

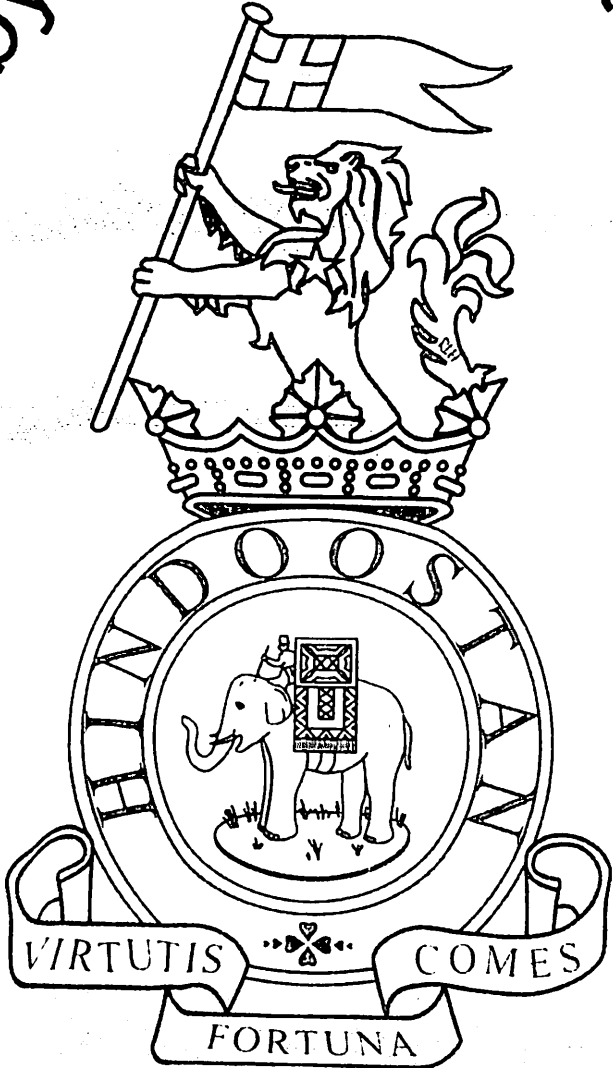
No.111 January 1959



THE IRON DUKE

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

Digitised by The Regimental Archives



THE IRON DUKE

The Regimental Magazine of

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

Dettingen
Mysore
Seringapatam
Ally Ghur
Delhi, 1803
Leswarree
Deig
Corunna
Nive
Peninsula
Waterloo
Alma
Inkerman
Sevastopol
Abyssinia
Relief of Kimberley
Paardeberg
South Africa 1900-02
Mons 1914
Marne 1914, '18
Ypres 1914, '15, '17



Hill 60
Somme 1916, '18
Arras 1917, '18
Cambrai 1917, '18
Lys
Piave 1918
Landing at Suvla
Afghanistan 1919
North-West Europe
1940, 1944-45
Dunkirk 1940
St. Valery-en-Caux
Fontenay-le-Pesnil
Djeboul Bou Aoukaz 1943
Anzio
Monte Ceco
Burma 1942, '43, '44
Sittang 1942
Chindits 1944
The Hook 1953
Korea 1952-53

Vol. XXXV

JANUARY 1959

No. 111

BUSINESS NOTES

Published Quarterly—January, April, July and October

Annual Subscription Rates—10s. for officers; 6s. for all others, payable in advance to the Business Manager (on February 1)

Subscribers are earnestly requested to keep the Business Manager informed of any change of address

Editor: COLONEL R. G. TURNER,
29A BROOK STREET,
LONDON, W.1

Business Manager: LT.-COL. D. J. STEWART,
WELLESLEY BARRACKS,
HALIFAX

Copy for the April 1959 issue should be in the Editor's hands by March 1, 1959

Copy for the April 1959 issue should be sent to Colonel R. G. Turner, 29a Brook Street, London, W.1

CONTENTS

	PAGE
<i>The Regiment</i>	2
<i>Editorial</i>	3
<i>1st Battalion</i>	3
<i>Regimental H.Q. and Depot</i>	17
<i>5/7th Battalion, T.A.</i>	19
<i>Obituary</i>	21
<i>Correspondence</i>	22
<i>O.C.A. News</i>	23
<i>Annual Reunion Dinner</i>	26
<i>Old Comrades' Church Parade</i>	26
<i>6th Battalion, O.C.A.</i>	27
<i>5th British Infantry Division (1939-45)</i>	27
<i>Diary enclosed with Major Jones-Stamp's letter</i>	27
<i>Copenhagen and Eclipse</i>	30

THE IRON DUKE



The Regimental Band leading the OCA through Halifax before the Service at Halifax Parish Church.



The OCA, led by the Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, marching through Halifax prior to the Service at the Parish Church.

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, Northern Ireland	Lieutenant-Colonel P. P. de la H. Moran.
Regimental H.Q. and Depot, Wellesley Barracks, Halifax	Major R. H. Ince
5/7th Battalion (T.A.), Drill Hall, St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield	Hon. Colonel: Colonel G. B. Howcroft, M.C., T.D., J.P.
	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, Prescott Street, Halifax	Hon. Colonel: Colonel G. H. Aykroyd, T.D. C.O.: Lieutenant-Colonel R. A. Simpson, R.A., T.A.
"P" (4 D.W.R.) Medium Battery, R.A., Drill Hall, Prescott Street, Halifax	Major H. A. Ballantine, 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, Oiley Street, Skipton	Major A. V. Fawell, R.A., T.A.

ALLIED REGIMENT OF THE CANADIAN ARMY

Le Régiment des Voltigeurs de Quebec, Ménage Militaire, Grand-Allée, Quebec	Hon. Colonel: The Right Honourable Louis-S. St. Laurent, M.P., C.P., C.R., LL.D. C.O.: Lieutenant-Colonel R. F. Matte
--	---

AFFILIATED UNITS OF THE ARMY CADET FORCE

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

Patrons:

His Grace The Duke of Wellington, K.G.
The Right Honourable The Earl of Scarborough, K.G.

President:

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

General Secretary:

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

EDITORIAL

It is with undisguised relief that the present editorial team pen their last faltering editorial. With effect from the next number of THE IRON DUKE, Colonel R. G. Turner will be the Editor. Contributions should be sent to him at 29A Brook Street, London, W.1.

Little of startling regimental interest has occurred since the last IRON DUKE was published. The 1st Battalion with some ease has got through the fourth and fifth rounds of the Army Rugby Cup. The team, however, has been suffering exceptionally bad luck in the way of injuries, and it is in no complacent vein that we face the future rounds.

The sands are running out at the Depot and this year will see the setting up of our pathetic remnant at Halifax as our Regimental Home and the opening of the Yorkshire Brigade Depot. Many problems face the Colonel of the Regiment at this critical time in the history of the Line Regiments, not the least of which is the fate of the Regimental Museum. The town of Halifax is putting up a scheme to house our Museum in a worthy and dignified manner, and its location there would strengthen our vital local ties in the West Riding. The alternative would be to move the Museum to the Brigade Depot where, of course, it could be seen by all our recruits and young officers. General Exham has to make a difficult decision in this problem where so much can be said for either solution. We shall all be glad to see him back in England next May.

1st BATTALION

SUB-EDITORIAL

What we thought we had dashed off the cuff in the last issue, when in print makes it appear as if we are hogging most of the space available to 1 D.W.R. That, combined with the following three factors, automatically predisposes us to try to make this sub-editorial more curt, terse and succinct and, thereby, shorter. First factor is that our military Editor, unlike tolerant "O.P." to whom the first of the month meant really the seventh, wanted the notes for last issue in by the 27th, meaning presumably the first, but now wants them "between the 20th and 25th," and we think he means the latter. If things go on like this, heaven help our successor. Second factor is that there is little to report. Third factor is that certain subscribers have actually sparked before even our gentle reminder went out, and good sparks they are. Also your sub-editor has noticed during his weekly intrepid foray round barracks other subscribers huddled round their oil stoves (the heating's off in certain departments), actually writing THE IRON DUKE notes. This enthusiasm is uncanny and cannot but bode some ill, or else they've nothing else to do.

As presaged in our last notes, the whole Battalion descended on Magilligan Strand, leaving a small

rear party in Holywood (who have submitted their own notes!). We were relieved of certain I.S. commitments to enable us to concentrate, and the Londonderry detachment motored up every day to be with us on our Battalion training. There were three main events during this fortnight.

First was the Battalion river-crossing, at Bellarena, over ground kindly lent by Sir John Heygate, brother-in-law of General Kendrew. Knowing there was to be a massive live Brigade river-crossing exercise at the end of our camp, we had been paying some attention to the mechanics of river-crossing, in which we were very ably helped by guidance and stores from the Antrim Artillery (146 Field Engineer Regiment, R.E. (T.A.)), and were getting good at it. You would think a Battalion trying to cross a river would be a sub-editor's dream as regards material—but it wasn't—the Battalion was painfully efficient, and even that large Major of ours whom we secretly thought might sink the rubber dinghy or float out to the lough on the tides, didn't.

Next main event was the inter-platoon marching and field-firing competition. Platoons, fully loaded with weapons and ammunition, had to march 9 miles in 2½ hours, and then, after a short re-organisation period, attack, using live ammunition, across the sand dunes of Magilligan. All platoons did the march in under the time allowed and bore up well in poor weather in the attack. We congratulate No. 12 Platoon of "D" Company, commanded by 2 Lt. D. Marsay, for winning this competition. All ranks of all platoons really did do well, and the team spirit in helping those home who had become lame would have heartened all our readers if they had seen such hard training.

The third event was an exercise necessitating the Battalion deploying on the escarpment above Magilligan to try to find a band of irregulars with ideas of union with a southern state. We were assisted by two Austers from 651 Light A/C Squadron, A.A.C., and the known habits of the O.C. enemy. In a slanting gale, later followed by steady wet rain, 1 D.W.R. patrolled and searched for the enemy, on the northern tip of the Sperrins, whilst the enemy remained hidden for a long time and endeavoured to hinder the Battalion's efforts. They did not succeed very well, owing to their mines, road, G.S., not going off, but were aided by the terrain, which, it was not tussocky moorland grass it was bog, and if it was neither it was a tricky wire fence in between the two. Battalion H.Q. was sited in an old R.A.F. hut which happened to be there on the moor for apparently no reason at all. This delighted the Adjutant, who has become more and more sybaritic on operations as time goes on, a process started when he was Signals Officer at Agros, Askas and Kykko, and quickly his minions were inside and the stove lit, and a sentry posted at the door so that no one else could come in out of the rain. It was also the confirmation of our new Padre (he was baptised at Bellarena when a certain Sergeant requested him to move himself in the dark); he is now the third man in the Battalion who understands how to put the Officers' Mess penthouse up. A note for

would-be peat burners—it does not last as long as one would think it should. Even the R.S.M. was worried at the rate a nearby peat-pile decreased in size.

In all, our fortnight at Magilligan was very pleasant. It was the one time in the year that the whole Battalion could live together as an entity, and we think all ranks really enjoyed it—in fact, it was almost like old times.

During this period we also ran our cross-country run across the dunes. This was well won by "B" Company. We also had a very well-attended church parade on the Sunday.

Then, straight from Magilligan, on to the Brigade river-crossing exercise. Again the "Dukes" acquitted themselves efficiently in the foulest weather possible, and motored and marched and boated and marched with the utmost elan, thus again causing your sub-editor concern at the lack of material. We do feel, however, that the dozen or so drivers who cajoled their Land-Rovers on to the most insecure platform of a Class 2 raft and crossed the rain-drenched Bann, only to find they were driving off on to a floating mass of matted grass, supported by a sheen of X.P.M., may have wished they were in Ernie Bilko's Motor Pool at Fort Baxter. We were wrong to say the raft was insecure—it may have seemed so, but it was built by the Assault Pioneers, who had during all this training excelled themselves in watermanship, and therefore did its job.

Talking about doing a job, almost immediately on our return to Fort Hollywood we got involved in the N.I.D. Army Display in King's Hall, Belfast. What the Ideal Homes took just under three weeks to construct—the Army, mainly the "Dukes," because we are stationed in the environs of Belfast, did in 3½ days. We received many appreciative letters for the work we put in preparing the show, in addition to the "acts" we provided. These comprised the Band, which performed at least twice a day for the four days of the display, in turn with other Bands; our P.T. display team (18 young soldiers, regulars and National Servicemen); 3-in. Mortar detachment doing competitive and other firing drills. We didn't provide a Regimental stand, but various individuals of the Regiment, including attached members, gently assisted in the Infantry, Education and Chaplain's stands. Our boating Major, however, organised and ran a stand which attracted adults and youngsters alike. The stand depicted pursuits in the Army, covering sailing, motoring, shooting, fishing etc. Tony Firth coped ably with small Giles—like children trying to pinch his yachts, except when his attention was distracted by the shouts of applause as the odd girl dared the 40-ft. parachute drop nearby. Older readers will quickly realise what rhymes with applause.

We should have said to begin with, we had the honour to provide the guard of honour to His Excellency the Governor, Lord Wakehurst, when he opened the display. The guard really was excellent, and this time we have no demure hesitation in saying so. It was commanded by Major G. C. Todd, the 1st Battalion Queen's Colour and Honour Queen's Colour were carried by Lt. M. J.

Campbell-Lamerton and 2 Lt. S. R. Arnold respectively. Lt. R. Huffam was the other officer on the guard.

Soon after this our winter training programme started. Physical efficiency tests, weapon training, I.S. drills training, education lectures, study days, N.C.O.'s cadres, outward-bound winter activities and, of course, rugger, and now, dammit, soccer, interfere with all our activities, as usual. Just wait till croquet starts.

Actually, rugger, soccer and basketball are in full swing, fully reported upon in their notes.

Preparations for Christmas are already afoot and elderly Company Commanders are already bedevilling the Adjutant, muttering about leave dates and percentages. They never seem to get it right first time!

No news of note about our alarm, but we've unearthed a new trick, the Kinnegar rocket. This pyrotechnic device, in fact a maroon, is meant to be fired if the C.O.D. Guard at Kinnegar (in the suburbs of Hollywood) is in trouble. On Guy Fawkes' night, during an excellent Battalion bonfire, we set it off. It made little impact on those it should, but it thoroughly startled the citizens of Hollywood, who thought their end had come.

Our pride and joy, the Regimental bus, has suffered an irremediable mishap! On its sedate way to Ballykinlar with members of the Corporals' Mess one of its front tyres blew out, causing it to deviate from its intended axis to such an extent that it landed on its side in a field, with dire consequence to its "innards." It had to be put down, and we are now wondering if we can afford another. It was of great value to us during its life.

The barracks swarm with contractors who seem to vie with each other to cause maximum dislocation of other existing services. Roads are up, buildings are down, and we fortify ourselves with thoughts of what the barracks will be like in a year's time. . . .

A sub-editorial should not really mention personalities, that is usually left in the capable hands of our subscribers, but we feel we must mention the arrival of our new Padre, Rev. C. J. Comyns, M.A., who, when he is not playing rugger with 2nd XV, or away in Dublin or Germany, raises our morale considerably, and the impending departure to a staff job in Germany, of that doyen of the Company Commanders' Union, 'Arris. Many of us will miss those inimitable "Harris Dramas."

An idle sub-editorial this, but we did warn you that little of note has happened these last three months, and at least there's not a catachresis in it.

FOOTNOTE.—We now have two known, registered, readers, over and above the C.O., who have to read this to check the spelling. Is this not a record?

OFFICERS' MESS

The tempo of Mess life has dropped slightly since last these notes were written. We are in the transitional stage between the outdoor activity of the summer and the winter social season which has hardly started. However, the nights have drawn

in and those winter sports, billiards and television, are once more in vogue, and understandably so, for man must have good reason to stray from his warm home on the dark wet nights that late autumn has brought.

Undoubtedly the main feature of the last three months has been the Battalion Camp. In September our duties extra-mural took the whole Mess, save a small rear party, up to Magilligan Camp, one of the last outposts on the Northern frontier. An advance party worked hard to prepare a temporary Mess. The limited accommodation in the Mess was monopolised by the senior officers, whilst the subalterns existed in Nissen-type huts. There was only one bath and two showers between all of us. Though these were jealously guarded by the senior officers, subalterns led regular night patrols to avail themselves of these luxuries and not even shotguns, rank or the genial hawk-eyed comfort-loving Kavonovitch could prevent partial success.

It was pleasant being all together for a change and television in one corner of the ante-room and field officers' liar dice in another were the never-to-be-forgotten features of the non-training evenings. We held one dinner night, and on the middle Sunday entertained some local friends to drinks, and Mrs. Sugden, Mrs. Harris and Mrs. Firth to luncheon. Our thanks are due to the Mess staff under Shenton and Sgt. Creighton for making life so pleasant. Being accustomed to looking after only 20 living-in officers, they met with the extra "bulk" and accepted the personal idiosyncrasies of the marrieds' with aplomb.

Having now been here over a year in Northern Ireland, we can claim to be fairly well settled in. Some more so than others, and in this respect we congratulate Huxtable on his recent engagement. The announcement was by no means a surprise, except perhaps to himself, but it was all the more pleasant because his fiancée is the daughter of an officer of the Regiment, the late Brigadier J. H. C. Lawlor. One wonders if the Adjutant has set a precedent for other bachelors. Certainly the odds against the prolonged celibacy of at least two more are shortening with time.

Now that we are back in Holywood, the monthly Regimental Guest Night and Band Sundays have been re-started and will continue throughout the winter. At our October Guest Night we had the pleasure of entertaining the new G.O.C., Lt.-General Sir Douglas Packard, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., in company with Major-General W. R. Cox (D.T.A. and Cadets), Brigadier G. Wort (Comd. 107 Inf. Bde. (T.A.)), Group Captain C. E. A. Garton (Senior R.A.F. Officer) and Colonel C. H. A. Oliver (Chief of Staff). After dinner Sugden played bridge with the two generals and the full colonel. Onlookers were apprehensive for the Second-in-Command lest he should bid incorrectly and be dismissed on the spot. Those playing liar dice were only slightly more relaxed with a brigadier and a group captain in their midst. A pleasant evening.

The long promised garages in rear of the Mess finally seem to be materialising, nor is this before time, for the number of car owners is growing,

imposing an increasing strain upon the mechanical genius and good nature of Huffam and his expert friends. Most of the cars vie in age with the field officers (?), but a little tone has been added by the arrival of an Opel, the property of our new Padre, Colin Comyns, and his wife, whom we are happy to welcome. We find the Padre's gentle Dublin accent a pleasant change from the harsher Belfast dialect, but it is rather off-putting to hear the southern brogue in a military establishment. Another acquisition has been a TR.2 which seems to have developed distinct nocturnal habits.

Recent departures have included an old Humber which escorted Faithfull back to civilian life. Garner, Sharpe and Connolly have also ended their period of service. We are sorry to see them go. Shenton, either because he couldn't get a job, or couldn't face work after six months as full-time Mess secretary, has decided to stay for another year. (Did someone say they were sorry?) Arnold, having finally squeezed O.C.T.U. in between two rigger seasons, has joined us, whilst Charlesworth, hot-foot from Sandhurst, has left temporarily to do his courses. Raimes has gone to Pontefract and changed places with Miller, whom we welcome back to the Battalion.

Other changes have occurred in the Mess officials in the late summer: Simonds handed over the onerous task of P.M.C. to Firth, who in turn has just handed over to Tedd, Arnold has superseded Shenton as Mess secretary.

Another temporary loss is Knut who has gone to school. Someone suggested that "Chuck" Ivey should have "went" too, but this advice was not acted upon. One wonders if on his return Knut, having been taught to sleep outside, will insist that Stevens shares his kennel. Time alone will tell, but as a result of his absence we have realised that not all the weird noises heard have been justifiably attributed to him.

By the time these notes actually appear in print, Christmas will have come and gone. Much is anticipated and half-planned, including a cocktail party in early December. We take this opportunity of wishing all officers, past and present, a Happy Christmas and a Successful 1959.

SERGEANTS' MESS

Our Mess has inwardly changed its appearance since the last edition of the Regimental Magazine, as usual much of our thanks must go to Sgt. Dodds and his merry men for the work put in, but the new president (C.S.M. Bill Burke) has had no small part; indeed, he has been giving the Mess a complete overhaul since he took over and is constantly to be seen pottering about the place at all hours. At the morning tea break he usually gets the R.Q.M.S. in a corner and the conversation usually starts with, "Have you got . . ." or "Can you get . . ." However, we must applaud the hard work he is putting in and give much credit for a job well done.

Mess dinners have started again and they are held once a month and with much success. It makes a good and welcome change to have all the

members together for an evening. We are fortunate to have the Regimental Band Sergeants to play at these occasions, and the R.S.M. is overjoyed when his favourite march is played as we leave the dining room.

Our biggest function this quarter has been a Tramps Ball which was a success, the best dressed tramps being C/Sgt. Rex Webb and Lofty Creighton, and the best lady tramp was Sgt. Kirk's girlfriend but we do not believe she normally dresses as a lady tramp!

We have a very large selection of cars belonging to members which are parked in front of the Mess; soon we will have to commandeer the tennis court as an additional park. C.S.M. Paddy Sheehan might not like that.

We welcome our new schoolies, Sgts. Walkden and Peter Wolfenden, and hope their stay will be a happy one—we suppose they will have their usual ideas about trying to educate us. Others have tried!

Sgt. Bill Pounder has left us and somehow got missed from the last edition's notes, and we have lost our old "watchdog" Joe Perrin, who is taking up a similar job at Aden. He leaves us at the mercy of Sgt. Parker. Sgt. Heald could not be persuaded to sign on even in the "Dukes" and has handed over the job of caterer to Sgt. Dick Fenn, who manages the job quite well when he is not tearing off to Belfast in his car. It is rumoured that he volunteered for the job because he got fed up doing Battalion Orderly Sergeant!

Sgt. "Muscles" Garrity has returned from his P.T. Course at Aldershot and is now inflicting his fitness upon the long-suffering Battalion, but the curry has certainly improved since he returned. C.S.M. Sid Kirk and Sgt. Delaney have departed to Pirbright to learn something about drill, a course which Sgts. Reg Todd and Pratt have recently finished, and before they went to Derry they were to be seen on the square in the early hours, screaming at the unfortunate companies and almost waking the writer of the notes up as he crept round the edge of the square, still full of sleep.

Sgt. Derek Battye has requested that he be mentioned in these notes! Along with Sgts. Gordon Simpson and Bob Chilvers he has been seen dressed in running kit at the back of the barracks, and the writer thinks there must be some attraction; he will follow them on afternoons to see what it is—on his bicycle. A rather slim fellow to be seen wandering around is Bob Chilvers, who appears to have lost several stone in his slimming efforts—a few more pounds off and he will twang when the wind blows.

We welcome to our midst the wife of the R.S.M. and hope that her stay with us will be a long and happy one. Surely the last R.S.M.'s wife we had in barracks was Mrs. F. Allsopp at Bordon, 1939.

Sixty crested silver tankards have been purchased, each with a present member's name inscribed, and it is intended that all new members will have their names inscribed also. They are indeed very handsome, and will certainly be a good addition to our already large collection of silver.

Ex-Korea members will be pleased to hear that "Nora" still looks as beautiful as ever she did in

that dreary far-off land and still holds the place of honour in the bar.

We hope that our next issue will contain the good results of the Christmas Draw which is now being arranged, and close these notes wishing all our readers good fortune and luck for the coming year.

CORPORALS' MESS

The last quarter hasn't seen much activity in the Mess as regards social evenings. One evening we were guests at the Lough View Hotel; we played them at darts and beat them six games to four.

On October 31 we held a Tramps' Ball in the Mess, and the reality in which some of the members turned up in was a toss-up as to whether or not we had got a few original tramps mixed in the crowd. Congratulations to L/Cpl. Jimmy Pilcher for being selected as King Tramp, and to Mrs. Tom Harrison who was selected as Queen Tramp. The R.S.M. arrived about 2100 hrs., accompanied by his wife; we regret to say, not as a tramp and trampess.

Saturday, November 8, 1958, saw us once again on our way to visit our old friends the Royal Warwicks at Ballykinlar in the Battalion bus; three miles from our destination the front tyre burst, and over we went into a field in a big heap (silently guided by Cpl. Joe Bosomworth). Luckily we got away with one or two minor injuries; after treatment we all arrived at our destination in transport supplied by the Royal Warwicks. Our darts match for November had to be cancelled owing to lack of transport—or is it because the M.T.O. thinks we might ruin his M.T. altogether.

We are glad to see back in our midst Cpl. Hudson, who has had a decent spell trying to get recruits for the Regiment (how many did you say, Tom?), and also Cpl. Wright who returned from a short stay at the Depot.

"A" COMPANY

The Company spent the whole of September at Magilligan Camp. For the first two weeks we were there for our Company camp, when we had a rigorous time tearing up and down sand dunes doing platoon tactics by night and day. The cross-country team, led by Captain Wood, their enthusiasm somewhat damped after so many platoon attacks, managed to plod their way daily over four miles of "Magilligan Country" in training for the Battalion event. They were able to cool off in the sea and enjoy the facilities that Magilligan offers in the way of "Bondi" beaches. In other sporting fields the "Three Company Musketeers," Major Firth, 2 Lt. Fawcett and C.S.M. Batty were able to supply the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes with limited hares, but plentiful fish, the latter being caught after an arduous and highly dangerous bit of navigation through the straits of Magilligan. (C.S.M. steered while the officers rowed, against the tide.)

We terminated Company camp with a party ably compered by Sgt. Carman, who produced many a laugh. The most popular entertainer being Pte.

McGreavy, who gave a great rendering of the "Magilligan Rock," accompanied by a talented skiffle group. It was here that the Company said good-bye to Sgts. Carman and Perrin and wished them well on their posting to the Persian Gulf and Aden respectively.

Our training during Battalion camp at the end of September we found was apt to be damp. The main theme was river-crossing; consequently, if the Irish rain didn't get us, the rivers did. However, spirits were high and great success was achieved. Both platoons were, we think, full steam ahead, to use an appropriate nautical expression, on the Battalion Marching and Field-Firing Competition and, consequently, put the Company in first place. In the Battalion cross-country event the Company came second to the "B" Company professionals. Pte. Ibbetson came seventh; a notable achievement.

We returned to Palace Barracks for a short period in which Major Firth, 2 Lts. Fawcett and Faithfull were heavily engaged in work for the great Military Display at Balmoral. Cpl. Lee, L/Cpl. Reddy, Ptes. Brooksband and Gant took part in the P.T. demonstration which was a great feature of the display.

Our basketball team, consisting of Sgt. Todd, Cpls. Lee and Broadbent, L/Cpls. Reddy and Mitchell, Ptes. Ryan, Childerson, Lodge and Connolly, won the inter-Platoon competition and were well on their way to winning the inter-Company competition. Unfortunately the only way the organisers could stop us winning the cup was to cancel that competition and start another, when we were on detachment and could not train as a team.

Now most of us are back in Derry, enjoying the luxuries of H.M.S. *Sea Eagle*. The remainder are at Palace Barracks. In Derry we are employed doing some active patrolling in conjunction with the R.U.C. in the county and city and, in so doing, hope we are demoralising the rather inactive I.R.A. Recently, to further our liaison with the R.U.C. and U.S.C., we took part in exercise "Round Up," which was a combined exercise designed to exercise security forces in dealing with I.R.A. activity swiftly. This was accomplished, and in our case a platoon attack was launched on members of the U.S.C. (acting as enemy) with great ferocity. This we hoped would spread panic amongst them, but on the completion of the attack, casualties, they insisted, were fifty-fifty.

On paper we had the best Company soccer team in the Battalion, consisting of Sgt. Todd, Cpls. McLoughlin, Oldfield and Broadbent, L/Cpls. Mitchell, Reddy and Boakes, Ptes. Carroll, Cox, Wareham and Ibbetson. However, here again the fact that the Company was split up on detachment, meant that we could not train as a team, a major factor affecting our defeat by "S" Company.

We say good-bye to 2 Lts. Sharp and Faithfull, who both put in a lot of hard work with Company, particularly when others were away playing rugger. We also say good-bye to Cpls. Robins and Taylor, L/Cpls. Ware and Booth, Ptes. Tetley, Halford, Jordan, Moynihan, Moore, Jackson, Davey, Whittles, Fletcher, Lomax and Nelson, and we are sorry to

see them leave the ranks in which they have served so loyally and well.

We welcome to the Company 2 Lt. Arnold, Sgt. Simpson, L/Cpl. Craghill from "C" Company, Cpl. Simons, Ptes. Perkin, Richardson and Newman from "H.Q." Company and Cpl. Gaukroger from E.R.E. movement control, Harwich.

Congratulations to Sgt. Todd on his excellent grading on his Pirbright drill course. He now has the Navy completely astounded at the screaming severity of his orders. Our own shaking soldiers are equally spellbound on the square. Congratulations also go to Pte. Hemsworth on his grading as a dog-handler, and to L/Cpls. Martin, Blackburn and Lee on promotion to full Corporal, and to Pte. Blackburn to L/Corporal. Sgt. Delaney is also now at Pirbright, so we expect on his return to hear some competitive voices on the square. Last, but not least, we congratulate Mr. Addison on his promotion to Lieutenant!

ORDER OF BATTLE

Company Commander: Major A. D. Firth,
M.B.E., M.C.

2IC: Captain D. H. Wood
C.S.M.: C.S.M. R. S. Barry
C.Q.M.S.: C/Sgt. T. T. Dickie

No. 1 Platoon

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. Arnold
Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. Simpson

No. 2 Platoon

Platoon Commander: Lt. Addison
Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. Delaney

No. 3 Platoon

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. Fawcett
Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. Todd

"B" COMPANY

Once again we have started a new training season. The old finished in a blaze of activity at the annual Battalion camp held at Magilligan. The Company acquitted themselves well in the various activities. In the inter-Company and Platoon competitions "B" Company was always well to the fore. Our cross-country team came first, 2 Lt. Ralph winning a close race, and L/Cpl. Spruce, Pte. Porter and C.S.M. Kirk all running particularly well in a plucky team. In the inter-Platoon marching and field-firing competition No. 6 Platoon came third, a good effort as they had to come from H.M.S. *Sea Eagle* each day, 2 Lt. Cumberlege also winning his bet with the C.S.M. that his platoon could not complete the march in under two hours. No. 5 Platoon came fifth in this event.

In the Battalion and Brigade exercises the Company more than held their own, though it is reported they were wandering rather at one time. What's left from right, anyway? A miss is as good as a mile. In the meanwhile we have welcomed No. 6 Platoon back from Derry, where one and all say they had a very fine time.

In the sporting field we have our men in the Battalion Soccer XI and Rugby XV, 2 Lt. Ralph and Sgt. Collins having represented us in the soccer

world, while at rugger, Captain Hoppe, Cpl. Saville, L/Cpl. Field and Pte. Green are regular members of either the 1st or 2nd XV. We hope that Cpl. Saville, who recently broke his collar-bone playing for Hull, will make a sound and speedy recovery.

At the moment we are without our C.S.M., who is away punching up his drill in preparation for Trooping the Colour next year.

We welcome C/Sgt. Nicholson to the Company as our new "Q" and hope his stay will be a long and happy one. Also Sgt. Innes who has joined us from "S" Company, and Cpls. Saville, Hildred, Stowell and Dunne. During the past quarter, we are sorry to have lost Cpl. Hall as a P.T. Instructor to the Boy's School, R.E.M.E., Arborfield. We all wish him well in his new job and hope we will see him safely back after an enjoyable tour away. We have also lost many old friends to Civvy Street, among whom are Cpls. Braithwaite and Gillard, and many others, to whom we wish the very best of luck.

We must also offer our heartiest congratulations to L/Cpls. Spruce, Field, Milner and Read on their promotion.

To conclude, we wish all past and present members of "Shiny B" a happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

ORDER OF BATTLE

Company Commander: Major D. M. Harris

2IC: Captain P. B. L. Hoppe

C.S.M.: C.S.M. S. H. Kirk

C.Q.M.S.: C/Sgts. A. Arundel and G. Nicholson

Company Clerk: L/Cpl. D. R. Milner

Company Runner: Pte. W. Berry

No. 5 Platoon

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. M. Ralph

Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. J. P. Collins

No. 6 Platoon

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. Cumberlege

Platoon Sergeants: Sgts. A. Brown and D. Innes

"C" COMPANY

During the past quarter, "Charlie" Company has been somewhat of a transit Company for all units taking part in the display at "King's Hall." At times one had the feeling that representatives from almost every unit in the British Army were coming into the Company Stores for bedding, etc., and when the mail call blew, the Company Office resembled something like the G.P.O. more than anything else. However, all turned out well in the end, with an excellent display at "King's Hall." We feel proud to know that we played our little part in it.

As far as training goes, we are back in full swing once again with a small platoon of continuation training and two N.C.O.s' cadres on the go.

The continuation training platoon consists of a small draft of regulars (with the exception of Pte. Schofield, who is N.S.), whom we welcome to the Battalion after their stay at the Regimental Depot. Also, we welcome Cpl. Lane who joined us in June 1958 from the Depot. He is now a fully-fledged member of the Permanent Staff and is at the moment "whipping" the recruits into shape,

together with Sgt. Wilkinson and Platoon Commander 2 Lt. Marsay.

Lt. Gilbert-Smith, M.C., 2 Lt. Ralph, Sgts. Simpson and Welsh, Cpls. Johnson and Holliday are all employed in running the two N.C.O.s' cadres which are now going very smoothly.

At this point, we in "Charlie" would like to thank all companies concerned in the loan of officers and N.C.O.s to us, which made the running of our cadres possible.

In the middle of October an anti-ambush display was organised by Lt. Gilbert-Smith, M.C., with the assistance of the Corps of Drums, the M.T., the R.U.C., and Pte. Poole of the Permanent Staff. The clatter of detonated gun-cotton and the rattle of L.M.G. and machine carbine gave many a man the impression that we were being besieged by the I.R.A., but everything was in the capable hands of Lt. Gilbert-Smith, M.C., as we all saw on the actual day of the demonstration.

The ambition of C.S.M. Nichols is for the Company football team to retain the Inter-Company Shield. The team set out this season with the same idea, and gained even more confidence when they beat "Delta" by 8 goals to 4. But alas, they met a temporary set-back in "H.Q." Company, who beat them (or was it slaughtered) 8 goals to 1. It must be said, however, that this was our first defeat over the past two seasons.

ORDER OF BATTLE

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

2IC: Lt. D. S. Gilbert-Smith, M.C.

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

C.Q.M.S. (Acting): Sgt. Costello

Company Clerk: L/Cpl. Bottomley

Orderly Sgt. and Bn. Sports Clerk: Cpl. Quayle

Storemen: L/Cpl. Self, Ptes. Poole and Greenwood
(Arms)

Company Runner: Pte. Dickinson

N.C.O.s' Cadre

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

Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. Welsh

Platoon Corporal: Cpl. Holliday

Potential N.C.O.s

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. Ralph

Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. Simpson

Platoon Corporal: Cpl. Johnson

"D" COMPANY

Champion Company 1957-58

We hesitated about including the sub-title above, but decided that at the risk of being pompous, this is the one occasion when we can blow our own trumpet. (No one else will blow it for us!)

Undoubtedly the most important feature of the period under review was the end of the summer training season, and our winning of the Inter-Company Championship competition.

The championship is competed for by all companies, and all activities (military and sporting) count towards it. This particular competition started at the end of 1957 and ended at Battalion camp in September. "D" Company were not

brilliant at any one thing; we were first in boxing and one of our platoons won the forced march competition, but in everything else we were 2nd or 3rd, and thus maintained a good steady average which produced a winning score in the end. One of our platoons, No. 12, under 2 Lt. Marsay, won the Battalion Inter-Platoon Marching and Firing competition by a clear margin, and we heartily congratulate them on a fine effort. The platoons of "A" Company were favourites, but no amount of carping will alter the fact that No. 12 Platoon beat them soundly. There is no doubt that marching 9 miles in full equipment, with all weapons and ammunition in pouring rain in 1 hour 56 minutes is a fine achievement by any standards.

A handsome white and scarlet board recording our win is now proudly displayed beneath our own Company board. This has obviously aroused some feeling in the other companies' lines, as the board was removed in a raid the other night. We recovered it the next morning near another company's lines. We didn't accuse anyone, but we have our suspicions!

At Battalion camp at Magilligan we occupied our old lines, and in general enjoyed our time there. On the two big river-crossing exercises, "D" Company provided the Bank Group—how we came to love those boats!

On our return to Holywood we started to prepare for the Military Display held at King's Hall, Belfast, from October 10 to 14. We provided our quota of guards and "construction engineers," and we were represented in the P.T. display by Messrs. Moon, Griffiths, Beedham and Nash. The Regiment had the honour of providing the guard of honour to the Governor on the opening day. "D" Company were well represented, providing 14 men for the guard, C.S.M. Burke as right marker, Sgt. Fenn in the Colour party, and the guard was commanded by Major Tedd.

On October 23 our winter training began with P.T., marching, drill, weapon training, regimental history and the like—2nd and 3rd class Education Courses take their toll, and we have seven N.C.O.s and potential N.C.O.s on cadres.

The Inter-Company .22 shooting league has started and so far we are lying 2nd.

A very successful Company party was held on November 7 in the barrack room above the Company office. C/Sgt. Pennington was responsible for all arrangements, assisted by Sgts. Wilkinson and Morris behind the bar, and excellent eats were provided by S/Sgt. Scott. We invited the C.O., Adjutant and R.S.M., but unfortunately only the latter could come. He made up for this by giving us his rendering of "The Keyhole in the Door!!" Anyway that started the ball rolling, and throughout the evening, as everyone from the Company Commander downwards gave a turn, it was evident that we had an abundance of talent—ranging from Haigh's jokes to Rix Hinds and Chilton singing and Wilkinson and Challenger on guitars. The Company skiffle group now formed is rehearsing under 2 Lt. Duckney and will take part in the Battalion concert in December.

We have little more to add except to report on

our latest arrivals and departures and other casualties during the period. We very reluctantly said good-bye to Mr. Raimes, who left us to be in charge of boys at Pontefract—we are sorry to lose him. In his place we welcome 2 Lt. Shenton, who strengthens our Company rugby team. Welcome also to Cpls. Hartley and Palmer from "H.Q." Company, Ptes. McCrea and Lancaster from the Signal Platoon and Hamilton from the Green Howards. And a special welcome to the men of the York and Lancaster Regiment who are with us until January. We are glad to have you. C/Sgt. Pennington and Sgt. Pratt have returned from their Guards Drill courses and leave—we are sorry the former was ill.

Congratulations to Cpls. Clarke and Birch, L/Cpls. Scroby, Shepherd, England and Davies on their promotions, to Cpl. Dowdall on his marriage, Ptes. Goode and Timlin (31) on the addition to their families, and to L/Cpl. Goulding on losing his appendix!

Congratulations also to the following on representing the Battalion on various sports. Captain Cowell, Messrs. Shenton, Marsey and Duckney, L/Cpls. Scroby, Davies and Newell (2nd XV), Cpl. Dowdall (2nd XV) at Rugby, Cpl. Palmer and Pte. Marney at soccer, Pte. Nash at basketball.

And good-bye and good luck to all those who have left us (quite a lot this time): Cpls. Bailey, Hill, Hewitt and Fairbanks, L/Cpls. Lowe and Jackson, and Ptes. Fawcett, Harriman, Lofthouse, Beedham, Pearson, Hill (76), Hill (51), Rice Maude and Stott to civilian life, Griffiths to "S" Company, Jones to M.T., and Benn to Brigade. We wish you well.

ORDER OF BATTLE

Company Commander: Major Tedd

2IC: Captain Cowell

C.S.M.: W.O.2 Burke

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

Clerk: L/Cpl. Goulding

Storeman: L/Cpl. Harrison

Runner: Pte. Wilkinson

No. 10 Platoon

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. Duckney

Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. Chilvers

No. 11 Platoon

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. Shenton

Platoon Sergeants: Sgts. Fenn and Pratt

No. 12 Platoon

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. Marsay (att. "C" Company)

Platoon Sergeants: Sgts. Wilkinson (att. "C" Company) and Morris

"S" COMPANY

The highlights during the period covered by the last notes and up to mid-November have been Battalion training at Magilligan, the M.M.G.s' concentration at Netheravon and the part played by the Mortar Platoon in the impressive military display at King's Hall, Belfast, in October. Sorry, there is one other event which no one in the Company will be allowed to forget, namely, the Anti-Tank Platoon's live firing (B.A.T.) at the beginning of November.

The concentration, display and anti-tank firing are covered by platoons in their own notes. "S" Company's part in Battalion training was somewhat confused in that the M.M.G. Platoon did not take part in exercises, though it was sometimes mentioned by the exercise C.O. in his orders (if he remembered). The Mortar Platoon was actually seen in the field though, because of the absence of key personnel on other tasks, it was unable to even go through the motions of supporting companies. The Anti-Tank Platoon, for similar reasons, was sometimes one gun and sometimes enemy. However, the Assault Pioneer Platoon functioned properly in two of the major exercises and is unlikely to forget its experiences with assault rafts and ferrying for many moons. In fact the Platoon did jolly well.

In the sporting sphere the Company has set a precedent by arranging swimming (a horrid thought for the winter, though it must be admitted that the bath is heated) and squash racquets. The latter has really caught on with the soldiers, particularly in the Mortar Platoon, and the officers will doubtless have to look to their laurels before long. Finally, we must not forget our soccer team, which has started extremely well in the Company league with victories over "A" Company (4-0) and "D" Company (8-1).

Since the Assault Pioneers are not occupying a separate section of the Company notes this time, the opportunity must be taken to congratulate L/Cpl. Butterfield on his promotion to Corporal. Meanwhile, Cpl. Gee receives the polish of an N.C.O.s' cadre.

Lastly, a word about Company H.Q. Firstly, we welcome Captain Miller as 2IC. We hope and trust his stay will not be too temporary. Both the C.S.M. and C.Q.M.S. await with impatience, mixed with trepidation, possibly, the result of their A.C.E. 1st Class exams. The C.S.M. has been heard to say that the arithmetic paper was offside—obviously he had been unable to get the answers in advance! Anyway, we wish and hope for their success and trust the C.S.M. will enjoy (is it possible?) his drill course at Pirbright in January. Three more personalities should be mentioned. They are Pte. Bland and L/Cpl. Haywood, who will be released before our next notes. Both will be missed, for they have been prominent in many Company and Battalion activities. In particular, L/Cpl. Haywood has been a regular and most dashing wing three-quarter in the Regimental rucker team for the past two seasons. The third and important personality, our Company Clerk, Cpl. Leaf, whom we wish every good fortune for his marriage in December.

ORDER OF BATTLE

Company Commander: Major J. E. V. Butterfield
 2IC: Captain C. D. de Miller
 C.S.M.: C.S.M. S. H. Erswell
 C.Q.M.S.: C/Sgt. R. C. Webb
Mortar Platoon
 Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. M. R. N. Bray
 Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. Battye
M.M.G. Platoon
 Platoon Commander: Lt. C. W. Ivey
 Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. A. J. Spring

Anti-Tank Platoon

Platoon Commander: 2 Lt. R. L. Stevens
 Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. C. Curling

ANTI-TANK PLATOON

At last we have done it! We have fired "Big Harry." He has not been fired since 1956, and we are the first unit to have done so in Ireland. Only 90 pounds' worth of ammunition missed the target, out of a possible 1,170 pounds' worth. Sentries and wireless sets were provided by the Signal Platoon. We took the M.M.G. Platoon out one day, to show them what a real weapon looked like.

Our Platoon Commander has now returned from Netheravon, full of enthusiasm for a weapon we have not got.

The Platoon played their part at the camp at Magilligan, and were even trapped into a cross-country run. During camp, Sgt. France came from the Depot to prepare Sgt. Curling and Cpl. Kelly for their Netheravon course, which they are now on. We wish them good luck with their gradings.

Now that we are settled into our new Stores, Roderick has taken over as Storeman, aided by Williams, who appears to be "diffi" two teeth single front. Robertson has escaped and is doing time in the M.I. Room, under Sgt. Sergeant. Otherwise the cast is as usual.

Congratulations to Cpl. Hamilton on his promotion to Corporal. (He does not know it yet, but shortly he is coming back to the Platoon to do some proper soldiering.)

Now for Christmas. . . .

M.M.G. PLATOON

Platoon H.Q.

Platoon Commander: Lt. C. W. Ivey
 Platoon Sergeant: Sgt. A. Spring
 Platoon Wireless/Op.: Pte. Dawson
 Platoon Despatch Rider: Pte. Underwood
 Platoon Cook: ? ?, Pte. Strangeway
No. 1 Section
 Sec. Cmdr.: Sgt. Parker-Smith
 Sec. Cmdr.: Cpl. Rusby
 Rangetaker: Pte. Garth
 Rangetaker: Pte. Bennett
 Wireless/Op.: Pte. Underwood
No. 1 Gun
 No. 1: Pte. Speck
 No. 2: Pte. Knowles
No. 2 Gun
 No. 1: Pte. Tordoff
 No. 2: Pte. Caldicott
 Sec. No. 3: Pte. Liburd
No. 3 Gun
 No. 1: L/Cpl. Helliwell
 No. 2: L/Cpl. Culloden
No. 4 Gun
 No. 1: Cpl. Stewart
 No. 2: Pte. Sloan
 Sec. No. 3: Pte. Holmes

We have just completed one of our Platoon commander's ambitions, that is, to go to Netheravon for a special concentration which was arranged on a semi-official basis. All ranges were booked and extra ammunition acquired (35,000 rounds in all). The remaining problem—how to get there! The R.A.F., via our friend from *Sea Eagle* days, Group Captain Seymour, kindly lent us a Hastings. This very noble gesture was appreciated by all, and on our arrival at Lyneham, we were met by transport from the School of Infantry.

From the start of the concentration (following four days' leave) our feet never touched the ground. From morning till night we trained under the guidance of Q.M.S.I. Bidmead, M.M., ably helped by C.Q.M.S. Sullivan of the Depot.

Ten days, and many marches and attacks, much firing, and a few "knock-outs" later (Tordoff and Sloan were hit on the head by tripods during a march over rough ground), we were finished. We all learned a great deal about the M.M.G in the various phases of war. The following managed to classify as machine-gunners, and they certainly earned their badges: Cpl. Stewart, L/Cpl. Helliwell, Ptes. Tordoff, Speck, Dawson, Caldicott and Sloan. Ptes. Bennett and Garth qualified as Rangetakers. We must mention our Platoon Cook, Pte. Strangeway, who kept us very well fed!

We chartered a bus to take us from Netheravon to Halifax, thanks to a special travelling expense allowance, and proceeded on four days' leave. After leave we reassembled at Halifax and, much to the relief of the Platoon Commander, arrived back in Ireland, without losing anything.

Sgt. Parker-Smith and Cpl. Stewart were left behind at Netheravon to go on the next course. We wish them well, and we *know* they *will* do well.

Congratulations to Pte. Liburd on his being a father, and also to L/Cpl. Culloden on his marriage.

Unfortunately we had to say good-bye to L/Cpl. Broadbent, who was demobbed recently. We all wish him the best of luck in Civvy Street. Pte. Boardman has left us now, and gone to the Signals. Sgt. Spring, our old mainstay of the Platoon, is expecting to leave shortly for an E.R.E. appointment. We will certainly miss "Dad" Spring.

Best wishes to all for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

3-IN. MORTAR PLATOON

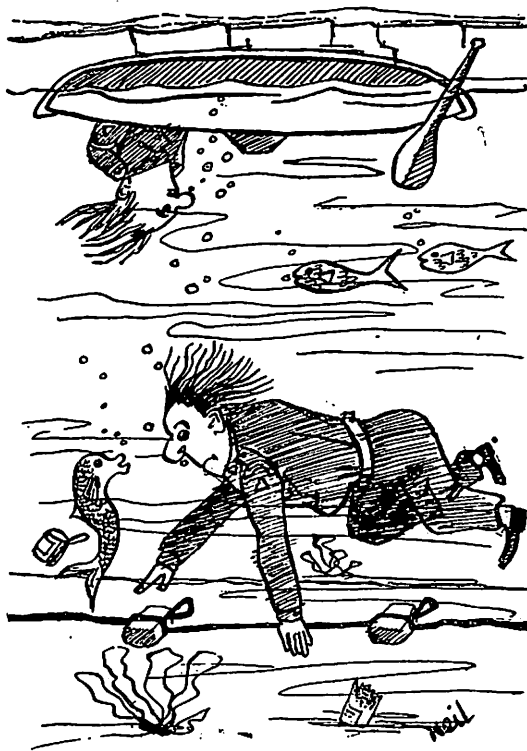
Earlier in the year we said *au revoir* to Lt. Pell. In his place we welcome Lt. Bray, whose keenness and high regard for physical exercise have made him doubly welcome, even to a chronically idle senior N.C.O.!

Since returning from Battalion and Company camp very little specialist training has been done. However, the Mortar numbers are highly trained, and when we get Cpls. Kelly and Broomhead and Lt. Bray back from Netheravon we hope to move into top gear.

We were sorry to lose Sgt. Innes, whose swan song after many years with the Platoon was his successful demonstration at the King's Hall Display in Belfast. On each of the four days of the display we gave a demonstration. Using four mortars, and many loud bangs, we produced, with the help of Cpl. Senior (Signals Platoon), realistic explosions on a cloth model and earned the congratulations of the G.O.C.

We also lose half of L/Cpl. Laherty, who we congratulate on his marriage—R.I.P. Congratulations also to Ptes. Firth and Stocks on gaining their 2nd class education certificates.

Finally, Happy Christmas and New Year to all "Dukes" mortarmen, past and present.



"D" Coy line here, Sir!

"H. Q." COMPANY

At the time of writing these notes, those two infamous words "Christmas leave" have again reared their heads, and already several lists have been made out by various departments, torn up by the Company Office Staff, or filed by the C.S.M. in his basket. It was laid down by the Company Commander that 50% would be allowed leave at Christmas, and 50% at the New Year. We often wonder if our departments fully understand what 50% means.

At last we feel we have a football team capable of winning the inter-Company tournament. Of the two matches played so far, we have defeated "B" Company 4-3, and "C" Company 8-1. The last result gave us great elation as "C" Company beat us in the final last year. So look out, "A," "D" and "S" Companies, we are after a high goal average. Our team at the moment is: L/Cpl. Jennison, Ptes. Simpson, Dalton, Rashbrook of the M.T.; Ptes. Dunning and Kingdom of the Signal Platoon; Pte. Deakin of the Officers' Mess; Ptes. Hague, Campbell and Walsworth, batmen; Pte. Martin of the Pioneers.

Although the Inter-Company Hockey Tournament has not yet started, we have had several trials and friendly games. The results so far have been good, and it is pleasing to see many new faces on the hockey field. Several of the younger members of the Company took up the game for the first time



[Photo: Belfast News-letter Ltd.]

Inspection of the Guard of Honour by His Excellency the Governor at the opening of the King's Hall Military Display

about five weeks ago, and are now very keen players. We hope to report in the next issue that the Inter-Company Hockey Shield will again be in our hands.

Education classes are now in full swing for 1st, 2nd and 3rd class certificates. Several members of the Company have a very worried look these days—we wish them all success.

Mention must be made of the Dog-Handlers Section, which has suffered a lamentable lack of publicity in our previous notes. This is now a very thriving section, under the command of Lt. Greenway (Assistant Adjutant) and Cpl. Spearman. Congratulations to Pte. Hemsworth on gaining a "B" grading on his dog-handlers' course, and to L/Cpl. Tillotson on his promotion.

Departures to civilian life have again been numerous, but special mention must be made of Pte. Bottom of the Signals Platoon and Pte. Jessop of the Pioneers, both stalwarts of the Company football team for the past two years. Cpl. Dunne, of the Company Stores, Cpl. Hartley of the Ration Stores and Sgt. Falkingham of the Signal Platoon have left Headquarters to try their hand in a Duty Company. We wish them, and all members of the Company who have been released, the best of luck wherever they are. In conclusion, we would like to extend our congratulations to Sgt. Parker on

receiving an "A" grading on his Unit fire course.

ORDER OF BATTLE

Company Commander: Major D. N. Simonds
 C.S.M.: C.S.M. Sheehan
 C.Q.M.S.: C.Q.M.S. Mountcastle
 Company Clerks: L/Cpl. Liggett and Pte. Coughlan
 Company Storemen: L/Cpl. Mountain and Pte. Robson

M.T. NOTES

We are sorry to say our bus company must close down owing to a slight accident, in which we think Cpl. Joe Bosomworth was trying to do a Hancock's half-hour. The bus turned over on its way to the Royal Warwickshire Regiment, but we are pleased to say no one was badly hurt, but these days Joe walks around saying they would not buy a wash leather. What's he talking about?

On the arrival of the October issue of THE IRON DUKE notes, Lt. Huffam was seen carrying a pick shaft and heard to say, "Where's Sykes." My, the truth hurts, but it's like water off a duck's back. But the time spent is well worth it, the vintage car "works" gathers trade daily.

Our accident rate at present (keeping fingers crossed) is not bad, compared with the miles done over a period of three months. The mileage done

was 181,618 miles for 14 accidents, an accident being anything from a broken driving mirror to a complete "write-off." With the bad weather coming in, a good stock of F.M.T.3s and 252s are held at the ready, just in case.

All cars held by drivers are still going strong, apart from Cpl. Brown's, which is still not running. If it stands any longer it will be entered in the rare vintage class. Cpl. Morgan stands on the civvy "holy carpet." At the time of these notes being made out we wish him luck (he will need it). Lt. Huffam has gone with him, so we expect nothing less than *life*. We are going ahead for our Christmas Party which, we hope, will exceed last year's, if that is possible. We are all putting towards it weekly.

Our battle for duties still goes on—M.T. Personnel say we get all the duties in the Battalion, along with our own. "Signal Platoon, please note."

The garage has had a face-lift, paint all over the place. It's that bad, Sgt. Willy Wass stood still and his boots got painted—or were they Sgt. Sykes? That's a question.

The M.T.O., Lt. (Q.M.) "Farmer" Dawson, has just returned from leave and has been heard asking: "How much do my pig's weigh, and will my chickens be ready for the Christmas rush?" We are wondering whether that joke about the foot-pump and blowing up will really happen.

The comings and goings of M.T. still carry on, the hard core still remain. While the petrol still goes through the pump we will V.O.R. ourselves till next time.

THE REAR PARTY

*"If I was fierce and bald and short of breath,
I'd live with Scarlet Majors at the Base."*

STIEGFRIED SASSOON.

Whilst the Battalion was at Magilligan Camp, little of their reflected glory fell on the Rear Party. The latter were not called on to rise in the chilly September dawn, groping for mislaid equipment and soundly cursing the soldier's lot; they did not flit through the hills with the Firthforce or get "bogged down" with "karcorps"; they had no chance to make the heaven- and Brigade-sent excuse: "I must have lost it crossing the river"—surely on a par with the old excuse for broken windows: "Engineer demonstration and/or wind in the night."

They carried out their duties, nevertheless, in a painstaking manner, and all the many and varied items called for from Magilligan were duly despatched. These included mail, ammunition, lamps, watch-straps, new picture papers for the Officers' Mess, socks and, last but not least, a clean hand towel for the Commanding Officer.

Three guards, carefully selected by the Adjutant, were left behind to carry out the duties of Battalion Headquarters Guard. The first of these to mount included one man with his arm in a sling, three men excused boots and two excused arms drill. Reports have it that Sgt. Sanderson (B.O.S.), on being confronted by this strange collection, was heard to give the unique but apposite command: "Guard—to the Guard Room. In your own time—Shuffle off!" A further report has it that this

N.C.O.'s subsequent Annual Confidential Report contained the following item: "Shows initiative and displays a marked degree of mental flexibility." We hope the I.R.A. thought it was bluff.

One windy Wednesday night a wire at the C.O.D., Kinnegar, short-circuited, thereby setting off the alarm. All ranks behaved calmly and correctly, but despite all the efforts of Captain Kenchington and the civilian electrician, the accursed thing couldn't be switched off. The detachment commander who, in an ill-judged moment of keenness, had started to run towards the Clock Tower, was seen much later on, to the amazement of all beholders, searching the whole area for a valuable cigarette case which had fallen out of his coat pocket. He was simply but suitably clad in Pyjama Order and a British warm. He found the case in the end, so all was well. Hold your heads up, those men!

Despite all, we were more than pleased to see the Battalion return. Perhaps the unaccustomed silence had been too much for us.

SIGNAL PLATOON

During the last quarter, the Platoon has done quite a lot of practical signalling at Battalion camp, Brigade exercise and exercises from Palace Barracks.

The Battalion camp at Magilligan was most enjoyable and proved extremely useful in all aspects of signalling. The Company operators showed a marked improvement in maintaining communications, some of them charging through the "Irish bog" with 62-sets on their backs and water round their knees, trying to keep up with the Company Commander and still keep communications.

At Battalion H.Q. an intercept station was set up during Exercise "Hide and Seek"; this proved most successful and rather entertaining. The station managed to get the enemy "Sunray" on the air, and got his headquarter location in clear before he discovered he was talking to the enemy—the air was suddenly filled with a lot of "high-tension" speech waves!! Pronto had visions of extra Orderly Officers!

The Brigade Exercise "Pilgrims' Progress" was a Signals' success; the Platoon did everything in their power to maintain communications. The exercise was a river-crossing, and then an advance to contact. There was a considerable amount of man-packing, plus the actual crossing of the river; unfortunately the transport did not cross the river until some time later—this meant no battery re-supply until dawn, which presented quite a problem, but all was well, messages were cut to the minimum and the battery life surpassed their eight hours.

The line section did extremely well, laying at night and across the river at the rafting sites; despite vehicles and assaulting troops, the lines worked efficiently.

River-Crossing

Having come back from Battalion camp, it was decided to have a river-crossing exercise—we went up to the Outward Bound School at Larne and borrowed their boats. It was decided to have four line parties and to make a race of it—this proving

most entertaining! Some assault boats were heavily laden with bricks to tie to the line and were almost sinking, whilst the other craft were going round in small circles! everybody paddling on one side—eventually, after a little shouting by i/c line parties, the boats were got under control and all lines laid and working, which is still a mystery to some of us.

During lunch the Platoon went out in groups in the canoes; this proved extremely alarming—looking out into the bay, one saw a group of canoes milling about, when suddenly one vanished—the assault boat dashed out to the rescue, to find Ptes. Smith and Cairns canoeing underwater—the rescued seamen were treated for shock, with hoots of laughter from the shore!!

After lunch we held a regatta and had canoe-racing. Needless to say, another canoe turned over with Dunning and Rogers—the most remarkable thing about this was that Dunning's beret never got wet!!—despite turning over in the canoe and swimming 100 yards to the shore. It was requested that we go out for more river-crossing exercises.

In the sporting field the Platoon has done fairly well, having won all their basketball matches; the football needs a little more coaching and co-ordination. The Battalion cross-country run went well, despite the R.S.M. preparing "absent without leave" charges against the Signal Platoon element who arrived somewhat later than the others.

Since our last notes we have said good-bye to Bottom and Rogers, we wish to take this opportunity of wishing them every success in the future. We have also lost nine other members of the Platoon who have gone to rifle companies—we hope to see their faces quite often in the Platoon in the evenings amongst the skiffle group and budding Elvis Presleys. We haven't reached the Pink Cadillac stage yet, but some of the hair-cuts(!) are pretty near it.

OUTWARD BOUND CLUB

As a result of inspiration by the C.O., the Outward Bound Club was formally opened on October 23, 1958, in the old court-martial room by the President, Major A. B. M. Kavanagh, M.C., the C.O. being away at the time.

Mr. Frazell of the N.I.T.B. had kindly agreed to come down for opening night and to give what turned out to be an interesting and entertaining account of Ulster.

Since then the Club has been flourishing, as well as expanding considerably. 2 Lts. Duckney and Ralph and their canoeists have been out on several expeditions. 2 Lt. Ted Duckney took his first one to Banbridge, and it was noteworthy for the fact that the canoeists did not expect they had to be swimmers as well. He is fortunate to have a very capable instructor and assistant as well as canoe builder in L/Cpl. Watts.

The rock-climbers, too, have been out several times to learn and practise their particular brands of entertainment.

They were fortunate to have the assistance of Captain Mills, R.A.S.C., Dr. Leslie Symons

(Queen's University), as well as those irrepressible rock-climbing enthusiasts, Cpls. Chew and Johnson. Stubbs, of "B" Company, still has his quaint liking for individual efforts, for although he in fact starts out with a group, he is next seen three or four days later. We strongly suspect secret *amours!*

Many people with no previous experience or knowledge have joined this section of the Club, and most of them are proving very adept. Long may the ropes hold!

Lt. John Greenway's photographers have been busy learning their art, and we hope to publish several of their results in the forthcoming editions of THE IRON DUKE. He is already sending "volunteers" out with the canoeists and climbers to photograph their activities.

2 Lt. Bray is running the sailing and modelling section. Happily, his modellers are breeding their brainchildren like rabbits, and it is obvious that soon hangars will be sprouting. The sailing section will shortly be constructing a five- or six-man sailing dinghy for use during the coming summer.

The woodworking section is working under Lt. Bob Huffam, and although temporarily handicapped by lack of wood, is none the less making several useful articles when practicable.

Field sports are temporarily in abeyance in the absence of 2 Lt. Fawcett and C.S.M. "Mr. Doings" Batty at Londonderry. However, they have the men and materials all ready and waiting when they return.

2 Lt. Simon Arnold has been inveigled into supervising the accounts and materials of the Club, but he has also kindly volunteered to organise and take out expeditions to places of general interest in Ulster. Doubtless, Armagh will develop from a place of personal interest to a place of general interest for this section.

The Club now boasts eighty hard-core members, but is constantly expanding.

So far, in addition to providing a most enjoyable time for its members, it is considerably assisting the military angle from the character-building and mind-broadening aspect.

We are all extremely grateful for the wholehearted and enthusiastic assistance of Major A. J. E. Cummins (R.A.E.C.) and 2 Lt. Lawrence (R.A.E.C.).

CORPS OF DRUMS

We would like to open our notes by bidding a fond farewell to Dmrs. Copley and Murphy who are due to join their own regiment, The Prince of Wales' own Yorkshire Regiment. We wish them a safe journey and hope that their stay with us has been a happy one.

Just recently the N.C.O.s of the Drums seem to be holding the R.S.M.'s head up off his hands by doing guards and B.O.C.s. "Press on regardless, lads!"

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Dmr. Riley on his marriage since our last notes. "Well, may all your troubles be little ones."

After a lapse in practice we are now getting to work in preparation for the Colours in June. We seem to be quite in favour as regards Battalion

activities. In October the N.C.O.s and men of the Drums did a demonstration ambush for the Chief of Police (R.U.C.) and officers and men of the Battalion. It was quite successful and Major Kavanagh seemed highly delighted.

We have lost Dmr. Jackson to Civvy Street, and Dmrs. Murphy (25), Stevens and Riley will be joining him shortly. We wish them luck in their future careers.

The Drums seem to be holding their own sick parade nowadays, the most recent casualty being Dmr. Cooper, who during a gallant attempt to rescue a horse from a trench stood on a 6-in. nail.

We went on the range for three days a short while ago, and did the new classification on course, which we found a little confusing at first.

Congratulations to L/Cpl. Dowd on becoming a father for the second time; we sincerely hope that Mrs. Dowd and the baby are getting on fine.

BAND

We open these notes with a welcome back to the fold of Bdsms. Gill, Cherry and Flaherty, who have just returned from a course at the Royal Military School of Music. We also congratulate Bdsms. J. B. Gill on his recent promotion to Lance-Corporal.

We bid farewell to Bdsms. Harrison and Melvin, who have left for a course at the R.M.S.M., and hope that their stay will be pleasant and beneficial to them and us.

Once again we have changed our Band President and we welcome back Major J. E. V. Butterfield, who we hope will be with us for some time.

The Bandmaster, Mr. Bowyer, L.R.A.M., has left us to go recruiting for a week at Halifax. We wish him the best of luck, and hope he will be successful in his endeavours.

So far we have performed at numerous (some even paid) functions, and we seem to be making quite a good name for ourselves in Northern Ireland.

We went over to Halifax to beat Retreat for the Old Comrades of the Regiment, and from all quarters we had nothing but praise for the way we performed.

So far this year we have not achieved much success on the sports field, but we hope to do better in the near future.

Finally, we close these notes by wishing farewell and good luck to L/Cpl. J. A. Patten, who has left us and returned to civilian life.

DA CAPO.

UNIT PAY TEAM

Personnel: Major R. A. Burnett, S/Sgt. J. Rodger, Sgt. R. Kirk, Cpl. Freeman ("A"), Cpl. Darlison ("B"), L/Cpl. Sinclair ("D"), Cpl. Lloyd ("S"), Cpl. Medlycott ("H.Q.").

The first notes to be typed on the ancient machine (which does heroic duty for all) will be largely concerned with the past year—always supposing they are accepted. It is not intended to regale one and all with lurid details of the debtor balance register, nor yet of the star classification system. We have, we think, achieved a good year's work, despite the efforts of "the few" to dislocate

the efforts of the Company pay clerks. In Battalion activities both Sgt. Kirk and Cpl. Medlycott deserve a passing reference. Sgt. Kirk resembled a "gladiator" for a few days in the middle of the summer by jogging around the field in a track suit. He ran on several occasions and suffered no deleterious effects. Cpl. Medlycott has the most misspelt name in the army, with "H.Q." Company office producing three or four different variations on it weekly; three or four dependent on how many guards he succeeds in performing during one whole week. Apart from this, he is now something rather senior in the Photographic Club. One can only hope that the AFSP 1922 are properly made out, and that the authority is well and truly stated. It is surprising how het-up people can get over AF P 1922.

Cpl. Darlison, the Baden-Powell representative, has been observed to light the office fire by methods other than rubbing two sticks together—which shows how much versatility is ingrained in the present-day N.C.O.

Cpl. Freeman is the senior of the Corporals, and is shortly taking release action, despite clever propaganda from Staff, who had almost persuaded him that his future was secure. Cpl. Lloyd was seen one day reading a recipe for carbon monoxide; the standard of reading matter indeed ranges from chemistry and physics to "The Green 'Un."

L/Cpl. Sinclair provided another entrant from across the Border, taking the place of Cpl. Brown, who is undergoing a tour of Northern Ireland.

Statistical Notes

The telephone which is shared with P.R.I. rings on an average 38 times in a day; 36 calls in every 38 are for Captain Shuttleworth.

The average number of credit application forms completed weekly is 47. Of these, about 23% are incorrectly completed.

The average number of men seen in the outer office at any given time is approximately 11½. Of these, 9 have come to ask about their credits, 2 have come to ask about their daily rate of pay, and the remaining ½ has come to buy a silk handkerchief from the P.R.I.

The average number of casual payments per week is around the 30 mark. Of these, the majority are pertaining to "H.Q." Company, despite the Herculean efforts of all concerned to winkle the Troglodytes out of their hiding places.

We conclude with wishing everyone the best for Christmas and the New Year, hoping that you get as much fun out of things as we are always trying to get (but not always succeeding).

RUGBY NOTES

The season began with almost the whole of our XV from last year again "In residence." We are missing Michael Hardy, but on the whole, the team is far better equipped than ever before. We welcome the return of Major Isles, the arrival of Scroby and Field, and were quite delighted when 2 Lts. Addison, Duckney and Shenton decided to extend their period of National Service for a year. Lt. Campbell-Lamerton, after a large period of inactivity caused by his accident in Cyprus, is

making good progress and has already proved his worth. Excellent timing by Pte. Arnold allowed 2 Lt. Arnold to return from Mons in time for the opening of the campaign.

Our first game in the Army Cup will be against 38 Training Regiment, R.A., on December 3, at Hollywood. It is hoped that the result of this game is included in the "stop press" of this issue. After last year's victory we are fair game and have already noted that all our opponents of last year are going well.

The season began with a good win against Malone. As always we started slowly, and at half-time were eight points down, but a dashing display by the forwards carried the day in the second half. They carried themselves in glory and distinguished themselves in all phases of the game. At the same time the backs were also distinguishing themselves, by dropping the ball at every possible opportunity.

Whilst the Battalion was in camp at Magilligan the XV enjoyed two very easy games at Londonderry. The pack suffered a great loss when Captain Hoppe dislocated his shoulder. He made good progress and returned for the game against Ballymena.

Immediately after camp we visited Yorkshire for two mid-week games against the Old Roundhegans and Halifax. The game against the former side, holders of the Yorkshire Cup, was played in the worst possible conditions. The referee almost abandoned the game because of bad light and torrential rain. Fortunately he was persuaded that play was still possible and, as the weather brightened, we ran up 14 points.

After our defeat at Halifax last year, we were keen to do well. The result was perfect justice for the score was exactly as last season, but this time in our favour. It was a hard game with the forwards again working well, but the backs were not moving smoothly. We were made very welcome by the Halifax club. For the whole week we were entertained at the Depot, and we are all most grateful to the Commanding Officer and members of the Depot Staff for the warmth of their welcome.

Our best game of the season to date was against the North of Ireland XV, whom we beat by 22 points to 3. It was played on a lovely day on a perfect surface, and open football was played by both sides. The forwards held their own, but for the first time our centre backs showed their class. Davis and Saville ran brilliantly and Greenway gave them an excellent service. Lt. Campbell-Lamerton returned to the side and played particularly well in the line-out. Gilbert-Smith enjoyed his encounter with Dr. Jackie Kyle. The game was watched by an Army selector, Major Townsend, who is an ex-"Duke."

Further games have all produced their lessons and Ballymena were formidable opponents. During this period we suffered a severe blow when Cpl. Saville broke his collar-bone. Apart from his ability as a centre three-quarter, we are now desperately short of a goal-kicker. So desperate, that the writer is the next to try.

Our great difficulty is concerned with the selection of the forwards for the Army Cup. The final

eight will be found from Isles, Glanfield, Hoppe, Cowell, Arnold, Campbell-Lamerton, Scroby, Addison, Duckney, Shenton and Gilbert-Smith. All are regular members of the 1st XV, and whoever is asked to stand down will be most unfortunate. The three-quarters will be selected from Dasent, Marsay, Davis, Haywood and Field. The full-back for the first round of the Army Cup, if we survive, will be 2 Lt. Bishop. Greenway and Shuttleworth are linking smoothly at half-back.

The XV is proving most effective as a fast, attacking unit. Dare we admit that we have to run with the ball because none of the backs can kick? In the same way as Gilbert-Smith is known in France as the "maker" of great fly-halves, so our backs are giving tremendous confidence to the full-backs of Ulster, by kicking the ball straight to them! Whatever the result of the Army Cup, we are enjoying our stay in Northern Ireland and are trying to run with the ball.

1st XV Results to Date:

v. Malone	..	..	11—8
v. Londonderry	..	..	38—0
v. H.M.S. <i>Sea Eagle</i>	..	..	50—3
v. Old Roundhegans	..	..	14—0
v. Halifax	..	..	9—0
v. N.I.F.C.	..	..	22—3
v. R.U.C.	..	..	14—9
v. Strabane	..	..	20—5
v. Campbell College	..	..	27—3
v. Queens "A"	..	..	14—8
v. Civil Service	..	..	9—0
v. Ballymena	..	..	3—0

FOOTBALL NOTES

We write these notes on the eve of our third round of the Army Cup; and there is quite a lot of excitement building up for the actual day.

We beat the 15/19 Hussars in the preliminary round 4 goals to 3 after quite an even game, despite critics' comments of "We should have had a dozen," and so on.

We managed to get a bye for the second round and now we are meeting quite a formidable team in the 17 Training Regiment, R.A.

Our present record is quite equal to the rugger side; we have played 14 matches, won 9, and drawn 3.

Our most notable achievements were:

1 D.W.R.	4	v.	15/19	3	Cup match
1 D.W.R.	6	v.	15/19	0	Friendly
1 D.W.R.	7	v.	1 R. Warwicks.	3	"
1 D.W.R.	3	v.	1 R. Warwicks.	0	"
1 D.W.R.	7	v.	R.A.F.	4	"
1 D.W.R.	3	v.	R.U.R.	3	"
1 D.W.R.	5	v.	1 R. Warwicks.	3	"

We were both sorry and unlucky to lose the services of L/Cpl. Duncan, Hull City inside-left, who went on demob last week, but what our team lost in skill they certainly made up in spirit and enthusiasm, so until our next issue we must close and we hope to have better news about our progress.

STOP PRESS.—After an excellent match, and after extra time, we drew in the third round Army Cup with 17 Training Regiment, R.A., 2—2, here at Hollywood. This means we play them again in a week's time at Oswestry.

REGIMENTAL H.Q. and DEPOT

SUB-EDITORIAL

It is with sadness in our hearts that we have to report that the days left to the Depot are now numbered. We have been given August 6, 1959, as the firm date for our disbandment.

As a result, our last squad of recruits will start training on February 2. Thereafter all our recruits will be trained at The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire Depot at Beverley. At Beverley we shall have one officer and a small team of instructors to look after our interests.

The Yorkshire Brigade Depot will open at Strensall on August 7, but it will not train recruits for another two years. This is due to the large building alterations which have got to be carried out after the K.O.Y.L.I. Depot has left. Once these alterations have been completed we should be left with an extremely high-class and modern barracks.

And so another era of the Regiment is passing. It is not the first, and although it is a sad time we are confident that we shall survive and make a real success of the future.

We hope during June to hold various farewell functions in Halifax and district. For this purpose we shall have the services of the Regimental Band and Drums. Notification of these events will be published nearer the time.

OFFICERS' MESS

The beginning of October saw the Mess full and an annexe, in the form of Lake Block, had to be used in order to accommodate the 1st Battalion rigger side and visitors for the Old Comrades' functions. We are pleased to report that the rigger side won both their games and we like to feel that our food played its part, and also the beds, whose springs had never before been so well tested. The Mess staff are convinced that all you have to do to train for rigger is to eat a lot and, even more important, get into bed as much as you can. They have all volunteered for the Depot side! During the Old Comrades' reunion week-end we were delighted to see so many retired officers of the Regiment using the Mess. These included the Deputy Colonel, Brigadier Hugh Fraser, Lt.-Colonel C. W. G. Ince, Lt.-Colonel Jack Dalrymple, Lt.-Colonel "Tuppence" Harvey, Major R. A. Scott, Captain G. A. Sheppard.

The Brigade Colonel, Colonel D'A. J. D. Mander, D.S.O., visited us at the end of October, and after watching the training took luncheon with us in the Mess.

The month of November brought various inspecting officers to the Mess, as they were involved in pre-administrative inspections. This gave us a chance of meeting the staff officers from our new district, North Midland. The lunches were obviously enjoyed if our reports are anything to go by.

The most important day has been November 18, when Brigadier R. A. Gwyn, O.B.E., commander

146 Brigade (T.A.), came to take our annual administrative inspection. The inspection completed, he and his Brigade-Major, plus Colonel Mander, stayed for lunch. The Brigadier pleased us all by saying that the Museum was the best Regimental Museum he had ever seen. That evening we held a Regimental guest night. One may feel that after an administrative inspection a guest night is a little odd. The view, however, was that if the inspection was a good one we could rejoice, if by the remotest chance it was not, we could drown our sorrows. It was to be a night of rejoicing. After dinner, two "Hula-hoops" were produced, and fortunately Edward Dasant, after three hours' practice and a two-hour recovery period in bed, was able to show the guests what was required. The scene was most amusing, and although no-one accomplished the art, we feel that there is a lot of energetic "hooping" being practised in various towns in the West Riding. This was followed by a game of dice, which did not really get going, as it developed into a serious discussion on rugby football. Although some of our guests had to leave owing to the distance they had to travel, this discussion was continued until the very early hours. We are still waiting for a particular south-west county rugby handbook to be produced!

The guests were: Colonel L. Turnbull, M.C.; Colonel N. T. Bentley; Lt.-Colonel J. Davidson; Major D. C. Roberts; Major D. Pocock (Royal Signals); N. A. Collins, Esq.; J. D. Long, Esq.; F. J. Granger, Esq.

We have said farewell to Simon Berry, who has departed for a secondment with the 6th Battalion K.A.R. in Dar-Es-Salaam. We would like to take this opportunity of thanking him for all the hard work he has put in over the last two years on behalf of the Mess. He will be amused to hear that a normal size wardrobe has now been placed in his room and the vast wall cupboard no longer used. The present occupier's three or four suits looked completely lost in it. We wish him every success with his new unit.

New arrivals in the Mess have been Robert Campbell-Lamerton, Michael's brother—we hope his stay with us will be a happy one. We also welcome back, after a short tour with the York and Lancaster Regiment in Aden, Jeremy Cumberlege, who looks far too bronzed to be in Halifax. The tan will unfortunately soon be lost in the fog.

SERGEANTS' MESS

Since our last notes the O.C.A. dinner and Regimental gatherings have been completed. We were honoured to be the hosts once again, but looked upon it as a sad occasion as it will most likely be the last time the dinner will be held at the barracks.

We were delighted to have in our midst several members from the 1st Battalion; we feel sure that their short stay was enjoyable.

Brigadier F. R. St. P. Bunbury, D.S.O., paid us a visit and we were all very pleased to see him.

On Friday, November 7, 1958, we entertained the Yorkshire Electricity Board Club to a games and social evening. We called upon our neighbours, the officers, to give assistance in the games, and with their able support turned out worthy winners.

Our Sergeant Cook (Sgt. Holmes) served us very well, and in addition to the buffet, also managed to dish up pies and peas.

We welcome to the Mess Sgts. Carman and Perrin from the 1st Battalion, who are staying with us for a few days prior to posting overseas.

We have said farewell to our schoolie, Sgt. Wilson, who has departed for civilian life. We wish him all the very best.

Our annual administrative inspection was carried out on November 18 by Brigadier R. A. Gwyn, O.B.E., and it was a great success(?).

Finally, we wish all members of the Regiment good luck, wherever you may be, and invite you to visit us whenever you are in the Halifax area.

CORPORALS' MESS

We offer our congratulations on their promotion to L/Cpls. Beard, Blenkinsop and Sharp, and welcome them into the Corporals' Mess. Further congratulations are offered to L/Cpl. Emmett and his wife on their recent marriage.

We bade farewell to Cpl. Connolly and L/Cpl. Harrison and wish them success in civilian life.

Christmas festivities in the Mess this year will include a football match against a combined team from the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes, followed by a social evening.

TRAINING COMPANY

Regular recruiting seems to have stabilised itself at a figure ranging from 8 to 12 recruits per month; consequently the Company has now been organised into two platoons, with at any one time a senior and a junior platoon. As we go to press we have Delhi Platoon in its eleventh week of training and the new Alma Platoon just starting its first. The old Alma Platoon passed out on October 29, so there has been a gap in training of three weeks while waiting for Alma to build up sufficient numbers to start the syllabus. Not that this gap is wasted; in fact, it is proving useful as a means of allowing recruits to find their feet before being thrust into the "programme."

We have restarted platoon camps of three to four days duration at Deer Hill. In these camps we concentrate on field-craft—a subject we have stopped teaching in barracks—and minor exercises of the section and patrol variety. Alma Platoon under Sgt. France were the guinea-pigs, and as they had a useful and enjoyable time, Sgt. Wilson is to take Delhi.

Our liaison with Rishworth School C.C.F. has continued and we have put on several demonstrations for them. A playlet on "Patrolling" might even have impressed at Warminster—anyway, we like to think so, as the school refused to lend us their script.

Somehow we managed to get the Depot Permanent Staff through their annual classification. Permanent Staff are condescending creatures, difficult at the best of times, and practically impossible when anywhere near a range. Great credit is due to Alma Platoon, who manned the butts for them and endured their somewhat scattered fire.

The Certificate "A" season is now upon us, and we also ran an Officers' Day for A.C.F. officers in order to express our ideas of what a cadet should know to qualify for the award of a Certificate "A." We insist upon a high standard and we hope our demonstrations will have helped. The most disappointing aspect of our work with the A.C.F. is the depressing fact that few, if any, former cadets join the Regiment as regulars. Two in the last eleven months is the form at the moment.

We are sorry to lose Lt. Berry, who is going to East Africa for a tour with the K.A.R., and Cpl. Connolly to civilian life. We are delighted to see Lt. Cumberlege back from a tour with the 1st York and Lancasters in Aden, and to welcome 2 Lt. Campbell-Lamerton for a short stay. Our present

Order of Battle is:

Company Commander: Major D. E. Isles
 Trg. Subs.: Lt. J. R. P. Cumberlege and 2 Lt.
 R. D. Campbell-Lamerton
 C.S.M.: C.S.M. R. Williams
 Delhi Platoon: Sgt. Wilson and Cpl. McDermott
 Alma Platoon: Sgt. France and Cpl. Illingworth

Alma Platoon Results (passed out, October 29)

Best recruit	..	..	Pte. Kench
Best rifle shot	..	..	Pte. Porter
Best L.M.G. shot	..	..	Pte. Lodge
Best combined shot	..	..	Pte. Davies

FOOTBALL

There has been much more activity on the soccer field this season than there was last, the team having met with a great deal of success, having won nine matches out of twelve with one being drawn. At the start of the season we applied to join the Bradford Half-Holiday League, but our application was turned down as the last vacancy had been filled a week before, which meant having to arrange friendly matches whenever possible. We are half-way through the season and now fixtures are becoming very hard to arrange, but we hope a good run in the North Midland Minor Units' Cup will compensate for this.

We are confident over the result of the first round, as we have been drawn against R.A.P.C. Ovenden at home. The reason for our confidence being that we have beaten them once before this season at Ovenden by 4 goals to 2, thanks to a brilliant display of goalkeeping by Cfmn. Williams and a wonderful hat-trick by our dashing centre-forward Pte. Howden; Pte. Mallison completed our tally with a penalty.

Our most convincing win so far this season was against Bradford Wednesday, whom we beat by 14 goals to nil, Pte. Howden scoring six of them. Total number of goals to date is 64 for and 16 against, showing that our forwards definitely know

where the net is, especially Pte. Howden, who has scored 28, and Pte. Spivey, who has scored 12.

Our first defeat was at the hands of Menston Hospital where we lost by 2 goals to 1, having played the whole match through a heavy and very wet thunderstorm; the pitch having been transformed into a rectangular pond, both teams suggested changing from boots into flippers for the second half. Our other defeat was against our neighbours, Depot York and Lancaster, at Pontefract, this was a match where experience triumphed in the closing stages. We had a setback after only ten minutes when our "whippet," inside forward Pte. Spivey, was carried off with a double fracture of the nose, but our ten men rallied and held on to a 1—1 draw until the closing stages, when the "Tigers" scored thrice, making the result 4—1. We are looking forward to the return match here at Halifax, when we hope to reverse the result.

Earlier in the season we had a visit from the Band and Drums in connection with the O.C.A. week-end, and a challenge match was played, the Depot running out worthy winners by 2 goals to 1, after having only ten men, as Pte. Bottomley broke

his ankle early on in the game. This injury has kept Pte. Bottomley from playing for two months, but we hope to see him back in the team in the near future.

We now turn our focus on one or two individuals: Cfmn. Williams, our brilliant goalkeeper plays regularly for Scunthorpe United in the Midland League, and has represented the Battalion in their Army Cup games. Pte. Spivey, our inside-right, would have also represented the Battalion, but his injury made it impossible. Since then he has had a trial with Bradford P.A., so let us hope that it will be a successful one for him.

A special "Thank you" from the team must surely go out to our small but faithful band of supporters who cheer us on at both home and away, no matter what the weather, let us hope that there will be still more justification for their enthusiastic support in the games to come.

The following have played in the Depot XI: Cpl. Stabb (captain), L/Cpls. Townend, Beard, Snee, Brown and Murphy, Cfmn. Williams, Pres. Mallison, Spivey, Howden, Tolson, Bottomley, Widdop, Wood, Hirst and Dockerty.

5/7th BATTALION, T.A.

SUB-EDITORIAL

The January edition must necessarily be disappointing in so far as notes of the T.A. Battalion are concerned. Our life revolves in cycles and the period after camp and up to Christmas is normally the lull in our year. Nevertheless we have been busy and the turn-out on week-ends and drill nights continues to improve.

Recruiting is a slow process, and, as all will know, the voluntary spirit, in all the great field of voluntary services throughout the country, is not as strong as it once was. The Welfare State may have something to do with this, although the greatest deterrent to the T.A. is undoubtedly the continued call-up for National Service.

It is now over a year since National Servicemen played an active part in the T.A. As long as they were part of our active strength, the true volunteer strength got lower and lower and eventually some 15 months ago we were woefully weak.

This year has done a great deal to restore confidence in the T.A.; and in the West Riding, particularly in Huddersfield, we have missed no opportunity to show off the Battalion in the best light, and slowly but surely recruits are coming in once more. Our strength has all but doubled during this year, and in what are normally our worst recruiting months we are getting three to four a week. Long may it continue! During November we have had 25 recruits, a record month.

Since camp we have held our rifle meeting at Strensall, shot in the Territorial Army decentralised matches and in the 49 Infantry Division Meeting. In all our shooting was disappointing but a flame has been lit and much better results are looked forward to in years to come.

It is hoped in the new year to form a company in the Thongsbridge Drill Hall, Holmfirth, and to close the Elland Drill Hall. Holmfirth is traditionally a 5th Dukes' area and has, in the past, provided a successful company.

1959 is the centenary year of both the 5th and 7th Battalions who have uninterrupted descent from the Volunteer movement in 1859, when Napoleon II was making a strong bid for European supremacy.

Both Battalions owe their ancestry to the Huddersfield Rifle Volunteers, formed in 1859 and renamed 6th West Riding of Yorkshire Volunteers in 1860. In 1883, the Battalion was renamed once more the 2nd Volunteer Battalion the (Duke of Wellington's) West Riding Regiment.

In 1908 under Lord Haldane's Territorial Force Scheme, the 2nd Volunteer Battalion was divided to form the 5th Battalion the Duke of Wellington's Regiment in Huddersfield with companies at Holmfirth, Mirfield and Kirkburton, and the 7th Battalion at Milnsbridge with companies in the Colne Valley and across the Pennines at Mossley, Uppermill and Springhead.

Various activities will be held during the period June 18 to 28, 1959, to celebrate this occasion.

Major G. V. Ashton, T.D., has, for business reasons, found it necessary to retire from the active list to T.A.R.O. His successor as Second-in-Command is Major F. R. Gadd, E.R.D. It is seven years since Major Ashton joined us on transfer from 5th Fusiliers, and throughout these years he has given of his best and most of his time during difficult years. His loss will be felt by all.

To Major Gadd we offer our congratulations and hope he will be very happy and successful in his new appointment.

Finally, with great sorrow, we say farewell to yet another Adjutant. Captain Harms having left suddenly for Aden to reinforce an already strong "Dukes" contingent. To Captain Naughton, his successor, we wish a happy tour of duty.

OFFICERS' MESS

The post-camp period is always quiet for the Officers' Mess and we have been passing through a period of calm which will no doubt be rudely shattered during the coming Christmas and New Year festivities.

On October 31, we dined out Major Gordon Ashton on transfer to T.A.R.O. This was an exciting evening, but a sad one for the Mess.

Seven years ago, to the day, Gordon joined the Battalion on transfer from the 5th Fusiliers, and during these years he has striven with tremendous success to build up a Mess worthy of the Battalion. As Second-in-Command, P.M.C., and as a person, Gordon has been immensely popular throughout his service with the Battalion and he will be a sad loss. On the bright side, however, he has agreed to serve on the New Year's Eve Dance Committee and the Centenary Committee, so we will continue to see him actively employed in support of the Battalion for some time to come.

Gordon's final exit from the Drill Hall, carried shoulder high, was accompanied by a loud but rather discordant rendering of the combined airs of "Scotland the Brave" and "Blaydon Races."

To both him and Isobel we officially say farewell and wish them the best of luck for the future.

Also dining on October 31 were Colonels. J. W. Hirst, O.B.E., T.D., J. B. Sugden, T.D., J.P., and G. Taylor, D.S.O., T.D., and Major B. L. Ellam, T.D., all of whom we were delighted to have with us.

We welcome Major Raymond Gadd, our new Second-in-Command, as P.M.C.

Our congratulations to Jimmy Mallalieu on his marriage. We take this opportunity of wishing him all the best for the future.

The New Year's Eve Ball is once more well under way, and we hope to have another success this year.

In September, Captain Rodney Harms left us for warmer climes in Aden and another "Duke" is once again helping to sort out the trouble in the Middle East.

Lt. Bob Callaby has been busy helping Mrs. Harms and family to pack, and they have now joined Rodney in Aden. To them all, we send our very best wishes for a successful and pleasant stay.

We welcome our new Adjutant, Capt "Nick" Naughton, who arrived from the Intelligence Centre in October. He is no stranger to the Battalion, having visited us in camp with his Intelligence Exhibition on each of our last three camps.

SERGEANTS' MESS

Since our last notes there has been little Mess activity, but this will soon be rectified now that the winter season approaches and our outdoor week-end activities are somewhat less. In mid-November we started opening on Sunday mornings, and once we get going we expect to have some successful and happy times.

We were sorry to say farewell to Captain Harms who has left us for sunnier climes, and he carries with him our very best wishes for his future success. In his place we welcome Captain Naughton and hope that his stay with us will be long and happy.

C.Q.M.S. Bob Pearce, we are pleased to say, has now fully recovered from his recent illness and is once more his usual self.

Congratulations on their recent happy events to C/Sgt. and Mrs. Thackra, C/Sgt. and Mrs. Larnder, S/Sgt. and Mrs. Haigh and Sgt. and Mrs. Holberry, also to Sgt. Corey on his recent promotion.

The Battalion rifle meeting was held at Strensall on October 18-19, and we congratulate the following on winning their respective cups:

W.O.s' and Sergeants' rifle: R.Q.M.S. Machen.

W.O.s' and Sergeants' L.M.G.: Sgts. Kenny and Pollard (tied).

W.O.s' and Sergeants' combined shot: R.Q.M.S. Machen.

The P.S.I.'s Cup was won by the R.S.M., and he is congratulated by all except one Sergeant P.S.I., who shall remain nameless, who blamed everybody and everything from the markers to the L.M.G.

By the time these notes are published we shall have said farewell to Sgt. Smith, our P.S.I. at Mossley, and he carries with him our best wishes for his future success.

To all "Dukes," serving or in civilian life, we extend an open invitation to visit us at any time.

TRAINING NOTES

Although the period after the end of the annual camp is normally the slackest of the year, nevertheless it is never wholly idle. This year in particular we have been occupied with a fairly wide range of training, mainly in connection with shooting and recruit training on drill nights.

The main event on the shooting side was the Battalion rifle meeting held at Strensall on October 18-19. During the course of the meeting, which, incidentally, was held under ideal weather conditions, 70 men fired a series of rifle and L.M.G. practices designed to test their overall competency with the weapon concerned. Results, unfortunately, were not as good as had been hoped, but the low scores were mainly confined to the newer arrivals in the Unit. Winners of the various classes were:

Overall best score of the meeting: Major H. S. Heaton, 170 points.

Best overall N.C.O. shot: W.O.2 G. Machen, 160 points.

Best overall Officer shot: Major H. S. Heaton, 170 points.

Best overall P.S.I. shot: W.O.1 Frier, 153 points.

Concurrently with the rifle meeting we shot off our practices in the T.A.R.A. decentralised shoot and Northern Command Weapons Championships. These included M.M.G. practices, much to the R.S.M.'s delight. The scores have not yet been confirmed by T.A.R.A., but should be ready for publication in the next edition of THE IRON DUKE.

Armistice Day, as always, was very well attended. In Huddersfield, Battalion H.Q., "H.Q." Company, "D" Company and the Band and Drums took part in the civic Armistice Day Parade and attended

a service at the parish church. After the service the Mayor took the salute at a march past in the Market Square. Detachments and representatives of the Unit also took part in parades and services at Holmfirth, Lindley Mossley ("B" Company) and Halifax ("A" Company). The balance of the day was spent doing sand model demonstrations on the platoon in defence and in firing off the men who had not been able to complete the annual rifle meeting practices the previous month.

In the winter months most of the training time is spent indoors, and in this connection three aspects of our training over the last quarter deserve special mention.

In order to stimulate interest in shooting and to increase the standard of skill in shooting, Company teams have been entered for the T.A.R.A. decentralised small-bore competition. One team from each of "A," "B," "D" and "H.Q." Companies has entered and the first rounds have already been fired off. Up to press the results are not brilliant, but strenuous steps are being taken to improve the standard. Later, on January 31, we shall be participating in the Graham and Pott Small-bore Trophy. This is a local competition run by the British Legion and we are entering two teams each from "H.Q." and "D" Companies.

The second aspect is the drive to create a nucleus of a Signal Platoon. Captain Hawkins has been appointed R.S.O. and, aided by an ex-1st Battalion (Korea) signaller, Sgt. Robinson, he is running a comprehensive cadre for our signallers. We hope these efforts will pay a big dividend at next year's annual camp. During the course of this training we are hoping to be able to contact the 1st Battalion Signal Platoon in Ireland on our 62 sets.

Our other main preoccupation now the dark nights have set in is in the field of sport. The main sporting even in the T.A. is the Queen's Challenge Cup, embracing athletics, football, cross-country, boxing and swimming. This is a pretty tall order for a T.A. Unit, but we are hoping to enter sides for all these competitions except the football. As a start S.I. Marsden is trying to arouse enthusiasm in the Unit for basketball, and as soon as he can say that there are enough players, we shall hold an inter-Company basketball competition. We are convinced that the sporting talent is there in the Unit if only it can be detected.

On December 7 we are holding an officers' study day to discuss the problems arising from . . . Sorry—security cut.

The annual inspection was due to be held on Wednesday, November 26, but owing to the thick fog surrounding our area (and Battalion H.Q. in particular), the Brigadier and his staff were unable to get near us and the inspection had to be postponed for a day. It was finally held on Thursday, November 27.

Obituary

We deeply regret to announce the following deaths.

SIR CHARLES HANSON, BT.

Died suddenly on September 7, 1958. Sir Charles Hanson served in the "Dukes" in the 1914-18 War. He was with the 2nd Battalion at Hill 60 in April 1915. Later he was invalided home and served with the 3rd Battalion.

MALCOLM IAN CECIL PATON

Died suddenly on September 5, 1958. Elder son of Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. Paton.

COLONEL JOHN S. SPENCER

A former commanding officer of the 6th Battalion Duke of Wellington's Regiment, Colonel John Snowden Spencer died in Raikeswood Hospital, Skipton, on Sunday, October 12, 1958, aged 68.

Colonel Spencer rose from the ranks. He joined the Regiment some years before the 1914-18 War and was later employed in the orderly room as a clerk. Afterwards he was promoted to Sergeant.

He served with distinction in the war, obtained a commission, and when a Lieutenant was appointed Brigade Intelligence Officer. He was awarded the Military Cross in October 1918, when, under heavy shell fire, he brought in the body of Major-General Lipsett, who was commanding Canadian Divisions.

When the Battalion was reformed after the war, he joined again and was promoted Captain. In 1929 he attained the rank of Major, and in 1933 he succeeded Colonel F. Longden Smith as commanding officer.

In the 1939 New Year's Honours, Colonel Spencer was made a Member of the Military Division, O.B.E.

Colonel Spencer commanded the 6th Battalion K.O.Y.L.I. in the 1939-45 War, and later was liaison officer for the defence of the American aerodromes in a large area in the South of England. Subsequently he was commandant of a prisoner of war camp near Aberdeen.

Colonel Spencer took a keen interest in amateur theatricals and produced numerous plays for the Craven Players at St. Thomas's Hall, Sutton, and for the Ebenezer Chapel, Cross Hills.

Colonel Spencer was born at Kildwick, and before his retirement to Austwick a short time ago he was postmaster at Cross Hills.

He leaves a widow and a daughter.

A service was held at Kildwick Church on October 16, prior to cremation at Waltonwrays.

Arthur Sunley

LADIES AND GENTS CIVIL AND
MILITARY TAILORS

(Tailored on the premises)

Silk Ties and Blazers Badges in stock for the
Dukes and all other Regiments and Corps

44, TRINITY STREET, HUDDERSFIELD

Telephone: Hudd. 1158

CORRESPONDENCE

DEAR SIR,

I was interested to see the photograph of the Willow Pattern plate, with our regimental crests included in the design, mentioned by Captain Stacpoole in the October number of *THE IRON DUKE*. The plate is, of course, not Wedgwood, though produced by a firm whose founder, William Adams, was a favourite pupil of Wedgwood's. The firm was established at Tunstall in Staffordshire under the name of William Adams & Son in 1780.

Captain Stacpoole is misinformed in confusing the Militia with the Volunteers. They were always separate organisations. The 3rd Volunteer Battalion became linked with the Regiment in 1881 under the Cardwell system and became the 6th Battalion on the formation of the Territorial Force in 1908.

The date of the plate can be narrowed down to between 1901 and 1908. The crown above the crests is the Imperial State crown adopted by King Edward VII instead of St. Edward's crown used by Queen Victoria and incidentally by Her present Majesty.

Yours faithfully,

B. W. WEBB-CARTER,

Brigadier.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

Although I am unable to throw any light on the Wedgwood plate referred to by Captain Stacpoole in your last issue, I may perhaps be allowed to correct his statement about the Militia, as it had no connection with either the Volunteers nor with the Territorial Army.

In 1853 the existing Militia Force was increased, and one of the units formed was the 6th West Yorkshire Militia with headquarters at Halifax.

On the introduction of the Cardwell system in 1881, when the 33rd and 76th Regiments became the 1st and 2nd Battalions, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, the 6th West York Militia became the 3rd and 4th (Militia) Battalions of the Regiment.

In 1890 the 4th Battalion was absorbed by the 3rd, and the latter continued to exist until 1919. It served in the South African War (1899-1902), and on the formation of the Special Reserve in 1907 it was renamed the 3rd (Reserve) Battalion, D.W.R. It was demobilised in 1919 and never reformed.

The history of this battalion can be found in Captain N. H. Moore's "Records of the 3rd Battalion The Duke of Wellington's (West Riding) Regiment."

Yours sincerely,

M. V. Le P. TRENCH,

Lt.-Colonel.

DEAR SIR,

With regard to Captain Stacpoole's very interesting letter in the October *IRON DUKE*, I fear that he has been misinformed about the Militia giving place to the Volunteers. This never happened.

I do not know when the Militia were first formed, but it was certainly more than two hundred years ago. They were embodied during the Seven Years' War, which was during the 1750's or thereabouts. They are mentioned more than once in the Life of Field Marshal Ligonier by Rex Whitworth. He was C.I.G.S. at the time. The Militia were embodied in all subsequent major wars, usually for garrison duties and guarding prisoners of war. At the beginning of this century their recruits were trained at the Regimental Depots. Militia Battalions went into camp for one month a year. In 1908 the Militia were renamed the Special Reserve, and during the 1914-18 War were the Reserve Battalions for the Regular Battalions, including the Kitchener Battalions, training recruits, retraining officers and men discharged from hospital and sending drafts to the battalions overseas. After 1919 the Special Reserve ceased to exist.

I believe there were very few Volunteer Battalions such as the H.A.C. until Napoleon's threatened invasion of England at the beginning of the last century, when many Volunteer Regiments were raised. After Napoleon changed his mind and marched to Russia instead of invading England, the majority of Volunteers ceased to exist, until we nearly went to war with France again in the 1850's, when many Volunteer Regiments were formed. Queen Victoria held a Volunteer Review in Hyde Park at the time. From that time the Volunteers became an established part of the Army. I am not sure if they were formed into Divisions and Brigades or not. I rather think not, but became part of the County Regiments. Many of them sent Volunteer Companies to the South African War.

In 1908 the late Lord Haldane, then Secretary of State for War turned the Volunteers into the Territorial Army, with their own Divisions, Brigades and Reserve Battalions.

This letter is only written from memory. I have no reference books to hand. Consequently it is open to correction, and I sincerely hope somebody will correct it where necessary. It would be as well to have all this right for the benefit of future generations.

R. A. SCOTT,

Major.

Telephone 3198

GIBSON DIXON

M.P.S.

*Chemist and Pharmacist
Table Water Manufacturer
Wine and Spirit Merchant
Photographic Dealer*

8 OLD MARKET, HALIFAX

MY DEAR EDITOR,

I am sending you the copy of a diary the owner of which I am trying to trace. He was one of three soldiers, Jack, Ken and Frank, probably all, but certainly he (Jack) of the 2nd Battalion. These three, through wounds or sickness, were left behind after the First Burma Campaign. In company with several soldiers, Chinese and civilians they started on foot from Maingkwan in the Hukawng valley to make their way across the mountains, via Shinboyaing to India. There they were overtaken by the monsoon and evacuation was impossible.

The diary, written mostly by pencil in a Charles Letts pocket diary, starts on May 20, 1942. It described the sickness and privations of the three on their march to Shinboyaing. Ken died on June 1, 1942, and Frank on the 8th. Jack, despite several attacks of fever and dysentery, remains hopeful and cheerful until the middle of August. After this the writing gets noticeably weaker, until for the last few days it is almost illegible. On Friday, September 4, it stops!

It is a simple and pathetic record of considerable hardships cheerfully and bravely borne. Throughout, he shows much concern for others and obviously displays powers of leadership.

The diary was passed to me by Sir Henry Braund, who at that time was responsible for the reception in India of refugees from Burma. He kept it, with the intention of giving it to the next

of kin. He came upon the diary some few months ago, but unfortunately had lost the covering documents with the soldiers' names. He is certain, however, that the writer, Jack, was a private in the Regiment. Possibly some of your readers who were in the 76th at that time may be able to throw some light on his identity and that of his companions.

The list below, supplied by Major Roberts, are those who are known to have died or have been killed at this period:

Pte. Donald Warner	.. ..	18.9.42
Pte. Berrick Shaw	.. ..	23.8.42
Cpl. Harold John O'Connor	.. ..	28.8.42
Pte. Horace Nicholson	.. ..	15.9.42
Pte. Edwin Nicholson	.. ..	20.9.42
Cpl. Ernest Mountain	.. ..	4.9.42
Pte. Harold Dutton	.. ..	5.9.42
L./Cpl. James Appleton	.. ..	4.10.42
Sgt. Edmund Philip Gale	.. ..	11.6.42
Pte. Jack Dagnall	.. ..	6.6.42

Yours sincerely,

D. S. D. B-JONES-STAMP (Major).

1st Battalion,
Aden Protectorate Levies,
Beihan, B.F.P.O. 69.
May 19, 1958.

(For the Diary please refer to page 27)

O.C.A. NEWS

Minutes of a Meeting held at Halifax, on Saturday, October 4, 1958, at Regimental Headquarters

Present

Brigadier B. W. Webb-Carter, Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, in the chair.

Brigadier F. H. Fraser, Colonel C. R. T. Cumberlege, Lt.-Colonel's P. P. de la H. Moran, J. Dalrymple, C. W. G. Ince, J. Davidson, H. Harvey, Major R. H. Ince, and 40 other members.

Apologies for their absence were received from: Major-General W. M. Ozanne, Colonel A. H. G. Wathen, Majors R. Wood, J. E. Driver, T. V. Laverack, Captain D. Looney and Mr. J. Wood.

Brigadier Webb-Carter, after declaring the meeting open, said it was a sad occasion, as it would be the last Old Comrades' meeting to be held in Barracks and that evening the last Old Comrades' Reunion Dinner. The Barracks would shut down next May and where we should hold our next Reunion was still to be decided. It would probably be in Halifax, and most certainly somewhere in the West Riding.

Minutes

The Chairman asked if the Minutes, which had been published in the Regimental Magazine, could be taken as read. The meeting concurred and the previous Minutes were passed without comment.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary, in his report, said that during the year the Association had received 133 applications for assistance, compared with 172 last year. Of the 133 considered, 96 had been helped financially, and the remaining 37 turned down for various reasons. A full report of the Secretary's statement on the year's working and activities of the Association appears elsewhere in this issue of THE IRON DUKE.

Accounts

The audited accounts of the Association, having been circulated amongst the members present, the Chairman asked for any comments or desired explanations. There were none forthcoming and he requested a proposer and seconder from the body of the meeting that the accounts be passed.

Captain C. Shepherd proposed and Colonel Ince seconded the motion that the accounts be approved and passed. Carried unanimously.

Any Other Business

The Chairman called for any other business, and to Major Scott's enquiry about eligibility of the aged and impoverished to go on THE IRON DUKE Free List, the Secretary said the business manager of THE IRON DUKE would be only too pleased to add any deserving ex-member of the Regiment to

the Free List. To Captain Shepherd's query about the funds of the Association Branches going out of existence the Secretary stated that all branch books were collected into R.H.Q. and their existing accounts, after check, were credited to the General Fund. If a redundant branch started up again, the money was refunded. Major Allsop asked about our Chelsea In-Pensioners and their attendance at Reunions, etc. In reply, the Secretary said that both our men at Chelsea were too frail to travel to Halifax. Mr. Hearsom, London Branch Secretary, also affirmed the Chelsea Pensioners were not forgotten, but were not well enough even to attend the London Branch Reunion. Mr. Code informed the meeting that he personally saw to their welfare and that the London Branch also took a great interest in them.

There being no other relevant business to transact, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 1800 hours.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

GENTLEMEN,

I have great pleasure in presenting my report of the year's working of the Association up to close of business, June 30, 1958.

Case Work

This year we have dealt with 133 cases presenting themselves for assistance from our funds. This is a decrease on last year's figures when we had 172 applications. Of the 133 mentioned, 96 were assisted and 37 turned down. Of those turned away many were "hardy annuals"; some applied for help with funeral expenses, etc., which, unless there are very extenuating circumstances attending a case, we do not cater for. Quite a number were found to be, after investigation, connected with business propositions, whilst others applying were obviously not in distress but just wanted us to take on their H.P. commitments whilst temporarily away from employment. All genuine cases were assisted, and in some cases more than once, especially the aged and infirm.

Details of the grants allotted from our funds are as follows:

O.C.A. Fund

	£	s.	d.
43 cases on which we disbursed (Last year: 40 cases, £237 0s. 4d.)	225	8	11
10 Pensions Grants (quarterly)	252	10	0
Grant to IRON DUKE Magazine	20	0	0
Total	497	18	11

Regimental Association Fund

	£	s.	d.
53 cases on which we disbursed (Last year: 80 cases, £416 16s. 10d.)	279	9	2
Grants to Institutions	66	15	0
Total	346	4	2



BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN
GOLDSMITHS & CROWN JEWELLERS

The badge of your unit..

GARRARD & CO. LTD.

(formerly The Goldsmiths & Silversmiths Company Ltd.) have for many years specialised in the production of badge jewellery.



Duke of Wellington's Regt.
Gold and Enamel
U.K. £7. 10. 0
Export £5. 15. 0

Gold and Enamel
U.K. £17. 17. 6
Export £13. 5. 0

Here is illustrated the badge of your Unit, fashioned into a brooch, and produced in gold and enamel. If desired, these very attractive brooches can be set with diamonds or other precious stones for which designs and estimates are submitted without charge. Great care is taken to ensure correctness of detail, and expert workmanship is assured.

GARRARD & CO. LTD.

Crown Jewellers

formerly THE GOLDSMITHS & SILVERSMITHS COMPANY LTD.

112 REGENT STREET · LONDON · W.1

TELEPHONE: REGENT 3021

McGuire Bate Fund

	£	s.	d.
3 cases on which we disbursed (annual) (Last year: 7 cases, £198 10s. 2d.)	131	12	6
Grants to Institutions supported by this Fund	25	10	0
Grant to Regimental Association Fund	50	0	0
Total	207	2	6

Mitchell Trust Fund

2 cases on which we disbursed .. 10 0 0

Comparing the figures with last year, it will be noticed that overall we have disbursed much less this year. Whilst the O.C.A. are much the same, with only £12 difference, the Regimental Association Fund dealt with some 27 more cases last year and paid out £137 over this year's amount. The McGuire Bate shows a decrease of £67 this year; the Mitchell Trust had no applicants last year as against two this. One possible explanation why we had more last year is that in 1956/57 the textile industry suffered a set-back in trade, and consequently we had more calls on the funds, especially from the West Riding and East Lancashire. This situation did reflect itself in some measure on the funds, at that time, as members will recall I reported the Regimental Association Fund over-spent last year by £258. Happily, I have a different picture to relate this time when I come to the usual short explanation of the accounts.

Pensions Grants

No new pensions grants have been awarded during the last year. We have, however, to record with regret one decrease. Mrs. McGovern, widow of the late C.S.M. J. McGovern, died last December, aged 79 years. She had been in receipt of an O.C.A. pensions grant since September 1941.

Institutions

We have no variation to report in the amounts paid to the various institutions we support this year. The figures remain the same as previously, i.e. £66 15s. 0d. from the Regimental Association and £25 10s. 0d. from the McGuire Bate Fund. Members may remember in my last year's report I undertook to publish a list, in THE IRON DUKE, of the institutions we support; I regret to say this was overlooked but will be remedied shortly.

Accounts

Our audited accounts, which I now present, have been examined by the Finance Committee, who have expressed themselves satisfied with our present financial position. A short explanation of the state of the funds, to the nearest pound, and at close of business on June 30 follows:

Income from All Sources

	£	£
Old Comrades Association Fund	609	(609)
Regimental Association Fund	818	(875)
General Fund Account	205	(377)
Mitchell Trust Fund	79	(72)
McGuire Bate Fund (Officers)	302	(293)

Expenditure

	£	£
Old Comrades Association Fund	498	(559)
Regimental Association Fund	936	(1,133)
General Fund Account	222	(211)
Mitchell Trust Fund	11	(nil)
McGuire Bate Fund (Officers)	208	(274)

State of Accounts

Old Comrades Association Fund (excess Income over expenditure)	111	(49)
Regimental Association Fund (excess Income over Expenditure)	144	
(258 Excess Expenditure)		
General Fund Account (Excess Expenditure over Income)	16	(166)
Mitchell Trust Fund (Excess Income over Expenditure)	67	(72)
McGuire Bate Fund (Excess Income over Expenditure)	93	(20)
(Figures in parenthesis denote last year's figures.)		

We have received a grant of £400 from the Army Benevolent Fund to the Regimental Association Fund as a re-imbursment on money paid out on benevolence. This grant is paid in two instalments: the first on April 1, and the second on July 1 this year. The first instalment is therefore included in the above figures.

Bank Balances of the several accounts as at June 30 were:

	£	s.	d.
Old Comrades Association	393	8	10
Regimental Association	677	14	7
General Account	223	17	9
Mitchell Trust (included in Regimental Association balance)			
McGuire Bate			

Investments

In my last report I gave details of various investments belonging to the Regimental Association and the McGuire Bate Trust, mentioning that as soon as we received proceeds of encashment of the investments we should be arranging with U.S.T. to re-invest into higher yielding stock. This has now been done and the increased income from them will be reflected in the funds concerned in the next report.

Membership

Membership continues to increase although not at the rate experienced last year. This is probably due, and accounted for in the reduced intake at the Depot. We hope for a drive for more members in the 1st Battalion at an early date. A new scheme being operated here at the Depot will ensure all regulars becoming life members before leaving for the Battalion. So far, this is working well, under the eagle eye of R.S.M. Jobling.

Branches

We have to report a keen disappointment in the closing of the Ossett Branch. This was, apparently due in a large measure to so many of the members working shift work and overtime, etc., nevertheless,

the closure of the branch was a great surprise as until recently it had been a go-ahead concern. We sincerely hope the decision to close down is not altogether final and that the branch will reopen before too long. I have not been able to get along to branch functions and meetings as much as I would have liked, chiefly owing to the problem of transport; but with the co-operation of the C.O. Depot I hope to get over this difficulty shortly.

Sport

On behalf of all Old Comrades I should like to say how very pleased we all were when the 1st Battalion won the Army Rugby Cup. Many of us have memories of other finals years ago still vivid in our minds; especially when sharpened with the nostalgic atmosphere of reunions.

As usual, I should like to conclude my report by offering, on behalf of my committee, our grateful thanks to all those ladies and gentlemen of S.S.A.F.A., Forces Help Society, and other kindred bodies who give their time, mostly in an honorary capacity, in the investigation of cases of distress amongst ex-servicemen of the Regiment and their dependents; also for almonising on our behalf. Our thanks, too, to our Hon. Solicitor and Auditors for their help and advice so freely given when requested. My personal thanks to all branch secretaries for their loyal support and for their honorary work in connection with the efficient running of their branches.

ANNUAL REUNION DINNER

Brigadier B. W. Webb-Carter, Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, presided over the Reunion Dinner held on Saturday, October 4, in the barracks' dining hall attended by some 200 O.C.A. and Regimental Association members and their wives. Supporting him at the head table were Brigadier Fraser, Colonel Cumberlege, Lt.-Colonels Dalrymple and Moran, Major R. H. Ince and Captain Shepherd, one of the two surviving founder members of the O.C.A. when it was formed in 1912. Incidentally, Captain Dan Looney, the other member present at the inaugural meeting at the Union Jack Club, London, on October 4, 1912, and who now lives at Broadstairs, sent his best wishes to all for a happy and enjoyable evening.

The meal and service was up to the usual high standard we have come to expect from our caterers on these occasions. The toast of "The Regiment" was proposed by Colonel Dalrymple. In a witty, though nostalgic, speech he said that though all Regiments had their particular claims to fame, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment had produced a greater character and a tighter family spirit than any other in the British Army. It was that tight family spirit which had put the Regiment where it was to-day. Although they might enjoy looking back into the past they had also to think of the future, and he thought that for the "Dukes" the future was bright. The Battalion at Belfast had a fine C.O. and was a fine Battalion, but what was also necessary was the strength and unity of a good Old Comrades' Association. The support which such an association could give to a Regiment was

as important as having a good C.O.

Brigadier Webb-Carter responding, extended the good wishes of the Colonel of the Regiment, Major-General K. G. Exham, who is General Officer Commanding, Nigeria District, who, he said, had sent a message which he proposed to read to those present. In it General Exham said he appreciated that everyone would regret that they were going to lose their Depot at Halifax, but was sure that they would maintain their traditions with the West Riding and keep the "Dukes" flag flying there.

The Depot in Halifax, said the Brigadier, would shut down next year and though they were sorry about that, there was one thing that they had been fortunate in—they were spared the fate of being amalgamated as had happened to other Regiments. He said that they were fortunate in this respect, not lucky, for that sort of thing was not ruled by luck and even in the War Office they did not do things like that. It was the fact that the Regiment had had a good record in two wars, between the wars and after the war which had caused it to escape amalgamation. Much would depend now on how the Old Comrades kept the flag flying. Though they were to retain in Halifax, what the powers-that-be were pleased to call a "Regimental Home"—with two retired officers and a clerk.

The Deputy Colonel ended his remarks by referring to the success of the Regiment in winning the Army Cup for the fifth time and also congratulated the Secretary on the vast amount of work which he put into the organising of Reunions year after year.

The evening ended with a dance and social in the gymnasium to music played by the dance section of the Regimental Band.

OLD COMRADES' CHURCH PARADE

This year and at the express wish of the Colonel of the Regiment (Major-General Exham), the members of the Old Comrades' Association marched to the Halifax Parish Church for morning service on Sunday, October 5. About 50 members formed up in George Street under the command of Brigadier Webb-Carter, and headed by the Band and Drums of the 1st Battalion marched to the Parish Church, where the service was conducted by the Archdeacon and Vicar of Halifax (the Ven. E. Treacy, M.B.E.).

The lessons were read by the Rev. C. C. Tremayne and Brigadier Webb-Carter, and the organist was Mr. Shackleton Pollard. The Parish Church choir sang the anthem "Souls of the Righteous."

In his sermon the Archdeacon said that there was sadness about the occasion for all those who cherished the link between The Duke of Wellington's Regiment and the Town of Halifax, for when the "Dukes" left Halifax, Halifax would lose something of itself. Halifax had been proud to be a garrison town and had felt some share in the glories of the Regiment. Men from all over Britain had come to sojourn in the barracks and they would not forget Halifax, as Halifax would not forget them. The Regiment had contributed much to the life of the town and no place in Halifax possessed a greater link with the Regiment than

the Parish Church wherein was the Regiment's Memorial Chapel. He hoped that for members of the Regiment it would continue to be a place of pilgrimage from time to time.

They thought that day of comrades who had given up their lives, who did their duty and who died doing it: men who were saints and sinners—men who sought to build a new world and men who were quite satisfied with the world as it was. Of them it would be remembered their courage and sacrifice, their kindness and their indomitable cheerfulness. And we should strive to be as faithful in life as they were in death.

The small Regular Army of Britain had been the foundation of many of our victories—and it had been the shuttlecock of politicians, sometimes sacrificed on the altar of political expediency or economic necessity.

After the service members dispersed, some to barracks and that fraternal home-from-home the Sergeants' Mess, others to look up old friends and comrades in the town and vicinity.

BAND AND DRUMS

I feel we cannot close these O.C.A. notes without saying a big "Thank You" to the Band and Drums of the 1st Battalion for their fine performance on the occasion of their Beating the Retreat in barrack prior to the Annual Reunion Dinner; also to the Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion, Lt.-Colonel P. P. de la H. Moran, for so kindly arranging for them to come over from Belfast.

Their display of the "Drum Beat at Sunset" was one of best we have seen, and from opinions and remarks heard at the time, and since, there is no doubt their performance was very much appreciated, not only by Old Comrades gathered for their Annual Reunion but by members of the public at large who were fortunate enough to be present and privileged to watch.

We heartily congratulate Bandmaster Bowyer, Drum-Major Evans and members of the Band and Corps of Drums for giving such a polished show.

6th BATTALION, O.C.A.

The Annual General Meeting of the 6th Battalion O.C.A. was held at the Devonshire Hotel, Skipton, on Saturday, October 4, 1958. The report and accounts for the year ended June 30, 1958, were read and approved.

The following officers were re-elected.

President: Colonel F. Longden Smith, M.B.E., M.C., T.D., J.P.

Chairman: Major H. Dixon, O.B.E., J.P.

Vice-Chairman: Mr. W. H. Minnikin.

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Captain H. J. Lawson.

The meeting was followed by the Annual Reunion Dinner, at which Major H. Dixon presided in the absence of the President, Colonel Smith, who was abroad on a business conference.

Major Dixon proposed the Loyal Toast, Captain B. G. Buxton, M.C., in a very moving speech, proposed the Toast of the 6th Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, to which Major J. Taylor responded.

The attendance of 78 was lower than previous years, and it is pointed out that anyone who has served at any time with the 6th Battalion, the 1/6th, 2/6th or 3/6th Battalions is eligible for membership of the Association, and would be welcomed at the Annual Dinner, which is held on the first Saturday in October, the time and place being announced in September.

5th BRITISH INFANTRY DIVISION (1939-45)

A 300-page History, with over 70 photographs, recounting the story of the famous "Y" Division will be published in March 1959.

The number of copies will be limited, and all those interested in reserving a copy should write to Lt.-Colonel Bill van Namen, Huntley & Palmers Ltd., Reading, Berks.

DIARY ENCLOSED WITH MAJOR JONES-STAMP'S LETTER

May 20.—Left Meinkwam at 8.30 a.m. The going awful at times, we were knee deep in mud. Pulled up at 11.55 for dinner (RICE), started again at 2.55 p.m. Going much worse in part; we were marching up to our knees in mud and water. Stopped for supper 5.10 p.m. (Burma road stew) RICE and M&V. Passed six bodies; they stunk rotten.

May 21.—Started from camp after a very wet night. I got wet through. Reached village half mile further on and had breakfast, RICE. I made friends with two nice girls. Gosh, I would like a smoke. We left the village at 9.10 a.m., going worse than ever owing to rain. We walked for two hours then had a wind. Set off for next village going slightly better. We reached the village at 2 p.m.; had dinner, RICE, then had supper, RICE. Frank fell ill and so we stayed in the village. Only saw three bodies.

May 22.—We left the village at 9.10 straight after breakfast, RICE. The going was a little bit better. Nothing much happened. We reached the ferry at 11.45. I had a terrible experience. I was about to pinch a truck; everything was ready for starting so I went round to get it. I opened the door and found myself face to face with a skeleton! Gosh, I didn't know whether to shout, run, or what to do. Anyway the stink decided me. After crossing the river we kept on to the next village, getting there at 1.20. We settled there for the night, and travelled about four miles. I only saw two bodies that time.

May 23.—Set off at 9.5, going bad, getting worse. We reached a small river at 2.20 and made some coffee. I had a great deal of pain with my bullet wounds owing to a twist that I gave myself. The going has greatly improved and we are making rapid headway. We have seen no bodies today.

May 24.—Left the village to cross ferry at 2.45; the going was very bad again though and we only did ten miles. Ken started crying because he had a headache. We passed sixteen bodies, three were women. Frank gave a Wog a darned good hiding and burst his knuckle for his trouble.

May 25.—Had a late morning; we did not leave camp until after 9. RICE for breakfast; the going was slippery for a start but dried up later on. Pulled up at 12.00 for coffee; the water looked just like urine, but we drank it. We did about seven miles today. The Wogs are dropping out like flies—we passed 17 bodies today.

May 26.—Left camp at 8.30 after breakfast of RICE. The going was very bad, solid but slippery. We are slowly entering the hills. The Wogs are dying in dozens; it's cruel to see them. I shot one this morning to put him out of his misery; he was unconscious in the mud and every time he breathed he swallowed more and more mud. I hated to do it, but it was the only thing that could be done. Today we passed 28 bodies. Ken was taken bad today and had a struggle to keep going. We did about ten miles today, and that is damned good going, considering the road. We finished plastered with mud and d— hungry.

May 27.—Left camp after a sleepless night about 10.00 a.m. The road for two or three hundred yards was good but soon went back to the usual mud and water and continued to get worse and worse as we went along. At one part it was so bad that it took us over an hour to travel half a mile. That particular stretch was even getting the bullocks down; one had collapsed and could not get up. What made things worse, was there had been a terrific storm and trees had been uprooted and hurled across the track, and we had to dig our way through. Gosh, but it was hot work—I was absolutely wet through with sweat. Anyway we eventually got out and reached the village of Shinburyang at about 1.0 thoroughly fed up and hungry. We were soon cheered up though, as this place is a supply dump and our mouths streamed when we saw real food after living on RICE for breakfast and dinner and supper for over 14 days.

May 28.—We decided to stay on in Shinburyang for a day or two to get rest and some decent food before going over the hills from here—and I certainly don't like the look of them. Even as I write this it is simply pouring down and the hilltops are covered with clouds. I saw the supply planes come over today, but they didn't drop anything. One of them was taking signals as to what was most needed. The M.O. here asked me to help with the looters, as the last time food was sent a load of Wogs helped themselves. He told me not to be afraid to shoot. I said nothing would give me greater pleasure. Anyway, the planes didn't drop anything, so I had nothing to shoot at. Ken gave me his watch today as he thought he was dying. The M.O. came and gave him a good chewing and told him not to be a b— fool and act like a man for a change. Gosh, but Ken soon changed his mind about dying—he is quite lively now.

May 29.—Another day gone and another day nearer the monsoons. It rained like the devil again today for about an hour without abating. We hope to move on in a couple of days when Frank's hand is better. I had some bad news today, that is, we still have over 115 miles to walk to Ledo, over ground that is as bad as what we've just done;

the last 30 or 40 miles into Ledo is all bog and swamp. We were told that there is a river about 38 miles from there that will cause trouble, but have since heard that a company of Indian Engineers are fixing it all up. Ken is not much better. The supply planes have not been over today; it's too late for them now, as it's almost 8 o'clock. Oh well, seventeen days walk and two days train ride will see us in India (I HOPE).

May 30.—Another day almost gone on Shinburyang. If we do not move within the next week we shall be trapped in the hills. The supply planes have not been over for two days; they may come today yet, as it's only ten past five. Ken wanted his watch back today, but I would not give it to him so he started sulking like a big kid. I have a nice job for the next two or three days. I'm looking after two sick men in the hospital, cooking and everything. One of them calls me Yorky, the other just calls me Jack. Gosh, but it's hot. I've almost forgotten what a fog looks like. I've been smoking country 'bacco in newspaper and all sorts. I shall be a non-smoker soon.

May 31.—Still in Shinbur. Nothing happened.

June 1.—Still here. Supply plane sent some rations. Poor old Ken died today at 3.45 p.m. of heart failure following dysentery. Held a burial service and burned his body at about 7.0 p.m.

June 2.—Roll on tomorrow. I HOPE to leave for Ledo after a week of idleness in Shinburyang.

June 3.—STILL in Shinburyang. I was going to leave this morning but got a very bad attack of fever and had to stay here. I have just thrown a Wog out for being indecent—he would not put any clothes on and there were both women and youngsters. I have hitched up with a nice fellow called Baxter and another chap with his wife called Bell. The fever has passed off a bit now—I hope to push off in about three days' time.

June 4.—Still got fever, seems to be getting worse—temp. 105.

June 5.—Still held up in Shinburyang with fever although my temperature has come down one. It has rained like hell this last three days.

June 6.—We had a few dry spells today. Of course the rain always made up for lost time after each dry lot by coming down twice as fast.

June 7.—Had a pretty good day today—it stayed fine right up to 5.15 and now it's simply throwing it down. Now, thanks to this lousy weather we are stuck here till after the rains (6 months at least). Anyway, my fever is a bit better—no temperature—came down to 100'. The worst part is that I feel so dithery and weak.

June 8.—All fever has gone but I am still terribly weak and can't walk any distance. The supply plane came over at 4.0. Well, the second member of my party died today at 2.30. That's Ken gone, Frank gone, there's only me left.

June 9.—Had an awful day, but a good FEED of Chiepaties, kidney and rice. Boy, was it good! We had some trouble with the slant-eyed sons of Baal, the Chinks. One cock-eyed son was going to shoot me until I planted my fist in him.

June 10.—Still hanging round with nothing to do. It rained like hell again. The only things that seem

to like this place are the flies. Gosh, but there are millions of them.

June 11.—Another day gone west, rained again. We moved into new quarters this morning, Cragger. We've got more room to move about now. My birthday tomorrow.

June 12.—MY BIRTHDAY. And what a birthday—it rained all day. We are getting used to it by now. Got Frank's pencil yesterday. I've asked for his pen also and am getting that tomorrow, I think.

June 13.—I have a rather busy day today. First of all I buried a little girl of six and made a wooden cross for her grave. I think she died of dysentery. This afternoon I decided to clean my revolver; it badly needed it and it was going rusty.

June 14.—We've had a beautiful day today, sunshine all day long. The supply plane came and sent some rice. I had some tobacco given and, boy, was it good!

June 15.—Had another good day today, though not as hot as yesterday. A plane from the Indian Government sent a message telling all evacuees to stay put until further orders came as the rivers could not be crossed. The supply plane dropped food today—we were lucky and got a tin of cheese, and we certainly enjoyed it. I've had nothing else but trouble with some wounds this last day or two, paining like hell.

June 16.—Another lovely day—not one shower. Supply planes have been dropping supplies all day today. An old lady of 70-odd died in our hut of heart trouble. She died very suddenly. I have just seen a Chink and a Churba shooting it out with one another. I do not know who won, I didn't stop to see.

June 17.—Another lovely day, though somewhat cloudy. The supply planes haven't been over today. I am down with another dose of fever, though not so bad as last time.

June 18.—Fever getting worse, pulse very weak. Had another warm day, rather cloudy at times. There is a young woman here in terrible pain—doubt if she'll live much longer. Her pulse is down below 60. The young woman has just this minute died.

June 19.—Well, the warm weather has finished. It rained pretty heavy this morning, but did not stop the plane from sending rations.

June 20.—It rained heavy all night, had a nasty shower this morning. The plane sent supplies, but the darned Chinks booked the lot. What I want most is a CIGARETTE. They have been asked for but none have come.

June 21.—Nothing much happened except that it rained nearly all day. Had terrible pain with my wounds last night. I can see a spot of trouble brewing here as the Chinks have put two M.G.s up, so if anyone else tries to get rations except Chinks they will get shot. The worst of it is that nothing is being done about it.

June 22.—Nothing happened; Chinese stole all supplies. Another young girl died this morning, still unburied. That's three in a week in this hut. Managed to get some fags.

June 23.—I buried the young girl today, and

what a day—rain, nothing else but rain. I have got another dose of fever—that makes three doses in three weeks. Supply plane has just come with rations.

June 24.—Old Mrs. Halpin died this morning of dysentery. Apart from that, nothing happened out of the ordinary.

June 25.—Nothing happened except that it rained all day. I got fever and it's slowly getting worse.

June 26.—Fever gone down. Ron got very bad attack. Apart from that, nothing happened.

June 27.—Mrs. Halpin's cousin died this morning. She was buried this evening. Rained all day.

June 28.—Old Taffy died very early this morning. Rained all day. I have been made hut hair-cutter.

June 29.—Nothing happened except a Chinese got shot for looting.

June 30.—Had a pretty nice day. Chink got shot for looting when plane came. Otherwise nothing happened.

July 1.—One youngster died. I've had nothing else but pain with my wounds. Ron down with fever.

July 2.—Macqueen died today. Rained a lot.

July 3.—Mac still not buried, beginning to smell.

July 4.—Mac buried today, and what a smell. Rained heavy all day.

July 5.—Nothing happened. Rained nearly all day.

July 6.—Nothing happened, had a warm day.

July 7.—Planes sent supplies. The day was nice and warm.

July 8.—Nothing happened.

July 9.—Got some chocolate today. Had to pay 5 rupees for it.

July 10.—Nothing happened. Two Chinks were shot for looting.

July 11.—Had a nice day. I got bad fever.

July 12.—About ten planes dropped supplies. ALL for the d—d Chinks. Still got fever.

July 13.—Had a hot day. Planes came again and two Chinks were shot for looting.

July 14.—Nothing happened. I still got severe fever but it's getting better now.

July 15.—Nothing happened.

July 16.—Nothing happened.

July 17.—Had rations issue. Apart from that, nothing happened.

July 18.—I have got some kind of a disease and, honestly, there is nothing left but bone. Oh well, we'll have to trust in good faith.

July 19.—Nothing happened but rain. Still sick.

July 20.—Nothing happened. Still sick.

July 21.—Nothing happened except rain.

July 22.—Three ration planes came today—one dropped medical supplies. Had a warm day all day.

July 23.—Nothing happened.

July 24.—Bad fever.

July 25.—Fever getting worse; too monotonous.

July 28.—Fever gone, but very weak.

July 29.—Still weak, but a lot better. Ration plane came; a lot of rations spoilt.

July 30.—Nothing much happened. Bought some apricots and got diarrhoea.

July 31.—Nothing much happened. Ron was taken sick with fits during the night.

Aug. 1.—Rabbit. Ration plane came. Ron a lot better. Paid Rs. 20 for one packet of fags.

Aug. 2.—Said Rosary twice as every Sunday.

Aug. 3.—Had a terrible storm last night, got blown out of bed. Ration plane came once.

Aug 4-7.—Very ill. Don't know anything.

Aug. 8.—A lot better. Rained a long time.

Aug. 9.—Said Rosary twice, as usual. Nothing happened.

Aug. 10.—Two supply planes came; one ours, one Chink.

Aug. 11.—Nothing happened. Had heavy rain all day. Oh! we had a bit of bread, and was it good! One of the natives died today.

Aug. 12.—Moved into new quarters, and they are lousy.

Aug. 13.—Had a wet day and got wet as the roof leaks.

Aug. 14.—Rained nearly all day, cleared at night. Drew ration.

Aug. 15.—Nothing happened but rain.

Aug. 16.—Said Rosary twice. I had a terrible dose of fever during Saturday night.

Aug. 17.—Nothing happened.

Aug. 18.—At long last it's getting near the time to leave. Hope to scat on the 1st of next month.

Aug. 19.—Nothing happened except three ration planes came. My leg isn't improving. Willma died at 9.20 p.m. last night. Ross buried today.

Aug. 20.—Nothing much happened. Had a fine day.

Aug. 21.—Drew rations. Four supply planes came with rations.

Aug. 22.—Another fine day. Three more planes came again. Roll on, hope to leave soon now.

Aug. 23.—Said Rosary twice, as every Sunday. No planes came.

Aug. 24-31.—Nothing happened. Usual drag in and out.

Sept. 1.—Another month started and still stuck here. We'll be leaving soon though.

Sept. 2.—Got dysentery and fever.

Sept. 3.—Had an injection for dysentery today Gosh, but I am weak. I've got two operations waiting for me in Ledo. The relief party should be here soon.

Sept. 4.— . . .

Diary stops, Jack dies!

★ STOP PRESS

Army Rugby Cup Results:

1 D.W.R. v 38 Trg. Regt., R.A.	Won 19-0
1 D.W.R. v 17 Trg. Regt., R.A.	Won 20-6

Army Soccer Cup Replay:

1 D.W.R. v 17 Trg. Regt., R.A.	Lost 0-1
--------------------------------	----------

Copenhagen and Eclipse

The name of Copenhagen, the Duke of Wellington's famous charger, is known to everyone in the Regiment, and for this reason I feel that some information on the breeding and antecedents of this horse will be of general interest to readers of THE IRON DUKE.

A picture of Copenhagen—and a wild-looking horse he was—was painted and lithographed by James Ward, R.A. (1769-1859); the description on the print of which reads as follows:

"The horse rode (*sic*) by the Duke of Wellington at the Battle of Waterloo, was bred by Eclipse, from a mare called Lady Catherine, which mare was the charger of General Grosvenor at the Siege of Copenhagen, when in foal of the colt which afterwards became the distinguished war-horse of the illustrious Duke of Wellington at Waterloo."

I have been unable to find any trace of Lady Catherine, so whether she was a thoroughbred or not cannot be determined.

The great Eclipse, whose name is commemorated by the valuable Eclipse Stakes at Sandown, is quite another matter and the difficulty in writing about him is to keep to the point and not to become too technical and long-winded.

Eclipse (by Marske out of Spiletta) was foaled in 1764 and had a remarkable career on the turf. In those days there was no racing as we know it to-day; all races being run in heats and "matches" between two horses also being very popular. Eclipse won all

his races, carrying anything up to 12 stone and racing for any distance up to four miles. He was retired to stud at Epsom, at a fee of 25 guineas a mare, and died in 1789. Eclipse himself was descended from the Darley Arabian, one of the three original stallions (thoroughbred).

Sir Charles Bunbury, an ancestor of Brigadier F. R. St. P. Bunbury, owner of Diomed, the first Derby winner (1780), and as shrewd a judge of a horse as any man in England, always insisted that a horse of his called Goldfinder was a better horse than Eclipse. As the two horses never met, his opinion was never put to the test, but it is recorded that "no-one else in the racing world seems to have shared Bunbury's view."

Whilst at stud Eclipse sired no less than three Derby winners, Young Eclipse, Saltram and Sergeant. His famous descendants in the male line are numerous and include Touchstone, Doncaster, Bend Or, Rock Sand, Cyllene, Flying Fox, Teddy, Ajax, Phalaris (from whom descends Ballymoss) and Isonomy, to name but a few.

Whether Copenhagen would have been a Derby winner, had he been raced, is a matter of speculation. I feel sure, however, that readers will agree with me when I say that on a racecourse he should certainly have been no slouch.

No wonder the Duke got about the battlefield so quickly!!

D.N.S.