

No.122 October 1961



THE IRON DUKE

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

THE IRON DUKE

The Regimental Magazine of

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

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



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

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OCTOBER 1961

No. 122

BUSINESS NOTES

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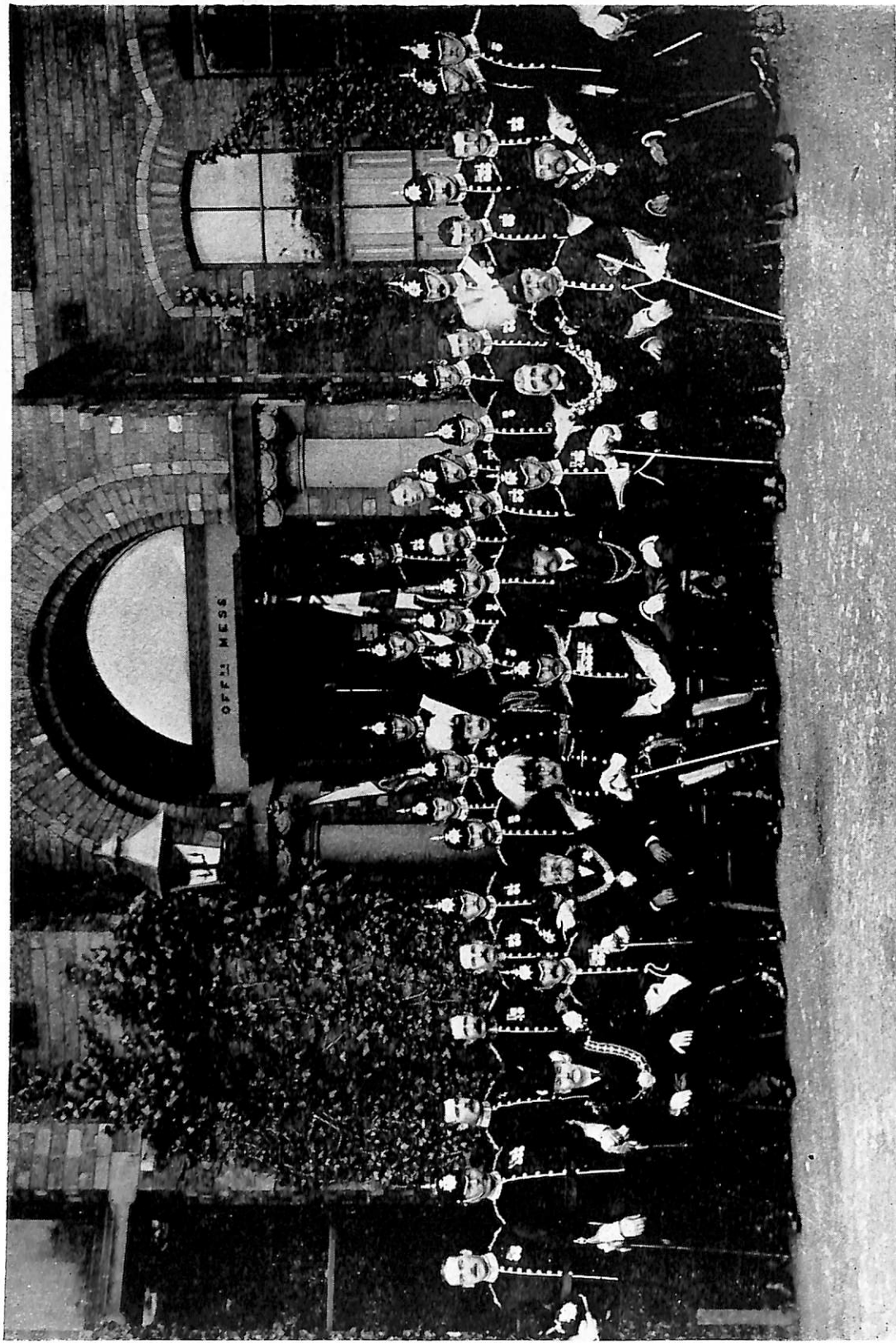
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HALIFAX

Copy for the January 1962 issue should reach the Editor by December 1, 1961

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Another Echo from 1903



Group taken on the occasion of Trooping the Colours and Luncheon to the Mayors of the West Riding of Yorkshire and Brig.-Gen. Brown, V.C., at York, during October, 1903

NEWS and NOTES

The War Office has announced that the 1st Battalion is to return from Kenya by Sea, Embarking on or about November 16. The troopship is expected to arrive at Southampton on December 3.

The Regimental cocktail party which it was planned to hold in London in December has, we understand, been postponed until January.

Readers will be sorry to hear that Mrs. K. G. Exham fell in her garden in September and broke her leg between the ankle and the knee. She is about again on crutches but is likely to be in plaster until about Christmas. We offer, on behalf of readers, our best wishes to Mrs. Exham for a complete recovery. As a result of this accident the Colonel of the Regiment was unable to attend the Old Comrades' annual reunion in Halifax on September 23.

On behalf of all readers we offer sincere congratulations to General Bray on his promotion to lieutenant-general which is recorded in "*From the London Gazette*" on page 155. Lieutenant-General Bray took up his appointment as G.O.C. in C. Southern Command on August 9. It had been hoped that he would have been met on arrival by a guard of honour provided by the "Dukes," but the absence of the 1st Battalion in Kenya prevented this. Instead the guard was provided by the 1st Battalion, The Gloucestershire Regiment, whose 2nd Battalion General Bray commanded for a period in 1944-45.

General and Mrs. Bray celebrated their silver wedding anniversary on September 2.

THE FRONTISPIECE

The frontispiece is another echo from 1903. It is not directly connected with the recruiting march which was the last to be carried out by the 1st Battalion in the West Riding until this year's "Operation Havercake," but depicts another interesting occasion of that year. Lt.-Colonel Mordaunt Trench, who kindly lent us the photograph, writes that most of the officers whom he is not now able to identify were Militia or T.A. officers; he is not quite certain of some of the ranks he has given. He also regrets that he is not now able to identify the Mayors; he thinks they were those of Halifax, Huddersfield, Bradford and Leeds and wonders whether it may be possible to identify them now by their mayoral chains.

Identifications

Front row (left to right): Mayor of ?, Major Thorold, Mayor of ?, Brigadier-General Brown, V.C., Lt.-Colonel Rivett Carnac (C.O.), Lord Mayor of York, Major Hayden, Mayor of ?, Staff Officer, Mayor of ?
Second and third rows (left to right): Lt. Clifton, Captain (Q.M.) Seaman, —?, —?, —?, Captain Strafford, Lt. Townsend, —?, Major MacLeod, Staff Officer, Captain Whish, 2 Lt. Skinner, —?, Captain Fedden, Lt. Whitaker, Lt. Marriner, Lt. McGuire Bate, —?, Lt. Harman, —?, Lt. Wilson, Major Gibbs, Lt. Taylor, Captain Maffet, Captain and Adjutant Bray
At back: Lt. Jubb and Lt. Carlyon (with Colours), Lt. Trench, —? (bareheaded)

Lt.-Colonel Barry Kavanagh has been selected as the next Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion. He is due to take over from Lt.-Colonel Firth in June 1962. Lt.-Colonel Kavanagh is at present commanding the 3rd Battalion, The Queen's Own Nigeria Regiment; a letter from him appears on page 155.

At the end of this year Colonel N. T. Bentley, T.D., will succeed Colonel G. B. Howcroft, C.B.E., M.C., T.D., J.P., as Honorary Colonel of the West Riding Battalion.

Major Hugh Le Messurier has been appointed to command the Yorkshire Brigade Depot in succession to Lt.-Colonel Bade. Major Le Messurier takes over early in 1962.

After 12 years at Wellesley Barracks as administrative officer and, more recently, R.O.III, Lt.-Colonel D. J. Stewart is retiring at the end of this year. Among his many time-consuming tasks has been the business management of THE IRON DUKE and his departure will be a great loss to the magazine and, particularly, to us as editor. We will, however, not take our final leave of him until the next issue. Lt.-Colonel Stewart is to be replaced by Lt.-Colonel Walter Skelsey who has, luckily for us, decided not to pursue the career he had embarked on in Nyasaland.

NOTICE

The annual service in the Regimental Chapel, York Minster, will be held on Thursday, November 2, at 10.45 a.m.

All Saints' Day, November 1, was not available owing to the possibility of there being a consecration of bishops in the Minster on that day.

The Rev. David Strangeways, D.S.O., has been appointed rector of Symondsburys with Eype and Broadoak in Dorset. The Rev. David's distinguished military career seems to be keeping pace with his advancement in the Church. *The Bridport News*, reporting his new appointment, described him as "formerly Colonel-in-Chief of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment."

Lt. Robin Stevens has been selected to be A.D.C. to General Allard. General Allard, who is a Canadian, recently took over command of the 4th Division.

CHRISTMAS CARDS AND DIARIES

Regimental Christmas cards and diaries are obtainable from the Regimental Secretary, Wellesley Barracks, Halifax, to whom application, with remittance, should be sent early.

The Christmas card (height 7 inches, width 5½ inches) displays on the front outer leaf a reproduction in colour of the original water-colour portrait of an unidentified officer, 33rd Regiment, circa 1822, now in the Officers' Mess of the 1st Battalion.

The 1962 diary is that normally published by the Army Sport Control Board.

COMMENDATION

L/Cpl. R. Bayston has been commended by the Commandant of the School of Infantry, where L/Cpl. Bayston is serving on the permanent staff, for his action after a road accident in June. The Commandant directed that the following account be published in Part I Orders of the Support Weapons Wing of the School, and that a copy be sent to the Regiment:

L/Cpl. Bayston,

The Duke of Wellington's Regiment

At 2245 hours on June 25 a party of five soldiers was walking back to camp in three files when a car crashed into them, seriously injuring two, and drove on without stopping.

L/Cpl. Bayston, although himself badly shaken, at once took control. He told Rfmn. Hodge to look to one of the injured men, got the other on to the road verge and himself directed traffic which was quite heavy. He asked a passing civilian to dial 999. For a period of over 20 minutes this young lance-corporal coolly commanded a difficult and most anxious situation, displaying leadership and determination of a high order.

PERSONAL NOTICES

BIRTH

Ivey.—On August 15, 1961, at Derby, to Monica and Chuck Ivey, a daughter (Virginia Jane).

ENGAGEMENT

Naylor—Walton.—The engagement is announced between George Frederick, son of Mr. G. E. Naylor, C.B.E., and Mrs. Naylor, of Kirkwood, Baildon, Yorkshire, and Sandra Pauline, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. G. Walton, of Amwell, near Wheathampstead, Hertfordshire.

Mr. Naylor served with the 1st Battalion as a National Service officer and is now an officer in the West Riding Battalion.

GOLDEN WEDDING

May—Lough.—On August 8, 1911, at St. Marks' Church, South Farnborough, Hants, Alfred May to Minnie Rose Lough.

Ex-Sgt. A. May enlisted in the Regiment on June 25, 1908. He served with both 1st and 2nd Battalions in, among other stations, France, Gibraltar and Turkey. He was a P.T. instructor in the 2nd Battalion. He was discharged in 1928

and then spent some 20 years in the Prison Service. Mr. and Mrs. May's present address is: 54 Halberry Lane, Newport, Isle of Wight.

DEATHS

Buckham.—On August 10, 1961, at Dewsbury, Mr. Reginald Buckham of Heckmondwike. During the First World War Mr. Buckham served with the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, reaching the rank of corporal, and was a member of the Army of Occupation in Germany after the war.

Dodman.—On June 6, 1961, Mr. J. R. Dodman, member of the Cornwall Branch of the Old Comtemples Association and formerly No. 5870, Bandsman, 2nd Battalion, D.W.R.

Pollard.—On September 18, 1961, at his home in Dunnington, nr. Sheffield, Mr. George Christopher Pollard, aged 89 years.

Mr. Pollard was one of our oldest ex-soldiers. He was born at Kettering and, as No. 3800 Pte. G. C. Pollard, enlisted into the West Riding Regiment at Halifax on April 17, 1893. After serving with the Regiment at Dover, South Africa, East Indies, India and Burma he was discharged to the Reserve in May, 1905.

News of his death was sent by his eldest son, ex-C.S.M. C. E. Pollard, who served with the 1st Battalion in North Africa and Italy.

Sivell.—On December 22, 1959, ex-Sgt. George William Sivell, M.M., of 46 Fullers Close, Collier Row, Romford, Essex. Mr. Sivell served in the Regiment from 1904 to 1917. He was a member of the London Branch O.C.A. until ill-health prevented him from attending.

Sutcliffe.—In July, 1961, Mr. Irvine Sutcliffe of 30 New Street, Southowram. Mr. Sutcliffe had been in business as a greengrocer in Southowram for 20 years and formerly served in the 4th Battalion, D.W.R.

Sykes.—On July 21, 1961, at his home, 21 Hollins Row, Slaithwaite, Huddersfield, Mr. James Arthur Sykes, aged 72.

Mr. Sykes enlisted in 1910 (Regimental No. 9964). He went to India in 1911 and served with the 1st Battalion up to the time it came home from Egypt in 1921. He was a keen supporter of the O.C.A., and was one of the "Dukes" contingent at the 1953 Coronation review of Old Comrades Associations in Hyde Park. He is survived by his wife and married son.

It is planned to present a stained glass window to the garrison church at Strensall to commemorate the Yorkshire Brigade. It will replace the present east window which is of plain glass.

Mr. Harry Harvey of York, the stained glass artist, has been asked to prepare a design incorporating the badges of the Brigade and its four regiments.

In June the Yorkshire Brigade Depot invited parties of youths from Halifax and Huddersfield to spend the week-end at the Depot. The visitors were accommodated in two barrack rooms; they were shown round in groups, each accompanied

by a young Regular soldier, and were given a chance to try their skill on the assault course and ranges. The visit seems to have been enjoyed by those who took part.

Major Jones-Stamp informs us that Major F. N. Potts, who served throughout the war in the 1st Battalion and is now R.O.A.C., is Field Master of the Dhekeia Drag in Cyprus. Major Jones-Stamp says that many members of the Regiment will have affectionate memories of "Potty" and his flute which raised morale at many a gloomy moment.

RECRUITING

Recruiting figures for the first six months of 1962 show the Regiment, for the first time, leading the Yorkshire Brigade. The figures are:

	Recruits*	Boys	Total
P.W.O.	94	9	103
G.H.	72	8	80
D.W.R.	90	16	106
Y. & L.	41	8	49

*Includes boys coming on to man's service

D.W.R.'s total figures for the past three years have been: 1958—93, 1959—101 and 1960—118. This year's figures, therefore, though not yet entirely satisfactory, are encouraging in that they continue the upward trend and have already, in six months, passed the total for 1959.

The business manager is anxious to hear from the following whose copies of THE IRON DUKE have been returned by the postal authorities:

Captain J. O. E. Steele, 22 Abingdon Villas, London, W.8

Mr. T. Glover (some time R.S.M., 4th Battalion), 53 Montrose Drive, Churchtown, Southport, Lancs.

Will they, or anyone knowing their present addresses, please communicate with the Business Manager, THE IRON DUKE, Wellesley Barracks, Halifax.

THE IRON DUKE APPEAL

We have received several generous donations during the past quarter. The final list of donors, and the result of the appeal, will be published in the January issue.

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

The wind of change is beginning to blow around Regimental H.Q. Donald Stewart, who has been with us for more than 12 years, will be leaving at the end of the year to be replaced by Walter Skelsey, who was one of the six depot commanders whom Donald saw come and go.

Old Jock O'Kelly nearly left; his resignation was typed out by Mr. McMahon on three different occasions before it was finally withdrawn. It seems that old Jock, who did not really want to leave, had misunderstood one of his wife's instructions and it was only when she asked him one day why he wanted to go that things began to sort themselves out again.

The other definite change is to be the location of R.H.Q. The Cumberlege plan has been approved

by the War Office and we have asked for our new site on the Gibbet Street/Springhall Lane cross-roads to be completed by June 1962.

Mr. Ian B. Adamson, who is preparing a biography of Gilbert Beyfus, q.c., wrote to us for details of his service with The Duke of Wellington's Regiment. "Bruce's History" showed that he was a second-lieutenant with the 2nd Battalion at Hill 60, April 17-19, 1915. The history states that the space fought over was only 250 yards long and about 200 in depth under continual shellfire. Of the 11 subalterns, only Lt. (now Colonel) Ince, who was adjutant, escaped unwounded, three were killed and the other seven, including Beyfus, wounded. He rejoined shortly before the 2nd Battalion reoccupied Hill 60 on May 5 when it suffered over 300 casualties from the German use of chlorine gas. A little over a fortnight after the first battle the battalion again lost all its subalterns killed or wounded. Colonel Ince has been asked to add to the bare facts given in the history. Mr. Adamson is also anxious to know which company Beyfus was with when wounded the first time, on April 18. If anyone who was there can supply this information will he please write to the Editor or to Major Davis at R.H.Q.

The Dinner Club has had a notable increase this year. Colonel N. T. Bentley, Honorary Colonel Designate of the West Riding Battalion, and five of the war-time company commanders of the 1st Battalion, Majors P. R. Faulks, T. F. Huskisson, B. Hindley, J. A. Randall and H. J. T. Sills.

Our Allied Regiment, Les Voltigeurs de Quebec, have been sent the complete score of the band music of the Regimental March and also our cap badge and elephant collar badges; these they intend to set up for display in their Officers' Mess.

The major items of local news are first that Archdeacon Treacy is to be consecrated Suffragan Bishop of Pontefract in York Minster on October 18. This and his connections with the Regiment will be reported in our next issue in more detail. The other two items come from the valley. Mr. George Stansfeld, whose hospitality many generations of "Dukes" officers at the Depot have enjoyed, celebrated his 91st birthday on August 19, and Colonel and Mrs. Walter Nugent their golden wedding anniversary on August 3. A guard of honour was found from the Depot for their marriage at Sowerby Church.

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THE YORKSHIRE BRIGADE DEPOT

Very little of note has occurred since the last issue, except the latest step in the rebuilding plan for Queen Elizabeth Barracks. The original plan was for a carefully phased rebuilding programme while we remained in occupation of the Depot. Groups of barrack blocks were to be done in succession. On the basis of this agreement the outstations of Beverley and Richmond were closed. Now at the eleventh hour the much-vaunted civilian works service organisation has decided that virtually the whole barracks must be evacuated and turned over to the contractors. Those of the Regiment who served here in 1948-50 will remember the insanitary tumbledown old huts at the east end of the barracks where the Holding Company lurked. These, which now form the T.A. and Cadet Force week-end training centre, are to have a dab of whitewash and are to be our home, come wet, come fine, for the better part of two years. This volte-face, in the highest tradition of government planning, was made in the form of an ultimatum: "Either you agree or nothing at all happens for another year." It is to be hoped that our recruiting will not be affected adversely during this vital period.

Our recruiting, while not entirely satisfactory, has definitely reflected the hard work put into it by Capt. Pell and his team. July showed a very large drop, but experience says that this has ever been the case during the pre-holiday period. The West Riding tour of the 1st Battalion paid an immediate interim dividend apart from its long-term effect.

Four Parents' Days have been held since the last publication. In the first three, the "Duke's" recruits did not carry off any of the prizes. However, to compensate for this, all prizes for the Parents' Day held on August 17 went to "Dukes." The best recruit was Pte. Claughton, of 5 Westwood Road, Cutsyke, nr. Castleford, who was also the best shot with the S.L.R.; Pte. Stokes, of 16 North Road, Barkisland, Halifax, won the cross-country; and Pte. Strike, a re-enlistment, of 65 Blake Street, Middlesbrough, was the best shot with the L.M.G.

OFFICERS' MESS

On July 7 we held our second Summer Ball. It had been thought that we should have fewer people than last year but a check on the gate, and the consumption of wine and food, showed that this was not so. Our old friends the West Indian Steel Band and the Band of the 15/19th Hussars played.

On July 12 (Orange Day) we held the half-yearly meeting of the Council of Colonels. This year it was attended also by commanding officers of regular battalions. Unfortunately, Colonel Firth had a previous engagement in Africa.

On the same night we put up the hunt staff of the Sandhurst Beagles. We were delighted with their success next day at the Great Yorkshire Show—supreme champion, champion bitch, two firsts and a second.

On July 18 we entertained at dinner Sherif Hussein of Beihan, Minister of the Interior of the Southern Arabian Federation, an old friend of the Brigade Colonel and the D.A.A.G., Mr. Mohammed Assara, Secretary of the Council, Mr. George Henderson, of the Colonial Service, and the Qadi of Beihan. General Sir Michael West, Brigadier Keith McQueen, Mr. David Gaunt, Mayor of The Staple, and Flight-Lt. Potts, R.A.F. Regiment, were also present. As usual, the Press sadly mangled our guests' names; one national daily of vast circulation actually confused Southern Arabia with Saudi Arabia!

On August 1 a different type of guest night was held in honour of Eddie Buckingham (Y. & L.). He was put to bed, still fighting gamely, at 2.45 a.m. Even the senior officers creaked a bit the next day.

There have been a number of officers of all regiments passing through. We are always pleased to see them. In particular we were glad to have a flying visit from Brigadier Webb-Carter; it is hoped that he can stay longer the next time. We also had a call from Lt.-Colonel Walter Skelsey of whom we hope to see more next year.

We welcome Robert Campbell-Lamerton as our regular subaltern at the Depot.

SERGEANTS' MESS

The highlight of this period was the second Formation Ball which was extremely well attended by old comrades. Over 80 attended from the various branches, together with R.S.M. Robins and a party of Mess members from the West Riding Battalion. To an outsider it might have appeared to be a "Dukes" function. However, a good time was had by all and, as usual, all campaigns were refought and all rugby matches replayed—the latter due to the fact that among our guests we were pleased to have Major and Mrs. Shuttleworth.

It should also be mentioned that Waterloo Day did not pass unnoticed. A party was held at the Half Moon Hotel, Strensall, organised by Major Jones-Stamp and C.S.M. Webb, attended by the officers and their ladies together with Sergeants' Mess members and their wives. Major Sugden came along and Colonel Waller should have been there but, unfortunately, due to a poor telephone call, spent the evening touring Yorkshire looking for the "Half Moon."

Ex-Band Sergeant Waterman paid us a visit and "Dukes" who know him will be interested to know that he is looking very prosperous as Sergeant at Arms and Mace Bearer to the Mayor of Wolverhampton. His son, Pte. Waterman, has just completed his ten weeks' training.

We would like to congratulate and welcome Sgt. Elston into the Mess, replacing Sgt. John Fee who leaves to rejoin the Battalion. Sgt. Fee has been a stalwart with the Brigade Depot since its formation and we are extremely loath to lose him.

YORKSHIRE BRIGADE JUNIORS VISIT THE ORKNEY ISLES

This year the Yorkshire Brigade Juniors visited the Orkney Isles for a 10-day camp. We asked for an account of this by one of the boys and were sent a selection. We are publishing two accounts which provide an interesting contrast in style and bring out different aspects of the visit. (We hear that one of the pleasantest aspects was that nearly all the young men of the island seek work on the mainland; as a result, our juniors had it all their own way with the local girls.)

BY JUNIOR L/CPL. A. CRAG (D.W.R.)

We departed from York Station feeling very excited, knowing that we were the first Army Band Boys from England to visit the Isles, and we were really looking forward to our visit there.

The journey was really very interesting; we had the thrill of going over the Forth Bridge and seeing all the Scottish coast as far as Aberdeen.

On arriving in Aberdeen we had a splendid meal, supplied by the British Railways, and we were all freshened up for the sea journey. For many of the boys it was their first sea journey and you could see the looks on their faces. You could hear a few now and again saying, "I wonder if I will be seasick" and "I hope I can get a good night's sleep."

The boat journey was very good. There were a few civilians on board, who were very friendly with us. They gave us a few comments on the Isles, and told us what we were heading for.

At last we docked at 3.30 in the morning and we were ashore around 5.30 to board coaches to Stromness, where we were spending our summer camp. The bus journey took about 30 minutes from Kirkwall. The scenery was very nice, as were the small villages and lakes or lochs as they call them.

To see Stromness coming into view was really thrilling, with the harbour and the large hotels and houses, and the fishing trawlers all anchored in the bay. I was really surprised when we were going through the town, because the streets were narrow, and only one car at a time could pass up them. I noticed from the bus window there were a few shops, cafes and pubs, and I could see we were in for an enjoyable stay.

When the camp came into our view, it was really a sorry sight, because all there was there were three huts and a cookhouse. The camp was called "Ness Battery," an old Army artillery battery from during the war. It was a light and heavy artillery camp. The observation post is still standing today, and the gun posts are still bedded there.

We became really fit during our enjoyable 10-day stay. In the morning we were wakened by the

bugle for 15 minutes' P.T. under the senior N.C.O before breakfast. We also had road runs and exercises and went on the range firing the rifles. We did two route marches of about 14 miles each.

In the evenings we were allowed out of camp, and we used to go to a cafe listening to the juke box. There was nothing much else to do. On the Saturday night we went to the local dance, where all the girls were very friendly. A good night was had by all.

Most of the boys went over to an island called Hoy, for the Duke of Edinburgh's award, staying out all night and looking after themselves. When they arrived back at camp they said they never want to do that again, but I could see in their faces they enjoyed it all.

But, alas, our stay came to an end and all the boys were sorry to leave, and all the girls were sorry to see the lads leave as well, but, you never know, we may return to the Isles next year for another pleasant stay.

BY JUNIOR CPL. C. HAMILTON (G.H.)

The first thing I heard on awaking at Kirkwall was the sea birds of many different species. I edged my way towards the porthole and gazed at the bleak storm-scattered sky; the sun was climbing out of its hollow cavity in the east and everything was placid except the thundering wind banging the portholes. At 4.30, after washing, I made my way with the rest of the boys on to the quay. The sea and the harbour were being continuously lashed by the stiff breeze, turning the grey water into a boiling white frothy mass. The raucous clatter of our boots and excited voices mingled with the birds and sea, breaking the earthly silence of the morning. The scenery was green hills with a road climbing and twisting its way round them. No trees to break the monotony of bleakness. A veil of swirling mist covered the summit of most of the hills. The sun cut a path across the foaming waves, making the sea spangle with a radiant glittering blue. Gulls wheeled, circled and dived above the masts of the small fishing boats, their white plumage shimmering against the dark blue sky.

At 5 a.m. our transport, a one-ton Army vehicle, bumped and rattled its way on to the quay. Our driver's voice did not seem peculiar as he talked away in his Scottish accent. Four of the boys jumped in the truck amongst the bulk of our luggage and sped away at full speed along the road to Stromness. At 6 a.m. a small mini-bus came for the rest of us and we were soon on our way to Stromness. All along the road beautiful sea birds were to be found foraging amongst the wavering grass. Farms, like any English country scene, were going about their ritual morning routine, cattle returning to the lush green pastures and

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poultry running about in their large confined fields and farmyards. The main produce of the Orkneys is cheese, poultry and eggs; many egg packing stations could be seen in the small villages which we went through.

The sea never seems to get out of view, it more or less follows the road. On entering Stromness the first thing I noticed was the very narrowness of the road going right through the centre of the town. Houses looked cramped and huddled together, though some were very artistically designed and very quaint.

On arriving at Ness Battery, an old R.A. camp, I was astounded by the most commanding view of the coast one could have. To the right a barren, boulder-strewn, rocky beach stretched as far as the eye could see, to which the sea was pounding continuously. On the left were the dignified heather-matted rocky hills of the Island of Hoy, its beaches a foaming white blue of the sea. The Island of Hoy is supposed to have one of the steepest rock precipitants in Great Britain. Its hills look magnificent against a blue sunlit sky. Stromness is a busy little fishing town from which boats of every description ply to and from the sea every day. The people of the Orkneys are very helpful and prefer to be called Scandinavians as they are mostly descendants of the Norwegians.

The teenage population are decent and not like any of the famous Soho teddy boys and girls. Their affection for modern music is still the same.

After breakfasting and changing into our working attire we set about the gruelling task of preparing the camp for the rest of the unit—as we were the advance party. Bedding, cooking utensils and fire equipment were the greatest part of the morning's work. Beds were made down, cookhouse cleaned and scoured, TV installed and everything was beginning to look like an Army camp. The dining hall was the most universally decorated one I have ever seen. The wooden walls were painted with pictures of country scenes painted to the smallest detail. Tents had to be erected, as the boys could not all be housed in the huts. This took a certain amount of skill, as the stiff breeze which blows night and day in the Orkneys hampered us. It took four boys and two of the staff two hours to put up one 160-lb. tent. The wind billowed the canvas continuously, lifting one or two of us off our feet. Finally the great day arrived, June 21, a cold, windy, rain-swept day. The boys and the staff arrived, looking very tired and exhausted after their ten hours' ordeal on the boat. Having breakfasted and changed, Lt. Buckingham read the various activities which would affect them while they were there. Such things as route marches, expedition to the mountainous Island of Hoy and day outings to various places of lasting interest.

There were plenty of vacancies for D.R.O.s and other back-bending work to fill in the monotony of nothing to do in their spare time.

After being dismissed they were allowed to wander round the camp and Stromness, to find out what impression they felt. Like me, I hope it was a good one.

1st BATTALION

From Halifax to Kenya in less than a month with an exercise in Dorset thrown in. No wonder old soldiers are somewhat startled by the pace of life in the Strategic Reserve.

The last issue of *THE IRON DUKE* contained notes of the successful Yorkshire tour. As soon as we returned to Colchester we found ourselves in a whirl of preparation for Exercise "Dorset Lad," an amphibious exercise in Dorset. Before going to the West Country, however, we managed to fit in a highly successful cricket week culminating in the Free Foresters match. This was a most pleasant fixture and, once again, we were able to welcome many well-known old "Dukes."

As soon as we returned from Lulworth we commenced preparations for Exercise "Bataiha." This was to have been a Brigade exercise in Portugal, the move of troops to have been by air and the vehicles by sea. On the appointed day the vehicles duly moved off the docks, but then fate, in the form of a word few, if any, had heard of—Kuwait—stepped in. Back came the transport and we once again found ourselves in a welter of packing for an operational move; and back to Kenya we went, this time to Nairobi.

We are in a pleasant camp in the suburb of Muthaiga on the Fort Hall Road. We marched in as the unfortunate 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment (Manchester & Liverpool), marched out. We would like to take the opportunity to thank the King's, especially their rear party who have been kindness itself to us—even to the extent of allowing us the use of their Officers' Mess silver. We are most grateful for all they have done for us.

Finally it may be of interest to remind readers of the stations occupied by this Battalion since the amalgamation of the old 1st and 2nd Battalions at Strensall: Chisleton, Minden (B.A.O.R.), Pontefract (transit), Korea, Gibraltar, Chisleton, Malta, Cyprus, Holywood (Northern Ireland), Brentwood, Colchester, Nakuru (Kenya), Colchester and Nairobi (Kenya). Fifteen stations in 12 years!

SHOOTING 1961

Bisley

After the Brigade Rifle Meeting there remained only two weeks before we were due to go to Bisley. Accordingly the numbers practising were reduced to about 16 and, helped by an efficient butt party of men of the Signal Platoon and fine weather, we forged ahead running through the matches we would fire at the Bisley meeting.

By the middle of the second week the team of 12 was selected and on June 25 we moved to Bisley. The first event was the Parachute Regiment Cup which is fired concurrently with the S.M.G. XXX. Nine members of the team were entered for this and three, Major Wood, Ptes. Parker and Hoddinot, qualified to shoot in the second stage of the XXX for the Victory Cup. They were each

awarded an S.M.G. Badge, Major Wood gaining second place in the Cup. The match points awarded to the team of four nominated in this event started us off in third position in the Unit Championship.

The next event, the Roupell Cup, was that in which the team shot best, gaining maximum match points towards the Unit Championship. We now were in second place.

This was a gratifying start to the meeting but, unfortunately, the standard was not kept up. In the Whitehead Cup the team were placed eighth and our overall position dropped to third. The Worcestershire Cup for L.M.G. pairs saw the team descend to fourth place, but we had expected such an occurrence.

At this stage we had great hopes of being able to regain a place or so in the last two matches which carried double match points. However, our hopes were dashed by a poor performance in the Britannia Trophy, in which we came second last year. This year we dropped to twelfth place. Our position in the Unit Championship was now disappointingly low. What is more, our "bogey" match, the Small Arms Cup, was to come.

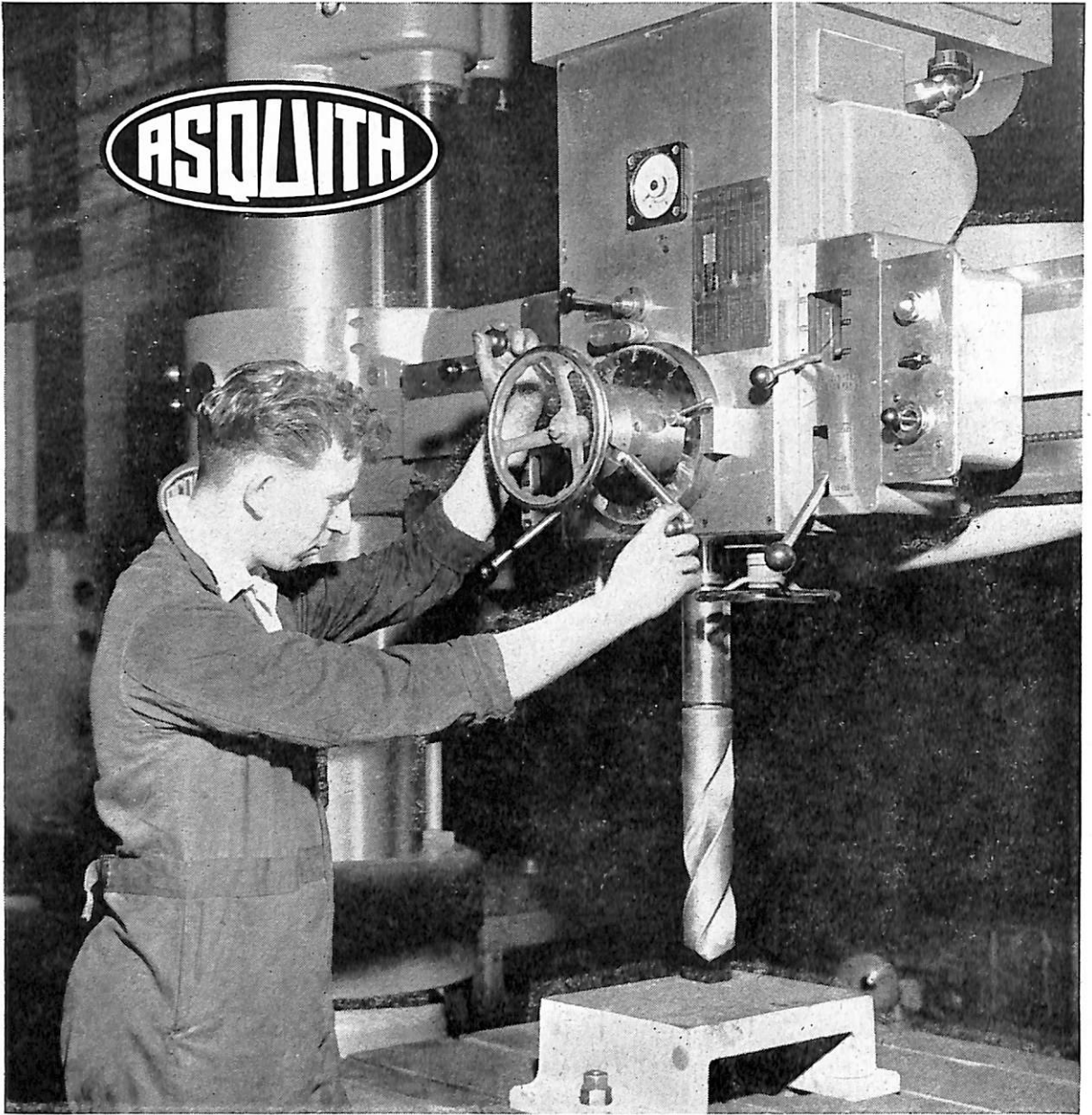
In this final event the team found its previous form and registered a score equal to last year's winning score. For a time we thought we might have won the Cup, only to hear that the South Wales Borderers had beaten our score by eight points out of 612. Not long after we discovered that 1st Green Jackets had beaten them by one point. Even third place in the Small Arms Cup did not restore the team to its previous position in the championship.

As the meeting progressed individuals of the team were struggling to reach the Army Hundred, which is composed of those who gain the 100 highest aggregate scores in the Roupell, Whitehead and Roberts Cups. Five of the team were successful; their names and scores appear below. (*Unfortunately, they don't.*—ED.)

In the Methuen Cup three members of the team, Majors Wood and Robertson and Captain Cowell, shot for "English Regiments," who were placed eighth out of 30 teams.

Our congratulations to Major Wood on being appointed Adjutant of the Army VIII and on representing the Army once again in the National Rifle Association Meeting.

During the Army Meeting the team were delighted to be visited by Major-General Roy Exham who brought a message of good wishes from the Colonel of the Regiment and met and talked to the whole team. A frequent visitor was Lt.-Colonel Cox who showed great interest in our progress. It should be put on record that he borrowed a rifle and scored a 43 on the short range, an achievement which rightly impressed the team. In the team were two of the winners of his medal:



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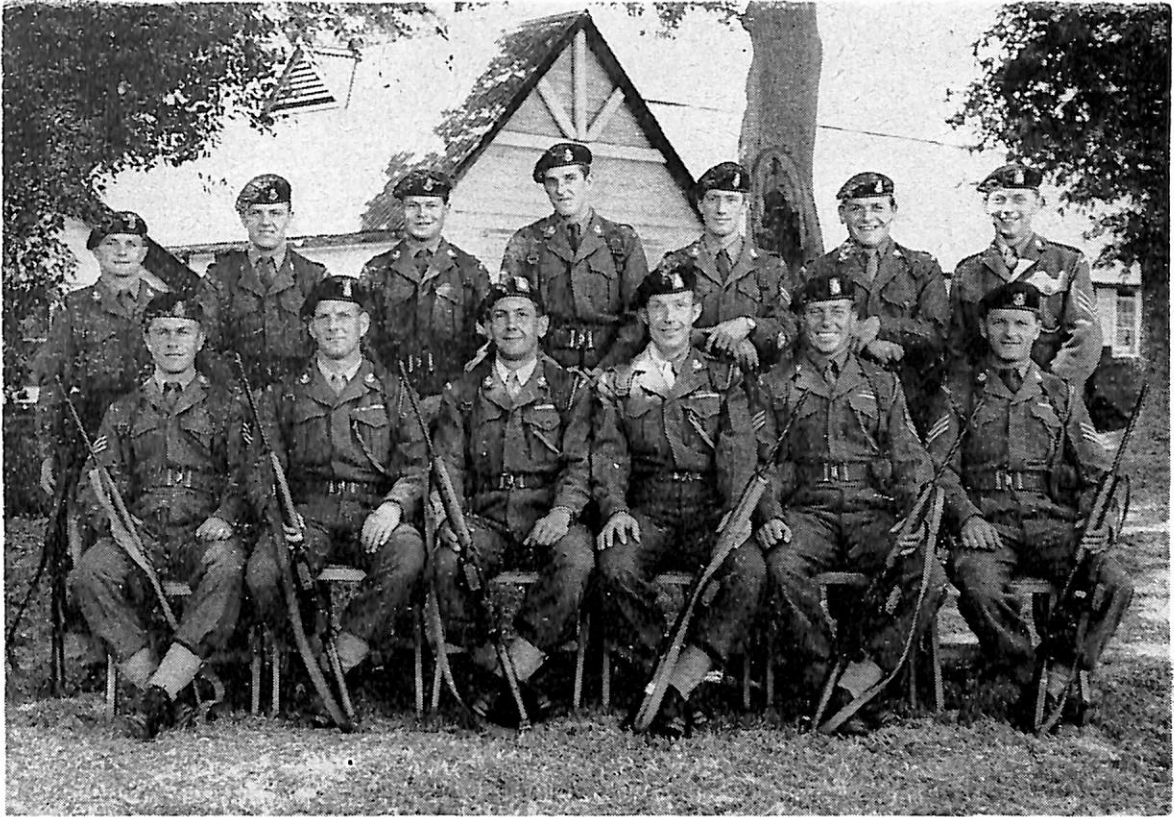


Photo: Gale & Polden Ltd.

THE BISLEY TEAM

Standing: Left to Right Pte. J. K. Brayshaw, Pte. R. M. Parker, Pte. N. Goodyer, Pte. J. B. Hoddinott, Cpl. P. Gott, Pte. J. Metcalfe, Sgt. E. Foster
Sitting: Sgt. R. Owers, Maj. W. F. C. Robertson, Capt. J. D. P. Cowell, Maj. D. H. Wood, C/Sgt. R. C. Fenn
 Sgt. G. Holliday

Pte. Parker, 1960, and Major Robertson, 1961.

We were pleased to see a lot of Brigadier Ramsay Bunbury who was competing in the Army Championship for the last time before he retires. We were very sorry he did not make the Hundred in his last appearance but hope, as he does, that he will enter for the Roupell Cup as a retired member next year.

Another familiar face appeared only too briefly, that of C.S.M. Norman down to shoot in the Bisley Cup. He has not altogether lost his touch as he came 16th in the event out of 144 competitors.

As a point of interest it should be mentioned that during the second week of the meeting the Battalion was alerted to fly to Kenya but the Brigade Commander made a point of ordering the team to finish the meeting before flying off. After all, things must be done in their correct priority.

In Kenya

As soon as East Africa Command heard that the "Dukes" were coming they postponed their rifle meeting until December, by which time we must be out of Kenya whatever hat we are due to wear.

The Kenya Regiment, however, were having

a camp, and determined to end it with a proper meeting.

As six out of our ten Bisley team had been left in England for various reasons, along with all our Bisley weapons, and as the Kenya Regiment and all the K.A.R. were still using the old steam gun (No. 4 rifle) we were not keen on entering a team. It soon developed into a Command Meeting, however, with even the Police and G.S.U. taking part, and so we were bullied into borrowing some tired No. 4 rifles and zeroing them up a few days before the meeting. As the last time we had shot with a No. 4 rifle was exactly two years ago, we could hardly expect to do very well with two days' practice. We should, however, have done better with the S.M.G. On the L.M.G. we did extremely well, gaining second, third and fourth places, and beating the next nearest team by 142 points.

Altogether it was a very successful, efficient and happily run meeting which all took place on one Saturday. It will be some time before we forget the concrete-like firing points and dust clouds. At least until next year's summer outing anyway.

(Results—see next page)

RESULTS (12 teams entered)

Rifle Team Match: 4th.

L.M.G. Team Match: 1st.

S.M.G. Team Match: 2nd.

Individual Rifle (84 Competitors): Major W. F. C. Robertson, 3rd; Pte. Metcalfe, 9th.

L.M.G. Pairs (28 Pairs): Major Robertson and Sgt. Holliday, 2nd; C/Sgt. Fenn and Sgt. Foster, 3rd; L/Cpl. Griffett and Pte. Metcalfe, 4th.

Individual S.M.G. (36 Competitors): Sgt. Foster, 2nd.

EXERCISE "DORSET LAD"

Exercise "Dorset Lad" was an amphibious landing by a battalion group, supported by units of the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force, on the coast of the Lulworth training area.

The Battalion group, consisting of Battalion H.Q., and three companies, "D" Battery, 3rd Regiment, Royal Horse Artillery, and 1 Troop, 3rd Independent Field Squadron, Royal Engineers, embarked at Portland on the battle class destroyers, H.M.S. *Trafalgar*, *Jutland* and *Dunkirk*, and the tank landing craft H.M.S. *Rampart*.

The convoy sailed at 2000 hr. on June 21 for a quiet cruise down channel. There was an amusing (to "Pongos") incident as we steamed out of Portland Harbour: H.M.S. *Jutland* closed into line ahead too fast and missed ramming H.M.S. *Trafalgar* by six feet. We reckoned the score at that point was about 30—love to the Army.

We reached the lowering position in the early hours of the following morning. "B" Company then transferred into six landing craft, manned by Royal Marines, for the initial assault. The exercise was watched by several N.A.T.O. officers who, from Worbarrow Tout, saw the six landing craft sweep into Worbarrow Bay and grind to a halt on the beach, there to disgorge the gallant "B" Company.

They were quickly engaged by defending troops and in the light of flares a spectacular scene developed. The initial landing having succeeded, there came more landing craft carrying the R.E. Troop and two bulldozers; soon a roadway and beach exits were prepared for vehicles to land.

"D" Company and Battalion H.Q. then came in, followed by H.M.S. *Rampart* which landed the unit Land-Rovers and the three-tonners towing the 25-pounder guns of "D" Battery.

Meanwhile, the original assault troops were fanning out, making their way into the interior. "B" Company pushed up the slopes of Whiteway Hill, while "D" Company fought its way through the wooded valley towards Tyneham. "B" Company's attack encountered bitter resistance and they were forced back by a strong counter-attack.

Some of the defenders who had been undetected in the woods made an attack on the beachhead and there was some fierce fighting before they were ejected by "C" Company who had just come ashore.

On the lower slopes of Whiteway Hill "B" Company, now reinforced by "C" Company, essayed a further attack on the hilltop and this time forced back the defending troops towards

their H.Q. on Povington Hill. Finally Povington Hill itself was captured and the exercise ended.

Throughout the ground operations Hunter fighter aircraft of 54 Squadron R.A.F. frequently roared overhead and made low-flying attacks to soften up the targets below them. At sea the destroyers provided heavy supporting fire and maintained an anti-submarine patrol.

The exercise was directed by Brigadier D. W. Jackson, commanding 19 Independent Infantry Brigade, and interested spectators were Major-General Harrington, Commander 3rd Infantry Division, and Brigadier Richards, commanding Joint Services Amphibious Warfare Centre.

Major Le Messurier was the assistant-director and enemy controller. The enemy were provided by "A" Company.

THE MOVE TO KENYA

It all started late on the night of Saturday, July 1, when the Orderly Officer brought a secret and immediate message to the C.O.'s house saying "Exercise 'Bataiha' cancelled. O group, Brigade H.Q. 1100 hrs. Sunday."

Sunday in Meanee Barracks, Colchester, began as a normal quiet Sabbath Day, but events in a few short hours altered the trend of life for over 650 officers and men of the Regiment. In the various Messes men had been relaxing over their lunch-time pint, discussing the topic of the moment—Kuwait—never realising that there was a part for them in the Persian Gulf operations.

At 1400 hrs. the C.O. held his O Group with what personalities he could muster. "Where's the Adjutant?" "Attending a wedding in Yorkshire, Sir." "Where's the Colour-Sergeant, Bravo Company?" "At Clacton with his family, Sir." "Never mind, we will make do with what we have got. We move to Kenya this week to replace units of 24 Brigade who are now in Kuwait." The C.O.'s opening words stunned, for a second, then thrilled when the audience realised that here was a second trip to Kenya in less than a year.

Many questions and answers were given before the O Group dispersed to the various tasks involved in a quick air move. The whole Battalion air-transportability machine moved swiftly into action. There began the usual mad scramble of weights, deficiencies, ineligibility, non-availability, draft-warning certificates, customs certificates, hazardous freights, hideous frights, jabs, jobs and gibbering Q staff.

On Monday the Battalion area erupted with men streaming from one place to another, kit being stacked, weapons being checked and bundled. Into storage went civilian clothes and out came combat suits. The spirit was high. For those who moved last year there was the veteran feeling—"We could pack our kit blindfolded." They guided their less-fortunate comrades who had probably never been in an aircraft before in their life, let alone packed their kit in earnest.

In the Orderly Room the master nominal roll was being typed rapidly, and the air-transportability board was being reorganised by shuffling little coloured discs from one part of the board to another. The

Exercise "Dorset Lad"



The Navy had a hot meal ready for the troops as soon as they embarked at Portland

Photo: Dorset Evening Echo

system had all been geared for the promised trip to Portugal on "Bataiha."

In the Airportability Office (affectionately known as the Squadron Leader's Office) Captain Lupton and C.S.M. Pennington were battling with weight figures, down to the last ounce. The Q.M.s branch were furiously packing the "G1098" into anything from bundles of hessian to granby boxes.

On Tuesday the Advance Party were all ready to go. At 1600 hrs. they were told that there was no chance of their going that day. At 1645 they were told to be ready on the square at 1715. (C/Sgt. Wilson's wife got a note saying: "Your tea is on the hot plate. Gone to Kenya. Back soon.") They finally left at 1730 hrs. They married up with all the Brigade elements' advance parties at Brigade Headquarters and after another false start boarded coaches *en route* to Ogbourne St. George Transit Camp in Wiltshire, 180 miles away, where they were to spend the night by courtesy of 1st Staffords.

After rising at 0530 hrs. on the Wednesday morning the Advance Party bathed in the Wiltshire sun until 1600 hrs. when they moved off to Hendon and not Lyneham as previously arranged. Arriving at Hendon after a mystery tour of South-East England

they were finally bedded down for the night. After another early rise on the Thursday morning they were soon *en route* to Stansted, only 30 miles from Colchester. They were depleted in numbers, many of them having returned to Ogbourne St. George and subsequently Lyneham. The C.O. with Cpl. Hayton, his batman, and the Q.M. were by this time in Kenya. Stansted Airport provided a luxury lounge and all the amenities and eventually the Advance Party took off at lunch time in a Britannia of Cunard Eagle Airways, enjoying all the comforts of a civil airliner including hostesses. Changing at Aden to R.A.F. Hastings they touched down on the dusty air station of R.A.F. Eastleigh, Nairobi, in the afternoon of Friday, July 7. After three days of travel they had begun to wonder if they were ever going to see Kenya and, as a grand finale, it took their aircraft, due to unusual air currents, three attempts to land. So ended for them a most fantastic move.

The main body rumbled through the gates of Meeanee Barracks, company by company, on July 5. They, too, were bound for the transit camp, Ogbourne St. George. The atmosphere there was curiously unreal. The camp contained about 1,200



EMPLANING AT LYNEHAM

Photo: Keystone Press Agency Ltd.

The War Minister talks to Sgt. Dodds (Pioneer Sgt.) and L/Cpl. Hornby (The men behind are not D.W.R.)

people, plus staff. The transitees (no doubt there is such a word in the Q Movement vocabulary) were being sent to Kuwait and Kenya from three different airfields, using R.A.F. and several charter companies. The result was that people kept being called forward in penny packets at all times of the day and night.

So each bus load was instructed not to go anywhere in the camp where it could not be found. The Sergeants took this literally and, from then on, were only to be found in, or under, the bar in the Sergeants' Mess. The officers sat and watched the Test and Wimbledon on TV.

After two days, we had all surrendered to the "Waiting for Godot" atmosphere.

Some were seen off by Mr. Profumo, the Minister for War, and after a smile into the TV Cameras boarded Britannias and Comets of R.A.F. Transport Command, a few flying by civil airline. Their "air journey" followed much the same pattern as that of the Advance Party.

To the uninitiated the flight to Kenya held many pleasant surprises and thrills, and was an experience they will never forget. The sight of Paris and the Seine looking like a well-prepared map from 25,000 feet, the snow-capped French Alps, and the playground of the Riviera, in the twilight of a Mediterranean day, which reminded them of Blackpool or Southend. To those who had travelled the route a few months previously it was like taking a bus trip from Colchester to Halifax: "Turn left at Monte Carlo," "Turn left at El Adem" and "Turn right at Aden." But finally all arrived thanks to the Eastern National Bus Co., Q Mov., the R.A.F. Transport Command, B.O.A.C., several charter companies, the Kaffir Mail (a slow train from Bulawayo), and Providence.

Comment overheard—"Duke" to civilian in Colchester: "Oh yes, we always spend our summer holidays in Africa. It's so unspoilt, you know."

After a week the Battalion was complete in Muthaiga Camp on the outskirts of Nairobi. On landing many had strange travellers' tales to tell: "How many planes did you travel in?" "You were lucky I travelled in two." "Where is Entebbe?" "Why?" "I think we landed there." "Is it true that Captain Dasent is in Johannesburg by mistake?"

After a few days of settling in, the Battalion got down to its usual training commitments. On with the riot drill and out with the rugby ball (a necessary article of our air-portable equipment.) Last year's jet-propelled warriors agree that life in Muthaiga is much more pleasant than at Lanet. The white-kneed ones are taken aback by the beauty of East Africa and are enjoying the outdoor life of the N.F.D. and its surroundings.

With the Battalion's future being so uncertain, rumours are naturally the day's normal topic. The two strongest are (a) that Meeanee Barracks, Colchester, is being renamed "1st D.W.R. Transit Camp U.K." and (b) that the signboard at Meeanee Barracks has been altered from 1st Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding) to 1st Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (East Africa).

KENYA, JULY 9 TO AUGUST 21

As described above, the Battalion arrived in Kenya in batches over a period of several days. During this period the troops who had arrived at our final destination, Muthaiga Camp, Nairobi, engaged in settling into their new locations, digging monsoon ditches, completing the take-over, cleaning and sorting out their equipment and unloading the heavy freight as it arrived.

The camp, which had belonged to 1st Kings before their move to Kuwait, was found to be largely composed of Twynham huts, spacious, clean and well ventilated. This was a pleasant surprise as we had expected a far greater area of tentage. What tents there were, were largely allocated as offices and lecture rooms; one was also earmarked later as a gas chamber for testing respirators.

The facilities in the camp have been found to be many and good. The cookhouse is large and the food excellent, both in type and quantity; the N.A.A.F.I. contains a shop, new billiard table, record player, library and many other pastimes. There are three soccer pitches, a rugger pitch, hockey pitch, two boxing rings and a very comprehensive assault/obstacle course. There are also riding stables, run by 1st Kings with assistance now from 1st D.W.R., containing eight horses of varying size and grade from scrawny nag to elegant hunter.

When 1st Kings left the camp a rear party stayed behind under Captain Ballinger. The camp was left in spotless condition and the co-operation we have received from the rear party has been first rate.

BATTALION ORGANISATION

The Battalion arrived out in Kenya under command of Lt.-Colonel Firth with H.Q., "H.Q." Company (Captain Lupton, later Major Milligan), "A" Company (Major Robertson), "B" Company (Captain Naughton) and "C" Company (Major Blakey). "D" Company and a rear party were left in England, "D" Company being almost wholly composed of National Service men, awaiting demobilisation, and other ineligible men.

After a week, the C.O. decided to form an all-regular company. "B" Company was chosen for this honour and on July 18-19 the change-over took place. Curiosity over the outcome of the experiment was terrific; in the event it has proved a great success. All the N.C.O.s and platoon commanders have been hand-picked and great efforts are now being made to get them functioning properly—leading their men on and off parade and demanding a high standard in all aspects of their military and sporting life. The men are responding bravely and their standards of turn-out and training have improved out of all recognition. There can be no doubt that, properly led, the modern Regular soldier will be as good as any of his National Service counterparts.

On the debit side we have lost our Reconnaissance Platoon. But, on advice from Kuwait, we have reformed the M.M.G. Platoon, under Lt. Summers, its numbers being made up from the H.Q. Defence Platoon which was formed from a surplus platoon of National Service men from "B" Company.

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OFFICERS' MESS

The initial stages of the move to Kenya resulted in a widely dispersed Battalion. As an instance, Edward Dasent, leaving on Chalk Two, arrived later than many who left U.K. days later than him. At one stage he was thought to be in Cape Town but, unfortunately for Edward, this was not so. It transpired that he had been holed up in the lounge of London Airport for two days.

Dick Mundell and 20 were off-loaded at El Adem when the captain of his Britannia proved unwilling to attempt take-off with a full load on a short runway, and in the rarefied atmosphere. After badgering the captain of every following aircraft for a lift, Dick and his men finally got away 24 hours late.

Eventually we all arrived in Kenya by devious routes and, in contrast to our tour last year, we took over an existing camp, which boasted most of the facilities necessary for making our nomadic life more comfortable. A going concern obviated the trouble of engaging Mess staff, contractors and the like. The accommodation, mainly aluminium Twyneham huts, is more than adequate. In short, we are extremely comfortable, and are most grateful to 1st Kings who, moreover, left a most impressive array of silver for our use.

The pressure of work and consequent frequent absence of many officers has denied us the opportunity of really establishing ourselves socially, though a small drinks party was held soon after our arrival, at which we entertained the wives of 1st Kings. Bernard Kilner is a frequent visitor; Lt.-Colonel Jimmy Davidson has also called, and both are to be seen whenever we play rugby.

Volley ball is once more a popular Mess activity, and contests with the Sergeants' Mess are well established. The Commanding Officer, Robin Stevens and Charles Cumberlege have safaried successfully and we all subsequently dined on excellent though odd-looking fowl—some sort of

vulture we were told. Eminently successful on safari has been our new padre, Henry West; his rod has produced succulent trout and his Land-Rover, gazelle.

WARRANT OFFICERS' AND SERGEANTS' MESS

The quick departure from England was accompanied by the usual humorous stories of people thumbing lifts on aircraft and being deposited in the most unlikely places. Around the World in Eighty Days is now our theme tune.

The wait at the transit camp proved to be rather a boon in that we could watch the test match on the "Telly" with only minor interruptions as people departed on their flights. A few lucky ones stayed until the match had finished.

Kenya once more and near the capital too. We thought this camp would be better than being up-country at Nakuru but now we are not so sure. Nairobi is rather expensive.

In-Out-Pending. Back to the fold after a rather short stay at the School of Music comes S/Sgt. "Dinger" Bell. Out to Civvy Street goes C/Sgt. Joe Quest and Master Painter Duggie Carman. The former never managed to obtain a six months' resettlement course whilst the latter never achieved his ambition of whitewashing "Pop" Dodds' beard. Pending tray contains a certain C.S.M. who is constantly muttering in his sleep: "Roll on Strensall."

We have completed a couple of exercises and company camps so far without much incident. One exception was when, on a dark wet night, the R.S.M. blew his whistle and frightened a lioness away from Battalion "H.Q." when it was in the act of making off with a sentry.

The rear party of 1st King's have made us very welcome and they arranged a barbecue for us within two weeks of our arrival. This has been followed by a games night, stag type, which was



BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY

Left to Right: Sgt. Parker, Sgt. Hudson, C.S.M. Costello, C.S.M. Batty, C/Sgt. Dicky, R.S.M. Randall, S/Sgt. Brayshaw

very enjoyable. We must train our Tippet team a bit more; at the moment they are rather too slow (Rick Almond to note).

"Pop" Dodds spent ages trying to get a place on a plane but, after arriving here and staying for only two weeks, he had to return home, due to his wife's illness. We hope that Mrs. Dodds will be fully recovered by now.

Trips to the desert and coast have been successively cancelled during the past week. What the immediate future holds for us is anybody's guess. However we haven't started buying Xmas cards yet, so there is still hope.

In conclusion we would like to wish all past members of the Mess the best of luck. For those Mess Members we left behind there is one message: Keep the lawns trimmed and don't knock any tomatoes off.

CORPORALS' MESS

Well, once more the land of Kenya trembles under the boots of the Corporals' Mess and the old war-cry can be heard—Hiya, Hiya, Hiya.

We are much indebted to the King's for the use of their Mess and making us welcome. There have been no Mess functions organised, in case of a quick move, but they tell us that the "Siamese Twins" are growing horns through the consumption of Pilsner. One good addition to the Mess is Cpl. Jagger (R.E.M.E.) who can be seen bashing the ivories every night after the nine o'clock news. One corporal, who shall be nameless, is continually complaining about monsoon ditches, as he fell down one late one night, and was heard to remark, "You're a defeatist." He broke his ankle.

There have been many additions to the Mess, too numerous to mention by name, but to all we wish luck on the road to success.

Well, we close now, for across the sports field can be heard, "Hiya, Hiya, Hiya"—a sure sign that the Mess is open.

RUGBY, KENYA, 1961

The "Dukes" arrived in Kenya about a month earlier than last year, and it was soon apparent by the number of invitations that the rugger XV would be hard at it again, trying to uphold last year's reputation. So far Captain Dasent has had no real qualms, as up to press we are unbeaten except for the R.A.F. Sevens, in which we were beaten finalists.

Again we set out to play fast open rugger, and succeeded, even touching the heights of brilliance at times, against sides forewarned by last year's results. The outstanding matches have been against Kenya Harlequins, when we managed to outlast a heavier pack and a quick three-quarter line only a week after our arrival, and Arusha where we contrived to play some excellent open football, with great cohesion among backs and forwards, against a side quite definitely content to lie up and play tight.

The pack, thought to be the main source of worry with many of the old hands missing, has shown tremendous life and vitality, making up for physical disadvantages by quick thinking and

moving, solid scrummaging, and domination of all phases of loose play. The back row, consisting of Pte. Renilson, Lt. Charlesworth and L/Cpl. Croft, excelled themselves both in attack and defence, and other outstanding members have been Lt. Mundell, L/Cpl. Griffett, on his return from illness, and Pte. Baxter. Of the new players, Pte. Smith has been a hard-working prop and Pte. Clay a great trier in the second row.

The backs, a well-knit and practised combination, have proved themselves the best line in Kenya. The handling, running and defensive work has all been of the highest order, and the points tally speaks for itself. Those who saw the Harlequins match will not easily forget the tackling of Ptes. Curry and Sabine.

The mid-field trio of 2 Lt. Reid and Ptes. Curry and Sabine have usually penetrated very well, either as individuals or together, giving the wings, Captain Dasent and a ubiquitous Captain Lupton, a chance to show their paces. The former with hard running, the latter, elusive and daring, a hard player to hold. Pte. Inglis worked hard at scrum-half and, last but not least, L/Cpl. Keegan has again been massively calm at full-back and has shown what an excellent attacking player he is in that position.

Nine players have been selected for the Combined Services XV defending the Provincial Championship: Captains Dasent and Lupton, Lt. Mundell, L/Cpls. Keegan, Griffett and Croft and Ptes. Sabine, Curry and Renilson. In the Forces' Famine Relief Match, chosen from all Kenya, four played for the Invitation XV, Captain Dasent, Lt. Mundell, 2 Lt. Reid and L/Cpl. Croft, while Captain Lupton turned out for the President's XV.

Altogether, then, another very successful "tour" with fine displays of rugby given to appreciative crowds. We have a proposed match with Nakuru on August 27, which we look forward to, and that may well be the last. Meanwhile, a word of thanks to all the clubs who have entertained us during our stay. Many thanks indeed for the wonderful hospitality shown to us; we have been made to feel very much at home wherever we have been.

RESULTS

Kenya Harlequins	..	Won	11—6
Kenya Police	Won	21—9
Arusha	Won	23—3
Kitale/Eldoret	Won	22—6
Nakuru

R.A.F. Sevens: Lost 11—9 in final to Kenya Harlequins.

CRICKET

There has been no opportunity for the Cricket XI to play any matches, but four members of the XI have been playing for civilian clubs and six have represented the East African Army XI. Pte. Sherred, a fast-medium bowler, has had great success on the matting wickets, and few sides have found the answer to his slower ball. Lt. C. R. Cumberlege has made some useful scores for the Nairobi Club. Lt. M. W. Summers has also

played for the Nairobi Club. Pte. Sherrad has played for the Wanderers C.C., and Capt. J. R. P. Cumberlege plays regularly for the Rift Valley S.C. The following cricketers have played for the East African Army XI: Captains J. R. P. Cumberlege and B. Dawson, Lts. C. R. Cumberlege and M. W. Summers, 2 Lt. I. P. Reid and Pte. R. Sherrad.

RECREATION

The unit has participated in so many activities since arriving here that it is impossible to catalogue them all.

Another popular pastime has been visiting the Nairobi Game Park. This has been organised on a platoon basis at a very moderate charge. The King's kindly let us use their bus and the G1098 binoculars are all pressed into service. It is hoped to make other visits to the Coryndon Museum, Longanot Crater and other areas of interest.

The Battalion has also shown a keen interest in riding, climbing (on Mount Kenya), fishing, shooting, and photography.

An even keener interest has been shown in the Equator Club (officers) and the Sombrero (O.R.s)—but no reports on the activities here have yet been received so no further comment can be made, thank goodness.

COMPANY CAMPS

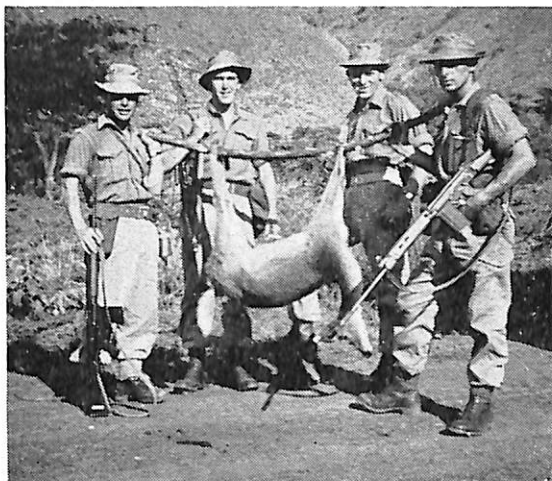
On Wednesday, July 19, "A" and "B" Companies and the Mortar Platoon were warned to move out of camp at the week-end to start two or three (unspecified at the time) weeks' training on detachment: "A" Company to Sabukia, north-west of Thompson's Falls, based on Slaughter's Farm; "B" Company to Northern Abedare Forest, east of Thompson's Falls, based on Deighton Downs Farm; and Mortar Platoon to Northern Frontier District, based on Archer's Post.

The Rifle Companies were directed to practise ambush and anti-ambush drills, road blocks and forest training. "C" Company remained at Muthaiga while the other two were out but is, at the time of writing, in camp in the Molo area, north-west of Nakuru, carrying out a programme of training similar to that of "B" Company.

"A" Company Camp

In the Subukia Valley "A" Company became known as "the rainmakers." Their move into Slaughter's Farm coincided with the end of a two-year drought in that area and their stay was cut short after a week of rain and floods when they were finally completed washed out and returned to dry out at Muthaiga. They managed to arrange good demonstrations of their I.S. tasks for the Commander, 19 Infantry Brigade, but he unfortunately was unable to get up to see them.

By far the best bit of training carried out was done in the name of charity; after two years' drought the native children, or *totos*, in the area were starving, so O.C. "A" Company decided to combine business with pleasure and take the Company out on a game-shooting safari after buck which were out of favour with the farmers owing



Ptes. Scanlon, Schofield, Renilson, ? (Name illegible —Ed.) with buck shot on mountain top

to the lack of grazing resulting from the drought. After a most interesting day's practical stalking, fire control practice, target indication without twin poplars or church steeples, and field firing the Company returned triumphant to camp bearing as trophies two fine gazelles. This may not seem a big bag but the buck were always 400 or 500 yards away and nearly always moving; also they had to be shot from a sitting position on steep-sided ravines. One was hit on the run at approximately 600 yards and fell about 600 feet down the ravine. Dick Slaughter, the Company's very helpful host farmer, said they would provide a square meal for all his 250 African mouths.

"B" Company Camp

The beginning of the rainy season also affected "B" Company, but not to the extent of driving them back home. A most useful programme of I.S. duties, navigation and forest drills culminated in a four-day exercise in the forest itself. Platoons were sent off in different directions and told to establish base camps in secret areas. From there it was up to the platoon commanders to direct operations as they thought fit—locating enemy camps, raiding, ambushing, climbing the local hill feature (the Citadel) and protecting and running their own camps. The weather on the whole was atrocious but, having received one resupply of rations on schedule on the second day, all platoons managed very nicely—apart from 6 Platoon which had initial difficulty in finding a suitable site for a camp.

The emphasis during the two weeks was on junior leadership. The results were surprisingly good and many excellent patrols were carried out over long distances in thick cedar forest, swarming with big game and mostly on a slope of about one in five at an altitude of 8,500-9,500 feet. The possibility of meeting elephant and rhino at every turn created an atmosphere very near that of operating against a proper (as opposed to an exercise) enemy. This training also had the effect of



“A” Company Camp in
Subukia Valley

knitting together the new platoons and sections far more quickly and surely than 10 years in Muthaiga could have done.

The biggest bugbear was supply as the constant rain turned the murrum roads into nearly impass-

able bogs. Vehicles were constantly bogging down, breaking down and taking hours over the simplest journey. At first our round trip to pick up P.O.L. and N.A.A.F.I. (at Lanet) and supplies (at Gilgil) was 170 miles. After the first truck had taken 26 hours to complete this we began to have grave doubts as to its suitability.

In fact the situation was only saved on the second and third days by an air-drop of supplies. Later a supply point and petrol point were established at Thompson’s Falls and N.A.A.F.I. was collected from Nanyuki. This considerably eased the burden but even so the normal run, with a separate vehicle going to each point, was 12 hours.

Another aspect of this camp was the visiting of local farmers and settlers. All the platoons did this and everywhere the farmers were most pleased to see them and plied them with tea and invitations to go again. It seemed that they found a certain reassurance in seeing us there, although the “locals” in these outlying areas have not been nearly so affected by political “poison” as have those in the towns. The Company also played football against local farm boys (we won 2—1) and the Ndaragwa Kenya Police post (0—0). Both games were hard but very clean, with very lively and well-disposed spectators on the touch-lines.

3-in. Mortar Platoon Camp

Surrounded on all sides by elephant and buffalo the Platoon nevertheless managed to complete a comprehensive programme of training which included a lot of live firing—much to the dreariment of the local cattle! (*We suspect the author intended “detriment” but like this version.—Ed.*)

Rain fell on the last day only and our stay was only marred by a serious motor accident in which the N.A.A.F.I. truck returning from Nanyuki skidded on the wet road and Cpl. Young broke his neck. He has now gone back to U.K. after his very lucky escape.



“B” Coy. crosses the Equator from South to North
Left to Right: Pte. Wigglesworth, Lt. Stacpoole,
Pte. Galbraith

THE MYSTERIOUS DEATH OF COLONEL DUNN

On January 25, 1868, Colonel A. R. Dunn, v.c., 33rd Regiment, died at Senafe, Abyssinia. The Regimental Court of Inquiry into his death reported:

"The Court, having considered all the evidence before it, is of opinion that the death of Colonel Dunn was purely accidental, caused by his own rifle exploding while he was in the act of using his brandy flask, when sitting on a stone out shooting."

It appears, however, from the private papers of the late Colonel W. A. Wynter, then an ensign in the 33rd, that another explanation is possible.

Alexander Roberts Dunn was born in 1833, the son of the Hon. John Henry Dunn, Receiver General of Upper Canada. He was educated at Harrow and purchased a cornetcy in the 11th Hussars in 1852, becoming a lieutenant in the following year. He took part in the Crimean campaign and rode with his regiment in the famous light cavalry charge at Balaclava. He gained the V.C. in this action—the only one awarded to an officer—by saving the life of a trumpeter.

In 1855 Dunn sold out and left the 11th Hussars, taking with him the wife of his commanding officer. This lady was Rosa Maria, the second daughter of the Rt. Hon. Sir Augustus Paget, G.C.B. She had married in 1842 Colonel John Douglas of Glenfinart, Argyll, an officer who succeeded Lord Cardigan in command of the 11th Hussars.

Dunn retired to Canada with his inamorata—Douglas refused to divorce—but after three years of civilian life returned to the Army. The 100th Foot (Royal Canadians) was being raised in Canada. Dunn was largely instrumental in establishing the regiment and he became its first major in June 1858. In 1861 he purchased—for £10,000—its lieutenant-colonelcy. He held this command for three years and then, under some pressure—there were rumours of his excessive gambling—exchanged into the 33rd. The officer who exchanged with Dunn was Lt.-Colonel Edward Donovan who had led the Grenadier Company of the 33rd up the slopes of Alma.

In those days, regiments in India had an establishment of two lieutenant-colonels, and Dunn became the 33rd's second lieutenant-colonel. In 1866, when the 33rd were at Poona, we get our first glimpse of him with the Regiment. Ensign Wynter joined on March 1 of that year and, in his papers, remarks, "The Regiment was commanded by its second lieutenant-colonel—Dunn. He was a handsome man, 6 feet 2 inches tall and 30 years of age, a kind, good-natured dandy, a bad Commanding Officer and not a good example to young officers . . . he was very popular but nearly destroyed the Regiment."

We now move to the Abyssinian campaign in which the 33rd took part and where Colonel Dunn

met his end. In November 1867 the Regiment sailed. The first lieutenant-colonel—J. E. Collings—embarked with the Regiment but was appointed a brigadier-general almost immediately and Dunn, who had been made a brevet-colonel in June 1866, took over command of the 33rd.

Early in January 1868 the long march to Magdala began. On the 25th the H.Q. of the Regiment had reached Senafe and, that evening, Colonel Dunn and James Sinclair, the surgeon of the Regiment, went out shooting. They each took an Indian hospital orderly with them and shortly separated.

Soon afterwards, Sinclair heard a shot and then saw the Colonel's orderly running towards him. The orderly said, briefly, "Colonel Sahib is dead." Sinclair ran with him and found Dunn lying dead, his rifle by his side, his pipe by him.

Before he left India, Dunn had made a fresh will. He was a man of considerable fortune and had a large sum to leave. With him in India was his valet, Hastie, who had been in his service for years. The witnesses to the new will were Hastie and Captain Lacy, the senior captain of the 33rd who, incidentally, Wynter remarks, was "unfit to command a corporal's guard." Dunn, after the witnessing, gave Hastie a cheque for £300. This

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was in lieu of £300 left to him in the former will which, as a witness, he could not have bequeathed to him in the new will. Dunn also wrote to his sister, from whom he had been estranged, and told her that he had made things all right for her. By his former will his money was left to Mrs. Douglas with whom he had lived since removing her from his former commanding officer.

On Dunn's death his kit was examined and it was found that not only had his rings which were, says Wynter, "many and valuable," disappeared but also his will.

The former will was produced. Mrs. Douglas inherited the money and Hastie got a second £300. Dunn's family contested the will and took the case to court when a compromise was made and Dunn's sister got a share of the money. Hastie worked on the feelings of the Dunn family and their influence gained him an appointment in the Post Office in Scotland.

"But how did Dunn die?" speculates Wynter. "He had no reason to shoot himself. He was only 32 years old (*sic*; he was, in fact, 34) a full colonel and next for a Brigade." A description of the accident—if accident it was—is to be found in a book, "Letters from Abyssinia by a Staff Officer." It runs: "Another sad accident occurred just before we arrived here. Colonel Dunn of the 33rd Foot shot himself dead with his own rifle while out shooting. He was leaning over, going up hill, to take some water from his servant below him; he leant his arm, it appears, over the muzzle of his rifle and his gaiter or something caught in

the trigger sending the contents of both barrels completely through his body, one of the barrels being loaded with slugs. He was greatly liked by his men and everybody, being a most popular man and had just got command of his regiment for this campaign. Is it not wonderful how these accidents occur to men who have handled rifles all their lives?"

The disappearance of the will and of Dunn's rings has an ugly aspect and it seems that it was much to Mrs. Douglas' advantage and that of Hastie that Dunn should die at that juncture. One would like to know something of the Indian hospital orderly who was the sole witness to Dunn's tragic death.

The subsequent history of some of the characters in the story is not without interest. Major-General Douglas always refused to divorce his wife. He died in 1871 and the following year Mrs. Douglas married a William James Waters and disappeared from the scene. Hastie, in his Scottish post office, was tried and convicted of embezzlement in 1870 and went to prison for a while.

At a lonely spot near Senafe in Abyssinia is a stone memorial which bears the simple legend, "In Memory of A. R. Dunn, v.c., Colonel, 33rd Foot, who died at Senafe on January 25, 1868, aged 34 years 7 months."

B.W.W.C.

Several photographs of Colonel Dunn's grave have been published in the Iron Duke. The last one appeared in No. 82, October 1951—Ed.

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THE WEST RIDING BATTALION T.A.

OFFICERS' MESS

As is usual for the October issue, the officers' mess notes are mainly confined to annual camp activities. This year, in particular, there were no functions from the period covered by the July issue to the time of camp.

Whitburn was not a strange area to us as we were in the same camp three years ago. A different camp commandant had different ideas as to the siting of the mess tents, but, after adequate control of his blood pressure, the P.M.C. finally agreed to a domestic arrangement of areas within the mess marquees which gave better facilities, and was more in keeping with D.W.R. requirements, than the layout used by the previous unit in camp. Fortunately, everything was in ship-shape order by the time the main body of officers arrived. Roy Matthews, the Padre, and Sgt. Smyth proved valuable helpers and willingly formed part of the "sleeves-up brigade".

Our numbers in mess were the highest ever, reaching at their peak a total of thirty-six members. To get the right atmosphere early, we had our first formal dinner on the first Monday evening. The band, under the direction of Bandmaster Roberts, performed before and during the meal and, on this occasion, a new custom was born. One section of the Mess appeared to be quite unable to restrain their enthusiasm for the regimental marches. Their involuntary vocal support, although musically rather unattractive, was no doubt a great surprise and encouragement to the band who normally "blush unseen" and, at the end of their effort, creep quietly away. The birth of this idea has presented an interesting problem of mess etiquette. It appears likely that a new regimental custom for the T.A. Battalion will become established—but possibly a little more organised than the Whitburn Choral Society's presentation.

Prior to the dinner, the mess entertained the R.S.M. and members of the Sergeants' mess, and one feels confident that they enjoyed themselves—sufficiently to necessitate early and frantic calls to the brewers the next morning. However, a good spirit ensued throughout the camp between the officers and senior ranks so one can only assume that the early get-together proved of value.

Training out of camp precluded the possibility of any further mess functions in the first week until the guest dinner on Friday the 21st July. At this we were fortunate in having with us Major-General K. G. Exham and Colonel G. B. Howcroft. Members of the mess look forward each camp to the long week-end visit of both the Colonel of the Regiment and our Honorary Colonel. It was pleasing, too, to see Mrs. Howcroft come along with Mrs. Gadd to the retreat beating ceremony on the Friday evening.

The dining room, even though tentage, was

made to look as resplendent as possible for the occasion, and fifty-one officers and guests sat down to dinner. Amongst the guests were many old friends and we were fortunate, too, in having Major-General Birkbeck, the Divisional Commander, and Brigadier Deedes, our Brigade Commander with us. Guests included Colonel Keith Sykes, Colonel Mould-Graham, Colonel Neill, A.D.M.S., Colonel Ray Simpson, Lt.-Colonel Bobby Laurence, Lt.-Colonel Denis Wharry, Lt.-Colonel Bill Lossock, K.O.Y.L.I., Major Howells and Lt. Hurley from Division, Major Bullock, the Brigade Major.

The mess staff, under Sgt. Smyth and Cpl. Shaw, met the occasion extremely well, and the meal was prepared under the guidance of Sgt. Hannan and Cpl. Fitzgerald. From the expressions of appreciation one can assume the night was a success.

There hardly seemed to be breathing space before preparations for the Middle Sunday cocktail party were under way. It was encouraging to see how many wives made the journey for the week-end, and how many more families and guests attended on the Sunday. Between eighty and ninety people had a longish cocktail session followed by an excellent buffet organised by the messing officer, Henry Crowther, and it seemed to be teatime before the mess was finally deserted. Among the official guests were the Mayors of Halifax, Keighley and Spensborough, and the Deputy Mayor of Huddersfield. From Strensall we welcomed Douglas Jones-Stamp and we were very pleased that Lord Savile was able to join us. Although unfortunately unable to attend the guest dinner, Colonel Trevor Bentley made the journey along with Mrs. Bentley. Other stalwarts were Lt.-Colonel George Norton, Major Kilner and Major Liversidge.

The mass exodus to the Otterburn training area denuded both the mess and the remainder of the camp for the best part of three days in the middle of the second week, and so mess activities ceased for a period and the overworked mess staff were able to have a little relief.

All officers were invited to visit the Sergeants' Mess by R.S.M. Robins on behalf of the members and this took place on the Thursday evening following our final formal dinner.

The hospitality was overwhelming and covered a long period until the early hours. A fair decision on the annual "boat race" between the officers and sergeants was a draw, in spite of arguments afterwards. In any case, it is a safe decision and satisfies the drinking pride of both sides.

Following this function there only seemed to remain the unenviable chore of breaking camp and returning home. A sad chore because it always seems a pity to have to close the annual fortnight of training just when everything is fully in the



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swing and all are settled down in their various jobs and tasks.

However, that is the way it goes, so, once again, we see another successful annual camp behind us and the preparation for the oncoming winter training and recruiting season well in hand. There also seems to be a nicely balanced and reasonably social calendar ahead of us.

The last word on camp must be one of thanks. Firstly to ex C.Q.M.S. Stringer who attended in a civilian capacity as the mess barman, and made a good job of it; and, once again, to O.R.Q.M.S. Wood for the usual name cards for the letter rack, the table plan and place cards—lettered, as so often in the past, in his neat script. Just one more of the little things which help to make the occasion that bit more complete.

Since our return to our drill halls we are having to contend with the various local holidays in spate throughout the area; so many faces are missing on well-earned holidays that the mess tends to be rather quiet.

To close—a note of sympathy to Major Brian Farrow who, in an effort to emulate the better riders (I'm sure he won't mind that point being stressed!) allowed his horse to get the bit between its teeth. He was last seen leaving the mess on crutches and expects to have the "pot" off the ankle in a few weeks' time.

SERGEANTS' MESS

We commence these notes by offering a hearty and sincere welcome to R.S.M. and Mrs. Robins. We hope their stay with us will be a very happy one.

After the "marriage" of 5/7th D.W.R. and 382 Med. Regt. came the "honeymoon" with annual camp at Whitburn, near Sunderland, in July. This camp, on the range, near the sea, within easy reach of any enjoyment and pastime yet known to man, was indeed an ideal base for the working amalgamation of the infantry and gunners. Each side won: we were one, we were good, we knew it—and we liked it. All members should live to a ripe old age if the "good healths" toasted indicate longevity; "cheers" were echoing over the North Sea into the early hours of most mornings. Bob Spring did valiant work behind the bar and was heard to say more than once that life with a duty company was a darned sight easier. (Will mess members holding empties please return them—he needs the money.) At the time of writing Bob has just returned from a few days in hospital—we are glad to say, "on the mend".

We entertained the officers in the mess and regret to report that for the first time in living memory we were beaten in the "boat race" by a frothy head; however, Sgts. Milnes and Holberry recovered our laurels with splendid wins in the "bottle walking" and "placing" contests. It was a

Photo: "Huddersfield Examiner"



Major-General Exham presenting the Lord Lieutenant's Certificate to O.R.Q.M.S. A. Wood
Behind: Lt. R. J. G. Sharp Lt.-Col. F. R. Gadd

hectic night and if all the songs were recorded the tape would certainly be in the "Top Twenty" ("X").

If we played hard we also worked hard and our first week's training culminated in "Exercise Yellow Golliwog" on the bleak moors of Otterburn. This was a three-day exercise which covered everything from cooking to realistic battles. The weather was not too kind but reports are that our C.Q.M.S. members did their men "well" and kept the cold at bay. Our P.S.I., Bob Chilvers, alias "Wun Fing Chilvers" of "The Bamboo" kept the "enemy" in fine fettle with his field cooking (although he shared our bread with the sheep one night!)

During his stay with us General Exham visited us in the mess accompanied by the Honorary Colonel, Colonel Howcroft and the Commanding Officer. After a ceremonial parade General Exham presented T.A. Efficiency Medals to C.S.M. Dillon and Sgt. Kenny, Royal Warrants to W.O. II Harvey and C/Sgt. Bycroft, and The Lord Lieutenant's Certificate to O.R.Q.M.S. Wood.

"Old soldiers never die" is very apt. With us in camp, as civilians employed, we had five ex-mess members representing former units of the Regiment now amalgamated as "The West Riding Battalion".

Mr. F. H. Stringer, ex 1st Bn., 7th Bn. and 5/7 D.W.R.

Mr. J. S. Jacques, ex 5th Bn., 578 (5 D.W.R.).

Mr. J. Walker, ex 578 (5 D.W.R.).

Mr. T. Woodcock, B.E.M., ex 5th Bn., 578 (5 D.W.R.).

Mr. W. Eyres, ex 382 Med. Regt. (4 D.W.R.).

Messrs. Stringer, Woodcock and Eyres are all victims of the T.A. reorganisation and age limits. We hope they will still stay with us as often as they can.

Our only "casualty" at camp was an injury to C/Sgt. Reed during the annual officers v. sergeants football match (which we lost). Oval ball bounders, in the shape of Captain C-L, should not be allowed to run amok against the spherical ball specialists. We are happy to say, however, that C/Sgt. Reed has now fully recovered and is on the ball again—the Stanley Matthews of The West Riding.

A welcome visitor to camp was R.S.M. "Tich" Frier. He stayed for a few days with us and drank quite a lot of our beer. We were all very pleased to see him again looking so well and retaining the "Tich" charm.

As new members we welcome Sgt. Webster (Provost) and Sgt. Lockwood (M.T.). We wish them all that we wish ourselves, plus a little extra good luck (they'll probably need it).

We left camp a well-fed, "unparched" and contented body and the future looks bright for our new unit.

Since our return from camp things are slowly returning to normal and preparations are now under way for the next social when it is proposed to present tankards to ex-members who have had to retire owing to the age limit and amalgamation.

Our permanent staff is again rapidly changing. Sgt. Perrin, after a short stay, has left us for civvy street. To Sgt. Wilkinson, now based on Skipton, we send our greetings and best wishes. Sgt. Wappet,

who takes over our Halifax area, was soon to the fore in activities and we saw him riding for the Battalion in the Command Motor Cycle Trials, along with Sgt. Hemmings (T.A.) of "A" Company. Although they were not amongst the prize-winners, their enthusiasm and keenness bodes well for the future, and the training of new "Dukes" (Geoffs). Sgt. Stansfield, our new vehicle M.O., has promised us bikes up to T.T. standard in future—good Old Joe!

At the Yorkshire Brigade Sergeants' Shoot held at Strensall in August our vets turned up with their No. 4 rifles only to be told that it was S.L.R.s only. A little "borrow," a little training "on the spot", but these good men and true came in second and Sgt. D. Smith won a plaque for the highest T.A. score. Not bad! The team consisted of R.Q.M.S. Machen, C.S.M. Fitton, C/Sgt. Bacon, Sgts. Binns, Milnes and Smith, W. D. Our thanks to the owners of the S.L.R.s we borrowed.

Bumph is now flying around calling all to Brigade and Divisional rifle meetings. We have a good team, some likely lads, and enthusiasm runs high.

Note.—To members of the 1st Battalion Mess. ALL T.A. Mess members can now dance!

"A" COMPANY AT CAMP

Whitburn Camp was quite a new experience to ex-gunners accustomed to heather, sheep, mist and little else. The close proximity of sea and civilization made a pleasant change. Training in and around camp was a change as well, with the accent on range shooting, and organisation and movement in a new arm with new tactics.

A stay on Otterburn Moors each week gave good opportunity for field training. The introduction to night patrolling, via a lantern exercise, was an evenly matched battle for honours between the two platoons headed by Lt. Duckney and Sgt. Howell, and Lt. Shenton and Sgt. Samson. The pace was heightened by confusion resulting from lanterns going out and even being removed from the field of battle. The second week had its moments, too, particularly when we nearly lost a platoon commander in the final battalion assault—fifth column activities. Still we must admit a pretty good camp, and we have got a lot more to learn than we thought.

Suggestions for the award of "A" Company Otterburn Star 1961:

1. C.S.M. Dillon: Black as usual, like any Sergeant-Major.

2. Padre: Foresight in securing breakdown outside the Salmon Inn.

3. Major Tetlow: Foresight in rescuing Padre from aforesaid situation.

4. L/Cpl. Langhorn (A.C.C.): Bravery in the face of gravity, falling headlong over a tent peg while carrying a dixie of soup.

5. Cpl. Peckett and Pte. Dare: Sheer exhibitionism in the excellent wrestling match.

6. L/Cpl. Sakar: Dog with good soldierly bearing.

"B" COMPANY

The Company really spotlights the recent joining together of 382 Med. Regt. R.A. and 5/7 D.W.R., as it consists of an ex-382 unit at



"B" Company on the Range at Whitburn

Photo: "The Sunderland Echo"

Mirfield T.A.C. and an ex 5/7th unit at Huddersfield. We went to camp with full platoons from each drill hall and were the strongest rifle company in the Battalion throughout the full camp period.

Shiney "B" soon got down to training and personalities became common to both drill halls. C.S.M. Laherty was as energetic as ever and, when asked by General Exham on the Ceremonial Parade how he enjoyed camp, replied "Smashing!" C.Q.M.S. Bycroft kept our stomachs well filled while out on schemes and the few items lost whilst on training have been mysteriously "rediscovered". Welfare!—one evening, after returning to our bivouac area from Otterburn moors, everyone was astonished and gratified to see a beer and cigarette shop in operation in the Company Commander's tent, run by 2 Lt. Kilner, who later declared a small dividend.

Cpl. Taylor proved himself to be a real night cat on his patrolling activities. The night scheme, which was run on "steal with lamp" game lines, was most enjoyable and all ranks joined in wholeheartedly and very realistically.

The last scheme at camp was a battalion attack which found "B" Company first on the start line, and after the final assault the Battalion returned to Whitburn preparing to return home.

Cpl. Grady M.M. excelled himself in the Battalion shooting team, and the Company team scored the highest points of any rifle company, being beaten only by the "professionals" of Battalion H.Q.

"C" COMPANY

Camp is over and a new heavy recruiting period before us, with the new tactical training programme yet to be unveiled.

In the Dales we are planning a big army exhibition (at Skipton) and also an all ranks dance, whilst every opportunity is being taken to introduce new men who can put Skipton (now the smallest detachment) on the map.

A second tactical week-end (perhaps the last before the winter) is planned with the possibility of combining with our cadets and those of Giggleswick School.

In the personal section we say good-bye (but we hope he'll be around) to Sgt. Perrin, our P.S.I., and welcome his successor Sgt. Wilkinson. Congratulations to Pte. Law on marriage and to Pte. Lockwood on joining the Regular Army. May they both have a long and happy association.

"D" COMPANY

Prior to camp our main pre-occupation was shooting and classification. A lot of time and ammunition was spent at "Deer Old Hill"—and we managed even to have the odd day of decent weather. These days firing rifle and L.M.G. were greatly enjoyed and the standard of shooting improved considerably with the result that, when classification was fired, we had very few failures. It is hoped to continue these shooting days, and so raise the standard of shooting even more.

Camp has come and gone once more. It seems to be the majority opinion that the two weeks spent at Whitburn were very successful. Morale was a little low on arrival after a very wet and cold journey but the C.Q.M.S. and his helpers had the admin side ticking over smoothly and soon the Company were settled in and in better spirits. In fact it wasn't long before our gayer young men were on their way out to see what Whitburn, Sunderland and South Shields had to offer.

Training began in earnest on Monday and by Wednesday morning the Company were ready to move out to Otterburn for company training. This started with demonstrations and firing 3.5 in. R.L. and Energer. The former the Company Commander now considers a very hazardous occupation. The Company then moved into section bivouac areas and started Exercise "Hide and Seek", an exercise to practise patrolling by day and night, section defence and cooking in concealed positions. Apart from the midges which descended in swarms as dusk fell, the highlight of the exercise was the over-zealous platoon commander (who shall be nameless) who, deciding on a lone effort, walked straight into an enemy ambush and was promptly put in the bag.

The next morning the Company cleared a wood amidst blood curdling screams from the dying "enemy" and carried out an advance exercise which consisted of a series of section and platoon attacks. Why does Cpl. Cooney always choose the wettest route between two points? His section are convinced that he has webbed feet.

On the Friday, an individual stalking exercise was held with some tins of beer to be defended, captured and re-captured. This produced the usual post-mortem arguments. "I — shot you" . . . "You — didn't!" . . . "I — did", etc., etc. (No prizes for filling in the blanks). The only answer is to use live ammunition.

The second week started with platoon and section exercises on the Monday, and then "D" Company mule train were ready to move out again to Otterburn. This time the weather was against us but, in spite of howling gales and driving rain, we did a field firing demonstration for the rest of the battalion and took part in the advance exercise—this again in appalling weather. Please may the O.C. have a champ with sides?

During camp we regretfully said good-bye to Lt. Sharpe, who has rejoined the Regular Army and departed for a cookery course with the Pay Corps. We wish him the best of luck. New faces include Captain Wilson, late of 382, who settled in admirably as 2 I.C. and who intends to turn the Company into mountaineers and rock climbers in the near future. Lt. Allan we welcome from the 1st Battalion and Lt. Tyler from the Intelligence Corps; we look forward to seeing much more of them in the future. Another welcome addition is Officer Cadet Innes who is well known in the Regiment as an authority on military history in general and the history of the "Dukes" in particular.

Now our thoughts again turn to recruiting. With this in mind, certain days' training will be "open days" when we shall invite interested young men

to spend the day with us and "have a go". We should particularly welcome any ex-members of the Regiment, either Regular or N.S., who may be thinking about the T.A. but who are not quite sure. These open days will be advertised in the Holme Valley and Mossley press and details can be had on any drill night from the T.A. centres.

"H.Q." COMPANY

Much has happened since our last Company notes. First and foremost—the amalgamation, with H.Q. based at Huddersfield and the Recce Platoon at Halifax.

At this time we bid a regretful farewell to our O.C., Major Jimmy Young, and we wish him well in the future. We extend a welcome to our new O.C., Major Brian Webster, T.D., and hope that his stay with us will be happy.

Several socials have been held and have helped to rid the Company of any signs of "amalgamationitis". Gradually the Company has shaken down under the watchful eyes of our new C.S.M. (W.O. II Fitton) and C/Sgt. Bacon.

At camp "H.Q." Company distinguished itself in all its varied activities: Signals were on "net"; M.T. had a plentiful supply of vehicles and were able to ferry the battalion to camp and back; Assault Pioneers (under Sgt. Pilkington) provided background noises at the appropriate times; Recce Platoon, under Captain Carter, always appeared cheerful and a hive of activity; the Band and Drums made up for their paucity in numbers by playing well on each and every occasion.

The *pièce de résistance* came at the end of camp when the Company shooting team of Lt. Dye, W.O.s II Machen and Fitton, C/Sgt. Bacon, Sgt. Smith and "Driver" T. Parkin swept the board at the Battalion rifle meeting and also won the inter-company "falling plates" competition. Sgt. Smith is to be congratulated for gaining the highest score on S.L.R. at the Yorkshire Brigade Meeting, Strensall.

SIGNAL PLATOON

The Sigs are in their usual after-camp flap taking notes of breakages and losses, following a rather hazardous packing and unpacking session; the sorting out has been started but when it will be completed is anybody's guess. The mess in the signals store is causing a rapid loss of weight to Sgt. Robinson, who is heard muttering to himself at regular intervals. What he mutters cannot be put into print.

Camp proved to be a great success as far as we were concerned due to the influx of quite a few good signallers who came to us through the recent amalgamation. Sets were issued to companies and they were responsible for their own company nets leaving B.H.Q. to run the battalion net and rear link with great success.

Just before these notes were completed we heard of the imminent loss for a short spell in hospital of both Sgt. Robinson and Cpl. Berry. Both strenuously deny that camp was the cause, but we have our doubts. Whatever the cause we wish them both a speedy return to health and the Platoon.

From the "London Gazette"

Supplements dated May 15 to August 25, 1961

WAR OFFICE

REGULAR ARMY

Major-General R. H. N. C. Bray, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., to be Lt.-General, Aug. 1, with seniority Feb. 27, 1961, and precedence next above C. L. Richardson, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., B.A.
Brigadier G. Laing, C.B.E., A.D.C., retires on retired pay, Aug. 29.

COMMANDS AND STAFF

Major-General R. H. N. C. Bray, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., is appointed General Officer Commanding in Chief, Southern Command, Aug. 1.

INFANTRY

REGULAR ARMY

Captain W. Blakey to be Major, Feb. 6, with seniority only to July 11, 1960.
Captain E. M. P. Hardy to be Major, July 15, and with precedence in the Yorkshire Brigade next above C. W. Crossland, P.W.O.
The following 2 Lts. to be Lts.: G. R. Bellamy, June 1; M. G. L. M. Stacpoole, June 18.
Lt. (Q.M.) R. Callaby, M.M., to be Captain (Q.M.), July 29.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Lt. J. C. Wright, from A.E. Res. of Offrs., to be Lt. May 1, retaining his present seniority.

Class III

Lt. B. D. Batey, from T.A. Nat. Serv. List, to be Lt. June 8, retaining his present seniority.
Captain R. Warner relinquishes his commn. July 1st, 1959, and is granted the hon. rank of Major.
Captain C. E. Tempest relinquishes his commn. July 1, 1959, retaining the rank of Captain.

TERRITORIAL ARMY

Major E. A. Woodhouse is placed on the Unatt'd List, May 1.

The following Captains (a/Majors) from R.A. to be Captains (a/Majors) March 1, retaining present seniority: B. Farrow, T.D., M. R. M. Tetlow.

The following Captains from R.A. to be Captains March 1, retaining present seniority: K. Buckland, M. T. Rutter.

The following Lts. from R.A. to be Lts. March 1, with seniority on the dates shown: K. Brown, Feb. 21, 1954; R. C. Clegg, Nov. 21, 1957; I. Fillan, June 19, 1958.

Captain R. C. Wilson from R.A., and at his own request, reverts to the rank of Lt., March 1, with seniority May 22, 1952.

The following Lts. from A.E. Res. of Offrs. Nat. Serv. List to be Lts., July 10, with seniority on dates shown: J. P. B. Golding, Jan. 9, 1961; G. C. W. Allan, May 8, 1961.

TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Major J. C. K. Young, M.C., from Active List, to

be Major, March 1, retaining present seniority. The following Lts. from Active List to be Lts. on the dates shown, retaining present seniority: G. A. Reddington, March 1; E. H. Hargreaves, April 17; R. C. Clegg, May 3; L. J. du L. Mallalieu, May 8; J. W. Lee, May 25.

GENERAL LIST

ARMY CADET FORCE

York (West Riding)

Lt. W. S. Jamieson resigns his commn., Nov. 30, 1960, and is granted the hon. rank of Lt.-Colonel.

CORRESPONDENCE

July 14, 1961

DEAR SIR,

I thought you might be interested in hearing from a "Duke" serving with U.N.O. in the Congo.

My battalion arrived here on June 18—a suitable "Dukes" day—and settled in rapidly and luxuriously at the Kamina base. This base, built by the Belgians, has such splendid facilities as swimming pools, floodlit tennis courts, modern cinemas and kitchens and has one of the best weather conditions I have met since India, *i.e.* cold nights (62°F.) and hot days (82°F.).

We have a large selection of the world's countries serving alongside us and my Nigerian soldiers have met Irish, Canadians, Indians, Pakistanis, Swedes, Norwegians, Danes, Belgians, Ghanaians, Argentinians, self-exiled Cubans, Americans, British and others—a great experience for us all.

We have played football against the Katanga Gendarmerie (and won) and provided part of a guard of honour for President Moise Tshombe when he visited Kaminaville. We have supplied men to help at the opening of the Congolese Parliament (which has not actually assembled as I write).

We have so far had no incidents and I trust that our job of preventing any such incidents may be lessened by acts of geniality such as I have mentioned.

How long we remain at this air base, I do not know, but it may be until September.

Dick Ince, fresh from leave and full of news of the splendid doings of the 1st Battalion, has just arrived as brigade major to my brigade, 3 Brigade, Royal Nigerian Army.

Congo is a large country but with a relatively small population of 14 millions—I like what little I have seen of it.

I only hope we can play our small part to help unite the country in peace.

Yours sincerely,

BARRY KAVANAGH,

commanding 3rd Battalion,

The Queen's Own Nigeria Regiment.

Kamina Base,

O.N.U.C., B.P. 7248,

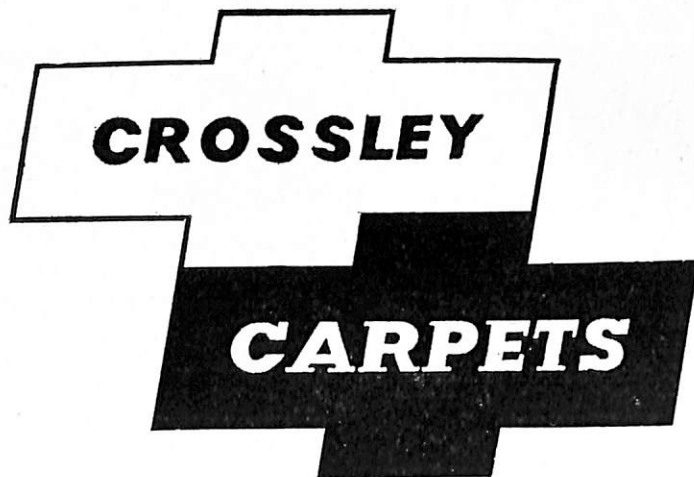
Leopoldville, Congo.

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ATTACHMENT TO THE NORWEGIAN ARMY

By 2nd Lt. J. M. Macaskill

In May I was selected for a month's attachment to the Norwegian Army. I was to stay a few days with the King's Guard in Oslo, but my main attachment was to be with the First Battalion, Brigade North, commanded by Oberst Loytenant Olstad, which was stationed in Setermoen, three hundred miles inside the Arctic Circle and about fifty miles from Narvik. This camp, surrounded by mountains, was to be my base during my stay; from there I went further north to visit other units, even going as far as the Russian border in Finmark, the most northerly part of Norway.

I arrived in Oslo aboard the *Blenheim*, a ship of the Fred Olsen line, at 7 a.m. on May 11. I was met by an officer of the King's Guard and given breakfast and a room and told that if I wanted anything I had only to ask for it. This was typical of Norwegian hospitality, even among the people who did not speak English and these seemed very few and far between.

I soon discovered that I had landed in Norway on a public holiday, and later in the day Major John Collard, Green Howards, showed me how seriously they take their holidays. Everything not absolutely essential was closed down, and everyone went off to make sure that his boat was ready for the coming season. Major Collard and I followed suit.

I was flown north the following day by the Norwegian Air Force in a D.C. 119, a flying box car. This was my first flight ever and I was a bit anxious, firstly because of reports on the dependability of these aircraft and secondly because I was issued with a parachute and a Mae West and given instructions on jumping drill. However, we arrived in Bodo quite safely, but I was a little put out to discover that the plane wasn't going any further north. I was dumped unceremoniously on the runway, still something like a hundred miles from my destination. My hosts, the First Battalion, Brigade North, came to my rescue. They had followed my progress and promptly arranged for me to spend a night with the Third Battalion and to continue my journey by bus the following day. Here again the hospitality was tremendous.

My trip north after that was relatively uneventful. I saw some beautiful scenery and crossed a number of ferries. I was met in Narvik by Lt. Johann Baumann, the Adjutant of the First Battalion. He drove me up to Setermoen and introduced me to the Mess and particularly to Lt. Eric Kotte Ericson, of "B" Company, who was to be my guide during my stay with them. This was the start of my attachment and the beginning of what turned out to be the most memorable holiday I have ever had.

Security on the First Battalion camp was very strict. They were training under a new formation and were very worried in case spies should find out what it was. On the other hand, when the Artillery Battalion fired an "Honest John" missile, the whole village turned out to watch and inspect, and

were kept informed as to reasons for delay. Shortly before it was actually fired, a major announced through a loud hailer all the details of the rocket including speed and expected time of flight to the target.

I saw all the weapons used by the First Battalion and took part in a pistol competition without much credit to myself. My only consolation was that my score wasn't the lowest.

May 17 was Independence Day. It took me a little time to discover that this celebration was three hundred years old, and was related to the independence gained from Denmark. Yet it was celebrated with as much fervour as if it had happened yesterday. There were processions, some of which lasted for four hours, as did the one in Oslo, and parties in the evening. It was at one of these parties that I met Nielsen, a Norwegian Army Dentist, who greeted me in English with an American accent and Skouse expressions. His mother was a Liverpudlian and he had worked with the Americans in Germany. He had invented a cheap method of distilling surgical spirit to remove the rubber with which it was impregnated to make it undrinkable. I was introduced to this under the name of "Norwegian Whisky". A double was poured into a glass and a small amount of orange juice was added; then they all sat back to watch my reactions. My first mouthful left me spluttering while they split their sides with laughter. I noticed then that they had filled their glasses to the brim with orange juice on top of only half my amount of spirit. With a reasonable amount of orange juice it tasted more or less (more less) like gin and orange.

One of the things I wanted to do in Norway was to learn to ski and I was a little disappointed to discover that Setermoen was not covered in snow. But they provided me with skis and took me up into the mountains. My first trip was purely instructional, over relatively flat ground, and was moderately successful. I came back soaked to the skin and surprised that my legs could bend into such awkward positions.

My second trip was longer. I was taken up to the Battalion hut on the Altevahn for Whit weekend. There I discovered that it was far easier to sit on the back of my skis and slide down when the going was steep. Several times I became briefly airborne landing in the most odd positions, with my hat, ski sticks, and occasionally my skis, spread over quite a wide area. I shall remember the Battalion hut quite forcibly for many months to come.

Our days were spent in skiing, but our evenings were spent in self entertainment with the aid of the whisky that I had brought with me. A group of six of us was up there, not including Stein, Eric Kotte Ericson's two year-old son and two dogs. I introduced them to some of the gentler games played in the mess, such as "Moriarty", and about

midnight they began to suggest that it was time that I had my hair cut crew style in the same way that most of the Norwegian officers had. I objected and refused, but they insisted that, since it was still fully daylight outside, I should have a photograph of the operation being performed even if I did not have my hair cut. This, in a weak moment, I consented to do. However, despite my injunctions, they got carried away with the project and as soon as the photograph had been taken they proceeded to scalp me with a hunting knife that they had used for the picture. My experience of Norwegian barbers was not to end there. I went to a reputedly proper barber to have the back trimmed and to try and make my half-cut front lie down. He didn't touch the front and before I could stop him reduced my haircut to an imitation of a hedgehog crossed with an Old English sheep dog. At one of the later parties I went to I was persuaded to have the job done properly and, to the horror of the Yorkshire Brigade officers, I returned with a very short crew cut.

On my return to Setermoen I made another visit to the Artillery Battalion, where I had seen the "Honest John", and had a demonstration of the SS 11. I also had a trip in one of the spotter aircraft. Owing to insurance difficulties it had originally been thought that I would not be able to make this trip, but that morning Brigade Orders directed that I would fly as observer on a routine flight. The trip took approximately two hours and we flew up as far as the Swedish border where we buzzed a couple of Swedes who had crossed to fish in one of the Norwegian lakes. They didn't appear

to pay much attention as we flew in ever-tightening circles about twenty feet from the ground whilst the pilot screamed furiously at them, but eventually they packed up and left. The remainder of the trip showed me how bleak the Norwegian countryside was—steep and mountainous, with very little vegetation. Most surprising of all was the occasional house with no visible road or means of livelihood apart from an acre or so of cultivated land which for eight months of the year is covered in snow.

My second big trip was to Tromso, the only big town in that area besides Narvik; both are over fifty miles from Setermoen. Neither would be described as large in England. This trip was listed as sightseeing and a search for the midnight sun. On the way north I visited the Brigade Headquarters and the Signals Squadron. I then went to Skolt to see the Pack Company. Norway is, I should imagine, the only country where horses have to do National Service. These horses are bred in the fiords and are particularly suited to mountain work. I was taken out for several hours and given a demonstration of their abilities. They have a specially designed harness and are capable of going or climbing anywhere where a man with a pack on his back can go. The Norwegian Army has, at the moment, only one company of pack animals, but every farmer has to keep a horse purchased and trained by the Army. Every few years the horses go back to the Army for training.

My stay in Tromso was purely sightseeing. The town is on an island reached by the longest bridge in Norway. It is the only town in north Norway



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that was not razed by the Germans when they retreated; as a result it contains many old wooden buildings interspersed with modern architecture. It also contains the most northern brewery in the world, which is producing ten times more beer than it was before the war.

It was in Tromso that I saw my one and only Lapp. They cross the border from Sweden into north Norway every spring with their reindeer. When I was there they had not yet arrived in force. This Lapp was very colourfully, if a little dirtily, dressed in a bright blue smock with multicoloured braid round the edges, and he was roaring drunk. He looked a little out of place among the modern clothes and cars.

I made one final trip before returning to England and this was to Finmark, the northernmost part of Norway. This was a last minute arrangement. Troops from the First Battalion were going up there for an exercise and Colonel Olstad arranged for me to travel with them to see the camp and the border patrols. As I was to fly straight down to Oslo from there, the First Battalion gave me a farewell party before I went. This was very informal, but, like all other parties, very good. I was sorry to be leaving them. They presented me with a small Norwegian flag on the base of which was inscribed my name and the length of time that I had served with them. They also presented me with a Lapp knife similar to the one they had used to cut my hair. I presented them with a regimental plaque to add to the collection above the mantle-piece in their anteroom.

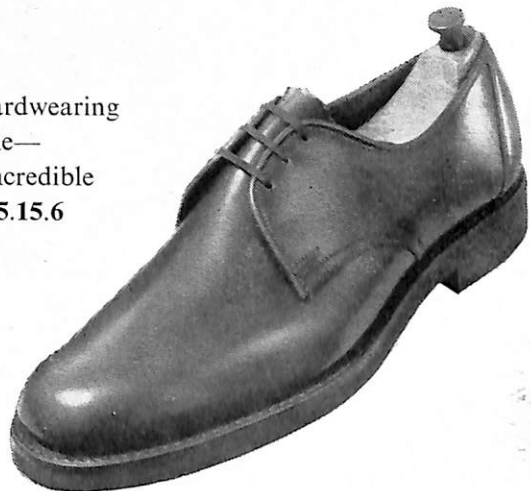
My trip to Finmark was quite packed. I was taken on a tour of the Russian border and shown the border conference house and a border post. These patrols have perhaps the loneliest job in the Army. Their tour is for a minimum of six months and during that period, particularly in the winter months, they may never see another person except occasionally a Russian patrol on the other side of the border. Great care is taken in selecting them because most of the townspeople are not capable of spending so long in such close proximity to a small group without any possibility of relief.

My return trip to Oslo was again interrupted at Bodo and this time I was left to my own resources. The Third Battalion Mess was closed, because they were away on an exercise, and so I stayed at an hotel in the town with the crew of the plane. I went on the town with them that evening. In a cafe on top of a hill I saw the midnight sun for the first time (it had been obscured by cloud in Tromso). I saw it in company with several hundred other sun worshippers who were crammed into the cafe.

In Oslo I again stayed with the King's Guard. During the next twenty-four hours I did a lightning tour of Oslo. I was rather surprised to discover, shortly after my arrival, that Peter Clube and Ian Kibble of the Green Howards were staying in the same mess. I found them packing for the long drive back to Iserlohn. The following day I boarded the *Blenheim* for the return trip to England, to caustic comments about my hair cut and to the realisation that I was a mere second lieutenant and no longer a V.I.P.

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O C A News

Minutes of an Annual General Meeting of the Old Comrades and Regimental Associations of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, held at Halifax, Saturday, September 23, 1961. Present

Colonel C. R. T. Cumberlege (Chairman), Major J. H. Davis (Regimental Secretary), Colonels H. Harvey, O.B.E., M.C., D.L., R. G. Turner, A. H. G. Wathen, O.B.E., Lieut.-Colonel W. Skelsey, M.B.E., Majors A. P. Downey, T. V. Laverack, M.B.E., M.M., D. Roberts, A. C. S. Savory, M.B.E., R. A. Scott, and about 80 other members of the Association.

1. Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting, which had been published in the January issue of THE IRON DUKE were taken as read and were passed as a true record.

2. Chairman's Remarks

Colonel Cumberlege informed the members that, owing to Mrs. Exham having broken her leg, the Colonel of the Regiment was unable to be present with them that evening. He was sure all present would wish him to pass on their sincere wishes to Mrs. Exham for her speedy recovery.

3. Secretary's Report

A full report of the Secretary's account of the workings of the Association during the past year appears below. Main points of the Report were that the Old Comrades' Association Fund had dealt with 42 cases of hardship during the year and paid out £220; pensions and other grants totalled almost a further £300. From Regimental Association Funds 47 cases were assisted at a cost of £238, and there were other expenses with grants to various institutions etc., which brought the total to £914. Two new pensions grants had been awarded to widows from O.C.A. funds during the year.

The membership picture was not so bright as last year, when over 100 new members were enrolled. Only 38 had been added to the roll this year. The ending of National Service had severely restricted the field.

The past year, however, has been an extremely good year for branch work and social activities. There had been more branch functions and inter-branch visits. A new branch had been formed in Leeds.

4. Accounts

The Audited Accounts of the Associations were passed round the members for perusal and comment. Explanations were offered where requested and the Treasurer said the accounts would be printed in full in the next issue of THE IRON DUKE. The Chairman pointed out that all accounts showed credit balances and there had been no over-spending; the trustees were reviewing investments in the light of recent legislation on trust funds; this should increase income.

5. Army Benevolent Fund

Referring to the Army Benevolent Fund, Colonel

Cumberlege said that it was hoped soon to put this fund back on its feet and on a par with the R.A.F. Fund and the Royal Navy Fund. After the war the fund had disbursed a lot of money in grants and relief generally because it was not thought necessary to have a large capital to produce a substantial income. It was now found necessary to raise a capital fund—which would not cut across the O.C.A.s—and fund-raising efforts were in prospect for next year.

6. Other Business

Chairman said Mr. Code had done an extremely good job of work for the Associations during the past year and he merited their grateful thanks.

There being no other business forthcoming the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

I have pleasure in presenting my report on the year's activities of the Associations up to close of business, June 30, 1961.

CASE WORK

During the year 1960-61 the Case Committee at R.H.Q. have dealt with 120 applications for help from our benevolent funds; this is a slight increase over the previous year's figures of 101. After investigation it was found that 29 applications either failed to prove distress or did not come within the scope of our funds and were turned down.

As usual we took advantage of the services of the various organisations, such as S.S.A.F.A., Forces Help Society, British Legion etc., to have all applications for assistance thoroughly looked into before being considered by our Case Committee.

Details of monies disbursed from the funds at our disposal are as follows:-

	£	s.	d.
<i>O.C.A. Fund:</i>			
42 cases assisted	220	5	5
Pensions	198	0	0
Cheque book		10	0
IRON DUKE subscription	20	0	0
South African War Veterans' Association		5	0
Grant to General Account	50	0	0
Grant, Chelsea Pensioners	12	10	0
	£506	15	5
	£	s.	d.

<i>Regimental Association Fund:</i>			
47 cases assisted	238	6	8
Grants to Institutions	88	15	0
Grant to 4th Battalion O.C.A.	50	0	0
Transferred to General Fund	100	0	0
Secretary's honorarium and expenses	417	0	0
Cheque book		10	0
IRON DUKE subscription	20	0	0
	£914	11	8
	£	s.	d.

<i>McGuire Bate Fund:</i>			
6 cases assisted	250	3	9

Officers' Association	10	10	0
King Edward VII Hospital	15	0	0

£275 13 9

£ s. d.

<i>Mitchell Trust Fund:</i>			
2 cases assisted	38	0	0

PENSIONS GRANTS

We regret to record the passing of Mrs. Hart, one of our pensioners and widow of the late C/Sgt. Hart. She died in May at the home of her daughter in Oxford. Two new recipients have been added to the list of O.C.A. Pensioners; they are Mrs. C. Vott of Bradford and Mrs. Briscoombe of London. Both are widows of ex-Sergeants. They were elected by the Finance Committee at their September 1960 meeting.

There were six quarterly and one half-yearly pensioners on our books on June 30.

INSTITUTIONS

Grants to institutions show an increase this year of £20, from £66 15s. 0d. to £85 15s. 0d. The Finance Committee increased our subscription of £20 p.a. to the Regimental Forces Employment Association to £40 p.a. in view of the good work being done by the R.F.E.A. in placing ex-members of the regiment in employment.

The McGuire Bate fund subscriptions to the Officers' Association and the King Edward VII Hospital remain the same at £10 10s. 0d. and £15 respectively.

ACCOUNTS

Audited accounts of the Associations are produced at this meeting for circulation amongst members. The Management and Finance Committees have seen them and were satisfied with the information and explanation supplied by the Treasurer.

ARMY BENEVOLENT FUND

The second half of the £400 (1960) grant from the A.B.F. was received into the Regimental Association Account in early July 1960 and figures in the current balance sheet.

MEMBERSHIP

In our last report we were able to wax somewhat enthusiastic over a successful O.C.A. recruiting year; I am afraid the picture this year is not as bright. Against last year's 108 we have only managed to obtain 38 new members this year. The ending of National Service severely restricted our field as the majority of new members came from National Servicemen during their recruit training with the D.W.R. Company at Strensall Camp.

However, C.S.M. Rex Webb, training C.S.M. with D.W.R. Company there, assures us we can look forward to some improvement in the situation before the next report comes out. C.S.M. Webb, as O.C.A. representative at Strensall, has put in a lot of hard work on behalf of the Association and

we take this opportunity to offer him our best thanks for his efforts.

BRANCHES

The last year has been an extremely good year for branches and their social activities. More branch functions and more inter-branch visits than ever before have taken place. Bradford, Keighley and Halifax branches have all had "house full" visits to each other's headquarters; Bradford, Halifax and Huddersfield have also had their annual branch dinners to which other branches had been invited to send representatives. All this is in addition to the ordinary branch meetings and socials, run fortnightly or monthly, as the case may be.

About 80 members and their wives from different branches, including representatives from our new Leeds branch, attended the inaugural ball at the Yorkshire Brigade Depot Sergeants' Mess, Strensall, on Saturday, August 12. All voted it a most wonderful evening.

At a recent meeting of branch secretaries arrangements were made to carry out a winter programme of branch visits to all branches.

NEW BRANCH

As the result of a talk with Major A. P. Downey, T.D., of Leeds, we decided to have a go at forming a Leeds Branch of the O.C.A.

A meeting was held at 8 p.m. on July 31, 1961, at the Carlton Old Barracks, headquarters of the Leeds Rifles, by kind permission of the Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Colonel Ewart Clay, M.B.E. Some 20 ex-members of the Regiment attended. The meeting was unanimously of the opinion that a Leeds branch should be started at once. Major Downey explained that he had made enquiries from the C.O. Leeds Rifles and had been assured that if the branch desired to make the Riflemen's Club Room their meeting place they could have it once a month.

The branch then proceeded to business and elected officers as follows:

Chairman: Mr. J. Bourn.

Secretary/Treasurer: Major A. P. Downey, T.D.

Assistant secretary: Major T. V. Laverack, M.B.E., M.M.

In accepting office these officials stated they were very willing to help put the branch on its feet but hoped that, after a reasonable period, much younger members would come forward and accept the responsibilities of running the branch.

It was agreed that future meetings would be held on the last Monday in the month at 8 p.m. Committee to meet at 7 p.m.

Any Leeds Old Comrades who chance to read these notes and are interested please write to: Major A. P. Downey, T.D., 22 Boston Towers, Lincoln Green, Leeds, 9.

CONCLUSION

We take this opportunity to thank again the ladies and gentlemen of S.S.A.F.A., The Forces Help Society and other voluntary organisations who

so kindly undertake, on our behalf, the investigation of cases.

Thanks also to those two old friends of the O.C.A., Messrs. Whitham Smith and Mitchell, Hon Auditors to the Associations, and to Major John Driver, M.B.E., our Hon. Solicitor.

This concludes the report.

Annual Reunion Dinner

Partly, perhaps, because we were back again in Halifax for our annual reunion, after an absence of three years—and, partly, thanks to our three new branches, Bradford, Keighley and Leeds, who all brought coach loads of members and their wives—the number attending the reunion this year was easily a record. Some 290 sat down to a very good dinner provided by Messrs. Sullivans, the Halifax Caterers, in the Drill Hall, Prescott Street, Halifax—headquarters of “A” Company, The West Riding Battalion (D.W.R.).

If one adds to this figure the hundred or so people who turned up after the meal to help swell the numbers round the bars, or to orbit round the different groups looking for old friends, then it’s safe to say there were over 400 Old Comrades gathered together on this night in the cause of “Auld Lang Syne.” Many had made long journeys

from places as far apart as the Isle of Man, Gillingham, Heacham in Norfolk, London and the Midlands.

Colonel Cumberlege, vice-president of the Association, presided at the dinner in the absence of the Colonel of the Regiment. We were all extremely sorry to hear that Mrs. Exham had broken a leg, which caused General Exham’s enforced absence from our midst. We tender to Mrs. Exham our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

The setting was gay and colourful and, thanks to Colonel Gadd, C.O. of the West Riding Battalion, and his staff at Prescott St., who had worked hard to make the show a success, everyone was delighted with the whole scene. The flood-lit Colours of the Battalion, flanked by flowers and greenery supplied by Mr. Mawson, a local florist and himself an old Duke and O.C.A. member, attracted much attention. The Band of the West Riding Battalion, under the baton of Bandmaster Roberts, made a great contribution to the evening’s gaiety and *bonhomie*. Their playing drew much appreciative and prolonged applause.

Mr. Boon, chairman of the Halifax Branch of the Association, proposed the Regimental Toast; in his response, Colonel Cumberlege said that the past year had seen the Dukes again firmly established in the West Riding with the creation of the West Riding Battalion. The Regiment and the Associations had had a good year. The latest rumour was that the 1st Battalion, now in Kenya, might be home in October or November. Colonel Cumberlege read out many telegrams of good wishes. We were particularly gratified to have, this year, a telegram of greeting from Les Voltigeurs de Quebec, the Canadian Regiment linked with the Dukes and which celebrates its centenary next year. Col. Cumberlege said that Les Voltigeurs had asked for copies of the Dukes’ regimental marches and samples of badges.

General Exham had made a plea for a good measure of support for the three principal events in the coming year: the annual service in the Regimental Chapel in York Minster on November 2, the Remembrance Day Service and the St. George’s Day parade next year.

The remainder of the evening was given up to reunion and conviviality. The annual dinner marks the end of the O.C.A. year; the year past has been a very good one for old comradeship: branches have flourished and we finish off with a record turn-up at the annual gathering. Let’s hope we do even better next year.

During the course of the evening a sweep was organised by the Halifax branch in aid of the “Iron Duke Appeal Fund.” A gold and enamel regimental brooch, made by Garrard & Co. Ltd., London, and presented by R.Q.M.S. J. Imray and his wife, was the first prize; 2nd and 3rd prizes were bottles of spirits obtained from one of the bars.

From this effort the “Iron Duke Appeal Fund” benefits by £16-17-0 Our thanks to Mr. Bernard Boon, Mr. Bill Wadd and the ladies and gentlemen who assisted in selling the tickets.

GO ON
TREAT YOURSELF WITH
FRY'S

Golden honeycomb
centre in rich milk
chocolate

The advertisement features a black and white illustration of a woman with blonde hair, wearing a light-colored dress and a necklace. She is holding a small bar of Fry's Golden Honeycomb chocolate in her right hand and pointing towards a large, unwrapped bar of Fry's Crunchie chocolate with her left hand. The Crunchie bar is shown at an angle, revealing its honeycomb center. A speech bubble above the woman contains the text 'GO ON TREAT YOURSELF WITH FRY'S'. Below the woman, the text 'Golden honeycomb centre in rich milk chocolate' is written. The large bar of chocolate has 'FRY'S' and 'Crunchie' printed on it.

Bradford and District Branch

Having attained its first birthday, this branch of the Association is pleased to record a modest success in several fields of Association activity—increased membership, steady income, improved accommodation for Branch H.Q., good inter-branch relationship, recently acquired Battalion contacts and improving social activities. Consequently, we look forward with confidence to enhanced successes in our second year.

Recent social functions included a visit by the Keighley Branch and our Branch Annual Dinner.

The Keighley Branch visit took place on May 7 and we were delighted to see them arrive in such numbers that extra seating became an urgent requirement. Old friends and acquaintances quickly sorted themselves and began the usual "yarn swapping," then gradually old Army songs began to be heard, quietly and diffidently at first (being a Sunday and our H.Q. at that time being a room in a local hotel where music and singing were prohibited on Sundays), but rapidly increasing in volume as the intake of ale urged the throwing of caution to the winds and a very talented member of the visitors provided a drumming accompaniment, second to none, with the aid of a couple of spoons. Needless to say, the evening was voted a huge success by all present, including the General Secretary, Sid Code, who obliged with a short but nicely calculated speech about the Association generally.

Our first Annual Dinner was held at the Alexandra Hotel, Bradford, on June 17. Colonel C. R. T. Cumberlege presided and we were honoured by the presence of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Bradford as chief guests. Other guests included Major J. H. Davis (R.H.Q.), Mr. and Mrs. S. Code, Mr. and Mrs. B. Wadd (Halifax Branch), Mr. and Mrs. S. Metcalfe (Keighley Branch) and a sergeant, a corporal and a private from the 1st Battalion; the presence of the latter three guests was achieved by the kind co-operation of the C.O., for which we are duly grateful.

The loyal toast was proposed by Colonel Cumberlege and this was followed by "The Regiment," proposed by our oldest and most valued member, Mr. F. Gleadow, M.C., M.M., who in a short, interesting speech included details of his enlistment. Colonel Cumberlege responded with a few details of recent changes affecting the Regiment and supplemented these by outlining the main functions of the Association and the part we were expected to play, particularly with regard to recruitment. The Lord Mayor was called upon to speak (whereupon yours truly cast around for a place to hide as, prior to the dinner, I had assured His Worship that he would not be expected to speak; my fears were allayed only when it transpired that he had asked the Chairman's permission), and gave us some very sound advice which was well received.

The evening was rounded off by a sing-song and was generally declared thoroughly enjoyable.

Firmly established in our new Branch H.Q. at Belle Vue Barracks, Manningham Lane, Bradford,

Arthur Sunley

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by the end of June, our committee became extremely busy devising ways and means of making full use of the improved facilities for branch activities afforded by the accommodation available at the barracks.

As guests of the Keighley Branch at their social evening on July 1, a party of 48 members and wives from this branch had an excellent time. Keighley are hereby complimented on a very well-organised function.

At noon on Thursday, July 13, a small representative body of the Association, namely Major J. H. Davis, W.O.2 R. Webb, Mr. J. Newell, Major F. J. Deighton, Mr. A. Copley (the three latter being chairman, secretary and treasurer of this branch) and Mr. F. Gleadow, M.C., M.M., visited the Lord Mayor of Bradford, Councillor B. W. Berry, in his City Hall and conferred upon him honorary membership of the Bradford Branch. In a short speech Mr. Newell stated that the bestowal of the honour was occasioned by: the Lord Mayor's contact with the Regiment during the 1914-18 War; his activities on behalf of the 1st Battalion during its visit to Bradford in June this year; his attendance at our branch annual dinner; and his obvious interest in the "Dukes." Following this address, a letter from the Colonel of the Regiment, welcoming him to the Association, was read aloud and handed to his Worship and, to mark the occasion, our new member was presented with a regimental tie and badge.

Due to its taking place during the Bradford holiday period, the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess Ball at Strensall on August 12 could not be attended by the majority of our members, but those who were able did so and, in consequence, I have to place on record a vote of thanks to all connected in the organisation of that splendid social function, the details of which, it is assumed, will appear on other pages of this publication.

In conclusion of these notes the Bradford Branch sends its compliments to all branches and to "Dukes" generally, and a "thank you" to the general secretary, Sid Code, for the unstinting assistance, both of his time and advice, given us during the past year.

9th Bn. (R.A.C.) O.C.A.

The address of the Secretary is:-

*Captain T. More, 10 Bentley Road, Northenden,
Manchester, 22*

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