "F" for the Foot Regiments and the Rifle Brigade, "R" for the "Royals" (R.A., R.E., etc.) "R3" is Royal Air Force; and, as throughout Cox's history, the ledgers are bestrewn with illustrious names. The accounts of many military families date back to Richard Cox himself. It is, incidentally, the largest branch bank in Europe, and has its own emergency electric plant, and artesian water supply.

In 1939, faced again with the prospect of enormous expansion in the number of officers, the branch had already equipped itself by the installation of the most modern mechanised accounting system. Large numbers of additional staff had to

be recruited, not only to replace those who joined the Forces but to handle the additional work. Dispersal was inevitable. The Pay Department, which at one time dealt with the pay of 153,000 officers, spent most of the war in Bournemouth. But, once more, in London an all-night service was given to officers.

The extension of war into many theatres and the frequent interruption in communications brought difficulties, but with goodwill they were surmounted. This letter came from the Middle East:

"Gentlemen,

"I return herewith a cheque book recently sent me by you. I regret to say that this book met with disaster at the hand, or rather, mouth of a hungry cow. . . . I would like to point out, in view of the instructions given on the cover of the cheque book, that my permission to eat same was not first obtained."

Service to the Army has been the *raison d'être* of Cox's for just 200 years. This is a tradition of which Lloyds Bank is very proud. The close association between officers and the Bank persists; a recent letter from a customer serving abroad testifies:

"As I think I mentioned to you, whenever I enter the portals of Cox's & King's I immediately feel at home."

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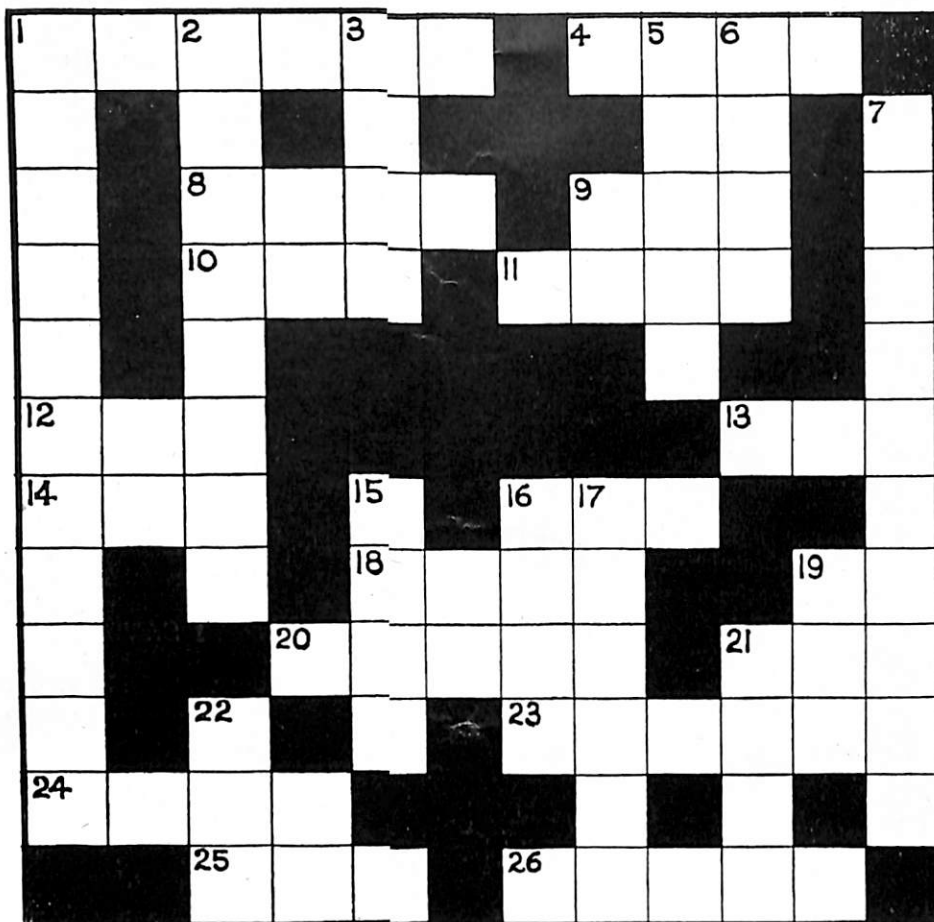
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# IRON DUKE CROSS- WORD



The solutions  
will be printed  
in the next  
issue of the  
Journal

### Across

1. Traditional Westerner? (3, 3)
4. We'll skin him alive on board and then he'll cry! (4)
8. Let slip a sole. (4)
9. Not so heavy after all. (3)
10. Bird noise in Chelsea? (3)
11. One of the oldest inhabitants of Mauritius to meet Alice. (4)
12. This Scandinavian might come in at the end of a French film. (3)
13. Abbreviated scripts. (3)
14. We struggle to make a living in Paris. (3)
16. Latin, that goes without saying. (3)
18. Team of athletes? (4)
20. "— have I laid." (Shakespeare, *Richard III*). (5)
21. Make sure the cup is secure. (3)
23. Start of a journey by Hemingway. (6)

24. Never lose your tail when you turn straight round! (4)
25. Holy profit gives a reverse in 22 down. (3)
26. Eire might provide this colleen's name. (5)

### Down

1. "A flask of wine, A— and thou," Omar Khayam. (4, 2, 5)
2. Favourite of Don Quixote. (8)
3. Cum multis aliis its verbose. (4)
5. Simple residence. (5)
6. Cure for Golders Green, perhaps! (4)
7. Gratuity. (10)
15. Bad resort for gamblers. (4)
16. Greek particle. (4)
17. Carl as a sinner. (6)
19. Sometimes found on the bath towel. (3)
21. Part of the Devon scene. (4)
22. See 25, across. (3)