

No.123 January 1962



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
Seringsapatam
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 Suola
Afghanistan 1919
North-West Europe
1940, 1944-45
Dunkirk 1940
St. Valery-en-Caux
Fontenay-le-Pesnil
Djeboul Bou Aoukaz 1943
Anzio
Monte Ceco
Burma 1942, '43, '44
Sittang 1942
Chindits 1944
The Hook 1953
Korea 1952-53*

Vol. XXXVIII

JANUARY 1962

No. 123

BUSINESS NOTES

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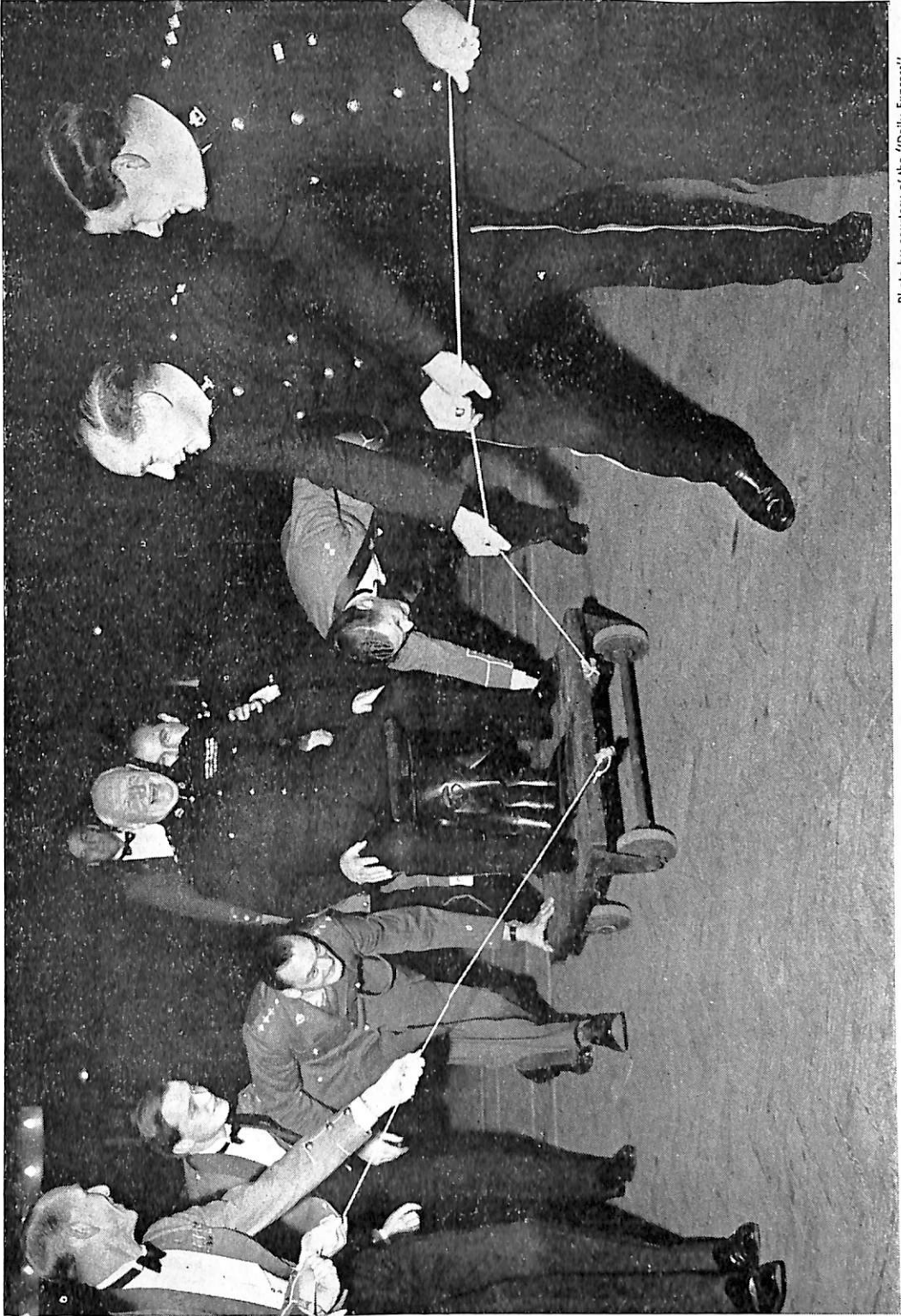
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Copy for the April 1962 issue should reach the Editor by March 1, 1962

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The "Dining-out" of Colonel Gilbert Howcroft. (see p. 26)

Photo by courtesy of the "Daily Express"

From the Colonel of the Regiment

It is a great pleasure to have the Battalion home again from Kenya where they have done very well. General Bray met them on their arrival at Southampton and found everybody in good spirits and glad to be home in time for Christmas. They are now settled down again in Colchester and I hope they will have next summer at home with no further alarms or excursions.

You will know that they have made a good start again in the Army Rugger Cup and we wish them all possible success this year which may well be their last try for some time.

Colonel Gilbert Howcroft has completed his tenure as Honorary Colonel of the West Riding Battalion and has been succeeded by Colonel Trevor Bentley. Colonel Howcroft has thus retired after 47 years of distinguished service with the Regiment, the 7th Battalion and its successors. As Honorary Colonel he has supervised the two amalgamations which produced, first, the 5/7th Battalion and, now, the West Riding Battalion. The fact that these two very difficult reorganisations have been carried through so smoothly and successfully has been very largely due to Colonel Howcroft's wise guidance and deep knowledge of the Territorial Army. He has given fully of his time and experience and we are greatly in his debt. We extend to him our warmest thanks and best wishes for the future.

To Colonel Bentley we offer a warm welcome to another very old friend whose service with the Regiment has already covered over 30 years. With him as Honorary Colonel the West Riding Battalion will undoubtedly go from strength to strength.

I am glad to say that our recruiting figures are encouraging and that we are leading the Yorkshire Brigade. It is true that Army recruiting has improved generally this year but the hard work put in during the past few years to build up a sound organisation in the West Riding is now paying off and our figures have shown a steady rise for the last four years. I would like to congratulate everybody who has been concerned with this excellent work which has done so much to assure the future of the Regiment. We cannot, however, afford to relax our efforts in this field for a moment.

THE IRON DUKE Appeal closed officially on December 31, though we are, of course, still open for further subscriptions. We set out to raise a capital sum of £350 and have got £457 2s. 11d. We also hoped to raise our annual income by £250 and have got £182 13s. 6d. towards this. I have every hope that our improved income from advertising, largely the result of the work of our local committee in Halifax, will close this gap as our costs continue to rise. May I thank all those who have so generously supported our appeal and exhort those who have not yet done so to put their hands in their pockets. A full list of donors and contributors will appear in the next issue.

Our alliance with Les Voltigeurs de Québec is

prospering and we have recently exchanged Regimental badges and Regimental marches. Next year is their Centenary which we intend to mark by presenting them with a suitable piece of plate. My next hope is that we shall be able to arrange an exchange of officers and so make a start to get to know one another really well.

Lt.-Colonel Donald Stewart has been relieved in Halifax as Assistant Regimental Secretary by Lt.-Colonel Walter Skelsey. Donald Stewart joined the Depot as Administrative Officer in August 1949 and has served us faithfully for 12 years. He has been a true "Duke" in every sense, and all those who have worked with him in Halifax will remember his unflinching kindness and courtesy. Our thanks and best wishes go with him and his wife in their retirement and, as he is staying on, at least for the time being, in Halifax, we shall hope to see them both on many future occasions.

May I wish all members of the Regiment, wherever you may be, a very Happy New Year.

J. C. Exham

LATE NEWS

General R. N. H. C. Bray has received the signal honour of being appointed a Knight Commander of the Bath in the Queen's New Year Honours. We believe he is the first officer who spent all his regimental service in The Duke's to gain this distinction.

The Colonel of the Regiment sent General Bray the following telegram: "The whole Regiment, past and present, send you their warmest congratulations and best wishes for your future success." All readers, we are sure, will endorse these sentiments.

Congratulations, also, to W.O.2 G. H. Machen, The West Riding Battalion, on the award, in the same list, of the M.B.E.

Mr. "Jock" O'Kelly retired recently from the staff of R.H.Q. At a special ceremony, attended by members of the O.C.A., Major Davis presented Mr. O'Kelly with a silver cigarette box. We hope to include a fuller report of this, and of Mr. O'Kelly's record of service, in the next issue.

Army Rugby Cup

5th Round. 1 D.W.R. beat R.A.P.C. Training Centre, 24-0.

U.K. Semi-final. 1 D.W.R. beat 1 K.O.S.B. 22-0, thus taking revenge for the defeats of the past two years.

The U.K. final is to be played at Aldershot on January 31 and will be against 1 R.W.F. The winners of that match play The Welsh Guards in Berlin on February 28, for the Army Cup.

News and Notes

Major-General K. G. Exham, Colonel of the Regiment, has been appointed representative of the Nigerian Ex-Servicemen's Association on the Commonwealth Council.

His Grace, the Duke of Wellington, left England in November for a tour of Australia, New Zealand and India and will not be home again until the second half of March. He hopes that if members of the Regiment have not received Christmas cards from him they will understand.

Brigadier Hugh Fraser has asked to be relieved of the administration of the Retired Officers' Fund. Major-General R. K. Exham is taking it on. General Exham had to go into hospital for a small operation on his nose in November but was out again in a couple of days.



Photo: Gullenberg Ltd., Manchester

COLONEL G. B. HOWCROFT, C.B.E., M.C., T.D., J.P.

Colonel Gilbert Howcroft has been Honorary Colonel of the West Riding Battalion and its forbears for the past seven years.

Colonel Howcroft was commissioned in December 1914 into the 2/7th Battalion at Milnsbridge; he remained with the 2/7th until he joined

the 1/7th in France in July 1915. He served with the 1/7th for most of the war. He held the post of I.O., when he won the M.C. for patrolling, and adjutant until he was severely wounded on April 26, 1918, and evacuated to hospital in the U.K.

When the Territorial Army was re-formed after the war, he became O.C. "D" Company, 7th Battalion, at Springhead T.A.C., and later became O.C. "C" (M.M.G.) Company at Mossley. In 1935 he was made Brevet Lt.-Colonel and became 2IC. He then took command of the 1/7th in May 1939, mobilized the Battalion on August 25, 1939, and took them to the north of England where he remained with them until April 1940.

From 1940 to 1944 he became a sailor/soldier as an O.C. of troopships which took him all over the Middle East.

After the 2nd World War Colonel Gilbert concentrated on politics and was conservative candidate for Ashton in the 1950 general election in which he narrowly lost.

In 1954 he succeeded Colonel Hinchcliffe as Honorary Colonel of the 7th D.W.R. In 1959 he was awarded the C.B.E. for political services.

Apart from his work for the T.A. Colonel Howcroft has played an important part in public life, he has been a Town Councillor for Oldham, he is a Justice of Peace on the Oldham bench and is a representative for Lancashire County Association.

GOLFING SUCCESS

The Army Golfing Society celebrated its 50th anniversary this year and, to mark the event, a "Jubilee Putter" was presented for a regimental foursome competition open to pairs of officers in the same regiment (in any combination of serving or retired).

Thirty-four regiments competed and the happy outcome was that the first inscription on the Jubilee Putter will be:

1961. The Duke of Wellington's Regiment
won by
Major-General W. M. Ozanne and Major-General
E. C. Beard

Our congratulations to this veteran pair who battled their way to victory through such a large field. Their success is all the more satisfactory in that this is the first time the Regiment has scored a win on any of the A.G.S. challenge trophies. It is very fitting that the name of General Ozanne, who has for long been so prominent in regimental and army golfing, should be recorded in our first victory.

The Regiment has received a legacy from the late Lt.-Colonel W. Hodgson whose death in June was reported in the July 1961 issue.

Lt.-Colonel Hodgson left to the Officers' Mess a jewelled snuff box and an engraved portrait of the first Duke by H. T. Ryall which is signed by the Duke. His estate (Net: £18,958. Duty paid: £2,274) is left on trust, first to his widow for life, then to a friend for life, with remainder to "The managing trustees of The Duke of Wellington's officers' central mess fund and chattels."

Mr. John Driver, the Regiment's honorary solicitor, who is also a director of several companies, has succeeded Mr. Alfred Hudson as chairman of Hutchinson, Hollingworth & Co. Ltd., of Dobcross Loom Works, Dobcross, Yorks.

BIRTH

Cumberlege.—On October 24, 1961, at Zachary Merton Maternity Home, Rustington, Sussex, to Elizabeth (née Leahy) and Captain J. R. P. Cumberlege—a son (Marc Arthur Richard).

ENGAGEMENT

Irons — Faithfull. — The engagement is announced between David William Marriott, only son of Mr. J. McA. Irons and the late Mrs. Irons, of Helens Bay, Northern Ireland, and Veronica Jane, only daughter of Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. C. K. T. Faithfull, of Appleshaw, Andover, Hampshire.

GOLDEN WEDDING

Whitaker — Birkinshaw. — On December 1, 1911, at the Methodist Episcopal Church, Karachi, Albert Whitaker to Thirza Birkinshaw. Present address: 20 St. John's Avenue, Lofthouse, Wakefield.

Ex-C.S.M. Whitaker enlisted in the Regiment at York in 1905 (along with Pat Downey, now Major A. P. Downey, T.D., Secretary of the new Leeds branch of the O.C.A.). Whitaker joined the 1st Battalion at Sitapur and was in the battalion cross-country team in 1910.

On December 1, 1911, his fiancée arrived from England in the troopship *Reva* and they were married the same day before starting the three-day train journey to Ambala. Owing to his marriage Whitaker missed being on duty at the Delhi Durbar, which he much regretted.

In January 1914 he was posted home to the Depot and on August 8 was mobilised with the 3rd Battalion, remaining with them throughout the 1914-18 War. In 1921 he joined the 2nd Battalion at Collinstown and served with it in Ismailia and Cairo. He finished his service in 1926 as C.S.M. of No. 3 Company.

After this Mr. Whitaker served for more than 14 years with NAAFI, mostly as manager in the Aldershot Command but with trips abroad in 1934 to the Saar area during the plebiscite and in 1935-36, when sanctions were applied to Italy owing to her invasion of Abyssinia, back to Egypt where he had a trying time as manager of an advanced post on the edge of the desert.

During the last war he was trained as a fitter and worked on Spitfires and other aircraft. Since his final retirement he has served on the committee of Aged People's Welfare and on that of the British Legion in which he is now president of his local branch.

Mr. and Mrs. Whitaker's daughter, Doris, was born at Ambala in 1912; she served in the W.A.A.F. during the last war and is now married with two

children. Their son, Albert Victor, born in 1922, served for 13 years in the Regiment but was then invalided out.

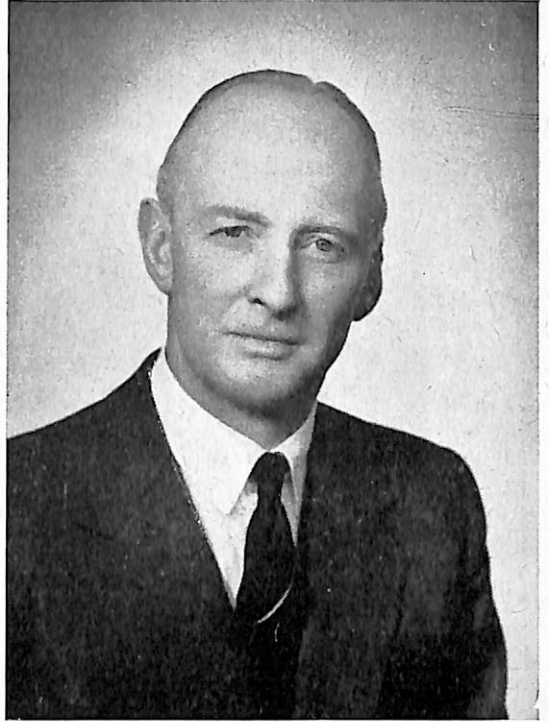


Photo: Greaves, Halifax

COLONEL N. T. BENTLEY, T.D.

Colonel Trevor Bentley, who succeeds Colonel Howcroft as Honorary Colonel of the West Riding Battalion, was commissioned in 1929 into the 4th Battalion. He remained with that unit after its conversion in 1938 to 58 Anti-Tank Regiment, R.A. (D.W.R.), leaving it in 1942 to become an instructor in converting static A.A. artillery to a field force role.

After a period as 2IC of 110 L.A.A. Regiment in 43 Division, Colonel Bentley assumed command of 68 L.A.A. Regiment in 59 Division in February 1943. He commanded this regiment until it was disbanded after the fighting in the Falaise gap and then commanded 71 L.A.A. Regiment in 2nd Army until the end of the war.

Colonel Bentley's war service earned him a mention in despatches; he was also awarded the Belgian Croix de Guerre and was appointed a Chevalier de l'Ordre de Leopold.

After the war he rejoined the T.A. and, as second-in-command, helped to reform his old unit as 382 Anti-Tank Regiment, R.A. (D.W.R.). He commanded 382 Regiment from 1948 to 1951; during the latter part of his command the unit was converted to a field role and became 382 Medium Regiment. He became Honorary Colonel of 382 Medium Regiment in 1959; a little over a year later it was amalgamated with the 5/7th Battalion to form the present West Riding Regiment.



Lt.-Colonel Donald Stewart

The Colonel of the Regiment has paid tribute above to Lt.-Colonel Donald Stewart. It remains to say a final word of thanks on behalf of THE IRON DUKE; his work as business manager and particularly his meticulous recording of addresses, subscriptions, etc., has been of immense value in these difficult and unsettled years. It is good to know that, at any rate for the present, he will be at hand in Halifax to give the new business manager, Lt.-Colonel Walter Skelsey, the benefit of his experience.

The Colonel of the Regiment had the misfortune to sprain his knee whilst out shooting and was thereby prevented from being at Southampton to meet the 1st Battalion on their arrival home from Kenya on December 1. As reported in the Battalion notes they were greeted by General and Mrs. Bray.

AN ECHO OF 1903

Mr. George Goodchild (Hon. Secretary of 10th (Service) Battalion O.C.A.) has identified for us one of the mayors shown in the frontispiece of the October issue. Third from the left in the front row is the late Alderman David Wade, Mayor of Bradford, 1902-04. Mr. Goodchild adds that, unfortunately, the mayoral chain which Alderman Wade is wearing in the photograph has had to be replaced as it was stolen in Leeds when Alderman Mrs. Kathleen Chambers was on a visit to that city during her mayoral year, 1945-46, and was never recovered.

Major R. H. W. Owen has also written to say

that the officer eighth from the left in the 2nd and 3rd rows (between Lt. Townsend and Major MacLeod) is his brother, 2 Lt. O. Owen, and that the bareheaded officer at the back, next to Lt. Trench, is 2 Lt. Turner. Members of the 2nd Battalion in 1926-28 will remember Owen Owen; we do not know which Turner this was—it was not P. A. T. and the only other Turner we know of was N. G. H. T., who died in S. Africa in 1900.

We said in our last issue that the photograph had no direct connection with the recruiting march carried out in Yorkshire by the 1st Battalion in 1903. Lt.-Colonel Mordaunt Trench has, however, pointed out that there was a connection in that the lunch at which the group was taken was given by the 1st Battalion for the mayors as a return for the hospitality which the battalion had enjoyed from them during the march.

ANNUAL REGIMENTAL SERVICE

Owing to a previous commitment by the Dean and Chapter of York Minster, our Regimental Service this year in our regimental chapel of All Saints had to be held on November 2, the day after All Saints' Day.

We were very sorry that owing to his illness The Dean was not able to take the service. Canon Cant very kindly officiated in his place. The lesson was read by the Colonel of The Regiment. Representatives attended from the 1st Battalion, The West Riding Battalion, The Brigade Depot, the O.C.A., our affiliated C.C.F. and A.C.F. Units, and prominent people from the West Riding.

It was good to see such a healthy contingent of the O.C.A. from the West Riding. Major Tom Laverack was looking remarkably well. He used to be a song-boy in the Minster Choir many years ago.

Afterwards everyone repaired to the officers' and sergeants' Messes of The Brigade Depot at Strensall.

As is recorded on page 30, Captain John Stacpoole has been gazetted out of the army at the end of his year's unpaid leave. He has started his second year of novitiate at Ampleforth Abbey and writes: "M.S. Branch sent me a letter, saying, '... and we take this opportunity to thank you for your years of loyal service,' etc—but, in case I should for one moment wax sentimental and construe this as more than a mere formula, they enclosed an out-of-date Ministry of Pensions and National Insurance Code, and a booklet entitled 'Civilian Employment: a Guide for the Regular Officer.' There were a couple of paragraphs in it on professions and vocational training but it was not quite what I wanted.

"At an early stage the War Machine asked for a certificate from my Abbott, and they added without drawing breath that, unless it was forthcoming, I was liable to recall as a reservist other rank. I had a picture of myself again reporting to Strensall for recruit training, as I did in 1949. That *would* make a good IRON DUKE article for the 'Twenty Years After' series."

(News and Notes are continued on page 10)

CARDS

THE 1961 CHRISTMAS CARD

Since the portrait of an unidentified officer of the 33rd Foot was selected for last year's Christmas card I have been doing some research into the identity of the sitter. (Despite the objections of the Regimental Council he is in painting parlance a "sitter" even though he is standing.) I have narrowed the field down to two possible starters.

Very briefly, the officer's uniform and shako plate date the picture as having been painted between 1822 and 1829.

During that period the 33rd had three "Waterloo men," as they were called, still serving (and it will be remembered that the officer is wearing a Waterloo medal).

One of the three, J. M. Harty, can be counted out. By 1822 he was a substantive major so would have worn spurs and a waist belt instead of a shoulder belt. He would also have been wearing the insignia of a K.H. (Knight of the Guelphic Order of Hanover) which he was awarded after Waterloo.

There remain Captain (Brevet Major) John Longden and Captain Richard Westmore (later, C.O. of the 33rd after Harty). One would perhaps prefer the sitter to be Longden as his Waterloo medal is also in the 1st Battalion officers' mess.

But, as a brevet major, Longden should have been wearing a second epaulette (on the left shoulder). Westmore, as a captain, would have had no such second epaulette.

The pose, and a certain fuzziness of outline by the left shoulder, make it difficult to be certain whether the sitter has the second epaulette. I think, however that one cannot really say that one can see an epaulette on the left shoulder and that one would see part of it if it were there. Moreover one feels that the sitter would have insisted that this distinction be clearly visible in his portrait if he had earned it.

It seems more probable, therefore, that the portrait is that of Captain, later Lt.-Colonel, Richard Westmore. B.W.W.-C.

A 1914 CHRISTMAS CARD

One of the Christmas Cards sent by the 10th (Service) Battalion in 1914 is being presented to the Regimental Museum by Mr. Frank Stevenson, of 77 Hazlehurst Road, Daisy Hill, Bradford, 9. Mr. Stevenson lost his wife recently and it was whilst going through her effects that he came across this card which he sent her 47 years ago.

The card was designed by another member of the 10th Battalion, Mr. J. C. B. Redfern, who now lives at 33 Victor Road, Wembley. On the front cover an intricate border, which includes the title of the battalion, the two regimental crests and the Yorkshire rose, frames an allegorical female figure at whose feet are the words: "For God, for King, for Country." In the background are, to the left, a line of guns silhouetted before a stormy sky and, to the right, a golden sunrise.

Inside are reproduced medallion photographs of

H.M. King George V, Lord Kitchener and General French and, on the opposite page, eight lines of Tennyson's vision of the future from "Locksley Hall"—so prophetic in the lines:

"Heard the heavens fill with shouting, and there rain'd a ghastly dew

"From the nations' airy navies, grappling in the central blue."

that one almost has hope for his final vision:

"Till the war-drums throbbed no longer and the battle-flags were furled

"In the Parliament of Man, the Federation of the World."

A RECRUITING POSTCARD

An even older card was sent to us by Sgt. R. Wilkinson. Unfortunately it would not reproduce satisfactorily but a short description will be of interest.

The postcard shows an accurate portrayal in colour of a private soldier of the Regiment in full dress. He is a signaller and carries a signal flag, having his rifle slung. This rifle is a Lee Enfield short rifle and Brigadier Webb-Carter says that he thinks, offhand, that this superseded the Lee Metford in 1912 which dates the card as between 1912 and 1914. The soldier wears the Queen's and King's South Africa medals, two good conduct stripes and a signaller's badge.

There is no room for correspondence on the back, the space being filled with details of a soldier's pay, apparently thought likely to attract recruits:

INFANTRY

"After all stoppages for Messing and Washing have been deducted there remains, on an average, for the soldier to spend as he chooses:

	Weekly	s. d.
On joining		6 8½
After two years' service (if proficient and serving on an approved term of more than three years)	2nd Class	8 5½
	1st Class	10 2½

"In addition to the above, Lodging, Food, Fuel and Medical Attendance are supplied free."

After some details of kit and ration allowance while on furlough (5s. 6d. a week) we are told:

"Good soldiers permitted to continue in the Service for 21 years and upwards are entitled on discharge to Pensions for life varying from 1s. 1d. to 3s. 6d. per day, provided that no service has been forfeited. A Warrant Officer is entitled to a pension of 4s. 6d. a day after 30 years' service."

Recruits of today may care to compare the above terms with those on which they have enlisted. They should note, however, that the space for the stamp on this card reads: "Stamp. Inland ½d. Foreign 1d." So the odd ½d. thought worth including in the recruit's average weekly pay would, anyway, have enabled him to send this, or a more personal, post card. Today he would need five halfpennies and doubtless it will soon be six—moreover his postcard would probably not be delivered as quickly as in 1912.

LES VOLTIGEURS DE QUÉBEC

We are very glad to have received some notes of their doings from Les Voltigeurs, our affiliated regiment of the Canadian Army. The notes arrived in September, just too late for the last issue.

We concluded a rather successful year of training in June with about 70 new members enlisted after a rather vigorous campaign. Unfortunately some of our members had to leave for different reasons such as transfer to other cities, etc.

About 100 men under Major P. E. Defoy, C.D., proceeded to Camp Valcartier in July, to participate with the other units of 7th Militia Group in the National Survival Exercise "Tonnerre 11." This was a re-entry operation.

Representatives of this Regiment were invited to participate in the Official Opening of the Chrysler Farm Battlefield Park in Ontario, on Saturday, June 24. The Commanding Officer, Lt.-Colonel F. Matté, and 12 other members participated in this very colourful ceremony which commemorated the St. Lawrence Campaign of 1813 against American Forces.

Lt. Jean Beaudoin and Sgt. C. Tremblay made a very good show at the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association Meet at Connaught Rifles Range, near Ottawa. Lt. Beaudoin came out seventh out of 275, with a score of 481 on 570 in the S.R. Competition with the F.N. Rifle.

Sgt. C. Tremblay also distinguished himself at

the Province of Quebec Rifle Association Meet and was amongst the high scorers.

Our padre, Major B. Fortier, has been appointed rector of a new parish of one of Quebec City suburbs.

Our P.R.O., Lt. Pierre Boutet, who is a tenor of international fame, will make a concert tour in France in February and March 1962. He will also come to England to audition at Covent Garden and was instructed to get in touch with your regiment if time permits.

The annual training started again on September 18 and we look forward to another successful year. New recruits are already being enlisted.

The new policy on National Survival, as given out in the House of Commons two weeks ago, may affect our training to a certain extent, but it is too early yet to tell what this Regiment will be expected to do.

CENTENARY

This Regiment will be 100 years old in March 1962. We will try to celebrate suitably this major event in our life. Many activities are scheduled from March to June, starting with a Regimental Dinner at a date as near March 7 as possible. There will also be reunions, parades, concert by the band and other social activities to emphasise the name and the deeds of the oldest Regiment of French language in Canada.

News and Notes (continued)

The governors of the Royal Soldiers Daughters' School, 65 Rosslyn Hill, Hampstead, N.W.3, wish to draw attention to a recent development which has made the school financially more attractive to the serving soldier.

Army parents with daughters at the school can now draw service education allowance at boarding school rates. This amounts at present to £150 per annum for one child (rising to £186 for the third child) and the allowance is free of income tax to soldiers serving overseas. By setting these sums off against the school fees—for service parents these are, at present, £62 per term—it will be seen that

continuity of education can be obtained at very low cost. Children of ex-soldiers are charged special rates.

The girls, of whom the school can take up to 100, attend as day pupils the Hampstead Parochial School (5-11 years) or Haverstock Secondary School (over 11 years).

In the Yorkshire Evening Press we read that four recruits from the Seychelles Islands have recently passed through the Brigade Depot. They were among 125 young Seychelles men recruited as the result of a visit to those islands by a recruiting team.

It is reported that they did well on their recruit course and shone particularly at athletics. Between them they won five cups in the inter-platoon competitions.

They were treated exactly as ordinary recruits except that the cook sergeant took to preparing special curry dishes for them as their food in the Seychelles consists mainly of highly spiced Chinese-style dishes.

Two of the four were to go to the Y. & L. and two to the Duke's. One presumes that the young man whose name is Wellington Felix would be one of the latter.

Arthur Sunley

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Please remember that "Iron Duke"
subs. are due on February 1st

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

Recruiting figures for the July-September quarter were:

	Recruits*	Boys	Total
P.W.O.	37	9	46
G.H.	22	8	30
D.W.R.	34	10	44
Y. & L.	29	7	36

* Includes boys coming on to man's service.

Ten boys are at present under training at the Infantry Junior Leaders' Battalion, Oswestry.

It is believed that Captain Campbell-Lamerton will be based on Halifax-Huddersfield when he takes over as Regimental Liaison Officer in February next year. He has asked us for an office so that he can work from R.H.Q. As Adjutant of the West Riding Battalion he has already found a very different attitude to T.A. recruiting than to regular recruiting from our local industrialists—understandably as they, too, are often working on an understrength establishment.

The annual service in York Minster held on November 2 was very well attended and, as usual, H.Q. Yorkshire Brigade went out of their way to see that everyone was properly looked after in the officers' and sergeants' messes after the service.

The following day the trustees of the Regimental charitable funds held a meeting, primarily to consider how best advantage can be taken of the New Trustees Investment Act, 1961.

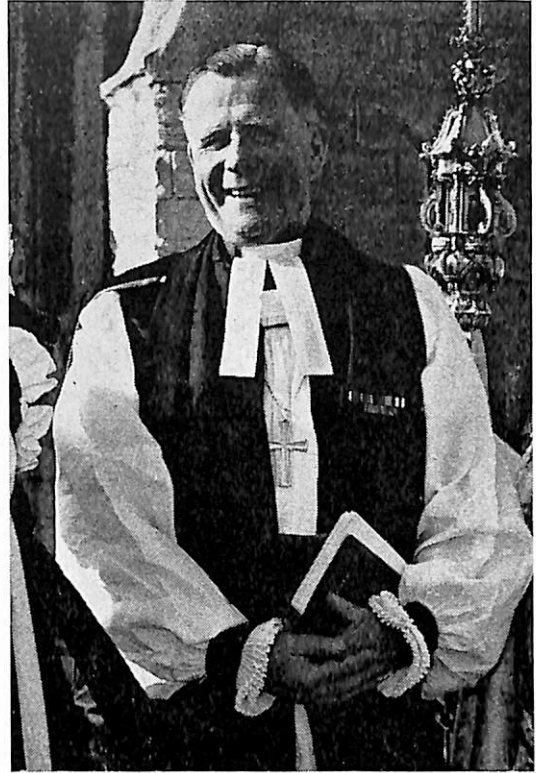
Major Douglas Jones-Stamp ran an exceptionally good hunt ball in the officers' mess at Strensall and C.S.M. Webb, looking nautical in the oyster bar, more than justified the efforts of the Colchester special courier in finding reason to do the trip, bringing the oysters north.

Les Voltigeurs de Québec, our allied regiment, have sent us the complete band score of their regimental march.

Christmas cards and diaries have been slightly more of a problem this year than usual. Somewhere along the line someone omitted their cost. Very few correspondents failed to mention to us the omission though most of them commendably sent an offering based on last year's prices; a few allowed for inflation and sent a blank cheque. (*We fear that the omission of prices must have been our fault and can only apologise.*—Ed.)

An interesting collection of army lists has been presented by Mrs. Carlyon whose husband served in the Regiment. Major Carlyon's father retired from the 76th Regiment in 1881 in protest, possibly, against the amalgamation of the 33rd and 76th. Mrs. Carlyon also sent, in response to the appeal in THE IRON DUKE, a copy of Lee's History of the 33rd and an interesting programme, dated September 15, 1859, of the athletic sports at the R.M.C., Sandhurst, in which Major Carlyon's father, then Gentleman-Cadet Tredenham FitzHerbert Carlyon, figures.

On Wednesday, October 18, the Venerable Eric



The Rt. Rev. Eric Treacy, M.B.E., Lord Bishop Suffragan of Pontefract

Treacy, M.B.E., was consecrated Bishop of Pontefract.

It is as Archdeacon of Halifax that most readers will remember him best. His close association with the Regiment began in 1949 on his appointment as Vicar of the Parish Church.

In these 12 years much has been done to make our links with the Parish Church visibly closer—for example, the dedication of All Souls' Chapel in September 1951 as the Regimental Memorial Chapel and the erection of the 4th Battalion's 1914-18 war memorial in the north-east corner of the church.

Less visibly his influence has been exercised in building up the Regiment's connection with the Parish Church to become part of the daily life of the Regiment. No officer or recruit now joins without coming to Halifax and visiting the church and regimental chapel. No major regimental occasion in Halifax is complete unless associated with the Parish Church. The celebrations to mark the 250th anniversary of the raising of the 33rd Regiment of Foot and the 100th anniversary of the death of the first Duke of Wellington culminated in a service of commemoration in the Parish Church on Sunday, May 25, 1952.

In this, as in many other Regimental occasions centred on the Parish Church, the Archdeacon, as he then was, showed his understanding of the Army

as a whole and knowledge of and affection for the Regiment in particular. His memorable address, published in IRON DUKE No. 107, after accepting the Colours of the 1st Battalion on October 5, 1957, for laying-up in the Regimental Chapel, is but one example.

We are sorry he must leave Halifax though pleased he has not left the West Riding.

All ranks of the Regiment join in expressing our gratitude for his help and inspiration in the past, our congratulations on his preferment and our best wishes to him and Mrs. Treacy for the future.

THE YORKSHIRE BRIGADE DEPOT

There has been little of note since we last wrote. Our barrack blocks have been evacuated and it is to be hoped that Mr. Wimpey, Sir Robert Mc-Alpine, or some other philanthropist, will come and rebuild them before our children's children arrive at Strensall to take the Queen's shilling.

Lt.-Colonel Le Messurier has just arrived to take over from Lt.-Colonel John Bade. The start of The Brigade Depot has owed a lot to the latter's impetus. We wish him well in the land of the midnight sun.

We expect shortly to see Captain Campbell-Lamerton to take over as Liaison Officer from Captain Pell.

OFFICERS' MESS

On Friday, October 13, we risked an official cocktail party which, to the surprise of many of us, passed off well. We met fortune half-way by serving a better brand of champagne.

We have held two regimental guest nights to mark the Scrope-Davies and Le Messurier-Bade handovers. Both were, as usual, a tribute to Mr. Jackson and his staff. On November 5, after the usual children's firework display, the subalterns entertained their friends to an orgy of cold turkey, warm stomping and reduced lighting in the Mess.

Apart from our friends living near, who still look us up from time to time, we have been pleased to see Walter Skelsey, Denis Simonds, Rodney Harms and John Streatfeild. We hope that other old friends passing through York will spare half an hour for a drink and a chat.

On Saturday, November 18, The Bassets held their hunt ball in the mess. This does not mean that the bitch pack actually took the floor—the poor little dears were really too tired after their joint meet earlier that day with the de Burgh Basset Hounds from Newmarket. We had a very enjoyable day's hunting and quite a few, after running all day, managed to dance in a spritely manner until the dawn. The Ladies' Room had been transformed by the subalterns into a fisherman's cabin, where Able-Bodied-Fisherman Webb presided over the oysters and champagne. C/Sgt. Sullivan very kindly

took an evening off from Strensall Golf Club to run the long bar. About 200 attended, including the Master of The Middleton and four masters of beagle, not basset, packs. Jos Q. Atkinson from Newcastle provided the rhythm.

SERGEANTS' MESS

The outstanding event during the quarter was the All Saints' Day Service held in York Minster. The Regiment was well represented by our members, including ex-R.S.M. Jim Jackson, C.S.M. "Tug" Wilson, together with R.S.M. Robins and members of the West Riding Battalion and a party of Old Comrades and their wives, ably led by Tom McMahon from Halifax. After the service everyone retired to the mess at Strensall, where, through the courtesy of R.S.M. Mottram (P.W.O.), all were entertained to lunch and suitable liquid refreshment—much to the annoyance of C.S.M. Webb who had to leave when the festivities were at their height, leaving Con Sullivan to act as host. During the party we were honoured by a visit from the Colonel of the Regiment accompanied by Colonel Cumberlege and Lord Savile.

Visitors to the Mess in this quarter included C.S.M. Sid Erswell, *en route* for Aden, and Sgt. "Spud" Taylor, joining 1st P.W.O. In closing, it must be noted that C.S.M. Rex Webb and C/Sgt. Con Sullivan are eagerly looking forward to re-joining the 1st Battalion, with especial note to C.S.M. Ray Batty and C/Sgt. Gordon Simpson to get a move on.

TRAINING COMPANY

The Order of Battle has changed considerably in recent months. Major G. T. M. Scrope, Green Howards, has taken over from Major J. A. Davies, Green Howards, as Company Commander, and Captain J. E. Pell, D.W.R., has relieved Captain J. M. Newton, D.W.R., as Training Officer. Our only platoon commander is Lt. R. D. Campbell-Lamerton who has just finished with Quebec Platoon. C.S.M. Webb is to hand over to C.S.M. Batty on New Year's Day—handing over as sergeant-major is expected to take one day, and handing over Strensall Common (Pheasant, 130; Partridge, 43; Mallard, 28) seven days.

Sgt. Brown should have left, but a message from our P.S.O. in Fiji said that 38 Fijians would be arriving in early November. Sgt. Brown was held back to take over one of the resulting platoons. The final outcome is that we are to receive four Fijians in December, and Sgt. Brown has been given another platoon of men drawn from exotic places as far afield as Huddersfield, Sheffield and Darlington.

Sgt. Gay has Korea Platoon coming along nicely and due to pass out just before Christmas. Sgt. Elston's Platoon, Alma, have passed out and, as the recruits left the camp on leave, Cpl. Atkinson left for civilian life, having stayed in the Army for an extra day to see them away.

Also on the staff are Cpl. Parker and L/Cpl. Hodkinson as platoon N.C.O.s, L/Cpls. Rymer and Rogers (P.T. Staff), L/Cpl. Eccles (Arms Kote), Pte. Brearton (Company Clerk) and Pte. Ainsworth (Storeman).

1st BATTALION

Our October notes closed with the battalion installed in Muthaiga Camp, Nairobi, home of the 1st Battalion, The King's Regiment. This, however, was not for long!

During September we opened a company camp at Mombasa to which it was intended to send each company in turn for 10 days' change of air and sea bathing. The first company duly went off in mid-September in great form. Little did we then realise that the Battalion would not be together again as one body until we embarked in November!

Towards the end of September it became clear that the withdrawal of the British force from Kuwait was about to start. The problem of our future accommodation then became acute, Muthaiga being only big enough for one battalion.

After many high-level conferences it was finally decided to leave one company in Mombasa and to move the remainder of the unit to Alanbrooke Camp at Gilgil, some 70 miles north in the Rift Valley. This could only be a temporary move as Alanbrooke camp was occupied by the advance party of 3rd Regiment, The Royal Horse Artillery, who were awaiting the arrival of the Regiment from England at Mombasa, on October 10, on board H.M.T. *Nevasa*.

Once recovered from their shock, the gunners, under their 2IC Major Pat Barry, rose nobly to the occasion as the "cuckoos" moved into their nest on September 27. We very quickly settled in and then had to start thinking of the next move. "A" Company had relieved "C" Company in Mombasa, leaving Battalion H.Q., "H.Q." Company, "B" Company and "C" Company in Alanbrooke.

It was at this time that we received a bombshell in the news that we would not fly home, like H.Q. 19th Infantry Brigade and the minor units, but would have to await the return of the *Nevasa*, from Hong Kong, and return in her to U.K. (For financial reasons, said the War Office signal.)

This meant yet another move and the final plan devised by H.Q. East Africa Command was for Battalion H.Q. and "H.Q." Company to live with the 2nd Battalion, The Coldstream Guards, and "C" Company with 60 Company R.A.S.C., both camps being in the Gilgil area. "B" Company were to remain in Alanbrooke with 3rd R.H.A. and "A" Company were to remain in Mombasa.

While all this was going on, H.Q. 19th Brigade quietly slipped away and were replaced out of the blue by H.Q. 3rd Brigade, who arrived in a flurry of dust from Cyprus.

This proved to be our final deployment in Kenya and we should like to take this opportunity to thank all the units who put up with us so nobly and did so much for us.

During our final period in Kenya a great deal of

hard training was put in. This included the "B" Company camp at Ndol-dol, north of Mount Kenya, and Exercise "White Sands," a 10-day brigade signal exercise in the course of which Battalion H.Q. covered over a thousand miles. Both these are the subject of separate notes.

We also held a very successful battalion cross-country race, run over a hard course in pouring rain. This resulted in "B" Company sweeping the board, gaining the first three individual places and winning the team prize.

Several interesting trips were made to game parks and the Carr Hartley Game Farm. There was also an epic safari to the Mara River, led by the C.O. and Major Alan North, a well-known white hunter, and including Major John Milligan, Major Donald Isles, Lt. Michael Bray, Cpl. Waite, L/Cpl. Lee and Pte. Jones. In the course of it over 40 lions were seen together with elephant and all the plain game and many interesting birds.

At last the day drew near for our departure, and the heavy baggage was duly despatched to Mombasa by goods train. Fate, however, had one final fling in store for us.

For the past few weeks Kenya had been plagued by abnormally heavy rains, resulting in widespread flooding. Forty-eight hours before the troop train was due to leave Gilgil the Nairobi-Mombasa line was cut in two places and was reported closed for a week. However, our friends in the R.A.F. came to our aid and we were flown to Mombasa in six Beverley sorties, the last chalk boarding the *Nevasa* two hours before she sailed.

These notes are written during the voyage which, so far, has been most pleasant. We have on board one other major unit, 32nd Medium Regiment R.A., returning home after three years in Hong Kong, and many inter-regimental sporting contests have taken place between the two units.

Our first port of call was Aden where Lt.-Colonel and Mrs. "Pip" Moran came aboard and met many of the Battalion, afterwards organising a shopping spree the like of which has seldom been seen before. The next worry is H.M. Customs!

We have now passed through the canal, which brought back memories to many of us, and feel ourselves to be on the last lap.

OFFICERS' MESS

Since we have been dispersed on a company basis life has been restricted to sharing the amenities of our hosts' messes. But how lucky we were in our hosts! The Coldstream, the R.H.A. and the R.A.S.C. were extraordinarily kind and looked after us most nobly. We did, however, join together as a Battalion to give a farewell cocktail party to our friends. For this occasion we borrowed the Gilgil Country Club where we entertained some 200

guests. It was a good party, and it was given a breath of English air by the presence of Alec, the Colonel's wife.

We were sorry to see Hugh Le Messurier depart, but we know he will like Strensell. We shall miss him and Rosemary and we wish them well. John Milligan has now taken over as Second-in-Command, having handed over "H.Q." Company to Roger Southerst. John Walker and Allen Jones have left us on release but we hope we shall continue to see something of them in the future. Donald Isles got back in September from J.S.S.C., and Peter Andrews and Robin Newall joined us about the same time. Robin's pass is reminiscent of Dennis Shuttleworth's—perhaps he will bring us as much success.

The voyage home has been fun. We were welcomed aboard by Colonel Arthur Hardy and 32nd Medium Regiment R.A.; they threw a cocktail party for us and we have made good friends. We, too, gave a cocktail party—unoriginal, probably, but there is a crying need for some new form of entertainment.

The fancy dress ball was a great success with Jeremy Cumberlege, as a Samburu tribesman, winning the men's prize and the 2IC, as a gouty old colonel, figuring prominently. And so—brief notes these—back to Meeanee and our own mess. For how long this time?

WARRANT OFFICERS' AND SERGEANTS' MESS

At the time of writing the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess is more widely dispersed than we would be in a nuclear operation and the mess as such has ceased to function. The only benefit we obtain from this arrangement is having a foot in every camp.

The hospitality of East African messes is known by all to be outstanding and this trip has been a further proof of this. In particular, we have been royally entertained by the 1st King's Regiment. On Saturday, October 28, we were invited by them to a farewell social and exchanged regimental plaques. If a minor invasion of Colchester happens then I am sure the King's will be in the vanguard.

It has proved to be something of a problem to meet all the farewell invitations we have received. Other social events have included a regimental dinner given by 60th Company, R.A.S.C., for mess members of "C" Company, at which R.S.M. Randall was also a guest. After dinner, entertainment was provided by "Rib Crusher" Wild (ask "Cash" Ogden for confirmation) and "Strangler" Wilson. A most enjoyable evening indeed.

Several of us went to the Letsigan Day celebrations held by 5th K.A.R. who are old acquaintances from last year. We saw a very good and ambitious parade in the morning followed by tribal dancing in the afternoon. At night their Sergeants' Mess gave a ball which was most enjoyable.

As our departure date crept closer we were all invited to two farewell parties, 3rd R.H.A. and 60th Company, R.A.S.C. These were two really first-class evenings and the company sergeant-majors of "B" and "C" Companies, attached to 3rd R.H.A. and 60th Company, R.A.S.C., respectively, pre-

sented regimental plaques. They now occupy the place of honour in each mess.

The only slip-up during this period was a disc in Sgt. Joe Ingham's back. He now sports a nice, clean, white-plaster waistcoat. Keep a stiff back up, Joe!

We have welcomed back Sgt. Bob Spring after a lengthy absence. Departures include C.S.M. Bill Costello and Sgt. Falkingham to the T.A.

The R.S.M. has added to the mess trophies by acquiring a Masai shield and two spears. Before any stories are leaked out I would add that these were purchased and not won in battle.

Dress regulations make no allowance for a person not being in possession of kit but, due to some gentleman helping himself to mess members' kit in the early hours of the morning, we have seen some weird and wonderful garbs. Civilian shirt, denim trousers and basketball boots proved to be very popular but rather embarrassing at night time. Trying to find a pair of shorts to fit some of our members proved impossible.

CORPORALS' MESS

Our last notes started us off in the Corporals' Mess of the King's but after about 10 weeks the club had to be closed down as the King's were returning from Kuwait, and we had to move out. Our relations with the corporals of the King's rear party were always very good and at all times they gave us all the help they could.

In appreciation of their kindness we put on a social evening and invited them all. W.O.2 Benson organised the buffet and it was really first class; beer, spirits and minerals were all half price and a three-piece band was produced. R.S.M. Randall, who has a standing invitation to all our Mess do's, came along; knowing him to be a shy, retiring, sort of a person we invited the acting R.S.M. of the King's rear party to keep him company. During the course of the evening many songs were sung, vast quantities of beer were consumed and the R.S.M. ended the evening by producing gales of laughter with his amusing little ditty entitled "The Keyhole in the Door." That more or less ended our mess life at Muthaiga.

Since the battalion moved to Alanbrooke Camp at Gilgil we have never had a chance to organise a club and there is nothing worth mentioning as regards Corporals' Mess life. All I can say is that each company reports that the corporals in the camps in which they are lodging have welcomed them to their clubs and are doing their very best for them. But one and all agree that, most of all, they are waiting to get home to their families in early December and to a corporals' club of their own.

Before ending the notes I would like to extend a welcome to the club to L/Cpls. Mitchell and Lever, on their promotion, and also to L/Cpl. Martin (R.A.O.C.), the battalion cobbler, on his promotion. Cpl. Cronin is congratulated on his promotion to sergeant and we wish him all the best. Other corporals have left for civvie street, etc., but they are too numerous to mention by name. To all of them, wherever they are, we wish good fortune.

EXERCISE "WHITE SANDS"

This much-named and often-postponed exercise eventually took place between August 30 and September 8 and covered the Nairobi-Mombasa-Kipini area.

The main aims of the exercise were to test brigade communications, to practise brigade supply by air, to show the flag and, last but not least, to see something of Kenya. Because of the last aim a few sight-seeing passengers were taken and Battalion Headquarters ended up 96 strong.

At 0700 hrs., August 30, the Battalion Headquarters recce party crossed the start line, followed an hour later by Battalion Main and then the race to the sea was really on.

The recce party were conveniently held up at Simba Springs at about 1100 hrs. and tea was brewed by the time Main arrived. The battle then lasted an hour and all had lunch in peace.

The advance continued until about 1700 hrs. when the complete Brigade night-laagered at the side of Mitito Andei airstrip—just over half-way to Mombasa. The area of the night laager caused a certain amount of consternation to Kenya first-timers, as there was very obvious evidence of elephant in the vicinity, but luckily we were undisturbed.

We left early on the morning of the 31st and continued the advance to Mombasa, the only interesting event being a slight argument by the crew of the R.S.O.'s vehicle with an elephant. All ended well, if with a certain loss of dignity. We again night-laagered with the Brigade, this time on Mombasa airstrip.

We were given a slight break on the 1st and everybody managed to get kit washed and have a swim during the morning. However, the rest was short-lived and the complete Brigade moved out in the early afternoon for Malindi—the playground of

East Africa. We didn't arrive in our new location until 2300 hrs., due to the slowish crossing of the Kilifi ferry. Luckily the recce party had done a good job and the move in by night went smoothly. The recce party also sited Brigade Headquarters, but were slightly baffled in this instance by tracks on the ground not being on the map and vice versa—still Brigade were given an area.

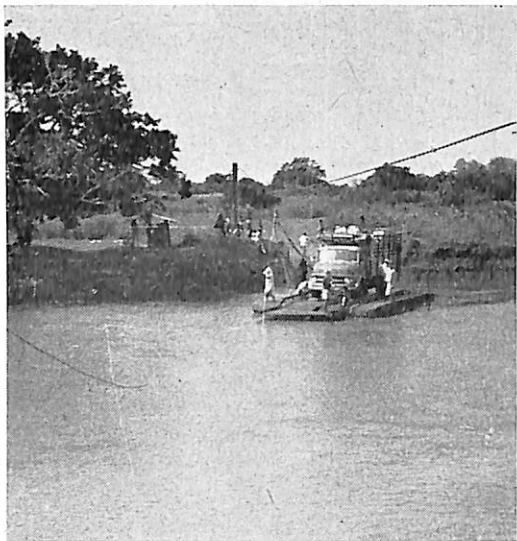
When dawn came on the 2nd we were very delighted with the area and Malindi, and thought it very likely we would stay a few days. Unfortunately the Brigade Command had other ideas and obviously thought that the beaches would only take Brigade Headquarters. So once again we packed and moved out at lunch-time—at least a respectable time to move.

The next stop was to be Kipini, which had to be reached via Garsen. At Garsen we again experienced a ferry, but this time an exceedingly slow, small and antiquated type. The recce party of three vehicles took an hour to cross and there was much laughing and joking while visualising Main crossing. However, all went well and without mishap.

The recce party were given a great help by the C.O. recceing Kipini from the air and dropping a plan. This was invaluable as they didn't arrive until an hour before dusk with the tasks, in order of priority, of clearing the airstrip and siting Battalion Headquarters. The latter produced difficulties, as amongst the facilities required was a beach to swim from. Kipini is on the Tana River—full, the locals told us, of crocodile and hippo and obviously not for us. By the time we found this out it was dark and the only logical solution was to laager temporarily for the night in Kipini itself with a view to further recce at first light. The laagering once again went smoothly with the exception of two vehicles lost from the last packet. The C.Q.M.S.



The C.O. and
Lt. Stevens lunch
while talking to a
plane



Garsen Ferry

eventually turned up, but the water truck was firmly bogged many miles away. It did eventually get towed out next morning and arrived safely, if empty.

The C.O. and I.O. left early on the 3rd and found an exceedingly pleasant area for the Headquarters just at the top of a beach. We moved and established ourselves by lunch. Unfortunately the beckoning sea held hidden hazards as Sgt. Sargeant and his Medics were soon to find out. Just hidden by the water were great pieces of coral and many suffered cuts; Pte. Close of the I Section had to be "case-vac" for stitching.

We stayed four days in this location and made many friends including the local chief and a professional monkey catcher. The chief delighted everyone with his friendliness and, one day, arrived in state by vintage Ford, bringing nostalgic memories of the London-Brighton outing.

The I.O. and a small party also managed to recce Lamu Island and returned with tales of tropical islands, golden beaches, swaying palms, in fact everything à la Hollywood but Dorothy Lamour—much was the envy.

On the night of the 5th we had an enormous bonfire on the beach and invited our friends from 3rd Field Squadron to a company "smoker"—both sides producing numerous artists as entertainment.

It is only fair to point out here that some of us did work during this four-day rest and none harder than the Q.M., his staff and the Drums, who seemed to spend their entire day unloading aircraft of rations and N.A.A.F.I. stores. They did a really good job and their work was invaluable.

With reluctance we moved out of our new home at midday on the 6th, after a very flying visit from the G.O.C., experienced the hazards of the Garsen ferry again and rejoined the complete Brigade at Hara for the night 6th/7th. Unfortunately during this short move the water truck decided to imitate an elephant and have a roll. This it completed satisfactorily and Battalion Headquarters were left

with very little water for the remaining two days. Luckily we managed to beg, borrow, and steal what we required.

The 7th saw us on the road very early and the start of a long drive to Mwingi, via Garissa, where we spent the night 7th/8th. The exercise ended from a tactical point that night and all that was left on the 8th was the 100-mile drive back to Muthaiga.

I think all will join in praising the M.T. for keeping vehicles on the road. In 10 days most vehicles had covered approximately 1,000 miles of rutted, dusty, murrum roads and never once did a vehicle break down—a most commendable effort.

Summing up the feelings of all—a most enjoyable and interesting exercise, but weren't we glad to get a bath and clean kit.

"B" COMPANY IN CAMP AT NDOL-DOL

"On October 24, 1961, 14 lorries of "B" Company under command of Major Isles were found by the County Engineer on the County Council road to Mukogodo, when the road was in a very wet condition . . . As a result of these Army vehicles using County roads it is estimated that 120 miles of roads will have to be reshaped with heavy machinery at a cost of £10 per mile . . . Under the circumstances therefore I wish to submit a claim on behalf of the Council amounting to £1,200 . . ."

Needless to say, the above claim is being stoutly resisted and its allegations strongly denied. Moreover, there is no truth whatsoever in the rumour that the unfortunate Company Commander is negotiating to commute his pension.

Despite this setback it was truly a great camp in all respects. Much hard training was done, and much beer was drunk in the canteen; in fact, profits were sky-high.

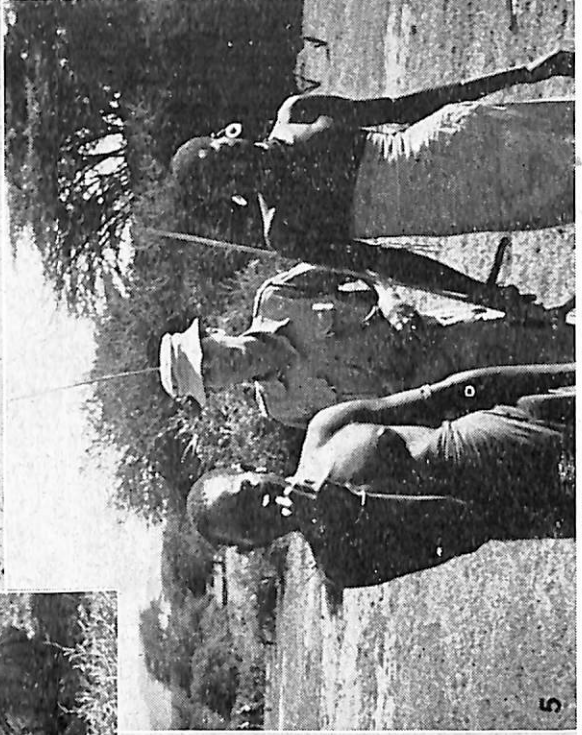
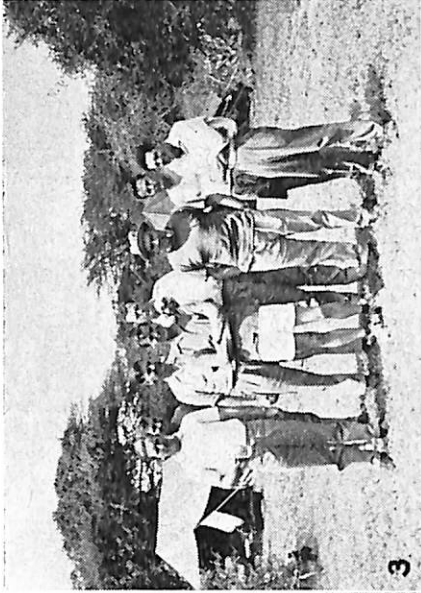
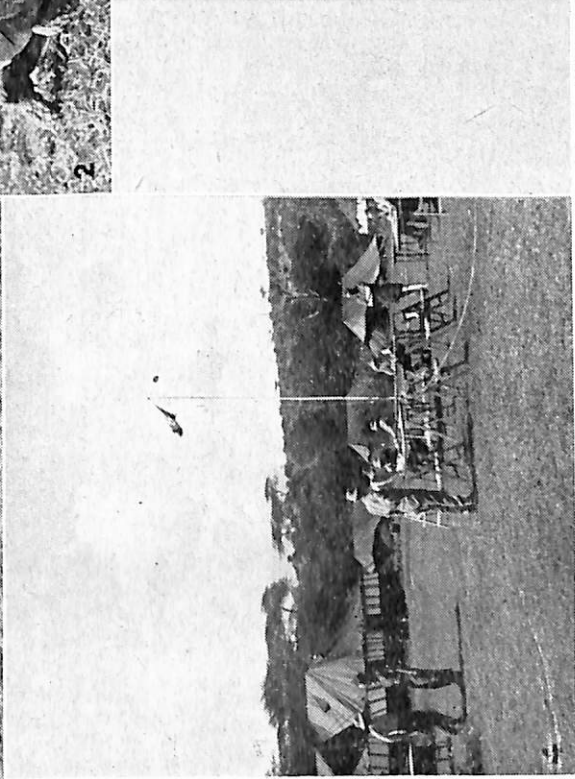
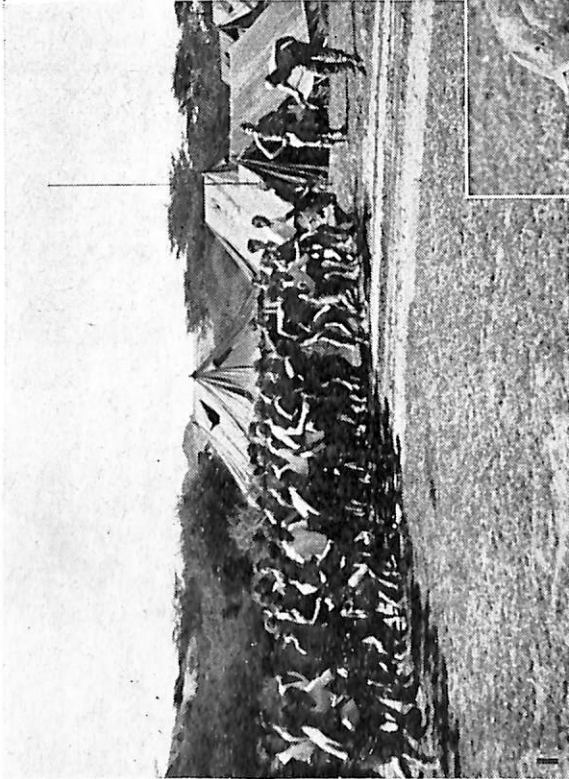
Ndol-Dol is found in the Mukogodo Reserve some 30 miles north of Nanyuki. Normally it is dry, sandy and dusty. This year it was lush and green with a profusion of game. Situated three or four miles from the camp site is the field firing area, marked on the map as "Rugged Country" and with, theoretically, an unlimited danger area. But somehow a ricochet killed a cow. This cost us £5, and wasn't worth it when it came to eating the cow as stew on the defence exercise. Definitely not one of the Colour-Sergeant's better efforts!

The African gentlemen of the area are an extraordinary mixture of Masai and Samburo with even more extraordinary habits. Simple folk whose main concern appeared to be whether or not it was raining in Nairobi.

In a more serious vein, though, a great deal of useful training was accomplished. Support Platoon gave us a good inkling of how useful smoke screens can be if they are laid in the proper fashion, and not too much left to the imagination. Field firing at section and platoon level showed us how much effective fire the S.L.R. is capable of; even our nine guests from 3rd R.H.A. were impressed. These gunners were a great asset to the camp and we enjoyed having them.

The Colonel came up to stay with us, as also did the 2IC. Both were taken to the fabulous "Low

B Coy. at NDOL-DOL



1. Start of Cross-Country Race
4. The Camp

2. The winner? Giant Tortoise, b. circa 1900

3. The Officers
5. Lt. Ivey and friends

Country" by our friend the Police Inspector. Both saw rhino and elephant at close quarters, and both were surprised and delighted to get out alive.

Towards the end of camp we ran an inter-platoon cross-country race. No. 5 Platoon won in fine style, with Pte. Whitely, of No. 6 Platoon, first; second and third came Pte. Mitchell, No. 7 Platoon, and Pte. Connolly, No. 5 Platoon. As a result of this race, and much highly concentrated training, we beat "C" and "H.Q." Companies in the Battalion race at Gilgil on November 9. Unfortunately we couldn't beat "A" Company as well, as they were reclining in Mombasa.

And so—as long as we don't have to pay—it was worth every penny of £1,200. And there is not much doubt that "B" Company, the first all-regular, all-professional company of the Battalion, has arrived.

THE DEFENCE PLATOON IN UGANDA

On Monday, September 11, the C.O. was asked by 34th Field Squadron R.E. if he could spare 30 men to assist them in repairing roads for two weeks. Knowing that he already had an experienced road-building platoon in his flock, namely the Defence Platoon, he detailed Lt. C. R. Cumberlege to take the platoon to wherever and whatever was required.

It was later learned that the platoon was off to an area 650 miles from Nairobi in the north-eastern region of Karamoja in Uganda. Our task was to repair tracks (if that is not a too optimistic word!) so that the security forces would be able to get to grips with the Turkana cattle raiders from Kenya.

After many administrative problems had been thrashed out, the operation cancelled and re-mounted, and after people had finished passing remarks with a touch of jealousy in them, the platoon set forth. Packed like sardines in three 3-ton vehicles, we left on Wednesday, September 13, still not really knowing our exact destination.

The first night was spent on the Equator, which surely must have been one of the coldest spots in Africa, and the second in the very genial company of

the Police at Soroti in Uganda itself—so genial, in fact, that the platoon commander had visions of collecting soldiers from the cells on the way back—only visions, though! Once inside Uganda we felt an utterly different atmosphere to Kenya altogether. Firstly the roads were tarmacked for two-thirds of the way; secondly we spent so much time waving back to the natives that we really feel for the Royal Family now. And thirdly the less said about the hospitality of the Europeans the better—it was tremendous!

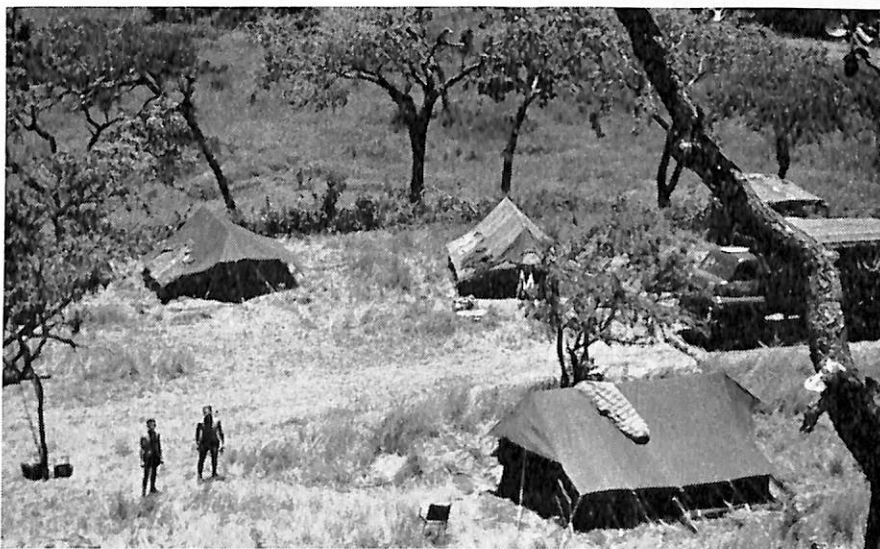
We reached the headquarters of the Sappers at Kaabong on the third day, and soon learned more about our job. Eyebrows were raised, however, when we were told that, only two days previously, six tribesmen had been killed by the Turkana near our future camp site. So, armed to the teeth, we motored the last 25 miles to Pirre. This short journey, with roads often steeper than 1 in 3, took more than four hours.

We pitched camp in the most beautiful surroundings, amongst very green and thick foliage with mountains rising 2,000-3,000 ft. all around us. From these, views of 50-70 miles into the Sudan could be seen. To complete this Utopia, hot sun shone throughout our stay.

Work in earnest began on the Monday morning. This entailed filling in pot-holes, putting in culverts, and generally improving the track as best we could, under the guidance of the Sappers. In addition to that we gave the Sappers a hand in making an airstrip capable of taking a Beverley.

Owing to an unfortunate misunderstanding in a signal sent by the Sappers, the first light aircraft to test the strip landed on the wrong end and promptly lost a tail-wheel, much to the annoyance of the Army Air Corps and to the amusement of the "Dukes"!

The Dodoth tribesmen who live in the area sent a large working party to assist the Sappers. They caused a lot of amusement and remarks, mainly owing to the fact that they were so terribly primitive and stark naked.



The Defence
Platoon's Camp at
Pirre

On the second day after our arrival we awoke to find at least 25 of these tribesmen carrying out a form of war dance round the camp; although at first disconcerted, we soon found out through sign language that what they wanted was food. Shooting game in this area was highly illegal, but to stay on the right side of the "locals," a kongoni (a large form of buck) was shot for them. This they promptly ate raw, leaving absolutely nothing apart from the skin, bones, liver and lights.

They then carried out another dance for us in the evening as a token of thanks. A firm bond of friendliness was formed from then on. This had its disadvantages, though, as every day after that Cpl. Clarke, the platoon sergeant, had to hold a "sick parade" for all the natives who were too idle to work; a paludrine tablet for headaches and acriflavine for anything else was the rule.

In the middle of our stay, Cpl. Morgan, who had escaped from the officers' mess for two weeks, somehow obtained a chicken (ask no questions . . . !) and detailed a native to pluck and draw it. The African immediately picked it up, chewed off the head, ate it, and then picked what teeth he had with the beak!

Most of the platoon managed by hook or by crook to obtain vast spears, some of which were 9 or 10 ft. in length. We felt a little sorry for the tribesmen when the next band of Turkana come to raid their cattle, but *c'est la vie!* In return for a packet of hard tack biscuits, the natives would fill a jerrycan from a nearby spring; hence we never ran short of water (which was green). One fortunate fellow who spent his time sitting stark naked in the middle of the volley-ball pitch washing the platoon commander's clothes was somehow, by the end of



Cpl. Clarke holds Sick Parade

our stay, the proud possessor of one shorts K.D., one vests tropical, and one towels hand. The C.Q.M.S. should be pleased to know that they went in a darn good cause!

Unfortunately, or perhaps fortunately, one essential item was in very short supply—beer. But obviously Major Milligan, our company commander, could feel our thirst and sent Sgt. Sykes speeding north with 20 crates on board. Im-

(Continued on next page)

2nd BATTALION THE COLDSTREAM GUARDS

Exercise "Last Chukka"

OPENING NARRATIVE

And it came to pass, in the days of the short rains, that the tribe of the Dukes, the children of Firth, found themselves to be without a Camp.

For the tribes of the Kings were returned from their wanderings in the land of the Assyrians, and Kings coming before Dukes (even as Aces come before Kings) the children of Firth had perforce to depart from the fleshpots of Muthaiga and set forth into the wilderness of the Rift Valley.

And they pitched their tents in the barren wastes of Gilgil, even amid the tents of the Lillywhites. And peace reigned within Slim Camp (let's hope) for did not both tribes come of the sons of Ilkley Moor.

And behold, it came to pass that the chief of the Lillywhites, even Chief Priest Julian, took his tribe to war, even into the fiery furnace of the N.F.D., into the wilderness of Wamba and the arid acres of Archer's Post.

And when the children of Firth heard of this, they said one unto another: "It is dreadfully dull in Gilgil. Let us also go forth to war. Let us march against the Lillywhites, even against the camp at Wamba. Per-

chance we shall overthrow them and then surely will all the warriors of Ilkley Moor come into the tribe of the Dukes rather than into the Lillywhites and perchance we shall increase our stature."

And so it came to pass that the chief of the tribe of Dukes, Chief Priest Tony, led his warriors forth from Gilgil through Rumuruti to Wamba, to wage war against the Lillywhites. And they set forth on the eighteenth day of October.

Exercise "Last Chukka" was intended as a four-day test exercise in the Northern Frontier Province for 2nd Battalion The Coldstream Guards during the visit of the Regimental Lieutenant-Colonel. Battalion H.Q. and "C" Company 1st D.W.R. were to be the enemy.

Unfortunately very heavy rains caused cancellation of this plan and the exercise took place in a modified form in the Rumuruti area, "C" Company only providing the enemy. It proved to be a first-class exercise in which, we feel, "C" Company were victorious! (Any noticeable increase in stature?—Ed.)

mediately a camp fire was prepared and, on the night before we left £27 of beer was consumed before midnight. The strains of Pte. "Elvis" Howarth and his "Wooden Heart" remain in our ears to this day!

The next morning, Monday, September 25, feeling more than hazy, we struck camp, said sad farewells to Pirre, and began our long trip back to Nairobi.

We looked so brown (12 days' dirt?) that in some cases it was difficult to distinguish between soldiers and Africans!

This time, owing to heavy rain, we stopped only one night. We arrived back after a nightmare journey on treacherous roads at 7 a.m. in the morning, only to find the Battalion on its way to Gilgil. We were on the move again by lunch!

Despite all, the platoon had had a wonderful two weeks away from the rigours of battalion life. We had achieved a lot of good, hard work; nevertheless we felt that, no matter how many roads you build in Karamoja, the Turkana tribesmen will still have their way.

ARRIVAL HOME

You might say that the passage home started to go downhill on the night of the "Nevasa Races." This popular Mediterranean meeting was dominated by a disreputable bookie and his clerk, operating in the name of the old West Riding firm of turf accountants, "Hairy Harry Havercake, of Halifax." These two looked remarkably like Michael Bray and Peter Andrews, but who can tell?

After this we had a smooth passage through the Med., the Regiment having no little success in the talent-spotting competition. We gathered that we were to have had a run ashore at Malta and Gibraltar but our Captain, Reginald Bond, the Commodore of the B.I. line, was what he called "on his bicycle" and nothing would stop him. At 0600 hrs. on

November 29 we paused at Gibraltar (we never actually stopped moving) long enough to drop one family and take on some hospital patients. Those who served at Moorish Castle and Casemates in 1954-55 gazed nostalgically over the rail, and through the drizzle, as the shape of the famous "Rock" loomed out of the darkness, silhouetted against a watery dawn sky. Nobody came to meet us. We sent a rude signal to the Yacht Club as the *Nevasa* headed for the Atlantic with a wild surmise.

The rest of the voyage turned out to be pretty smooth, actually. There was a bitter wind off the coast of Portugal and Finisterre, and we thought of the plight of our forerunners of the 76th Foot, as they trudged back to Corunna with Leith's Brigade



IN ADEN

L to R:- Pte. Rhodes (40), Pte. Machen, L/Cpl. Browne (89), Pte. Rawson, with H.T. NEVASA in the background

in the snow and mud of January 1809.

As we approached the English Channel there was a moving ceremony one evening when an officer's S.D. hat was formally buried at sea by the Commanding Officer (who could not bear it any longer). A drummer sounded the "Last Post," then:

Oh Pugh, your help in ages past,
Your hope for years to come,
Your shelter from the stormy blast—

and over the side it went! (It was made by some obscure firm called "Bates" anyway.)

Shortly after this the result of the fourth round of the Army Cup ("Dukes" 46—3rd D.G. nil) was announced over the ship's tannoy system and there was a great roar of approval from the troop decks.

Midnight on December 1 found us slipping past the Nab, and on up the Solent into Southampton docks. We tied up at 1.30 a.m. and immediately Brigadier Jackson, Commander 19th Brigade, sprang aboard to see us. He was accompanied by Major Bill Blakey, one of the hardworking O.C.s Rear Party (he took over from the other hardworking O.C. Rear Party, Major Wood, the previous month). The Q.M., Bob Callaby, was also there to see that there were no last-minute administrative slip-ups. He has handed and taken over some 15 different barracks and camps in the last two years, in various countries, with no "come backs."

At 8 a.m. the next morning General and Mrs. Bray arrived to officially welcome the Battalion home and we were all delighted to see them again. I think they found it easier to meet one ship, even at that hour of the day, than to meet six Britannia

aircraft over a period of 10 days, at all hours of the day and night, which is what they did last year when the Battalion flew home via Aden. General Bray was also representing General Exham who, we were sad to hear, had injured his leg and could not get down from Wales in person. General Bray talked to the men of the Battalion individually as they were disembarking, going through Customs, and preparing to entrain. Mr. Bowyer and the Regimental Band meanwhile played with great effect on the quay in the teeth of a biting wind (it bit us ex-Kenya chaps anyway).

The special train was very comfortable and, though equipped with somewhat faulty haversack rations, was mechanically excellent and, driven with great elan, got the unit to Colchester on time; it gave a particularly impressive performance on the Willesdon loop! One of the chief reactions on arrival seemed to be the pleasure of sleeping on a proper piece of W.D. Dunlopillo after five months, often on mother earth, never on a mattress. There was also the importance of a prompt pint of English Beer even if it was brewed South of the Trent.

MOUNT KENYA

An interesting account of a climbing expedition on Mount Kenya has had to be held over until the next issue. The expedition was organised by Lt. Pugh and the party consisted of Pte. Saxton, Pte. Darwin, Cpl. Howard, Pte. Lancaster, L/Cpl. Richardson, Cpl. Booth, Pte. Hey, Pte. Fay, Cpl. Crossley and Pte. Craven.



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RUGBY

As we were in Kenya at the start of the season we were seeded into the fourth round of the Army Rugger Cup. So on November 30 the team, recently arrived, and with limited training, faced the 3rd Carabiniers—with apprehension as they were very much an unknown quantity.

Fears were quickly dispelled, on a very windy day which hampered handling, when the "Dukes" with an uncharacteristic start penned their opponents in their half from the start. A penalty by Curry started the scoring and, once the conditions were overcome, the "Dukes," playing attractive rugby, were all over a side which was limited in all departments. Tries came with monotonous regularity, and the Carabiniers were vainly trying to stem the tide the whole time. At half-time the score was 20—0.

The second half was much the same story with the "Dukes" scoring almost at will. Great credit must go to the Carabiniers for not giving up the struggle for an instant, although outplayed entirely. The final tally was 45—0.

For the "Dukes" it was not really a satisfactory game, as weaknesses, which we undoubtedly have, were not exposed. Very little was gained from it but confirmation that the forwards are excellent in the loose and that the backs, given the ball, are a powerful attacking force. Scorers were: Schofield 5 tries, Marsay 2, Curry 2, Sabine 1, Renilson 1, and Reid 1.

Curry kicked a penalty goal and converted two, and Reid converted one.

SHOOTING

Our last issue omitted the results of 19th Brigade Group Rifle Meeting held on June 13 and 14, 1961, at Middlewick Ranges. It would hardly be an exaggeration to say that we swept the board at this meeting. As the Brigade Commander pointed out at the prize-giving, 41 out of 43 trophies were won by 1st D.W.R. The only two we did not win were for the pistol and were won by the C.O. and 2IC of 20th Field Regiment R.A.

It was soon apparent that the competition was once again between "A" and "B" Companies of 1st D.W.R. who were always well ahead of the rest of the field. "A" Company eventually came out on top with Major Robertson, O.C. "A" Company, beating Major Wood, O.C. "B" Company, for the Individual Championship, "A" Company team beating "B" Company team into second place, and No. 3 Platoon, "A" Company, winning the platoon shoot (Hopton Cup).

As the Brigade meeting was run as a non-central competition this year, we were competing against the rest of the Army, and it will be very interesting to see how "A" Company results compare with our respected foes from the Greenjackets' Brigade. No. 3 Platoon's score for the Hopton Cup will also take a lot of beating.

RESULTS OF BRIGADE RIFLE MEETING

Match I (A.R.A. Match 35) Individual Rifle.—H.P.S. 200

(a) Champion Shot and Champion Officer	Major Robertson	1st D.W.R.	165
(b) Runner-up, Champion Corporal and below and Champion Young Soldier	Pte. Kemp	1st D.W.R.	162
(c) Third-best Shot	Major Wood	1st D.W.R.	161
(d) Champion W.O. and Sergeant	Sgt. Holiday	1st D.W.R.	135
	(Sgt. Garland, 1st Glosters, counted out)		

Match II (A.R.A. Match 38) Individual S.M.G.—H.P.S. 160

(a) Champion Shot and Champion W.O. and Sergeant	Sgt. Owers	1st D.W.R.	135
(b) Runner-up and Champion Corporal and below	Pte. Hoddinot	1st D.W.R.	128
(c) Third-best Shot and Champion Officer	Captain Cowell	1st D.W.R.	127
(d) Champion Young Soldier	Pte. Lumley	1st D.W.R.	121

Match III (A.R.A. Match 49) Individual Pistol.—H.P.S. 120

(a) Champion Shot	Major James	20th Field Regiment	86
(b) Runner-up	Lt.-Colonel McKechnie	20th Field Regiment	80
(c) Third-best Shot	Major Wood (counted out as runner-up)	1st D.W.R.	80

Match IV (A.R.A. Match 37) Platoon Team, Rifle and L.M.G.—H.P.S. 700

(a) Winners	No. 3 Platoon, "A" Company	1st D.W.R.	575
(b) Runners-up	No. 14 Platoon, "D" Company	1st D.W.R.	537

Match V (A.R.A. Match 36) Company Team, Rifle and L.M.G.—H.P.S. 1,400

(a) Winners	"A" Company	1st D.W.R.	1,020
(b) Runners-up	"B" Company	1st D.W.R.	968

Match VI (A.R.A. Match 24) Falling Plate

(a) Winners	"B" Company	1st D.W.R.
(b) Runners-up	"A" Company	1st D.W.R.

THE WEST RIDING BATTALION T.A.

SUB-EDITORIAL

The January edition is normally disappointing in so far as notes from the T.A. Battalion are concerned. The period between camp and Christmas is the slackest of the year as regards training and most of the time is used for administration before the G.P.O. take over the drill halls for the Christmas mail.

This year, however, the administration tempo has increased due to our administrative inspection in early January. It is rumoured that amalgamated units normally have a severe going over, so we are getting well prepared.

The Battalion has now been welded into a united infantry unit and all traces of the effects of an amalgamation have vanished, except that the various parades and customs of the two units are carried out by one.

Remembrance Sunday this year was a feat of mobility and flexibility and all company commanders must be congratulated on the way the parades in their areas were carried out. We had eight parades to deal with; there were two at Huddersfield, two at Halifax, one each at Mossley, Skipton, Keighley and Thongsbridge. Due to the increased number of parades the Commanding Officer has delegated the commitments of the 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th Battalions to the company in each of the old battalion areas. This has proved highly successful and the name of the Regiment is being well publicised in the West Riding.

Our recruiting is most encouraging and, when the effects of the Commanding Officer's recruiting campaign are in full swing, our strength should be around the 500 mark by annual camp 1962. We are at present getting an average of 12 acceptable recruits a month. The West Riding Battalion has also been helping in Regular Army recruiting. So far, since camp, 14 T.A. soldiers have joined the Regular Army of which eight have gone into the "Dukes"; unfortunately the remaining six joined the R.E.M.E. due to their technical qualifications.

The pleasing thing to note is that there seems to be a swing in favour of the Army by the younger generation in the West Riding. For those interested in statistics, 41 per cent. of the present West Riding Battalion have had no previous military experience. This presents a large training problem which the T.A. did not have to face during the days of National Service. Companies have to run their own recruit cadres on drill nights starting from scratch and the time factor is the biggest worry. Providing a T.A. recruit attends at least once a week for six months he will have a fair working knowledge of the Army but sometimes, owing to civilian employment, this is not possible and the cadres are having to be run at different levels to cater for the various standards of training. This gives the company commanders and P.S.I.s quite a headache.

Since our last notes we have said good-bye to

Miles Tetlow and Mike Rutter who have resigned due to heavy civilian commitments. We have also said good-bye to four of our P.S.I.s: C.S.M. Erswell, who is going to Aden, Sgts. Spring and Wood, who have joined the 1st Battalion, and Sgt. Perrin who has left the Army. We welcome four new P.S.I.s from the 1st Battalion: C.S.M. Costello, who has taken over P.S.I. "H.Q." Company, Huddersfield; Sgt. Wappett, "A" Company, Halifax; Sgt. Wilkinson, "C" Company, Skipton; and Sgt. Falkingham, "B" Company, Mirfield. We hope they will have a happy tour of duty with us.

OFFICERS' MESS NOTES

After a slow start following annual camp late September found the pace hotting up somewhat for the officers of the mess in various ways. First there was a change in command of "A" Company at Halifax; Major Miles Tetlow resigned for business reasons and Captain Pat Hawes assumed command. This is probably the first time he has been able to "soldier" in his home town. We wish him all success in his new sphere and, to add to the congratulations, we include his recent promotion to major. A long wait, but it came in the end.

On October 5 the annual dinner of the 5th Dinner Club was held at St. Paul's Street. The attendance was slightly less than last year but, as the chairman, Colonel Keith Sykes, pointed out, several old members had passed away during the year. As usual, those present stood in silence to mark their respects. [Would a senior officer (T.A. serving) note that suede shoes and blues don't exactly blend!]

The attendance of officers at the Divisional rifle meeting was unavoidably poor this year. The captain of the team, Charles Curry, was unable to attend and Major Stanley Heaton stepped into the breach—not to cover himself with glory in any particular way! Captain Henry Crowther was the other loyal supporter. As a team our shooting had vastly improved and we climbed well up the ladder from previous years, which pleased Lt.-Colonel Gadd who attended on the Sunday along with Mrs. Gadd.

To offset poor support for an intended dance at one of the hotels in Huddersfield, a party was held in the mess at St. Paul's Street on Friday, October 13. The numbers attending were the highest ever for a party in the mess—60—but would not have been sufficient for a successful dance elsewhere. A well-laden table, groaning under curry, turkey, ham and chickens, set the seal on a most enjoyable evening.

Mixing business with pleasure, Brigade laid on a party on October 28 at York. This enabled officers to attend a week-end T.E.W.T. on Saturday and Sunday, and previous planning enabled wives to present themselves at the party early on Saturday

evening. A good party, by all accounts, but a slight shortage of drink, too, early in the proceedings! However, it enabled many people to meet socially who hadn't had the opportunity before.

The Battalion paraded on November 12 for Remembrance Day services in all parts of our little "empire," both morning and afternoon. Poor weather for parades didn't dampen the spirit, and the turn-out of old comrades—many of undetermined vintage—made those younger feel they would have been letting down the side had they not paraded.

The Divisional study week-end, which includes the Divisional dinner, was held at Nottingham on November 25 and 26 and was attended by Lt.-Colonel Gadd, Majors Moncrieff and Farrow and our Adjutant, Captain Campbell-Lamerton. Plenty of "meaty" substance, as usual, in the study period, which will be passed on to the Battalion officers during our own winter study Sundays.

It is pleasing to be able to welcome two new officer cadets, Raymond Garner from Skipton, and Denis Kenyon from Mirfield. We wish them well in their T.A. life. This means we now have three officer cadets coming along and helps to ensure continuity in officer establishment for the future.

GUEST NIGHT

Colonel Gilbert Howcroft was dined out on Friday, December 8, at St. Paul's Street and his successor Colonel Trevor Bentley was dined in.

The night was an historic event in the new West

Riding Battalion's diary: besides the dining in and out of the honorary colonels we had with us three adjutants of the 1914-18 war, they were:—

Colonel Sir William Fenton, Adjt. 4th Battalion.

Colonel Peter Longdon-Smith, Adjt. 6th Battalion.

Colonel Gilbert Howcroft, Adjt. 7th Battalion.

Unfortunately Colonel Keith Sykes, Adjt. of the 5th Battalion, was unable to attend through illness.

Among the other guests we were happy to welcome Brigadier "Bonzo" Miles, who was Colonel Gilbert's adjutant in 1939, Colonel Bill Hinchcliffe, Colonel George Taylor, Colonel Laurence, Major John Driver and Colonel Gilbert's son, John Howcroft. Unfortunately Major Hubert Coop was unable to come, owing to heavy snow in the lake district.

After a most enjoyable dinner, on which the mess staff must be congratulated for both meal and service, we got down to the speeches. The Commanding Officer proposed the health of Colonel Gilbert and thanked him for the many years he has helped the Battalion. Colonel Gilbert and Colonel Trevor made most amusing speeches; the inter-battalion rivalry was heavily weighted (due to numbers) towards the 7th Battalion!

Brigadier "Bonzo" Miles spoke on behalf of General Exham, thanking Colonel Gilbert for his many years of untiring service to the Duke's; he also made some excellent after-dinner jokes.

Colonel Gilbert presented the Mess with the

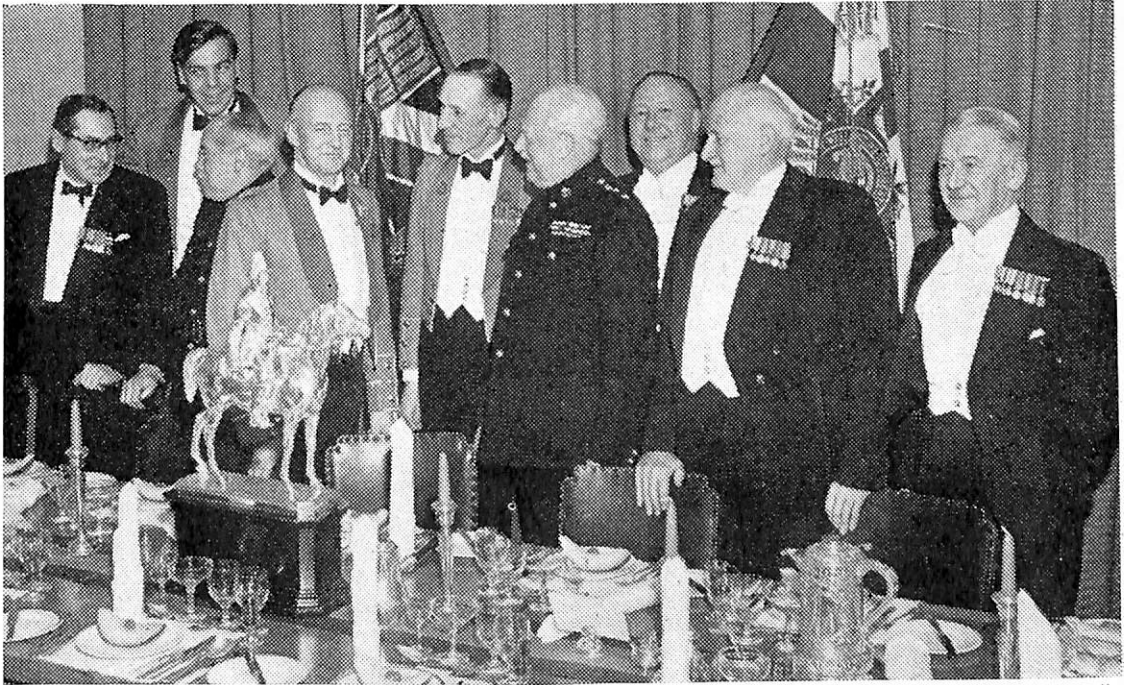


Photo by courtesy of "The Huddersfield Examiner"

From Left to Right:- Major J. E. Driver, M.B.E., T.D., Capt. M. J. Campbell-Lamerton, Col. N. T. Bentley, T.D., Lt.-Col. F. R. Gadd, E.R.D., T.D., Col. G. B. Howcroft, C.B.E., M.C., T.D., J.P., Brig. H. G. P. Miles, Col. Sir William Fenton, M.C., J.P., Col. F. Longden Smith, M.B.E., T.D., D.L., J.P.

Honorary and Commanding Officer's silver drinking tankard, especially fitted with a silver lid to prevent missiles from entering the contents.

The climax of the evening was Colonel Gilbert being ceremonially towed out on the Ashanti elephant by the C.O. and officers; he reached his car safely and drove away amongst fireworks, water bombs and the Mess singing "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow."

It was truly a memorable evening and a fitting tribute to Colonel Gilbert.

SERGEANTS' MESS

Owing to the large area of ground that the Battalion now covers it is very difficult to get all our mess members together either for social or military reasons. By a combination of both social and military requirements, however, we were able to arrange a W.O.s and Sergeants administration and conference day on Sunday, November 5. This consisted of conferences at various levels followed by a mess meeting and curry lunch. The curry lunch, which was very ably prepared by Sgt. Hannan and his cooks, was without doubt the most popular event of the day and it gave everyone a chance to get together for the first time since camp. Many tales were told, a few beers were drunk and, as one member said: "We must do this more often."

During September we were very pleased to welcome to the mess our old friends Bob Pearce, Tommy Woodcock, Spike Stringer and "Dolly" Dawson, all of whom were members of the 5th/7th D.W.R. Mess who were unfortunately made redundant on amalgamation. Suitably engraved tankards had been purchased from mess members' subscriptions and they were duly presented and filled up. We wish the four all good luck and hope they will continue to use the mess and their tankards whenever possible.

A small party from the mess attended the Regimental Memorial Service in York Minster on November 2, 1961, and were kindly invited to drinks and lunch at the Yorkshire Brigade Depot afterwards. This was a most enjoyable day and we are very grateful to the R.S.M. and members of the Yorkshire Brigade Depot W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess for their hospitality.

On our social evening held in the Huddersfield mess in November we were very pleased to receive a visit from the following ex-members of the 1st Battalion: John Holdsworth, Mac McCarthy, Jim Holt and Spike Thornton. As they all live in the area, we hope they will continue to visit us from time to time.

Remembrance Sunday saw much activity with parades in every town in the Battalion area. These, we feel sure, will be dealt with elsewhere and need not be detailed here. After the parade in Huddersfield we took the opportunity of inviting O.C.A. members on parade into the mess for a drink, and were honoured by a visit from Lt.-Colonel D. H. Hirst and Colonel J. B. Sugden. While on this point may we say that we are most keen that there should be a close liaison between the various branches of the O.C.A. and our messes,

and hope that all members of the O.C.A. will feel welcome to visit the mess at either Halifax or Huddersfield whenever they are able.

The last few months have once more brought changes amongst our permanent staff members. We say a fond farewell to Sgts. Spring and Wood who rejoined the 1st Battalion and to C.S.M. Erswell who, after the chill winds of the Pennines, has a desire for a warmer climate and is shortly leaving for Aden. We welcome C.S.M. Costello and Sgt. Falkingham, both of whom have recently returned from the 1st Battalion in Kenya. We trust that the "velvet tonsils" of Bill Costello are in good order for future social evenings.

Liar dice has become a popular game in the Huddersfield mess but some members, after successful nights at "Liar," are finding it increasingly difficult to convince their wives that they have been kept late on official duty.

It is reported that one P.S.I. is to give a series of lectures to his company on "Famous Battles," starting with the "Hook," but other reports that he is to follow Field Marshal Montgomery and General Horrocks on T.V. are said to be unfounded.

As Christmas draws near we are preparing for our mess dinner, which is to be held in early December, and for the various socials arranged either in Huddersfield or Halifax. We hear that the 1st Battalion will also be back in time for Christmas, so may we take this opportunity of saying "Welcome Home and a Happy Christmas."

TRAINING

Since annual camp, company strengths have been such that they can now do independent company training. This has improved the administrative system within the Battalion as the companies are responsible for their own administrative requirements and M.T. (They now have their own M.T. allocated to each T.A.C.)

The main activity has been showing the flag in our company areas to boost recruiting; so far this has proved quite successful.

"A" Company, "B" Company and "C" Company have held open nights in their drill halls, where young men can come in and do .22 shooting, see equipment and see how the T.A. work; then there is a social in the canteen with the result that the spectators go away feeling quite happy with life. So far "A" Company have got five new recruits and "B" Company eight in this way.

"D" Company under Major Colin Barnes had an open day up on Deer Hill range. A small advertisement was put in the *Huddersfield Examiner* and we expected about 20 people to turn up. To our alarm and surprise over 180 people came; fortunately the weather was excellent and they brought their families up for the day as well. They all had a chance of firing a weapon on the range and seeing the S.L.R. in action.

"D" Company must be congratulated on the way this show was handled; it was highly successful—although not so much for "D" Company itself, as most of the recruits from this open day have joined at Halifax and Huddersfield. The local people are still talking about it and numerous

enquiries have been made about another open day. The Commanding Officer has agreed to hold another as soon as the weather permits.

The Adjutant ran an adventure training exercise in October up on the Blackstone Edge moors, which proved great fun although quite exhausting. The exercise consisted of a cross-country compass march in three stages including fell climbing and canoeing and finishing with a .22 competition at St. Paul's Street. Each company sent a team of one sergeant and seven privates of whom one was a recruit; the P.S.I.s were umpires at the various check points.

The exercise started off in thick fog and the team captains had to rely on their compass entirely. The D.S. had visions of people ending up all over the place but were proved wrong; every team arrived at the check points within a 100 yds. either side. The teams covered seven miles, including fell climbing, in approximately two and a half hours which was excellent going.

The canoe racing on Cupworth Reservoir proved most entertaining—except for those who preferred swimming to canoeing! (Canoeing has become very popular and it is proposed to form a week-

end canoe club in the summer.) After the canoeing all the teams went back to St. Paul's Street for the .22 competition and a change of clothing.

The results were very close and keen inter-company rivalry was prominent throughout.

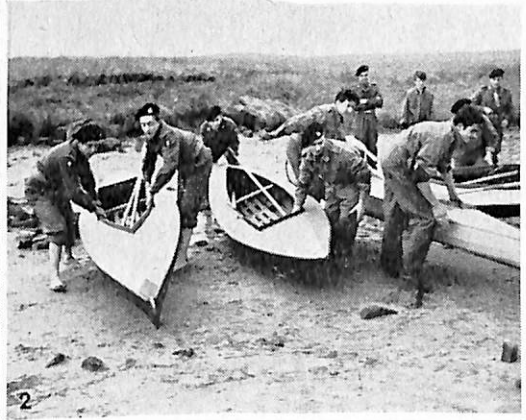
Results

Sgt. Hemmings	"A" Company team, 1st with 19 points	
Cpl. Taylor	"H.Q." Company team	} Equal
Cpl. Marshall	"B" Company team	
Cpl. Howard	"D" Company team	
Sgt. Hurst	"C" Company team, 5th with 12 points.	

More exercises of this nature are being held in the spring.

In October, 146 Infantry Brigade held an officers' T.E.W.T., near Harrogate, on the river crossing in nuclear war. It was well attended by the Battalion and has provided a large topic for discussion in the Mess over the past few weeks, although our main training theme for 1962 will be civil defence as our annual camp has been changed to Millom.

Adventure Training



1. Cpl. Taylor leading H.Q. Coy. Team in on the final Cross-country leg 2. Start of the Canoe Race
 3. Canoe Racing, Cupwith Reservoir 4. How not to Canoe

SHOOTING

The last few months have seen the climax of our open range shooting. On September 9 the Brigade Rifle Meeting was held at Hornsea, a new place for this unit. Here we finished a close third to 3rd P.W.O. and 4th K.O.Y.L.I. Individual congratulations are due to Cpl. Fossard, as runner-up to the Brigade champion shot, Cpl. Marshall, as equal second in the S.M.C. championship, and to our team of three L.M.G. pairs who were well ahead of all the others. We were knocked out in the final of the falling plate match, despite the sprinting capabilities of Lt. Edward Dye. Unfortunately the prize list did not allow for runners-up to be rewarded, so our marksmen came empty away. Even so, the match was a great success and light relief came from W.O.2 Frank Laherty who wanted to go "duck" shooting.

The week-end after this match blew a gale at Deer Hill, and so no further practice was had before the Divisional Shoot at Beckingham on September 23/24. Here, again, we had a great deal of success

in coming fifth and ninth with our two teams. This was particularly creditable as the first team fired two reserves, and the second team only just scraped enough men to fire at all. Two of our firers did very well individually, C/Sgt. Bacon finishing 12th and Cpl. Fossard joint 19th out of some 650 entries. Major Heaton took the team to this match, thereby putting a seal on many years of keen leadership.

The season has produced a few new faces; C/Sgt. "Mick" Reed, Cpl. Marshall, and others have been welcomed. We hope for even better results next year as a result of this new blood.

The Brigade Commander made a Special Order giving the following message: "I fully appreciate that members of unit shooting teams are giving up much of their own time and making great efforts to compete and practice for the various rifle meetings, and I wish to acknowledge their work." Lt.-Colonel Gadd has frequently voiced similar thoughts and these help to show the team members (and their wives) how much they are appreciated.

Obituary

Sir Lionel Wray Fox, C.B., M.C.

Sir Lionel Fox, who died on October 6, 1961, was a notable son of Halifax.

Born there in 1895 he was educated at Heath Grammar School and Hertford College, Oxford. On the outbreak of war in 1914 he joined the army, while still under 20 years of age, and served throughout its duration in the "Dukes." He attained the rank of captain, was awarded the M.C. and the Belgian Croix de Guerre and was mentioned in despatches.

On demobilisation he obtained a post in the Home Office and spent nearly all the rest of his life with the Prison Commission. He became a leading expert on penal systems and his wide experience, his clarity of mind and, above all, his humanity had a liberal and far-reaching influence on recent developments in the English prison and borstal systems. In recognition of his work he was created C.B. in 1948 and received a knighthood in 1953.

His funeral service was held at St. Andrew's Church, Toft.

Mrs. A. E. Hemblys

Mrs. Rose Hemblys died in the Royal Halifax Infirmary on December 16. She was the widow of the late C.S.M. A. E. (Bert) Hemblys and the mother of the late C.S.M. Albert Hemblys, who was killed in action on Banana Ridge, in April 1943, whilst serving with the 1st Battalion. Two other sons and three daughters survive her. The

record of the Hemblys family was given in IRON DUKE, Vol. X, on page 120; more than a dozen members of the family have served in the Regiment.

The funeral took place on December 20 and was attended by members of the 1st and 2nd Battalions' O.C.A. and their wives.

Captain C. A. W. Williams

Captain Williams, who died suddenly in hospital at Newbury on September 19, 1961, aged 79, joined the 5th Battalion D.W.R. in 1914 and served with them throughout that war. He was a member of the 5th Battalion O.C.A. from its inception and was chairman from 1937 to 1947.

He was works manager and a director of John Taylor's Ltd., fine cloth manufacturers, Colne Road Mills, from 1920 until his retirement in 1940. He lived at Honley until moving to Newbury soon after the last war. From 1940 to 1942 he served as adjutant of the Holme Valley Home Guard.

Captain M. A. S. Wood, M.C.

The death has taken place of Lt. Mark Alan Stanley Wood, M.C., of Athol Road, Heaton, Bradford, who was chairman of the 10th (Service) Battalion O.C.A. and a former honorary secretary of the Bradford Federation of ex-Service Associations. During the First World War he served with The West Yorkshire Regiment and (after being granted his commission) The Duke of Wellington's Regiment. It was with the 10th (S.) Bat-

talion of the latter regiment that he was awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous gallantry during a highly successful raid on Vaister Spur (Asiago Plateau, Italy) in August, 1918. For many years he was secretary of the Bradford Manufacturing Co. Ltd. He leaves a widow.

Mrs. R. E. Sugden

Mrs. Norah Sugden, who died on November 20, 1961, was the daughter of Mr. W. H. Wayman and the widow of Brigadier-General R. E. Sugden, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., T.D., to whom she was married at St. Jude's Church, Halifax, on October 5, 1910.

General Sugden, who joined the 4th Battalion in 1904, was one of the most outstanding Territorial officers of the 1914-18 War. Later he was Honorary Colonel of the 4th Battalion and Deputy Lieutenant for the West Riding. During this period he and Mrs. Sugden lived at Brighouse and all who served at Halifax between the wars will remember their hospitality and keen interest in regimental affairs.

Since the General's death in 1951, which was reported in Vol. XXVII of THE IRON DUKE, Mrs. Sugden has lived with her daughter, Mrs. Yvonne Maxwell, in Hove. It was there that she died.

A Visit to Oswestry

Mr. B. C. Wood, the author of this article, was commissioned into the Regiment in December 1940, after service with the K.R.R.C. (T.A.) and joined the 2nd Battalion in Delhi. He served with the Battalion in Burma and was adjutant from March to October 1942. From October 1942 until the end of the war he served in staff appointments. He is now, as the article shows, the headmaster of a school in Essex, and lives in Romford.

"M.T.O. will arrange transport to collect 18 Headmasters at the Wynnstay Hotel at 0850 hours."

So must have read orders posted at the Infantry Junior Leaders' Battalion, Oswestry, on October 3, because at this precise moment a collection of strange beings of various shapes, sizes, and dress emerged from the swing doors of the Wynnstay Hotel and eyed with looks of dismay the huge 3-ton troop carrier with open sides waiting in the road. To the amusement of passers by, mainly reluctant school children, the 18 ageing and somewhat corpulent educationalists were, with the able assistance of the youthful driver of the lorry, hoisted, pushed and levered aboard and deposited on the hard wooden seats.

Then began a journey completely diverse from our usual morning sedate run in the family saloon with heater on "boost." We were bumped, and swayed, as only military passengers can be. The fresh air at this unearthly hour was completely alien to our way of life, and it was with a certain amount of relief that we eventually climbed down

(backwards) from the vehicle to face a formidable but friendly reception committee stationed outside the Battalion Orderly Room.

Our spirits were somewhat restored when we were led into a reception room, heated by the usual tortoise stove to a temperature comparing favourably with the "fug" of a Head's Study. Here the C.O. welcomed us and gave us a brief but very comprehensive talk on the objects and aims of the Battalion, its organisation, and the type of boy it was desired, with our help, to enlist.

After our many questions had been fully and patiently answered we emerged once more into the keen air of an autumn morning and, in unmilitary order, began a tour of the camp. A glance at the printed itinerary showed an exacting timetable which had patently overlooked the walking rate of such beings as headmasters. Our guide soon discovered that we had no intention of matching his spanking pace and he was quickly reduced to the rate of the slowest. Every opportunity to stop and rest was seized upon, and it was soon evident that our enthusiastic guide would have to skip a large part of his tour.

From the swimming bath to the church was a tidy stretch and most were thankful to occupy the pews and support the kindly padre in successfully repelling the suggestion that church parade should be optional. The beautiful church is an excellent example of what can be achieved within the shell of an army hut.

Strangely enough our first sight of any boys was in the dining hall, as the gymnasium and signal room, like the swimming bath and church, were unoccupied due to the non-coinciding of training schedules. In the dining hall lunch was in full swing and under the excuse of talking to some of the boys we were able to rest our throbbing feet. It certainly pleased me to see the hearty way in which my income tax was being consumed. The menu was one fit for any hotel, and subtle questioning soon elicited the fact that this was normal fare and no special menu for the "consumption" of visitors. If only the War Office would extend a similar invitation to School Meals Organisers! A young second-termer between bites at sultana pudding admitted that the food was "All right." Napoleon would have been pleased that the War Office had at last heeded his advice.

A furtive glance at the programme showed that we had yet to visit the Guards Company before earning our own lunch. What can be said of the Guards Company lines? Simply that it was the "Guards". Boots that shone like patent leather, canoes and paddles in rigid rows at attention, and fire buckets filled with water fit to drink.

After such an exhausting morning it was with sighs of content that we sank into chairs, arm, officers for the use of, and gratefully accepted the offer of a most welcome half of bitter. An excellent lunch followed, although the choice of three main dishes was numerically far inferior to that offered in the boys' dining hall. As I ate, it crossed my mind that the words of the Officer's Dinner Call about "Officers' wives have pudding and pies" must surely hold no significance in the modern army.

Coffee and an all too short rest and away again, this time under the able guidance of the Unit Education Officer. We were deeply impressed with this side of the boys' training and frankly and openly envious of the room and facilities at the disposal of the Education Department. There is no doubt that the War Office has been generous in the way of equipment, and classes of 20 caused gasps of envy. Naturally we spent some time exploring and questioning on this home ground and were all agreed that a sound job was being done.

Returning to the orderly room via the parade ground we were left in no doubt that the military side of the boys' training was considered of paramount importance. Four or five squads were on parade, marching, counter-marching, and "suffering" the ministrations of drill sergeants with stoicism, and there was an unconscious squaring of our shoulders in case we too should incur the wrath of an over-enthusiastic Guards sergeant.

Time, however, was the enemy and our farewells, with anxious glances at watches, were all too brief; we had time merely to express our thanks before once more being rattled and jolted to catch the Birkenhead express to Paddington and so to East Anglia from whence all had come.

If any of the staff or boys read this—and I saw current copies of THE IRON DUKE in the cosy W.V.S. Fifty Four Club—may I say thank you for the taste of fresh air, hospitality, and the opportunity of escaping from school routine for two days.

My only regret—I saw no "Dukes." There were

boys there but, alas, time was too short. I did understand, though, that Major Hoppe was expected shortly to add his "weight" to an excellent venture.
B.C.W.

From the "London Gazette"

Supplements dated August 29 to November 21, 1961

WAR OFFICE

REGULAR ARMY

Col. G. F. Upjohn, C.B.E., to be Brig., Aug. 31, 1961.

Lt.-Col. L. B. B. Beuttler, O.B.E., from D.W.R. (Emp. List I) to be Col., May 29, 1961.

D.W.R.

REGULAR ARMY

Officer Cadet Peter Digby Denis John Andrews from the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, to be 2nd Lt., July 29, 1961.

Major J. L. Streatfeild, M.C., retires on retired pay, Oct. 29, 1961, under the terms of Army Order 139/57.

Capt. H. A. J. W. Stacpoole, M.C., retires, receiving a gratuity, Sept. 1, 1961.

Short Service Commn.

Cadet David Robin Dare Newell to be 2nd Lt., July 29, 1961. (Direct Entry.)

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Class III

Lt. I. A. Addison from A.E. Res. of Offrs., Nat. Serv. List, to be Lt., Sept. 15, 1961.

ARMY EMERGENCY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

National Service List

2nd Lt. D. A. B. Bardsley, from Reg. Army Nat. Serv. List, to be 2nd Lt., Aug. 30, 1961, with seniority April 2, 1960.

TERRITORIAL ARMY

The Queen has been graciously pleased to confer the award of the Territorial Efficiency Decoration upon: Maj. H. S. Heaton and Capt. (Hon. Maj.) G. A. Fontes (Retired).

Lt. (Actg. Capt.) A. E. Hutchinson to be Capt., Aug. 31, 1961, with seniority July 18, 1959.

Capt. P. H. Haws to be Maj., Sept. 30, 1961.

TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Lt. G. F. Naylor from Active List to be Lt., June 16, 1961.

The following, having exceeded the age limit, cease to belong to the T.A. Res. of Offrs., retaining their hon. rank: Capt. (Hon. Maj.) C. Hill, Sept. 20, 1961; Capt. (Hon. Maj.) T. W. Hibbert, Nov. 8, 1961; Lt. (Hon. Capt.) F. Hurst, Nov. 8, 1961.

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WRITE or CALL

Old Comrades

THE LONDON BRANCH

The annual dinner of the London and Home Counties Branch of the Regimental Association will be held on Saturday, May 12, 1962.

Place: The Chevrons Club, 3 Dorset Square, N.W.1 (two minutes' walk from Baker Street tube station).

Meet at 7.30 for 8 p.m.

Tickets, price 12s. 6d., obtainable (from March 1 to April 30) from the secretary, Mr. B. Hearsum, 198 Wrythe Lane, Carshalton, Surrey.

Remembrance Day

The London and Home Counties Branch of the Regimental Association assembled at the Regimental Plot in the "Field of Remembrance" at Westminster for the Armistice Service held on Remembrance Sunday, November 12, to pay homage to the nation's fallen. Mr. Temple (Branch Chairman) had arranged the lay-out of the plot, and all units of the Regiment had a wreath-cross planted. There were also many individual crosses.

There was a far better turn-out than last year, but we were sorry that Major-General Roy Exham was admitted to hospital on the Monday previous, and thus could not keep his promise to be with us. However, there were approximately 20 members at the "Dukes" plot, and Captain R. H. D. Bolton, standing in for General Exham, led the branch in silent prayer during the two minutes' silence.

Among those present were Colonel Bishop, Lt.-Colonel Skelsey, Captain Bolton, Messrs. Temple, Hearsum, Ambler, Hartwell, Benson, Hammond, Henn, Guy, Sykes, Richards, Mr. and Mrs. Woods and Mrs. King. Lt.-Colonel Dalrymple and Major Lowe sent apologies for non-attendance.

After the service the branch's annual meeting was held in the Westminster Dragoons' Drill Hall. The report and accounts for the year ending October 30, 1961, were read. It was proposed by Mr. Temple and seconded by Mr. Benson that the accounts be approved. Captain Bolton also proposed a vote of thanks to the secretary and treasurer for the work he had put in for the branch over the past four years. This proposal was seconded and both motions were passed unanimously.

6th BATTALION O.C.A.

The annual general meeting of the 6th Battalion O.C.A. was held at the Devonshire Hotel, Skipton, on Saturday, October 7, 1961. The report and accounts for the year ended June 30, 1961, were read and approved. The following officers were re-elected.

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

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

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

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer: Captain H. J. Lawson, 59 Shortbank Road, Skipton, Yorkshire.

The meeting was followed by the annual reunion dinner, at which Colonel Longden Smith

presided, and which was attended by 83 members and guests.

The chief guests were Lt.-Colonel F. R. Gadd, E.R.D., T.D., Commanding Officer of the West Riding Battalion, and Major D. R. Siddall, M.B.E., T.D., Officer Commanding "C" Company, the West Riding Battalion.

Colonel Longden Smith proposed the loyal toast and Major J. M. Horsfall proposed the toast of the West Riding Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, to which Colonel Gadd responded.

9th BATTALION (146 R.A.C.)

14th ANNUAL REUNION DINNER

The reunion dinner was again held at the Victoria Hotel, Leeds, the date, later than usual, being November 4.

We were very fortunate that this date coincided with a visit of the Colonel of the Regiment to Yorkshire and we were very honoured to have him as our guest.

It was a great pleasure also to have Lt.-Colonel F. P. A. Woods and Lt.-Colonel R. L. Agnew, who had both commanded the Battalion.

The dinner was a great success, over 70 members attending.

The Colonel of the Regiment recalled the glorious history of the 9th Battalion in the 1914-18 War and the role the 9th Battalion had played in the 1939-45 War. Lt.-Colonel Woods recalled the very high morale and comradeship which had been maintained throughout the life of the 9th Battalion during the

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Photo: Mr. J. W. Collier Helmsley

The Colonel of the Regiment addressing Old Comrades at the 9th Battalion Dinner
at the top table L to R are:—Capt. T. Moore (*Secretary 9th Bn. O.C.A.*), **Lt.-Col. F. P. A. Woods,**
General Exham and Lt.-Col. R. L. Agnew

1939-45 era. The members present were reminded of the outstanding contribution which the Colonel of the Regiment had given during the last war. The pleasure given to the members present by Major-General Exham's visit was expressed by Lt.-Colonel Agnew.

Harry Brunskill, with his well-known wit, recalled many past incidents before proposing the toast of "Absent Friends."

Amongst the notable guests were Sidney Code and Major Pat Dawney.

The deaths of Jimmy Clark, G. Haines and L. Pedley were noted with regret.

The following apologies for absence were received: "Cocky" Haslock, Sir Jocelyn Simon, Alex Luhrs, Arthur Spong, Alistair Scott-Johnson, John Bilham, Tony Verity, Tom Dickson, Jim Stockley, Phil Burt, F. W. S. Richardson and A. Griffiths.

We regret that the name and address of the Hon. Secretary of the 9th Battalion (R.A.C.) O.C.A. was given wrongly in the last number. The correct version is:

Captain T. Moore, 10 Bartley Road, Northenden, Manchester, 22.

10th (SERVICE) BATTALION REUNION

Like its predecessors, the 22nd Annual Reunion Dinner of the 10th (Service) Battalion O.C.A. has passed into history. It was held at the Queen Hotel, Bradford, on Saturday, October 7, 1961, and was attended by 43 members and guests. This is the smallest attendance the Association has ever had, but it is realised that, as the O.C.A. is con-

finied strictly to officers and men who served with the Battalion between 1914 and 1919, it is inevitable that numbers should gradually decline. At the annual meeting preceding the dinner, however, it was enthusiastically agreed that the possibility of ending the reunions should not be mentioned again "until our numbers drop below 11."

Lt. E. L. M. Lumb (Hipperholme) presided in the absence, through ill-health, of the Association's Chairman (Lt. M. A. S. Wood, M.C., of Bradford) and others present included the Lord Mayor of Bradford (Councillor B. W. Berry)—who had his first Army experience at Wellesley Barracks during the First World War—Lt.-Colonel D. J. Stewart (representing Regimental H.Q.), Mr. S. E. Code (Secretary of the Regimental Association), Captains R. S. S. Ingram, R. Bolton, M.C., and S. Currington (Surrey), Lt. C. W. Wildy (Surrey), Lt. John Davis, M.M. (Kent), Captain H. W. Todd, M.C. (Surrey), a former padre of the Battalion, and members from Bradford, Leeds, Huddersfield, Halifax, Keighley, Skipton, Sheffield, Earby, Spensborough and Morecambe.

There was only one toast, other than those to Her Majesty and in memory of officers and men of the Battalion who were killed during the War or had died since, and that was to the Association. It was proposed by the Lord Mayor who said his recollection of joining the army and going to Halifax made him think of the famous Duke of York who marched his men up the hill and down again, for he (Councillor Berry) marched up to Wellesley Barracks and a day or two later marched down again on being transferred on draft to the R.A. in Newcastle. Members of the Association were getting older every year but it was interesting

to know that men who were associated in the Services had kept together for no less than 47 years. He had seen some particulars of the service of the 10th Battalion during the Great War, and, though he was not present at some of the French villages when the Battalion were, he was there at some time during the War. There was hardly a place-name in the history of the Battalion which did not conjure up some wartime memory for him.

The finest thing which came out of the War, he thought, was the sense of comradeship developed between man and man. Several other things were not so pleasant—the terrible winters in France, the suffering and hardship endured by the men, the fact that they were often hungry and the experience of always being lousey. He had never been able to understand why, with all our brains and scientists, we had never been able to find a cure for the greatest irritation the troops had to put up with—the common louse. These hardships, however, developed a wonderful sense of comradeship which had endured over the years. He was not crabbing the younger generation when he said that, from his own experience in more than one field, they did not seem to possess that sense of getting together and maintaining the old bonds of comradeship which men of the First World War had. The achievements of the 10th Battalion had been gained principally by men from Yorkshire and he thought they could fairly be claimed to have been gained by Yorkshire courage and grit.

Lt. Lumb responded. While nobody wished to decry young people of today, he said, he thought that what was happening to so many of them showed that many were living in a state of ungodliness and irresponsibility. He hoped that as time passed people of every nation would see more eye to eye and that throughout the world peace would reign, free from all the dangers of war.

Mr. Joseph Newell, Chairman of the Bradford Branch of the Regimental Association—who was a guest of the O.C.A.—gave an invitation to any member of the 10th Battalion to attend the fortnightly social evenings of the Branch held in Belle Vue Barracks, Bradford.

At the annual meeting the officers and committee were re-elected, and before that a wreath was laid on the Cenotaph in Victoria Square, Bradford, in memory of past members of the Battalion.

BRADFORD AND DISTRICT BRANCH

The evening of September 2 proved a very enjoyable one for about 40 members and wives, who were guests of the Halifax Branch at the Drill Hall, Prescott Street. Messrs. Boon, Wadd and Stringer (and maybe others) put in some hard work, the result being a very successful function which was highlighted by the excellent refreshments prepared by the ladies of the Halifax Branch.

A party of 44 attended the Regimental Association's annual reunion dinner at Halifax, which proved to be a very convivial and stimulating experience. Why the Powers-That-Be spend time and money on training "Ever-Readies" is beyond me! At a reunion one needs hardly blink and it's: "I don't mind if I do—mine's a pint."

October 14 found us playing host to branches from Halifax, Huddersfield, Leeds, Keighley and South Elmsall. We were honoured by an excellent "turn-up" by these branches and, in the words of the General Secretary, the function developed into a "chota reunion." Our expected maximum attendance of 160 was exceeded, and extra seating, with consequent re-arrangement and fitting-in, created work which, in the circumstances, was cheerfully undertaken. Dancing and general sociability combined to make the event a huge success. We look forward to more such "get-togethers"; whether as hosts or guests is immaterial.

Attendance at fortnightly branch meetings maintains a good average, and the committee, recently strengthened by the inclusion of Jack Wardle and Jackie Stead, have now directed their efforts and funds toward the provision of amenities as a means of attracting more members more often.

New members include J. Goldsbrough, T. J. Duggan, H. Fox and H. Artist, whom we are pleased to welcome.

It is regretted that one of our stalwarts, Mr. F. Gleadow, M.C., M.M., has been unable to join us recently due to illness; we look forward to his early recovery.

ALL SAINTS' DAY

A party of Old Comrades and their wives from the West Riding attended the annual All Saints' Day service in York Minster on Thursday, November 2.

A coach was provided to take the party, leaving Halifax at 8.30 a.m., with pick-up points in Bradford and Leeds, and arriving at York Minster at about 10.40 a.m.

After a fine, and thoroughly enjoyable, service, the party was taken to the sergeants' mess at the Yorkshire Brigade Depot where they had been invited by the R.S.M. and members of the mess. They were royally entertained in the manner which one expects from the backbone of a good unit and a splendid lunch was provided for which we thank the R.S.M., mess members and cook staff.

The Colonel of the Regiment, accompanied by Major Jones-Stamp, visited the mess and had a few words with everybody. This was much appreciated, particularly by those who had not attended a ceremony of this sort before.

The party left for the return journey at 3 p.m. and, after a short stay in York, were on their way homewards by 5 p.m. The following attended:

From Halifax: Mr. and Mrs. T. McMahon, Mr. and Mrs. J. Yaxley, Mr. and Mrs. T. Sugden, Mr. and Mrs. A. Whitaker.

From Huddersfield: Mr. G. Machen, Mr. J. J. Addey.

From Bradford: Mr. J. Newall.

From Leeds: Mr. G. H. Jones, Major Laverack, Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, Mr. F. A. Simpson, Mr. W. H. Wilson, Mr. H. Mitchell, and Mrs. Maud Newton (widow of the late Sgt. Newton).

From Doncaster: Mr. C. H. Pollard.

From Wakefield: Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Whitaker.

A RECRUITING TRIP IN SARAWAK

By R.Q.M.S. J. Imray

Pick up any newspaper and you will find some reference to the difficulty of getting enough recruits for the Army and accounts of the propaganda and gimmicks employed to interest the public in general and likely young men in particular.

In the Sarawak Rangers we need no gimmicks or propaganda. We can get all the recruits we want.

Before I explain how, here is a brief account of the Sarawak Rangers:

The title "Sarawak Rangers" was introduced in 1872 but an armed force had been maintained in Kuching since 1862.

For 60 years the main tasks of the Sarawak Rangers were the eradication of Chinese secret societies and efforts to subjugate rebellious primitive tribesmen who opposed the White Rajah, Brooke, and indulged in head hunting.

The Rangers grew to battalion strength and, in the early part of this century, included an artillery company and a regimental band (the same marches are used today).

It was not until the Malayan emergency that they were called on to serve overseas. Then groups of 30 trackers were attached to Commonwealth units in Malaya.

In 1960 the old Sarawak Rangers were disbanded and a new unit, with the same name, was formed as part of the British Army with the task of providing specialists in the art of tracking. The new unit can be called on to serve anywhere in the world.

In the early days of the Rangers recruiting was not confined to natives of Sarawak; drafts of Indians and Javanese were brought in on more than one occasion. This was because the various Dyak tribes, which were later to provide the chief source of recruitment, were still happily engaged in head hunting and armed opposition to the state. Now only Ibans, the Sea Dyaks, are recruited; over 1,000 of them have already served in Malaya.

The regimental motto is "Agi Idup Agi Ngelaban" which means literally "While there is life there is fight." It is derived from the Brooke family motto, "Whilst there is life there is hope."

Now, here is how we get the recruits.

Photographs of army scenes, showing the Sarawak Rangers using their weapons and training their dogs, are sent to the District Officers of the area in Sarawak where we intend to recruit. The chiefs, or *penghulus*, are told that a recruiting team is coming and are asked to produce a number of potential recruits depending on the size of each chief's longhouse.

Last April I was one of a team that went to the Second Division of Sarawak to obtain 57 recruits. We required trackers, dog handlers, mule leaders and about eight men for administrative jobs. The team consisted of:

Major D. L. Bruce-Merrie, M.C. (in command)

Major J. P. Crowley, R.A.M.C.

Captain M. W. Bolton, R.E.

R.Q.M.S. J. Imray

Sgt. J. G. Brooks (dog handler)

Sgt. Ningkam anak Kasaw (tracker N.C.O.)

L/Cpl. Tom anak Dap (interpreter)

(The C.O. had decided that a spell away from my office would do me good.)

We left Singapore Airport at about 10 a.m. and arrived at Kuching, the capital, at 12 noon. We were met by the Governor's private secretary and by Press photographers and were given treatment generally given to V.I.P.s—which we were, of course.

As troops are few and far between in Sarawak, Army barracks are non-existent, so the British were housed at the Aurora Hotel and the two Iban N.C.O.s lodged at the police barracks.

For the first four days the C.O. and Captain Bolton were busy giving interviews to the Press and Radio Sarawak, and also interviewing Ibans with some education for the administrative jobs such as schoolmaster, store-keeper, farrier, etc. Sgt. Ningkam and L/Cpl. Tom assisted where

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required, but the two British N.C.O.s were told to "go see" Kuching and enjoy themselves pending the move to a place called Simanggang where we expected to start our job in earnest. It was a pleasant period, staying in a first-class hotel and seeing the sights at the Army's expense.

We were told to buy food for the journey to Simanggang on a government launch, the *Menaul*; the journey would be of 10 hours' duration and we would have to look after ourselves on board; there was a galley with an electric stove and crockery and utensils provided. So we laid in enough food for a seige and prepared for a pleasant trip up the river to our next big town. We had to enter the South China Sea to get to the mouth of our river and reached this, near a small island, not before time. One or two of the eight recruits we were taking with us were beginning to feel the effects; I was feeling a bit "Bay of Biscay" myself.

Going up the river, we saw our first longhouse. These houses, the usual abode of the Ibans, the people we were to recruit from, are built without nails or any modern means—all bamboo and rattan fastenings. They appeared very long, whole villages living in one house. Later we were all privileged to stay in one, as I will relate.

We reached Simanggang at about 4 p.m. Standing at the jetty were about six Europeans, the District Officer amongst them, and a party of Ibans, dressed in native style, who knew lots of our soldiers in Malaya. These men were potential recruits. Their dress consisted of a decorative cloth wound around their waist. It was about 10 inches wide, allowing for an apron at the front and back. Their bodies were all tattooed; one laddie even had his eyebrows shaved off and new ones tattooed on in their place. They were cheerful lads and soon let us see we were welcome in their country. Some of them wore their hair long, like a woman, which is an old form of Iban style.

The night was spent at Simanggang and next morning the three officers did a lot of testing recruits for intelligence and physical fitness. The ones that passed then joined us for the trip to a place called Lubok Antu (which means the "Ghost of the River").

The journey to Lubok Antu was by native *prau* or canoe. We had one long boat with all our baggage and the recruits who had passed the preliminary tests. They had to travel on with us to pass their tracking tests, without which they would not be accepted. Again we had to take our own food, but this time we were more sensible and did not waste money on non-essentials. We had cans of beer and spam and bread rolls, which were ideal without cooking facilities.

The scenery to Lubok Antu was jungle and now and then a longhouse appeared. Women and children would rush to the water's edge to be greeted by our Iban recruits. What they said or what the occupants of the longhouses replied I do not know, but I expect it was something similar to the usual one of Port Said: "Get your knees brown."

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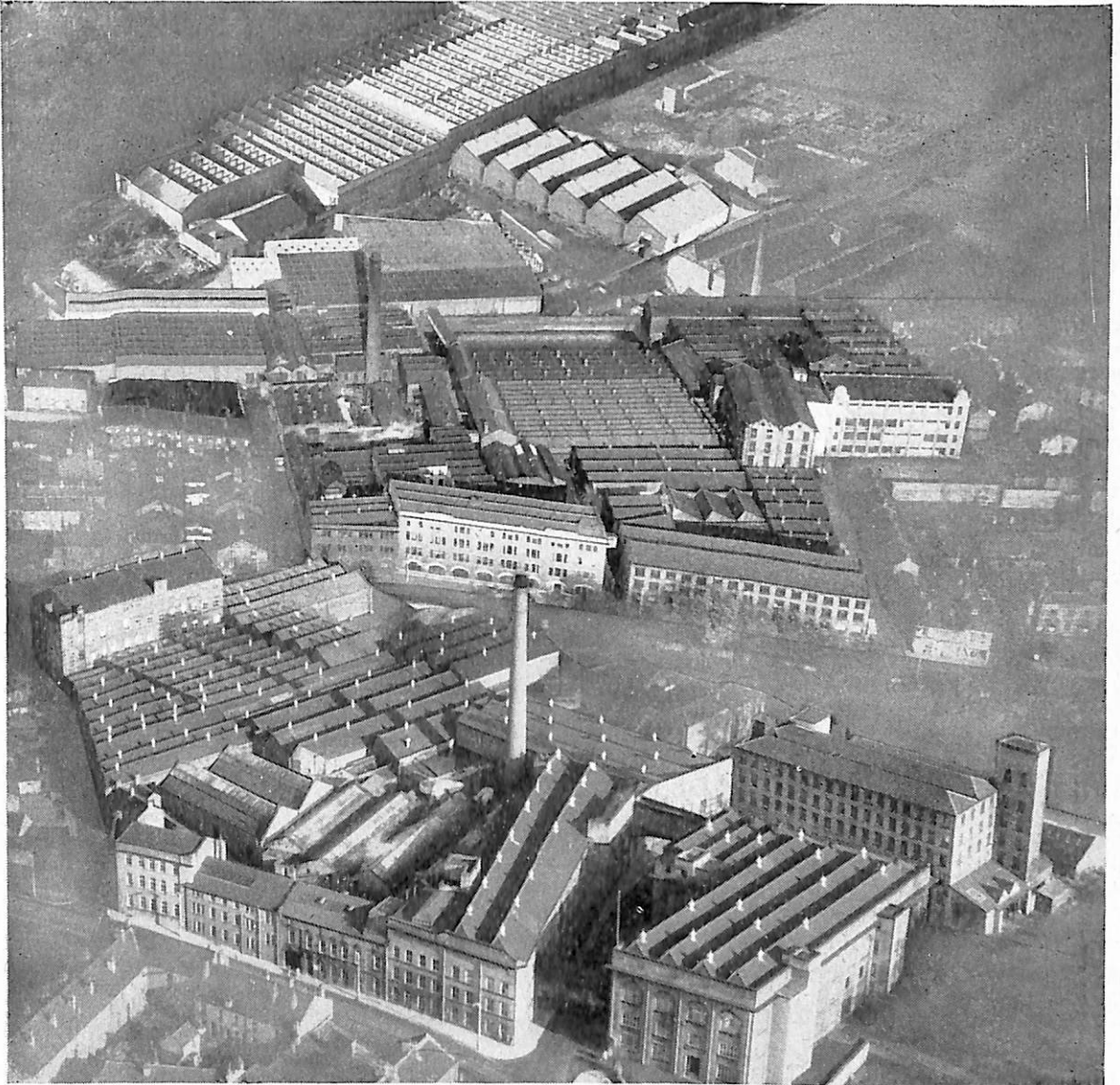
The District Officer met us at Ilkililli, the half-way stage to our destination. He was an ex-officer of the Gordon Highlanders and the only European in that vast area. He informed us that we still had four hours to go and, as the river was dangerous at night due to floating logs, he led the way in his launch and we followed in our outboard-motor canoe.

Lubok Antu was a small village to a European but to the Ibans it is quite a metropolis and is the place where the longhouse inhabitants do their shopping and sightseeing. There was one small street with about 12 shops, run by Chinese, and all selling the same things.

The District Officer put up the officers. The four N.C.O.s, Iban and British, were given a P.W.D. bungalow to stay in. We had a Moslem cook who had been told he had to cook for four Ibans and so had prepared an Iban meal. Very tasty, but too greasy for my palate, but I consoled myself that I could always go to the bazaar and buy some European food. The next day the cook made eggs swimming in grease; lunch was a curry—again too much fat. It was good, but my constitution just could not take the grease. Sgt. Brooks was enjoying it and asking for more. That made me a little jealous. I thought of "The Jungle is Neutral," and decided my friend would have been ideal for that life; I would have been a drag on the organisation. I went to the bazaar and found there was no European food in the place—the D.O. had to get his from Simanggang. However, we did have a stock of potatoes and some tea and, with the aid of Quaker Oats, I managed to survive. The next day we started enlisting the recruits.

The intelligence tests consisted of coloured bricks. The recruit had to place them in shapes according to a diagram in front of him. Reds against blues and chevrons of blue in red and yellow. Simple to us, but terribly hard for uneducated native lads who had never been to school. If they passed that test they went on to the pictorial tests—fitting patterns inside a complete picture, whorls and dots and lines having to match. If they passed that the C.O. gave them a ticket to proceed to the M.O. who gave them a medical. If they were medically fit they waited for their tracking test.

The *penghulus* had been asked to bring in 100



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men from six longhouses. Instead they brought about 600, so that the C.O.'s work was cut out giving intelligence tests and he could not help with the tracking. Captain Bolton and Sgt. Ningkam had to go ahead with the tracking tests until the C.O. was ready.

The tests were carried out as follows. Sgt. Brooks and one of the recruits went into the jungle as Communist terrorists. After an interval one of the potential recruits followed with the testers. If he lost the track Sgt. Ningkam found it again.

As part of my change-of-air cure I was detailed to bring on the rest of the recruits behind the testers. The first hour or so was hard going and I sweated gallons. I had been told to pack up when I had had enough. Two factors stopped me, my pride—I have never been known to fall out—and the fact that I was not sure if I would be able to find my way back. However, it was not too bad and the second day I spent ten hours in the jungle and never felt a thing. I thought it was not too bad for a man of fifty.

As some of these recruits knew a little English it was decided to have our own form of pass marks, so that they would not be able to tell whether they had passed or failed. This was essential, as the C.O. was prepared to take some mediocre trackers as mule and pony handlers. If men knew they had failed they might lose heart and go away; if they knew they had passed they might get big-headed. So we kept them guessing till we made our final selection.

Eventually the C.O. was free and he retested any tracker who had been graded worse than "B." For this he took Bundan and Dunggau, the recruit with the tattooed eyebrows. I followed on. The language of the Ibans is not supposed to be hard, but owing to having an English-speaking staff I have found difficulty in picking it up. Two words I will never forget, however, are "Bisi" ("Have you got it") and "Nadai" ("No"). For about three days I travelled through the jungle and, as a recruit got stuck, the C.O. said "Bisi" and the answer came back either "Bisi" or "Nadai." The C.O. is no mean tracker himself and when the answer was "Nadai" he looked around and we were soon on our way again.

Some of the trackers were so poor that the C.O. got me to act as the terrorist, knowing that I would make a track like an elephant. When some could not find my track he knew they were out as trackers and so reserved them as pony and mule handlers if their intelligence quota was high.

For the last test of all we lit a fire with old wood and ferns and also got some old firewood and placed it in position, as if some terrorist had left it. The recruits had to say how long it was since the fire had been out, an essential thing to know when tracking. This was the final test before choosing the 57 recruits we wanted. Next morning we embarked in the same type of canoe for Simanggang where the recruits were to be x-rayed by Major Crowdy, our Medical Officer.

(To be continued)

OFFICERS' CAP BADGE

*We have received the following letter from H.Q.
Yorkshire Brigade*

1. The final prototype of the new officers' cap badge in enamel has come from Gaunts. It is approved by the Council of Colonels, incorporating the modifications then suggested. It is not proposed to circulate the final prototype as this will mean further delay. A firm order for quantity production is being placed with Gaunts and it is hoped that the badge will be taken into use soon. Details of distribution will be sent later.

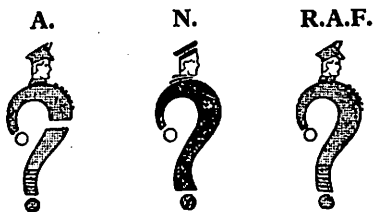
2. Please note that the method of attaching the new badge to the cap is by a metal tongue which slips into a small metal slot sewn onto the cap or into a pocket cut into the cap material. The badge will not be made with metal eyelets held in place by a split pin at the back. Officers having the present badge with the latter system of fixing will find that the new badge, properly positioned with the tongue, covers up the holes used to secure the other type of badge.

3. Would R.H.Q. please mention this matter in the next editions of regimental journals, so that E.R.E. officers are aware of what is happening. They will have to take the new badge into use at the same time as officers serving with their own regiment.

Major, D.A.A.G.,
H.Q., Yorkshire Brigade.

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Brigadiers

BUNBURY, F. R. St. P., C.B.E., D.S.O., D.A.G., H.Q., B.A.O.R.
UPJOHN, G. F., C.B.E., Provost Marshal, War Office.

Colonels

COUSENS, P. G. L., Comdt., Adv. Base, B.A.O.R.
BEUTTLER, L. B. B., O.B.E., A.A.G. (C.R.L.), H.Q., Southern Command.

Lieutenant-Colonels

DAVIDSON, J., A.A. and Q.M.G., East Africa Command (to be Garrison Commander, Munchen-Gladbach).
MORAN, P. P. DE LA H., G.S.O.1 (Plans), B.F.A.P. (to be Commander 150 Inf. Bde. (T.A.))
FIRTH, A. D., M.B.E., M.C., C.O. 1st D.W.R.
LE MESSURIER, H. S., Deputy Commandant, The Yorkshire Bde. and Commanding The Yorkshire Bde. Depot (assumes appointment February 1, 1962).

Majors

GRIEVE, C. F., D.O., P.T., Aldershot District.
JONES-STAMP, D. S. D. B., D.A.A.G., The Yorkshire Brigade.
INCE, R. H., G.S.O.2, Royal Nigerian Army.
HALL, P. B., D.A.Q.M.G., Mid-West District, Shrewsbury.
KAVANAGH, A. B. M., M.C. (T/Lt.-Colonel), Comdg. 3rd Queen's Own Nigeria Regt.
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NICHOLSON, R. W., Directorate of Munitions (to be T.S.O.1, R.S.A. Factory, Enfield, T/Lt.-Colonel).
KILNER, B. M., T.D., D.A.Q.M.G., East Africa Command.
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DUNN, S. G., for P.R., F.A.R.E.L.F.
BROWN, K. W., H.Q., Salisbury Plain District.
ISLES, D. E., 1st D.W.R.
BLAKEY, W., 1st D.W.R.
ROBERTSON, W. F. C. 1st D.W.R. (for West Riding Bn.).
HARDY, E. M. P., R.M.C.S., Shrivvenham.
SHUTTLEWORTH, D. W., G.S.O.2 (S.D.), H.Q., Northern Command.

Captains

WOOD, D. H. (T/Major), 1st D.W.R.
COWELL, J. D. P., S.C., "A," H.Q. Libya and Tripolitania.
HARMS, R. M., M.C., 1st D.W.R.
HOPPE, P. B. L., Infantry Junior Leaders' Bn., Oswestry.
NAUGHTON, J. N. H., Liaison Officer to Soviet C.-in-C.'s Mission to H.Q., B.A.O.R.
NEWTON, J. M., 1st D.W.R.

HUXTABLE, C. R., Instructor, Sigs. Wing, School of Infantry.

DASENT, E. J. H., 1st D.W.R.
MITCHELL, P. A., Staff College, Shrivvenham.
MILLER, C. D. D'E., Instructor, Mons (O.C.S.) (for 1st D.W.R. April 1962).
GILBERT-SMITH, D. S., M.C., 22nd S.A.S.
PELL, J. E., Yorkshire Bde. Depot.
SOUTHERST, R. G., 1st D.W.R. (for transfer to Para.).
LUPTON, T. D., 1st D.W.R.
CAMPBELL-LAMERTON, M. J., West Riding Bn. (for Recruiting Liaison Officer).
BERRY, S. A., 1st D.W.R.
CUMBERLEGE, J. R. P., Adjutant, 1st D.W.R.

Subalterns

GREENWAY, J. B. K., A.D.C. to G.O.C.in-C. Southern Command.
HUFFAM, R., Instructor, M.D.C., Milom (for 1st D.W.R., April 1962).
STEVENS, R. L., A.D.C. to G.O.C., 4th Div.
BRAY, M. R. N., 1st D.W.R.
MARSAY, D., 1st D.W.R. (for W. India Regiment).
PUGH, D. M., 1st D.W.R.
CUMBERLEGE, C. R., 1st D.W.R.
CHARLESWORTH, F. W., 1st D.W.R.
CAMPBELL-LAMERTON, R. D., Brigade Depot.
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SUMMERS, M. W., 1st D.W.R.
BELLAMY, G. R., R.M.C.S., Shrivvenham.
STACPOOLE, M. G. L. M., 1st D.W.R.
ANDREWS, P. D. D. J., 1st D.W.R.

Quartermasters

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