

No.131 January 1964



THE IRON DUKE

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

THE IRON DUKE

The Regimental Magazine of

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

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



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

Vol. XL

JANUARY 1964

No. 131

BUSINESS NOTES

Published Quarterly — January, April, July and October

Annual Subscription—10s. (6s. for serving soldiers under the rank of W.O.) payable in advance to the Business Manager on February 1.

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

Editor: COLONEL R. G. TURNER,
12A MADINGLEY ROAD,
CAMBRIDGE
TEL.: 50923

Business Manager: LT.-COL. W. SKELSEY, M.B.E.,
WELLESLEY BARRACKS,
HALIFAX

Copy for the April 1964 issue should reach the Editor by March 1, 1964

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“Dressed for the Alma”

THE REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

Recent Accessions

The Frontispiece

The reproduction (on the opposite page) is of a small oil painting acquired this year by the Bankfield Museum. It is entitled "Colour Sgt. G. Spense, dressed for The Alma." In the original it can be seen that Spense belonged to the Light Company as he wears a green ball tuft on his shako. He wears wings on each shoulder to indicate that he belongs to a flank company. He shows the "honourable badge" of a colour sergeant on his right arm; this consists of one thick gold chevron surmounted by crossed swords and a union flag. As a flank company N.C.O. he wears the normal chevrons of a sergeant on his left arm. On his water bottle can be seen the letters "L.I." for Light Infantry, "33 R," and the figures "1882," his army number.

The career of George Spense was not without interest. He was born in Leeds in 1818 and became a spindle forger. In 1838 he enlisted in the 6th Foot — now The Royal Warwickshire Fusiliers. He reached the rank of sergeant but, on being court martialled on January 25, 1842, was reduced to private. His offence was "Drunk in Barracks."

In January, 1845, he transferred to the 33rd Foot, becoming a corporal in 1851 and a sergeant in 1853. He was promoted colour sergeant in August, 1854, a month before the battle of the Alma in which he was wounded. In February, 1856 he became the Quartermaster Sergeant of the Regiment—there was only one in those days. In December, 1859, having completed time for pension, he was discharged at Fermoy, giving his intended place of residence as "With 1st York Militia."

Waterloo Medal

A number of other accessions have been received by the Museum recently.

Perhaps the most interesting is the Waterloo medal of Lieutenant Samuel Alexander Pagan, 33rd Regiment. This was bequeathed to the Regiment by the late Miss Pagan, who was his grand-daughter, showing a remarkable span of three generations from 1815 to 1963.

Lieutenant Pagan was wounded at Waterloo. In his "Recollections of Waterloo," F. H. Pattison describes the incident. At a stage in the battle the 33rd were ordered to lie down in square to avoid the enemy artillery fire. "When in this prostrate position, it so happened that Lieutenant Pagan, Captain Trevor and Lieutenant Hart were lying on the ground, close to one another, in the centre of the square. I was standing up, much interested in what was going on to our left, when a missile, supposed to be the fracture (sic) of a shell, hit Hart so severely on the shoulder as to cause instant death and, passing over Trevor, scooped out one of Pagan's ears. He got up staggering and bleeding profusely, when I, with

other assistance, placed him on a bearer to carry him to the rear. The men thus employed had hardly left the centre of the square when a cannon ball hit one of them and carried off his leg. Another man took his place, when he was then carried to the village of Waterloo."

In 1821 Pagan retired — still a lieutenant — became a doctor and F.R.C.S. and attained a large practice in Edinburgh.

The break-up of the R.U.S.I. Museum has meant the acquisition of some 17 items for the Museum of widely varying interest. These range from a Staffordshire statuette of the great Duke to the telescope owned by him and left to the R.U.S.I. by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught, his godson. They include a very pleasant water colour of the battle of Talavera, showing Sir Arthur Wellesley, by W. Heath, a cocked hat of the Duke's worn by him in 1842 and a beautiful example of an officer's shako plate of the 76th of the period 1812-1816.

Uniform Models

The latest accession to the collection is a remarkable set of models which portray the history of the uniform of the 33rd Regiment from 1702 to 1914. There are 17 figures, each one made and coloured as correctly as contemporary records and prints can make them. It will be realised that they can only show what a soldier of the Regiment at a certain date should have worn according to the regulations, exiguous as they were in the eighteenth century and becoming steadily more precise in the nineteenth. It will be appreciated how much or

(continued on next page)

Regimental Association Appeal

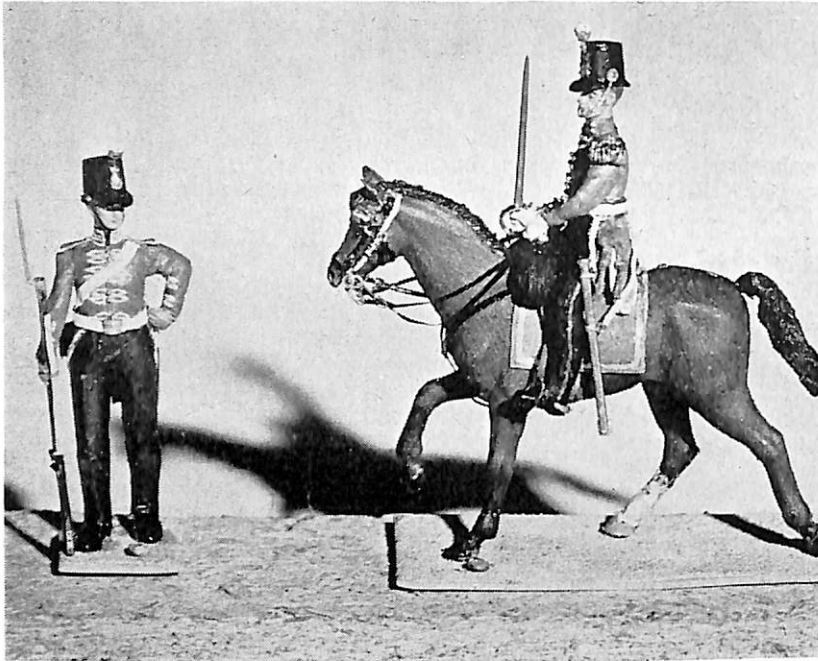
From the Colonel of the Regiment

As a result of my letter in the last IRON DUKE asking serving and retired officers to do what they could to help increase the income of our Regimental Association, I am very pleased to report that the response to my appeal has been both immediate and generous. As I write we already have received covenants and subscriptions which will increase the Association's income by £140 per annum.

I am most grateful to all of you who have rallied round in this way and would ask you to accept my warmest thanks for your help and support. The people who will benefit at once from your generosity are our own old soldiers and their dependents.

I will publish full details in the next IRON DUKE.

SA Exham



Crimean Uniforms

A field officer and private soldier of the Crimean period.

Two of the 17 figures portraying the uniform of the 33rd Regiment from 1702 - 1914 made and presented to the Regiment by Rear-Admiral C. M. Blackman, D.S.O.

It is interesting to compare these fine models with the painting of Colour Sgt. Spense in our frontispiece.

(Photo: Douglas Davidson Ltd., Halifax)

how little even rigid regulations affect what is actually worn.

The Regiment is fortunate in that these models were made by Rear-Admiral C. M. Blackman, D.S.O. This Flag Officer is an artist of some renown. He is the holder of the Duke of Edinburgh's Cup for model-makers in respect of his model of H.M.S. *Victory* as she appeared on October 21, 1805. This award, it may be added, is not allocated for model ships but for models as a whole. Thus, the best ship in the exhibition has also to beat the best model locomotive, etc., to gain the award.

The set has been on exhibition in the National Army Museum, but has now arrived at our own museum as a gift from Admiral Blackman, to whom the Regiment is most indebted.

B.W.W.-C.

Regimental Chapel in York Minster

The annual service was held in the Regimental Chapel in York Minster on All Saints Day. Before the service a poppy wreath was laid and a page of the 1939-45 Book of Remembrance turned by Col. Wathen.

The service was taken by the Bishop of Pontefract (Chaplain to the Regiment) who gave an address on courage and glory; he was assisted by the Rev. R. I. J. Matthews (Capt., R.A.Ch.D. (TA) and chaplain to the West Riding Bn.).

Major-General Upjohn read the lesson, deputising for the Colonel of the Regiment who was unable to make the journey. Mrs. Jackson kindly arranged the flowers and her husband, Dr. Francis Jackson, played the organ.

The congregation for various reasons was not as

large as usual. Col. Trevor Bentley, Hon. Colonel The West Riding Battalion, and Mrs. Bentley were there, as were Col. and Mrs. Wathen and Colonel and Mrs. Waller. The 1st Battalion contingent included Lt. Col. and Mrs. Kavanagh, Major and Mrs. Tedd, Capt. Greenway, an attached French officer and a representative party of WOs, NCOs and soldiers.

The Depot was represented by Lt. Col. and Mrs. Le Messurier, Major and Mrs. Wellesley, Major Cowell and a party of other ranks. It was a pleasure also to see with us again that great champion of the white rose, Major Jones-Stamp.

Apart from their Honorary Colonel, The West Riding Battalion was represented by Lt. Col. Gadd, Major and Mrs. Robertson and Major and Mrs. Kenchington. From the Regimental HQ we had Major and Mrs. Davis, accompanied by Mrs. Treacy, and Lt. Col. Skelsey.

We were glad to see Lord Savile and Mr. William Cobb, both of whom take a keen interest in the affairs of our chapel, Major and Mrs. Roberts, Major and Mrs. Sugden and the two Misses Sugden and also Mrs. Ackroyd (nee Evelyn Wellesley).

There was a good gathering of old comrades and their wives, and included amongst them were Mr. Sidney Code, Mr. and Mrs. Tom McMahon, Mrs. Norman, Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Horne and Mr. Gilbert Dent, a South African War veteran. Jim Jackson a clerical officer at our Records Office was there and—a nice gesture on the part of the Chief Constable of York—Police Sgt. Scott, late 2nd Battalion, was on duty at the south door of the Minster.

After the service a cocktail party was held in the Brigade Depot mess, whilst the old comrades spent the rest of the day seeing the sights of York.

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS



Mr. Tom McMahon

"Old Tom" officially served his last day at Regimental Headquarters on November 5, but comes in with regularity to sit on the Case Committee and to check that our returns are going in accurately and on time.

A full account of Tom's service was published in I.D. No. 117 of July, 1960, on the occasion when the Colonel presented him with a silver cigarette box in recognition of his 50 years with The Duke's.

The officers of Regimental Headquarters gave him a silver ash tray at a small family gathering in the R.H.Q. Mess to say our official if not actual farewells and as a small further token of gratitude for his faithful service.

The New R.H.Q.

The official opening of our Headquarters took place before the annual O.C.A. Reunion on September 21 and was reported in the last issue. With winter coming on we have reason to be grateful for being in more comfortable and warmer surroundings than the old officers' mess.

The works service for rose borders was turned down but, with the assistance of the Recruiting Staff (or Youth Liaison Team as they have become) we did it ourselves and the roses have been planted. We are most grateful to those officers who have served at the Depot and who have given us a rose

or roses and we hope that they will come and see them at next year's O.C.A. Reunion in September.

Recent Regimental visitors have included Jock and Mrs. Huffam, Mrs. Brenchley, Mary and her husband, Ken Tyson, from whose farm we fetched manure for our roses. Their farm, incidentally, is at Cliviger on top of the hills above Todmorden. Last winter the farm went under, leaving only the chimney pots showing above the snow drifts.

John Stoddart, who was with the 1st Battalion in Malta and Cyprus for his National Service, has also looked in. Our local friends who have visited us since the move include: Dick Asquith, Jim and Geoffrey Butler, Neville Hoole, Charles Ramsden, Laurie Sagar, John Taylor (ex-6th Battalion and Mayor of Keighley 1956/57).

Our staff has a new look. Tom McMahon has left and Sidney Code is now chief clerk in addition to his duties as General Secretary, O.C.A. Miss Anne Crapnell has joined as typist. She has rapidly got used to our ways and is a very welcome addition to the staff.

Mrs. Gleadow, the widow of Fred Gleadow, M.C., M.M., came over from Bradford to hand over Fred's medals for display in the R.H.Q. Mess.

Museum

With the exception of those described above by Brigadier Webb-Carter, the majority of accessions have been items of uniform.

Mrs. Grimley and Mrs. Nugent were kind enough to send their late husbands' uniforms.

A 2nd Battalion side drum was given by the 1st Battalion and this was very kindly done up for us by Potters.

Major Tedd sent us a modern battle dress. This will be of interest, marking the end of an era, as battle dress is being withdrawn and replaced by the smarter-looking No. 2 dress or service dress.

Junior Soldiers' Units

We have far too few boys making use of the various excellent boys' units that exist.

At the Infantry Junior Leaders' Battalion at Oswestry in Shropshire we have only seven.

The training here is well planned and interesting; education is first-class; games and sports include soccer, rugger, boxing, cycling, hockey, judo, fencing, basketball, swimming, sailing, canoeing and skiing.

The Skiing Club is planning a trip to Norway this year and the Cycling Club went to the Continent last term.

Of our seven, J/Pte. Bowker particularly distinguished himself for his skill and leadership with the Battalion Judo Team. For the second year his team has won the Army Championship. This year they won all seven trophies, including the senior (adult) trophies.

(continued at foot of next page)

THE YORKSHIRE BRIGADE DEPOT

It is with deep regret that we announce the deaths of Pte. P. Roden (DWR) and Pte. A. Howieson (Y&L) who were killed in a road accident on 20 September. To their parents we offer our deepest sympathy in their sad loss.

September saw the British Limbless Ex-Servicemen's League sports held at Strensall. This was an all-out effort and we were rewarded by the sight of ex-C.S.M. Jackie Horne whipping in in the 50-yard sprint. The Dukes were well represented.

Later that month the welcome annual invasion by the OCA of The Green Howards hit us. The programme included their AGM, dinner and church service on the Sunday. This event was closely followed by the PWO and West Yorkshire reunion, when a very successful dance was held.

November started well with the annual service of The Duke's in the Minster on the 1st; after it we were delighted to welcome so many friends in the mess. That night the PRI ran a highly successful all ranks' dance in the Globe Cinema. The draw for the November Handicap in the Museum Sweepstake was made, and it seemed that those units which sold the fewest tickets drew the most horses!

Remembrance Day came, and so did the rain.

(R.H.Q. NOTES—continued)

J/L/Cpl. Grey was a hurdler in the winning athletics team.

If you are interested or want to know more about boys' units write to the Regimental Secretary at R.H.Q.

Academy Sergeant Major Lord

In the early part of the year R.S.M. Lord was taken gravely ill and underwent a major operation. Few thought he would be able to continue in the service, let alone that he would be seen again in charge of the Royal Military Academy on parade. Nevertheless, in early June he resumed his duties, taking both the rehearsals for the Sovereign's Parade and the parade itself.

He is now retired, but to all those who contributed to his parting present he sends this message:

"I would like to thank most sincerely all those many, many officers who have so generously contributed towards the fund, which has gone so far towards providing my new home and its furnishings."

"My wife wishes to join me in this message of heartfelt gratitude and to wish everyone concerned in this wonderful gift all health and happiness in the future."

We at Strensall had a wonderful parade service in our lovely church, and so kept dry. A detachment under Lt. Pugh attended the service in York, where the parade was under the command of Major Cowell, and it poured throughout. That night at the Leeds Festival of Remembrance the theme for the year was the Yorkshire Brigade. Apart from an excellent agility demonstration by 1 DWR, the Depot had its share and also that of 1 Y & L, who were busy trying to get elsewhere!

The rest of this period was spent in withstanding technical inspections prior to our annual inspection on the 19th by the Chief of Staff, Northern Command, Major-General H. T. Alexander, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O. All seemed to be reasonably well and the inspecting officer was good enough to appear to be enjoying himself.

The bi-monthly visits by parties of young men who come in to see what we are like continue. Add to this ACF Cert. A Boards, visits by Cadets and TA, and the answer is a busy life.

The merry building programme drags on, but will no doubt be finished before the spring is out—or will it?

Officers' Mess

Our social life has been frustrated by the builders, but not as frustrated as Mr. Jackson and his staff must be. As I write, the floor boards in the ante and dining rooms are up, which leaves us with the billiard room.

Having said farewell to two great men in our last notes, we have now held a simple guest night to do honour to a complete company worth, consisting of Major Malcolm Cubiss (PWO), Lt. Christopher Day (Y & L) and Lt. Michael Stacpoole (DWR), all of the Junior Soldiers' Wing. It is sad to see them go and also Anne Cubiss and Marion Day, who have both done so much for the wives and families of the unit.

We had a very successful Brigade cocktail party, which seemed to be appreciated. It was only towards the end of the party that we heard of the tragic death of President Kennedy.

We give a very warm welcome to Lt. Patrick Puttock (Y & L) and Lt. John Moir (DWR), who are now commanding recruit platoons.

Sergeants' Mess

The annual Formation Ball was held a bit late this year, but was none the less a great success.

Attending it was that great character In-Pensioner C.S.M. Wooley (Y & L), who danced most of the night. During the evening the CO, Lt.-Colonel Le Messurier, said farewell to C.S.M.I. Clark (APTC) and Mrs. Clark, and Sgt. Gay (DWR) and Mrs. Gay. Sgt. Gay is now back with the 1st Battalion and Mr. Clark is a civilian. We wish them all the best for the future.

October 14. Having accepted a soccer challenge from the Corporals' Mess, we turned out a strong team. We proved to the younger side that we were equal to anything that they could provide. The Corporals scored within two minutes but, immediately, a brilliant solo run by Sgt. Alan Dawes, Green Howards, put us on equal terms. Throughout the game the defences were on top, both goalkeepers making some outstanding saves. A remarkable match in which the score was no real indication of the standard of play. Result: Corporals 6, Sergeants 1.

Our second Tramps' Ball was held on October 19—a great success. Tramps and trampesses turned up from far and near, and a "lousier" lot you never saw. Wine, spirit and beer flowed from

a variety of pots, mugs, tins, etc., and there was much merrymaking. The usual competition to place the king and queen gave the honours to Q.M.S.I. Church and Mrs. Gorse (wife of our armourer). We must also compliment Cyril Johnson (P.C. of the Strensall Police), a near thing. The PMC, W.O.II Simpson (DWR), took the opportunity to celebrate his 20th year of service, to the cries of "Get some in" from the older members of the mess.

After the DWR annual service in York Minster, the W.O.s and sergeants of the 1st Battalion and WR Battalion who had attended the service were invited to the mess. Battle soon commenced and memories were stirred. R.S.M. Campsey with R.S.M.s Robins and Nichols had a good natter, whilst the P.M.C. and C.S.M.s Arundel and Sullivan ran them a good second. (Did the baby get back all right?) Others were C.S.M.s Webb and O'Brien, C.Q.M.S. Chilvers and Sgts. Gott, Creighton and Wilkinson. Bob brought his wife along; very nice to see her again. Thanks to our steward, ex "Snapper" Willie Thick, everyone enjoyed themselves.

NEWS FROM THE COMPANIES

Training Company

Recruiting, though not good, is a steady "one a day" and platoons are on the average somewhat stronger. Still we need many more now!

Passing out results have been:

Somme

Best recruit and best shot LMG: Pte. P. Goodchild (Green Howards).

Best shot SLR: Pte. G. Wilson (DWR).

Chindits

Best recruit and best shot SLR: Pte. G. Harding (Y & L).

Winner PT competition: Pte. K. G. Lockley (DWR).

Winner cross-country: Pte. A. Hansen (Green Howards).

Best shot LMG: Pte. I. H. Greaves (DWR).

Alma

Best recruit and winner of PT medal: Pte. B. Leach (DWR).

Best shot LMG: Pte. H. Senior (Y & L).

Best shot SLR: Pte. P. Moon (DWR).

Winner cross-country: Pte. J. Doherty (DWR).

Mons

Best recruit and best shot SLR and cross-country medal: Pte. H. Hirst (DWR).

Best shot LMG: Pte. B. J. Crouch (PWO).

PT medal: Pte. M. Thackray (PWO).

The platoons are pretty hard worked, but platoon commanders find time to take them out for introduction to rock climbing, which seems to be fast becoming one of the more popular sports.

Changes there are this year. Major Scrope, Green Howards, has handed over command of the

Company to Major Cowell, DWR. On Major Scrope's shoulders has fallen the burden of the last two years, made doubly difficult by the move to temporary quarters, developing what was a new company and dealing with, at times, over 200 men in all stages of training. We wish him all fortune in the future and offer him many congratulations on being selected to command the 4/5th Green Howards.

Junior Soldiers' Wing

The wing is undergoing reorganisation with the aim of becoming a separate company, though of necessity relying on HQ Company for administration. Capt. J. Nash (Y & L) has come over from Training Company to take over this duty. Meanwhile HQ Company has been taken over by Major Birch (PWO) vice Major Cubiss (PWO). We welcome the new and say good luck to Major Cubiss, who has watched over our affairs so well.

Energies this winter were mainly devoted to the annual inspections, rebuilding the Band and Drums under B.M. Greening (Y & L) and D.M. Smelt (PWO) and preparing for the summer season, the building of a Wing hockey team, under Lt. Day, also the basketball team and the .22 team which entered in the Depot league.

The football team, under Cpl. Gee, did wonderfully well to reach the final of the Army Cup. Their record was:

v. N. Ireland Brigade ...	...	won	4—0
v. Highland Brigade ...	...	"	4—3
v. E. Anglian Brigade ...	...	"	2—0
v. Parachute Brigade ...	...	lost	2—12

Though the score in the final was so great, it did

not reflect the success we had in the midfield play nor the spirit with which the game was played out to the end. The Paras were a large and skilful team who thoroughly deserved their success. Anyway, that is twice in the final in four years and once in the semi-final.

Until it got too wintry, sailing continued under Major Batchelor (RAEC), but now activity has switched to building an Enterprise inside the Education Centre. So far there is no way of getting it out.

In York recently, J/Bdsm. McArthur (DWR) and J/Bdsm. Barnett (Y & L) were presented with their York cross-country colours 1962 by the Lord Mayor of York.

At the beginning of November a party of junior soldiers led by Lt. Day attempted the "Lyke Wake" walk—a 40 miles' walk across the North Yorkshire

moors at their widest part from Osmotherley to Ravenscar, to be done in under 24 hours. They failed by one hour!

The Company basketball team is still unbeaten in the York Youth League. The hockey team has yet to win, but they are learning fast.

The Juniors took a very large part in the Leeds Festival of Remembrance. St. George's Platoon gave a highly polished drill display under Sgt. Ingham (DWR), whilst two juniors paraded in old time uniform and others provided "flag men" for the four regimental flags and the Brigade flag. J/Bdsm. Jagger (DWR) played the "Evening Hymn" on the cornet with soloists and band of the Leeds Rifles.

On that day throughout the countryside 16 of our buglers sounded off at local Remembrance Day services.

SPORT

Soccer

The Depot is now running two soccer XIs to try to get back to our old form. Through postings out our team was seriously weakened and we shall be losing good fixtures if we don't do better. By hard training and striving we have now narrowed the margin of defeats.

The hockey team has done well again this year, having played 14 games, won seven, drawn one, and

lost four. We are out of the Major Unit Army Cup, having drawn with Harrogate but being beaten 2—0 in the play-off. We are still in the Minor Units Hockey Cup. Here again we have built up a good fixture list but have lost three excellent players this year to their battalions. Any good players on the transfer list, please?

Gymnasium

In an establishment which has only a small military permanent staff the success of any activity depends on who is posted in. Our basketball team, once minor unit champions, has practically died away through lack of support. However, our renovated gymnasium is a hive of activity most evenings and the game may stage a come-back.

On Monday nights the soccer teams do circuit training, followed by the Junior Soldiers' basketball team. On Tuesdays and Wednesdays we have children and families' badminton and PT, Thursday gymnastics and trampoline. In the New Year we are starting fencing and judo.

Shooting

This year the Depot beat the Black Powder Club in their annual engagement. Among the participants were Lts. Pugh and Stacpoole. Each year both teams fire the SLR and the muzzle loaders; the scores are added together and the highest score wins. This year we won by 10 points. One photo, too dark to reproduce, shows Michael Stacpoole apparently firing a detail under the eye of Fidel Castro.

To keep our hand in, the Depot is running a .22 league shoot in which seven teams are competing. This is proving a great success. At the moment Junior Soldiers' "A" team is leading!

And finally, not to be outdone, the Wives' Club are now shooting twice a week, so clearly mean business!

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DELTIC LOCOMOTIVE

“The Duke of Wellington’s Regiment”

On October 4, 1936, L.M.S. Steam Engine No. 6145 was named “The Duke of Wellington’s Regiment (West Riding)” by the then Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier-General Turner, at Halifax station.

This engine was retired in 1963. In the meantime, British Railways had been acquiring diesel-electric “Deltic” locomotives; in 1962, six were allotted to the North Eastern Region whose board decided it would be appropriate to name them after the six fighting regiments associated with the North East—The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers, The Prince of Wales’ Own Regiment of Yorkshire, The Green Howards, The King’s Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, The Durham Light Infantry—and—The Duke of Wellington’s Regiment.

The ceremony of naming our engine was fixed for October 22 at Darlington. Responsibility for organising the Regiment’s part in it, in liaison with the North Eastern Region’s Public Relations Officer, Mr. Stuart Knox (formerly Brigadier, Royal Signals) was handed over by R.H.Q., after the initial stages, to the 1st Battalion.

Sir George Walton, member of the Board of the North Eastern Region, was to preside over the ceremony and the Colonel of the Regiment was invited to perform the naming. Unfortunately, in the event, General Exham was prevented by illness from attending; Major-General Upjohn deputised for him.

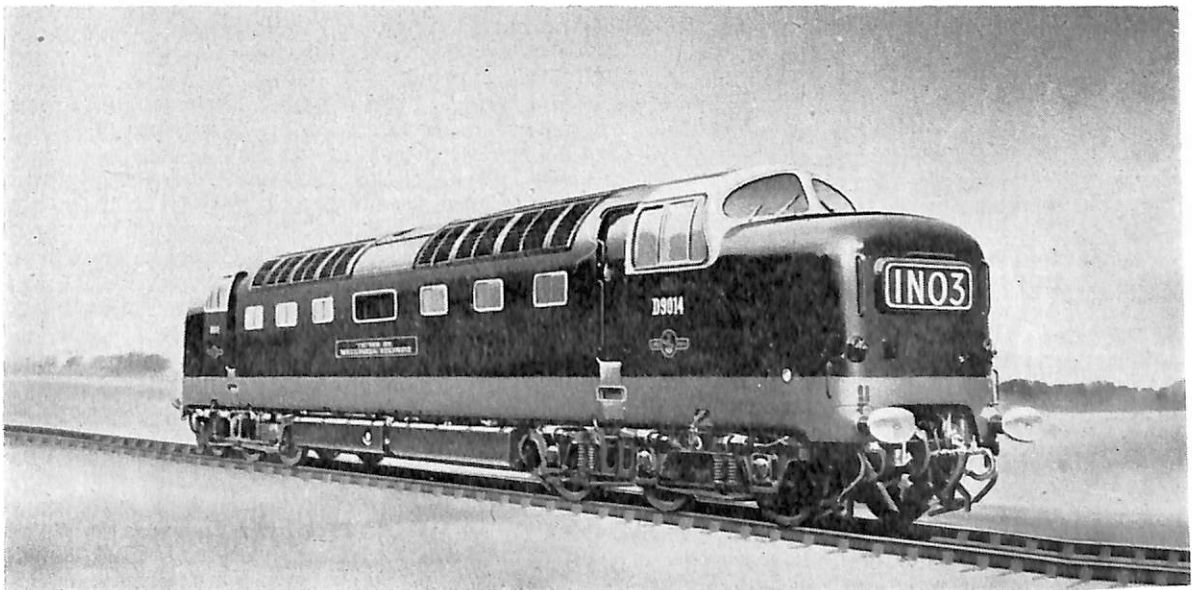
Some 20 members, past and serving, were invited to represent the Regiment and British Railways invited an equivalent number of their own personnel, many with “Dukes” connections. Amongst these everyone was pleased to see Mr. Seed and Mr. Marsh, the driver and fireman of the old steam engine. Both are now retired, and both are ex-“Dukes.”

Platform 2 at Darlington Station had been smartened up for the occasion, banks of flowers surrounded the bases of the pillars and a table, covered with a Regimental flag, stood in the middle of the platform. The huge green locomotive, No. D. 9014, was drawn up against the buffers, engine switched off—silent, no noise, no fumes. The cab was empty. The name plate on the side was covered with a Union flag.

The Band of the 1st Battalion, in scarlet tunics, started to play incidental music as the guests began to assemble. This activity attracted a crowd and, by 11 a.m., some 150 members of the public were grouped round the roped-off area.

Prompt at 11 a.m., the official party, consisting of Sir George Walton, Mr. K. A. Kindon—the Divisional Manager, Mr. G. C. Renton—Station Master at Darlington, Major-General Upjohn, Brigadier Moran, Colonel J. B. Sugden and Lt.-Colonel Kavanagh, were led in procession from the Station Master’s office.

The ceremony was scheduled to start a few



(from the picture presented to the Regiment by British Railways)

Diesel-electric “Deltic” locomotive, No. D.9014—“The Duke of Wellington’s Regiment”



Mr. H. Usher and Mr. Craig, driver and second man of the diesel-electric "Deltic" locomotive, receiving from General Upjohn a Regimental shield which will be placed inside the driver's cab

(Photo: Peter Dearden Studios, Darlington)

minutes after 11 a.m. to allow a train, due to go through Platform No. 2 at 11.02 a.m., to get clear first. In the event the train was late and came through in the middle of the ceremony. It was drawn by the engine named "The Green Howards."

Mr. Kindon opened the proceedings by introducing Sir George Walton. Sir George welcomed the members of the Regiment and expressed his regret at the absence of the Colonel. He recalled the ceremony in 1936, and said he was particularly glad to welcome Colonel Sugden who had been present at Halifax in 1936 as a subaltern in the guard of honour. He was also delighted that Mr. Seed and Mr. Marsh, driver and fireman of the old locomotive, were able to come to this new ceremony.

Sir George went on to say:

"This powerful 'Deltic' diesel-electric locomotive is one of a fleet of 20 purchased to haul express passenger trains on our East Coast Main Line. Six have been allotted to the North Eastern Region, and we are extremely proud that another of our locomotives will carry such a famous name as 'The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.'

"These 20 new locomotives, needing little in the way of service and maintenance, and therefore spending a much greater proportion of their time in effective work, are able to perform what was previously the job of 55 steam engines; that is, each of the new locomotives does the work of almost three of its predecessors."

Sir George invited General Upjohn to formally name the locomotive. General Upjohn pulled a draw string which drew back the Union flag, thereby unveiling the name, and said—"I have pleasure in naming this locomotive—'The Duke of Wellington's Regiment'; may God bless her and all who travel with her." The Band played the Regimental March—"The Wellesley"—in salute.

Major-General Upjohn then made a short speech. He said how sorry he and all present were that the Colonel of the Regiment could not be present. He expressed the gratitude and appreciation of the Regiment for the honour British Railways had bestowed upon it, by giving its name to one of the newest and most modern locomotives. He welcomed the opportunity to say how much the Army relied on the magnificent work of the railways both in peace and war. Finally General Upjohn thanked all those who had made this occasion possible and in particular his old friend Brigadier Stuart Knox and Mr. Renton, Station Master there at Darlington.

Major-General Upjohn then met the Driver and Second Man, Mr. H. Usher and Mr. A. T. Craig, and presented them with a Regimental shield to be placed inside the driver's cab. They, in turn, invited General Upjohn to inspect the cab. The locomotive was then signalled away and pulled out of the platform whilst the Band played "The Dukes are coming up the Hill."

Returning to the table, Sir George presented one of the name plates of the old engine, No. 6145, to General Upjohn, for preservation by the Regiment.

All the invited guests then adjourned to an informal reception at the North Eastern Hotel. Here Sir George presented the Regiment with a painting in water colours of the new locomotive and, as a personal gift to the Colonel of the Regiment, a model for use as a paper weight. After accepting these General Upjohn, on behalf of the Regiment, presented a Coalport china seated figure of the 1st Duke of Wellington for use in the Board Room of the North Eastern Region in York. Later, the railway authorities gave the Regiment a handsome photograph album containing photographs of the ceremony, to commemorate the occasion.

The painting and the album are with the 1st

Battalion, and eventually they will be sent to Regimental H.Q. The name plate of the old engine is also with the 1st Battalion. It is a magnificent piece of brass work and, at the moment, it is planned that it should be used to adorn the entrance to Battalion H.Q.

We are indebted to our Regimental Chaplain, the Bishop of Pontefract, himself a railway enthusiast, for the information that the term "Deltic" was adopted to describe these new locomotives owing to the fact that the power unit is laid out in the shape of the Greek letter D (Delta). As stated in Sir George Walton's speech, they permit working schedules to be based on mileages far greater than was possible with steam engines. At the time of the ceremony D. 9014 had already covered 100,000 miles. The locomotives are each powered by two 1,650 h.p. Napier "Deltic" engines. They have a Co.Co. wheel arrangement (two six-wheeled bogies) and are classified as Type 5 in the British Railways classification of main-line diesel locomotives.

The old steam locomotive "The Duke of Wellington's Regiment," No. 6145, was a three-cylinder "Royal Scot" Class, built in 1927 by the North British Locomotive Company. She was re-built in 1943, and was retired in 1963 after 35 years of main-line service, having covered nearly 2½ million miles. (In the process she had somehow acquired an additional digit to her number which appears in the last photograph of her as 46145.)

For the record those who represented the Regiment, are listed below:

Maj.-Gen. G. F. Upjohn, CBE; Brig. P. P. de la H. Moran; Col. J. B. Sugden, TD, JP, DL.; Lt.-Col. A. B. M. Kavanagh, MC, CO, 1st Bn.; Lt.-Col. H. S. LeMessurier, CO, Yorkshire Bde Depot; Lt.-Col. J. C. Moncrieff, TD., CO, West Riding Bn, DWR, (TA); Lt.-Col. W. Skelsey, MBE, Asst. Regt. Secretary; Maj. J. H. Davis, Regt. Secretary; Maj. G. C. Tedd, 2IC, 1st Bn.; Capt. J. B. K. Greenway, Adj., 1st Bn.; Mr. S. E. Code, MBE, Gen. Secretary, Regt. Association; Ex-Sgt. F. Stephenson, In-Pensioner, Chelsea Hospital; WO1 W. Robins, RSM, 1st Bn.; WO1 B. Bowyer, LRAM, Bandmaster, 1st Bn.; WO2 R. C. Fenn, C/Sgt. J. E. Sergeant; Sgt. J. M. Allerton; Cpl. D. Hughes; Pte. A. Richardson and Pte. D. Griffiths, 1st Bn.



(Photo by Courtesy of British Railways)

The Name Plate of the Old Engine presented to the Regiment

In the group are (left to right) Mr. Renton (Stationmaster), General Upjohn, Ex-Sgt. Stephenson, Sir George Walton, Mr. Kindon and Col. Sugden between Mr. Marsh and Mr. Seed, the driver and fireman of the old engine



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1st BATTALION

Sub-Editorial

It is difficult for a sub-editor to please everybody, and this applies particularly to a new sub-editor. If he writes too much he is accused of arrogance and "stealing the thunder of hard-working contributors." If he writes too little, or fails to mention every sub-unit of the Battalion, his sub-editorial is criticised as "simply not good enough — full of miscellaneous bric-à-brac — no mention of this Company at all" — as one of our company commanders recently wrote.

The purpose of a sub-editorial is to provide a brief outline and introduction to the main notes; therefore this, our first sub-editorial, will be short, and will endeavour to do that.

Over the past few months life in the Battalion has been devoted to preparations for our move to Osnabruck. Indeed, German language classes have achieved priority over rigger training — an unprecedented occurrence in the history of the Battalion. Topics of conversation range from "new cars" to "Hamburg night clubs," and we are all looking forward to the move. The advance party departs on February 4 and the main body follows on

February 24. Alma Company will join us during April after their return from British Honduras.

We welcomed Old Comrades to the Battalion in October and hope they enjoyed their visit; we certainly enjoyed having them stay with us.

In recent months the MT Platoon has been on an exercise to Scotland, while C.S.M. Batty has

Arthur Sunley

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OCA Visit

Old Comrades being shown an anti-tank gun by Sgt. Hall, 1 DWR

achieved a lifetime ambition of forming a Battalion fishing club; both are reported elsewhere.

On October 22 the 1st Battalion acted as host unit for the Regiment at the naming ceremony of the new Deltic locomotive, "The Duke of Wellington's Regiment," at Darlington Station. Older members of the Regiment will recall that an earlier engine was named after the Regiment at Halifax on October 4, 1936. The name plate of the old engine has been presented to the Regiment and is a magnificent piece of brasswork.

The officers' annual golf meeting was held on—of

all days—Friday, September 13. But our luck was in and the weather held fine.

Finally, while on the subject of sport, we should like to congratulate the following past members of the Regiment on recent sporting achievements: Norman Field, on playing for the Great Britain Rugby League Team; Arthur Keegan and Roy Sabine, on playing for Yorkshire; and Mike Ralph, on continually representing Great Britain at athletics. It is very encouraging to see past "Dukes" doing so well and we all wish them further successes in the future.

NEWS FROM THE MESSES

OFFICERS' MESS

"Wo die Soldaten sind"

The last quarter has been quiet in the mess with everybody away on courses—although Dick Mundell's mid-course week-end break did result in a small party, which finished in the early hours of the morning.

In mid-October we had our first winter film night. The food was excellent and the film dreadful, or so some officers said. The film, specially chosen by the PMC, was called "Man in the Moon"; it was noted by all present that the PMC himself was absent.

After the ceremony of naming the Deltic diesel locomotive at Darlington we welcomed a number of Regimental guests to luncheon, namely Colonel John Sugden, Lt.-Colonels Jimmy Moncrieff, Hugh Le Messurier, Walter Skelsey and Major John Davis.

We also entertained, before lunch one Saturday, the Old Comrades at the beginning of their week-end visit to the Battalion. Needless to say, it was a golden opportunity for the 2IC to air his knowledge on the silver and colours.

On October 29 we held our first regimental guest night for some months. Our guests were Captain the Lord Savile, Air Commodore Walker (John's father), Colonel Cumberlege, Lt.-Colonel Lee, who commands the REME workshops in Catterick, and Inspector Thompson of the Catterick Police. It was interesting to see that with true police foresight a police sergeant called to take the Inspector home. Colonel Lee's father served as a lance-sergeant in the 8th West Riding Volunteers and our own 3rd Volunteer Battalion.

Recently the mess seems to have become education mad! On Mondays and Thursdays Dr. Bishop, from Leeds University, teaches us German, while on Tuesdays or Fridays Dr. Bartle lectures to us on the Roman Army. So far we have learnt how to say "No, that is not your beer" in German. Whether Roman Army tactics will be of as much value as that phrase is yet to be seen.

As a further aid to our Continental studies we had great pleasure in welcoming Captain Giray and Captain Devirieu who stayed in the Mess on exchange au pair for two weeks in November. The highlight of their visit was the guest night held in

their honour. The dinner was concluded by a long speech in French by the Colonel; the only two officers who failed to understand the speech were unfortunately our two guests.

SERGEANTS' MESS

The main topic of conversation in the mess has been the cost and merits of the latest models at the Motor Show (tax free for BAOR, of course). One notable ex-member of the mess recently remarked that if a pre-war C.Q.M.S. mentioned buying a bicycle he was suspected of some sharp dealings. In the present Army, mess members buy and sell cars with apparent ease. How times have changed!

With the opening of the Christmas Draw another popular pastime is trying to win draw tickets from some unsuspecting colleague at dominoes, cards, poker-dice or snooker. The R.S.M. is being particularly unsuccessful this year and it is reported that he may even have to buy a few tickets.

For the OCA dinner we and the corporals made up a coach load and headed for Huddersfield. We met many old friends and, in particular, we were glad to see Podge Lodge, Bill Pounder, Tom Dickie and, of course, Bill Norman. It may also be worth recording that there were four serving regular "Dukes" R.S.M.s at this dinner: R.S.M. W. Robins (1 DWR), R.S.M. F. Nicholls (W. Riding Bn.), R.S.M. W. Burke (Hallams), R.S.M. S. H. Kirk (1 Y & L). Is this a record?

We were delighted to be able to assist in entertaining the party from the O.C.A. during their week-end visit to the Battalion in early October. We trust they enjoyed themselves; we certainly enjoyed having them.

As was reported in the last issue of the Iron Duke, C.S.M. Kirk left us in September to take over as R.S.M. of the 1st Battalion The York and Lancaster Regiment. We were able to arrange a small farewell social which some of the officers also attended. Though we were delighted to hear of Sid Kirk's promotion we were nevertheless sorry to lose him from our mess where he has been a loyal and staunch member for many years. However, we wish him and his family all the very best and trust he will keep in contact.

Fred Stevenson came up from Chelsea to spend a few days with us in October and was present at the naming of the "Dukes" new engine at Darlington. We hope he enjoyed this short return to the mess of the 1st Battalion where he spent so much of his service.

C.S.M.s Fenn and Sullivan are back off their drill courses, while Sgt. Read is sampling the delights of Pirbright. As the sergeants' early morning drill parades continue it is reported that the R.S.M.'s short list of future candidates gets even lower. C/Sgt. Chilvers is back from British Honduras; we hear he didn't want to miss signal training. We welcome back Sergeant Bailes to the Battalion and note that he found himself a "cushy" job in the officers' mess before the R.S.M. could catch him for a B.O.S. C.S.M. Arundel, after producing four boys in a row, has at last become the proud father of a daughter.

Finally we wish to report that the lone figure walking north up the A1 late one night some time ago was Sergeant Tovey returning to camp after being hi-jacked and deposited well on the way to Boroughbridge by a party of students from Leeds University.

CORPORALS' MESS

During the last few months we have had a good intake of "new blood" into the mess. All told about sixteen men have risen to "Unpaid Acting" rank recently; as they are too many to mention by name we wish them all a very long and happy stay with us. We give a special word of welcome to Cpl. Hemmings, who has joined us from the West Riding Battalion D.W.R. (TA), and to Cpl. Glen-cross who has recently re-enlisted in The Dukes, having previously served with the Royal Highland Fusiliers.

Burma Company members have settled down to the hardships of soldiering in Catterick although one occasionally hears the cry of "Wish I were back in BH"—mainly from the single men of course.

RECRUITING, AND THE REGIMENTAL LIASON TEAM

The Regimental Liaison Team in Halifax is now under new management in a different place. Lt. Mundell has returned to the 1st Battalion to become signals officer, and Captain Stevens has taken over. Furthermore, the team has moved itself from Ovenden Park Camp into the new RHQ buildings at Wellesley Barracks. Sgts. Russell and Parker and L/Cpl. Mitchell are still going strong, while the usual quarterly change-over of drivers has resulted in Pte. Ross being replaced by Pte. Noble.

During the summer the team toured the many and varied charity galas and agricultural shows with the regimental display caravan, and it was from these shows that we got the most publicity.

Shortly after the return of the Burma Company NCOs from leave we had a dance and social evening to which guests from the other messes in the area were invited. This was a great success, apart from the fact that there was rather a shortage of girls. It's rumoured that the invitations to the WRAC, nurses and student teachers went astray, but the dance committee strongly deny this. Perhaps it's that "Johnson charm" that is needed to draw them in.

We were pleased to welcome into the mess the party of old comrades from the Regimental Association during their visit to the Battalion in October. They came in on the Sunday lunch-time for a short time and, considering they had had a heavy session with the Sergeants on the previous night, they were in remarkably good order. Obviously still "good Dukes."

Later in October we were entertained to a games evening in the sergeants' mess and although we were beaten, mainly by the strange way of scoring, we had a thoroughly good night. The R.S.M., who met us with a pleasant greeting, was even more pleased to see us on the square next morning for his weekly drill parade. We are wondering, however, whether the parade was cut short because of the very high wind or whether it was his concern for us, or perhaps for himself?

The mess is well represented in the Battalion soccer sides, with Cpl. Waite playing what we calculate to be his twelfth season of Battalion soccer. L/Cpl. Herberts unfortunately fractured his ankle while playing for the Battalion and to him we wish a speedy recovery, if only to get him back on the guard roll.

The armchair normally occupied by Cpl. Poncho Hernandez is now vacant as he has departed to spend his last six months in Gibraltar prior to release. We wish him and his family the very best of luck on their return to civil life.

Our congratulations go to Cpls. Cook and Harrison on their promotion, to Cpl. Cook on his recent marriage, to L/Cpl. Dean on his engagement, and to L/Cpl. and Mrs. Wardle on the recent addition to their family.

Now that the season is over people may well be wondering what on earth we do with our time. The answer is that displays and KAPE tours form a very small part of the business of encouraging people to join the Army. Our most important task is to visit anyone who is inquiring about life in the Army, and to assist him into the most suitable niche for him. Then come the evening and weekend tasks of assisting the TA, ACF and youth clubs with film shows, map reading, drill and .22 shooting; visits to Strensall and junior soldiers' units; teaching subjects in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, and generally making ourselves useful. At the same time we maintain poster sites and displays in shops and cinemas throughout

the West Riding, and keep in close touch with the Army Information Offices.

Throughout every hour of every day we are ourselves mobile advertisements for The Duke's, and we tell anyone who is willing to listen (and some who are not) that **THE ARMY IS A GOOD THING**. We find that we are battering against a wall of prejudice and ignorance, for the young don't seem to read advertisements and their sole knowledge about the services comes from cartoons and "The Army Game," while their elders are painfully slow to accept that the Army *has* changed since their day, and that we do offer a good life, good wages and opportunities.

Our recruiting figures this year are poor in relation to what we need, but good when compared with those of other regiments. The standard

of recruit is higher than last year—indeed some 60 per cent. of all applicants are rejected for one reason or another. The Army is no longer an alternative to gaol; the cry now being—"ARE YOU GOOD ENOUGH FOR THE ARMY?"

You, reader, can help by spreading the good word about The Duke's and especially by sending the names and addresses of anyone who you think might be interested to:—

The Recruiting Liaison Officer,
The Duke of Wellington's Regiment,
Wellesley Barracks,
Halifax, Yorkshire.

News Flash: L/Cpl. "Knut," who is at the moment doing six months "inside," is due to join the RLO on January 6, 1964.

AROUND THE BATTALION AT CATTERICK

Burma Company have just completed their first company training exercise since returning from British Honduras. This may not appear to be an event of any special significance for those outside the unit, but it does at least prove that they have enough men to do it even though there is still an imaginary third platoon.



Major J. M. Newton who has commanded the company since its return from British Honduras has now left for Staff College and everybody wishes him a happy and successful year there. Major D. W. Shuttleworth has assumed command and will take the company to Germany.

WO II Fenn and Colour Sergeant Chilvers are welcomed as CSM and CQMS respectively. The CSM of course knows the company well as he served as CQMS in British Honduras; the CQMS joins from Alma Company—it is good to see him in uniform!

Over in **Corunna Company** the main problem is so much to do and so little time in which to do it.

Continuation Training squads arrive in a never-ending stream from the Depot. Sgt. Gay arrived in the company from the Bde Depot on a Monday to find that his squad was the same one that he had left the previous Friday, at the end of their basic training. It was difficult to say who was more horrified, Sgt Gay or the squad.

After nearly a year Sgt Allerton is leaving the company on being appointed Drum Major. He has given magnificent service to the company and must be congratulated on his new appointment.

CSM Arundel, although still in the company, has given up his job of CSM and is devoting himself entirely to weapon training, where he may occasionally be seen amongst piles of pamphlets. His place has been taken by CSM Mountcastle although the latter spends most of his time away on a course.

The Recce Platoon are attached to the Corunna on paper but seem to spend most of their time away on exercises. Driver training has proved a great success, and now nearly everybody can drive. Sgt Curling and his dog "Duke" look after the discipline in the platoon and so far "Duke" has only attacked one person, Pte Woodcock, E., who was chased while practising the monkey-run.

Behind the scenes, and playing an important though unspectacular role in the preparations for the Battalion's move to Germany, is **Hook Company**. Here a change in the hierarchy is the replacement of the Battalion fishing captain by CSM Sullivan, fresh from Pirbright.

Cpl Senior and his pioneer team have built and repaired umpteen canoes; Cpl Cooper now wears ear plugs to protect himself from the noise of continual hammering—yes, those numerous crates are beginning to be seen around the barracks.

Pte Bottomley earned his pay when out beating for the Garrison Shoot one day in October—he returned to barracks all smiles, having also earned numerous bottles of beer. L/Cpl Davies produced

a pearly black eye after a night out in Richmond recently. Whether a door-handle or WRAC was to blame has not been discovered.

The Signals Platoon is believed to be still in existence although rarely seen. "Out on exercise" is the cry.

The MT Platoon is full of people—unfortunately not so full of vehicles. However, they do have a good football team.

In late September a team of three vehicles was entered in the "Burgess Bowl" Rally run by the Glossop Car Club. The MTO, S/Sgt Skyes and Cpl Greaves were the drivers with Sgt Curling, S/Sgt Battye and Cpl Leaf as their respective navigators. Only S/Sgt Sykes' vehicle qualified as a finisher; the other two got there, but a bit too late to qualify. However, many lessons were learned by the novice entries, and it is hoped to improve on the performances at the next attempt.

The Regimental Band having finished their round of summer social activities started a band social club a few months ago, which was a great success. The Band is well up to strength with the arrival of five of their members back from Kneller Hall. There has also been an issue of scarlet tunics which certainly makes a most colourful sight on parade.

Sgt Cherry went to Hohne, in Germany, on a language course and is now doing a great job of running the German cadres for the rest of the Battalion. The Bandmaster is in hiding at the moment as he is taking his Advanced School of Music (PSM) Examinations and everybody wishes him the best of luck.

The Corps of Drums are also in the slack season, but have managed to occupy some of their spare time acting as enemy to NCO's cadres and rifle companies, mostly in the dead of night.

Within the Corps of Drums, problems have been created by the majority of the fifers changing to side drums, reducing the fifes to three. A rumour that the Drum Major is contemplating a visit to Hamelin in Germany to recruit the Pied Piper is, however, untrue.

Finally, Drummers Thornton and Dickens should be congratulated on winning the Commanding Officer's Bugle and the Adjutant's Bugle respectively.

BATTALION PERSONALIA

In July of this year Pte. Harry Todd was promoted lance corporal. He joined the battalion in Chiseldon from Halifax in 1954, and served in "S" Company under the then Lt. Miller. He stayed with "S" Company through Malta and Cyprus and was posted to Headquarter Company in Northern Ireland. He has since served with distinction in practically every stores department of the Quartermaster. He now inhabits the

accommodation stores where, sanitation courses permitting, he finds time to continue his hobby of breeding rabbits. Owing to his varied interests in Catterick it has been suggested that L/Cpl. Todd be put up for honorary membership of the WRAC Mess. This may account for his desire to lose some weight; we have even heard L/Cpl. Todd and the gymnasium mentioned in the same breath!

Fire practice at 1700 hours one Monday in October produced the complete battalion on the



square in various forms of attire. 2/Lt. Johnny Walker must be congratulated on his zeal in leaping from the bath and appearing on the parade ground in duffle coat, battered trilby and slippers.

Lt. Ian Reid is to be congratulated on being selected to play rugby for the Southern Counties versus the New Zealand touring side.

Since the 2 i/c returned from leave in August the Battalion Orderly Room has used over 36,000 sheets of foolscap paper. Whether the two events are connected or not is for the reader to judge. Nevertheless the subalterns are burning midnight oil on many a problem set by Sunray Minor.

Lt. Hugh Cartwright should be congratulated on his attempt to leave his car for three days in a 20-minute parking zone. The final cost, it is understood, was £5, which seems very reasonable.

A novel idea that may become a custom throughout the Army is that of a C/Sgt. who has a photograph of himself pinned above his name on his office door. Many is the poor unsuspecting soldier who, seeing this smiling cherubic face, enters, all unsuspecting, to come out a wiser and poorer man having signed AF P 1954 or his 1157 for kit that he never knew even existed.

Birth

PUGH.—On July 28, in Westow Croft Maternity House, York, to Ann (née Boddington) and Lt. David Pugh, a daughter (Elisabeth Kathleen).

SPORT

RUGBY

At this stage in the season we must be content with recording an enthusiastic start to training, particularly from several men who had never played before, and a somewhat rusty start in matches which were lost—to Ilkley 3—9 and to Darlington 3—6. On the credit side we can record good wins by "A" XV's against the Military Hospital.

Training very much from scratch, and with some old-timers extracted from Burma Company on their return from British Honduras, we have formed a small but hardworking pack, which has performed most creditably against heavier opposition, and a promising set of backs.

Army Cup

In the first round of the Army Cup we defeated 8 Sigs. Regt., very old rivals, by 14 points to 6 after a good hard match.

We were then given a walk-over into the third round in which we beat the All Arms Junior Leaders Regiment by 19 points to nil.

One of our problems is going to be to find a way to extract Ian Reid, our most outstanding player, from the clutches of his Welsh Guards Chief Instructor and SWB GSO 2 at Warminster.

Footnote.—We think we've taught Edwards to ground the ball at last—but we shall see.

Late News

We regret to report that, in the fourth round of the Army Cup, the Battalion lost to the 2nd Battalion, Royal Tank Regiment, at Omagh, Northern Ireland. The score was 3—8.

SOCCER

The Battalion soccer side has not had the success that was hoped for after our rather disappointing season last year. This was due almost entirely to having a strong company away from the battalion. The outcome was that the team had to be chosen from 24 players equal in standard and ability. Thus in their respective leagues the 1st XI were weak and the 2nd XI very strong. When in practice games the two sides played against each other the result was never certain until the end.

Having no really good players it was imperative for the 1st XI to play as a team. This we failed to do and suffered accordingly. The forwards never really managed to play together nor did the half-backs manage to link them with the backs. One reason for this was a continual flow of injuries that made it very rare for the same side to turn out for consecutive games.

It is difficult to pick out personalities. Perhaps the exploits of our goalkeeper, Cpl. Wilson, should be singled out as he saved the side time and again. Never more so than in the first round of the Army Cup when we beat 19 Coy. RASC 3—1. The full backs, Cpls. Waite and Clark, were always a solid combination—except that both had an urge to go too far upfield. The half-backs were rather too slow to control the centre of the field but they worked tirelessly in every match. The forwards, as has already been said, have never been able to combine, and various experiments have not yet solved the problem. Speed and height are lacking and this was much in evidence when 3 Royal Tank Regiment beat us 0—3 in the second round of the Army Cup.

The 2nd XI have only lost once and are at the



Battalion Soccer Team 1963
Standing: Cpl. Rothwell, Cpl. Waite, Cpl. Wilson, L/Cpl. Kendrew, Cpl. Laurence
Kneeling: Pte. Malone, L/Cpl. Lamont, L/Cpl. Roberts, Pte. Flaherty, Pte. Burnet, Pte. Clark



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In the papers of Lt. Colonel R. B. Long, at that time the Commanding Officer, there is a memorandum to the Paymaster, attempting to justify his accounts, one item of which reads:

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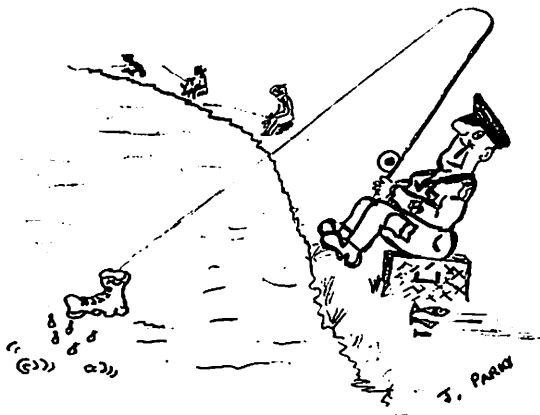
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moment on top of their league. Once again there were no outstanding individuals, but the overall standard was high enough to ensure that we were not weak in any department. In this side we have the nucleus for a good 1st XI in the years to come.

FISHING CLUB

By C.S.M. Batty



We must have a new sub-editor as this is the first time I have been called upon to write notes for our fishing club. What does one write about on fishing? I could tell many a story about our activities but nobody would believe them, so what do I do?

We formed the club on our arrival in Catterick but, owing to the very severe weather at the start, our outings were limited. We did however get about fourteen keen chaps some of whom passed the evening (plus a few working hours) making rods, flies, floats, etc., in preparation for the better weather.

We still do not get out on many organised trips but our members are getting plenty of fishing and on Wednesday (sports afternoons) members can be seen sneaking out of camp at lunch-time before the return of the R.S.M.

Most of our fishing is done on the River Swale which runs through Richmond; this is a really first-class river for anglers. Some of our members have joined the Richmond Angling Club which has about 10 miles of fishing on this river, and I may add that we have made some very good friends down there. They always make us feel welcome and we have certainly benefited from their sound advice and knowledge of the river. C.S.M. Batty and Cpl. Cooper have started match fishing with them at week-ends, but so far have not managed to come away with the prizes.

L/Cpl. Mapleston, who was one of our stalwarts, has now left us for civilian life. We wish him all the best and may he have many tight lines.

I think we ought to mention L/Cpl. Craig. He joined the club a few months ago as a complete novice. He took to it like a duck to water. He now goes down to Richmond and on almost every occa-

sion has managed to get a couple of trout and a few grayling.

On October 16 we held a fishing match of our own at Boroughbridge and the results were as follows:—

Best Aggregate Weight

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| 1. C.S.M. Batty | 4lb. 5½oz. |
| 2. Cpl. Wilson (REME) | 1lb. 9 oz. |
| 3. Cpl. Lockwood | 1lb. 5 oz. |
| 4. Cpl. Claughton | 1lb. 3½oz. |

Largest Fish Competition

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| 1. Cpl. Claughton | 8 oz. |
| 2. C.S.M. Batty | 6½oz. |

GOLF MEETING

"The Ball no Question makes of Ayes and Noes, But Right or Left as strikes the Player goes."

Yes, even Omar had heard of the Silver Putter and Wooden Spoon. Whether he could have equalled the performances of certain participants is fascinating but useless speculation; it is certain, however, that he could have done no worse.

This may sound harsh judgment when several good rounds were played. On the other hand . . .!

Friday, September 13, was the date, Catterick Golf Club the venue. The "Putterites" played "all eighteen," but the "Spoonists" disputed only the final twelve holes. The first ball disappeared green-wards at the unusual hour of 8.40 a.m. The course from then on was a busy scene with "Dukes" in varying degrees of control of the situation.

We were delighted to see Peter Hoppe demonstrating his power-play (were boots *de rigueur*?), and Derrick Wood contriving a workmanlike round with no help from his partner. Chris Edwards and Charles Bunbury, the Palmer and Nicklaus of the field, did everything with an air of languid elegance, returning figures which were at once enviable and depressing. Jim Newton, John Greenway and Micky Bray went round with determination and zeal. Dennis Shuttleworth accompanied Colonel Walter Skelsey and Peter Hoppe, without any recourse to leg-spin, although he sometimes drove attractively through the offside field. General Upjohn, Brigadier Bunbury and the Colonel formed a trio with much experience. Graham Tedd, Robin Stevens, Bob Callaby and Jack Hobbs formed a quartet; Jack scored his hundred before lunch, a feat not often achieved by his illustrious namesake. I do not know how many people were playing inside Simon Berry's sweater, but it could have been several.

The Silver Putter was won by Chris Edwards while Wilfred Charlesworth won the Spoon. The latter speaks volumes for all the practice obtained in British Honduras. Derek Roberts and David Miller were determined, and both won prizes. Brigadier Moran and Major Jim McLaren played steadily, the latter winning the "Open." Roger

Sugden was seen only briefly, declining to take a club. Perhaps a spade would have been a better bid.

Mention should be made now of the halfway beer bar, which did no good whatever to the author's drive which landed rather less than 40 feet away. It did however afford our itinerant society camera, plied by Bill Treadwell, an opportunity not to be missed. Came the luncheon break, and news that the ladies putting competition had been won by Angela Burnett from a formidable list of entrants. The lunch itself was accompanied by furious tilting at the club machine, a one-arm bandit which dispensed golf balls should you be lucky enough to make the correct colour combination. This piece of financial villainy was amenable to the expert touch of Bob Callaby, but losing three shillings was the fate of the writer. The bar dispensed beer, which was rather more to the point.

The afternoon saw still further frenzied efforts, the Greensome Competition. Palmer and Nicklaus were challenged by two members of Division IV (one applying for re-election) and won handsomely despite going out of bounds twice. At the end of it all, and after tea, prizes were presented by Sheila Kavanagh, and the camera clicked busily.

A splendid day. Other memories include: (a) Godfrey Bellamy NOT winning the spoon despite Shrivenham, (b) a civilian who intruded at the eighth, was let through by a thoroughly incensed Paymaster, and who promptly lost his ball; perforce, he was overtaken again and was last seen pushing vaguely at a formidable cluster of rogue grass.

Brigadier Bunbury was heard to remark that "putting bullets through targets" was an easier occupation, but Derrick Wood was hurriedly moved on before a debate on the subject could be convened.

We were sorry not to have General Ozanne with us; his presence at Frinton last year improved at least one person's golf and there is still room for improvement before we tackle the Americans, with or without the larger ball.

Finally, our thanks to the organisers, who laid on a splendid show, and to the handicappers who demonstrated consummate tact. We look forward to future exhibitions of skill in BAOR, providing, of course, there is enough ground left after training has had its share.

R.A.B.

THE MT PLATOON IN THE CAIRNGORMS

Early in September it was decided to take advantage of the offer by the 4/5 Camerons (TA) of training facilities in the Kingussie area of Inverness-shire, in order to carry out MT training. The MT Platoon seldom gets the opportunity to work as a platoon and it was felt that the chance of getting out on training as one body was too good to miss.

The MTO, Lt. Wiley, was therefore despatched to carry out a "recce" of the area with Lt. Moir who was to report on its possibilities for winter sports and adventure training. With commendable fortitude they put up with the hardships of living in hotels and touring the area for three whole days.

4/5 Camerons (TA) and the Northern Counties TAFE kindly made their drill hall at Kingussie available for accommodation and were most helpful in obtaining permission for the use of private ground for training. A training programme was planned which covered convoy driving, night driving and navigation, canoeing and the ascent of Cairngorm (4,084ft.) and Ben Macdhui (4,296ft.).

On 24th September, 30 MT N.C.O.'s and soldiers, together with a detachment of the Signal Platoon and Pte. Hill, the regimental cook, left Catterick in the early hours of the morning, travelling in two separate convoys. Different routes were followed by the two columns and it was hoped to maintain radio contact between the two. Unfortunately, apart from one "freak" contact over a distance of almost 30 miles, communications were established only during the last 50 miles when both columns were using the same route with only a few miles between them. However, a lot of useful practice in voice procedure was obtained on

the "net" between the first and last vehicle in each column.

The journey of 300 miles was completed without incident and both columns arrived within two minutes of the planned ETA. Cold, wet weather in the morning rather spoilt the enjoyment of some wonderful scenery, but everyone appreciated the opportunity to tread pastures new. Lt. Moir and a small advance party had the drill hall and a hot meal ready for us when we arrived, and the party was soon settled in. The signal detachment set up a Skywave aerial and established contact with the other detachments at Catterick and Salisbury Plain.

The next day was occupied in servicing and refuelling the vehicles in readiness for a night driving and map reading exercise which was run on a "rally" basis with teams of four in each vehicle. Despite gale force winds, heavy rain and temperatures near freezing point, the exercise was a great success.

Considerable interest and enthusiasm was shown by the participants. The result was a tie, the joint winners being Cpl. Lancashire's team and Pte. Flaherty's team. The signal detachment helped to man the control points for the exercise.

It had been the intention to have a camouflage competition to finish off the night's training, but the weather conditions were so appalling that this was reluctantly cancelled.

On the 26th September vehicles were prepared for the return journey to Catterick and kit prepared for the hill walk planned for the following day. In the afternoon the canoeing enthusiasts set off for Loch Morlich with Lt. Moir. Again

the weather forced us to call off the training as gale force winds were causing very rough conditions on the Loch. Even the experts from the nearby Government Training Hostel had given up the attempt to canoe in such conditions.

During the day Lt.-Colonel Murray, the CO of 4/5 Camerons, came to Kingussie to see if we had everything we needed. This was typical of the helpful and friendly attitude shown by all members of his battalion with whom we came in contact, and did much to make our stay enjoyable.

An early start was made on September 27 in the hopes of getting to the top of Ben Macdhuib before the weather deteriorated. When we reached the bottom of the chair lift on Cairngorm the weather was fine but cold with a strong wind blowing at our backs. So, led by Lt. Moir, who has considerable experience of climbing in the Cairngorms, we set off, not, it must be admitted, without evident reluctance on the part of some of the "old hands."

A sprinkling of snow covered the hills above the 2,500ft. mark and the going was quite slippery. We had not been climbing very long before the sky became very dark and it began to snow quite heavily. By the time we had reached 3,500ft. we were meeting snow drifts two feet deep, and this in September! We struggled on until we had

reached 3,800ft. with the steepest part of the climb almost completed. Then we were caught in a blizzard and it would have been dangerous and foolish to have carried on. Once again the weather had interfered with our plans and we had to retrace our steps to the lower slopes.

Once below the snow line we made our way across the hills to the Army ski hut at Rothiemurchus where we ate our sandwiches. From there we made our way down to Loch Morlich and marched right round its shores and along the road to where the transport was waiting. Altogether about 15 miles were covered, in fairly unpleasant conditions, and it was a tired and somewhat sore group who returned to Kingussie in mid-afternoon.

The rest of the day was devoted to loading vehicles and packing up for the return trip to Catterick. Lights out was at 2000 hours! Another early start was made on September 28 and the return journey, blessed by good weather, was completed at Catterick in good order by 1600 hours.

During the five days a lot of useful training was achieved, but perhaps the greatest benefit was the noticeable improvement in morale and platoon spirit. A valuable insight was obtained into the way of life we shall experience in BAOR; long drives, short periods of sleep, often at unusual hours, and some fairly strenuous physical effort.

ALMA COMPANY IN BRITISH HONDURAS

It seems no time since we arrived here, and yet we are now planning the last phase of our training and thinking of APCs and Rhine Army. The time has been very full with some of each of good and bad, of joy and sorrow. Some people here count the days, others would stay for years and be perfectly happy.

We have now covered all the country except for the top right-hand bit, round Santenja, and Mount Victoria, but we shall trot up that in January when we have some spare time. Since the weather deteriorated early in August it has been pointless having anybody at Mountain Pine Ridge. Each platoon had spent a week or two there during the dry spell and the value of the camps was decreasing.

2 Platoon (2 Lt. Nickell) spent a week at Roaring Creek doing jungle training and being poised for action up the Western Highway if necessary. 3 Platoon (Lt. Pettigrew) spent a week at Caves Branch, also doing jungle training. The new CBFA (Commander British Forces Caribbean Area) visited them and watched sections training on trail-cutting, building a "basha" camp, and laying an ambush. Support Platoon also spent a week at Caves Branch during which they trained on the .50 Browning MG and fired practice rounds from the Mobats against a 300ft. cliff.

Tactical exercises on "fighting through the objective" were run for the rifle platoons. The results showed that a great deal had been achieved in three months. There was plenty of tactical know-

how, great keenness and good common sense. The basis of each exercise was that the enemy was always sited exactly where the attacker did not want him to be, and was always covered from another position. The assault pioneers produced some splendid battle simulation.

During the last ten days of August, 3 Platoon visited Gallon Jug. The outward journey was by the recognised route and included an overnight stay at Orange Walk, a nine-hour river trip from there to Hill Bank on the Belize Estate Company's barge, and a two-and-a-half hour train journey on the logging railway through forest from Hill Bank to Gallon Jug.

When camp had been pitched and recess were completed, Lt. Pettigrew sent out three training patrols, under Corporals Bower, Hodkinson and Smith. Each patrol stayed out for 48 hours, during three days, and covered about twenty-five miles along forest trails.

Cpl. Bower's patrol tested the track towards Blue Creek and checked the alignment for several miles of it. It was fairly clear all the way.

Cpl. Hodkinson's route included plenty of trail cutting and they visited Cenoti Camp, San Jose, Macab Camp, and some Maya ruins nearby. Of these ruins Hodkinson reported that one mound had been opened by archaeologists. The pattern of the buildings was concentric, though detail was difficult to make out. The walls were built of shallow, six-inch long bricks. The patrol did not



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"There, there, lad! So this is where the road was yesterday."

Sgt. Reddy, Pte. Broadbent, L/Cpl. Stenton, Pte. Myers, Cpl. Dove, Cpl. Howard and Pte. Clarke 66



enter this ruin as large numbers of black wasps were apparent, and the guide warned of a "snakes paradise." The camps visited had been logging camps which, long since vacated, had been adopted by parties of chicleros.

Cpl. Smith's patrol travelled round the south west quadrant from Gallon Jug by way of Chan Chick Creek and the Banana Bank Road. Between the Creek and the Road the tracks were badly "bushed over" and direction finding was by guide and compass only. On the second day some Mayan ruins were visited. The ruins were completely overgrown and infested with snakes, scorpions and other unpleasant insects. Evidence of past habitation in the area lay in the growth of orange, grapefruit and mango trees in the area. That night the patrol improvised beds out of creepers and branches. Pte. Howarth cut his leg with a machete and received rough and ready first aid which sufficed. The night was interrupted by the screaming of baboons in the trees above. The last morning was an exhausting five-hour spell of cutting and forcing a path along badly overgrown tracks.

Each patrol accumulated a great deal of jungle craft from its local guides. These guides were B.E.C. "tree-hunters" who spend their working life seeking mahogany trees in unbroken jungle. They learned to have a healthy respect for the fitness of the soldiers they were with.

Of two football matches against the Gallon Jug team one was lost and one won. The cricket match was lost. Of the football it was reported that "kick and be damned" tactics were in order. The cricket, played on a pitch which was "a great leveller though far from level," was brief. Gallon Jug scored 64, and 3 Platoon 21, but everybody enjoyed it.

When the time came to depart the platoon exploded in all directions. Lt. Petigrew led a patrol

south along the Yalbac trail and out through Never Delay after a march of 35 miles in 28 hours in a mean temperature of 93 degrees Fahrenheit with high humidity. One man collapsed from heat exhaustion and completed the journey on a chicleros mule but two men marched the whole way in under eighteen hours with very little water.

Sgt. Pratt took the "B" team down the logging railway to Hill Bank, across to Crabcatcher Creek by boat, and then marched via Lemonal to Bermudian Landing where his transport was waiting. The twelve-mile march included plenty of knee-deep mud and swamp and a precarious crossing of Spanish Creek by dory.

The C.Q.M.S. returned to camp by the rail, water, road route. The Company Commander, who had flown in for a visit, walked out on the Blue Creek Road, accompanied by Cpl. Hodgkinson, to where "Alma La Douce" (Land-Rover) was waiting.

This visit was particularly valuable, and no energy or ingenuity was spared to make certain that each man made the most of his time.

On September 6 the Company provided its second Queen's Guard of Honour for His Excellency the Governor on his return from leave. The guard, commanded by Captain Pell, was excellent and many compliments were received. The BHVG band again played but we were used to them this time.

During a six-week spell from the end of August to the beginning of October the Company spent two weeks on weapon training revision and practice, followed by range classification on SLR, LMG, and SMG. We found the new SLR course very good but difficult. The weather, which should have been very wet, stayed dry most days and only two or three hours were lost due to showers during the whole time.



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Living off the Country

(Left to right):

Sgt. Wilson, Lt. Newell,
Novello (local guide),
Lt. Andrews (the Saint),
CSM France.

Sgt. Wilson is holding
the heart of a cohune
palm



A number of people went on leave for ten days during the WT period. Cpl. Hodkinson went to Miami, thoroughly enjoyed himself but is reticent when asked what he did. Several soldiers went to Merida, and a bus load went to Chetumal, but most of them drifted back early and empty-pocketed. Pte. Lord went to a bull-fight in Chetumal at which one of the matadors, who had taken one look at the bull, turned, dashed for the fence and dived over; he was heard to remark "I found I had no confidence in the bull."

Early in October the company began specialist training. It says much for the facilities of the camp and for the energy of the officers and NCO's that simultaneously instruction is being given to cadres for junior NCOs, 3in. mortar, Mobat, drivers, and regimental signallers. Concurrently other soldiers are being taught pioneer work, cooking, medical orderly's duties, and sanitary duties. This means that just under seventy men are undergoing specialist instruction. Only one day's training has been lost in three weeks — a company commander's dream.

Meanwhile Lt. Newell has run a demonstration and general duties platoon. After two weeks they went into camp on the bathing beach at Stann Creek. They spent an energetic and interesting week there during which they visited Mullins River, Ponona, Silk Grass, Caves Branch and the forestry area as far afield as South Stann Creek. One trip was to the forest look-out on the east side of the Cockscomb Basin where one looks over ten miles of jungle-filled valley to the crest of Mount Victoria. The platoon found Mullins River Town to consist of only one building of any size left standing since Hurricane Hattie. The area is one of laden coconut palms and a beach of silvery sand. Some of the soldiers borrowed dories from the locals and canoed up river. Others swam in the river and cut coconuts. The same day the platoon spent the afternoon looking round the Trout Hall fruit canning factory at Pomona. Another day was spent proving

and mapping the tracks south of the Hummingbird Highway.

The Platoon football team was not very successful, against strong opposition in each game, but they were popular. The whole platoon made its mark and on the Saturday evening the people of Stann Creek gave a party to bid them au revoir.

In mid-October a shadow fell across the scene. The body of Pte. Michael Shadforth, who had been in Alma Company since October, 1962, was found in the sea eight miles off Belize. He had been missing since October 4. It seemed that, after an evening spent with his friends, he took a sailing boat from its moorings and sailed out to sea. At some stage he lost control of the boat, fell overboard, and was drowned.

Shadforth had been the radio operator of 2 Platoon since January this year. He was a quiet, pleasant young man, well liked by us all.

He was buried with full military honours in the Belize Cemetery on Wednesday, October 23, 1963.

All of us in Alma Company felt the tragedy of his death. He was one of us, we knew his ways, and he shared our life. One of our comrades has gone and we are all diminished by his loss.

Training for the officers and sergeants has so far consisted of two afternoons on the organisation and handling of the APC Battalion and an afternoon devoted to a study of the possible nature of a limited war with tactical nuclear weapons, a description of the weapons themselves, and a few points on the problems of using nuclear weapons on the battlefield. Major Pritchard, the new GSO2, gave a very witty and informative talk on the set-up in BAOR, including the approach to working with NATO forces, and the control of nuclear warheads.

Future study periods will cover APC communications and the detailed examination of techniques required for the battalion group tasks in nuclear war.

Events in prospect, up to Christmas, are a series of company exercises in jungle, mountain and pine ridge country, during the end of November and beginning of December, and a visit to Punta Gorda by 2 Platoon in HMS *Ursa*, which will spend December 13-16 in Belize. If the weather is dry Support Platoon and the signallers will move from here to Toledo District by road and bring back 2 Platoon.

C/Sgt. Chilvers left here on September 15. We were sorry to lose him; he leaves a big gap and unusual calm. After two weeks of farewell parties, including a "passing-out parade" for the sergeants' mess, organised by the officers, we saw "Bobo" on to the plane and retired for a well-earned rest.

Congratulations go to Cpl. Dove and Pte. Richardson, whose wives have given birth to daughters, and to Pte. Kench who is the father of a son.

Officers' Mess

Unquestionably the fighting is thickest in the officers' mess. The day starts when, after the two mile run and a dip in the pool, the alleged singing of Messrs. Andrews, Newell, Nickell and Pettigrew is aggravated by squawks from two frightened, then jealous and imitative, green parrots. All peace is shattered. Shocked into wakefulness the Garrison shudders to meet the day.

All the officers are exceptionally fit, except sometimes in the morning. We eat well. Jim (Chips with everything) Pell was elected food member *in absentia*, and at each meal the comments are "A splendid meal," "excellent soup this," and so on. Jim says it all, but we seldom have to disagree.

Alma Day was celebrated a week late, on September 27. At 2 a.m. the Colour Sergeant appeared, politely, at the mess door. He told us that, due to the noise, he could not sleep but that

he had a bottle of rum in his bunk which he would be happy to share with any of the officers. There followed a pooling of resources between the officers' and sergeants' messes, and at 5 a.m. the last guest was found asleep on the mat. A good night was had by all but the day that followed was a shocker.

Life is very active. All the officers have lost weight. We used to pull Robin Newell's leg about his need to diet, but that is pointless now. Jim Pell has taken his belt in about six inches in the last five months. Both Peters are down to fighting weight, and Rodney Harms now needs a belt to keep his trousers up.

Indicative of how we feel was a remark by Andrew Nickell as he walked off the field after 45 minutes of a four-a-side "Touch and Pass" in a shade temperature of 90 degrees: "A good loosener, that!" Andrew's "local rag" journalese comments on life produce some hilarious moments. He has most things summed up.

We all have found the people here to be friendly and hospitable. This is, in fact, a very happy officers' mess. The informal dances we have held have been highly successful, and cinema nights and curry lunch after a bathe on Sundays have given us plenty of opportunity to entertain.

Since we came here we have played football, hockey, basketball, volleyball, touch and pass, and tennis. Some of us have been water ski-ing, skin diving, sailing and fishing. There has been plenty of scope for all these activities.

It is a pity that Peter Pettigrew must go home early for his support weapons course. The team is a happy one and we shall miss him, having to play a man short for our last two months here. We are frankly envious that he will have Christmas at home and be able to see the "All Blacks."

The main thing we are short of here is sleep.

EXERCISE ALMA VIVA

or Alma Officers at Work

"Friday, October 25 will be a field day for the officers of Alma Company."

The previous Saturday Andrew and I conducted a tactical reconnaissance of the possible enemy invasion route Succotz-El Cayo. I planned the attack, he planned the defence. We sweated up to the top of Xunantunich, examined the map, marked ominously "Sketch Map," and agreed on which feature was which. Imaginatively, we christened the ground: Barn Hill, Farm Hill, Bald Hill—what could be duller or more military? We searched for knolls, clumps and copses, but this was no "typical piece of North West European countryside"—a pity.

Came lunch time, we drained the last of the jungle juice—a vigorous little vintage—and went with all speed to Caves Branch, a bathe and a drink on Alcohol Hill. Then home, dusty but with exercise "Alma Viva" buttoned up to the last viewpoint.

Friday dawned clear, calm and fresh, with all officers suffering slightly like blinking owls in

hung-over sunshine. "0730 hours departure. Dress—Side-hats, shirts KF, cord trousers, stable belts and boots, creeping, bordello. Food and Drink—Ale and wine are to be taken. Food by Pell. Accn Stores—All decent napery, mess silver, etc., is to be taken. Co-ord—Pte. Richardson who will not go out on Thursday night."

Robin would meet us at El Cayo police station at 0930 hours. He was with his platoon at Stann Creek.

Two land-rovers: "Alma La Douce," which is mine, and "Popanbang," which isn't Pte. Robinson's although he was driving it, left at 0745 hours (tut tut). At 0755 hours "Popanbang" refused to pull and spluttered back towards camp. Extra load transferred to "Alma La Douce." Four miles east of Hattieville we had the first puncture; at Hattieville we had the second. No garage in Hattieville.

Message sent through police net: "Arrest carrot-haired army officer unquestionably speeding through Roaring Creek in next few minutes."

Message passed, answer followed "Robin here, sir, what is all this?"

Then Robinson arrived and the time was 0930 hours. Re-wheeled, but spareless, we made Roaring Creek by 1020 hours. This was the time for great decisions. "Exercise Grinding Crash is to take place at Roaring Creek. Give me 10 minutes for a recce, lads." Followed a rapid military appraisal, a quick narrative, "What is the ground like, sir"—this from "Saint" Peter. "Use your eyes, clot!" and they were away, "monitoring and periscoping" around to make their appreciation for the company group attack.

"Look here, 'Saint,' it's no use your saying you can't do a proper appreciation because this isn't a good enough viewpoint. It's the best there is and if this was war you'd be crawling." Then followed consideration of banks, flanks and tanks. Peter P's plan was to go right flanking and, as that seemed to be as good a way to the objective as any, we strode off in single file through the thorn bushes.

I led, making suitable remarks such as, "There you are, no problem getting through this ——— stuff. Help! Andrew!" and, "Tanks wouldn't have any trouble seeing over the top of this stuff. Wish I could," and, "Useful bit of rising ground over there. Yes, just as I thought—Can't see a damned thing."

So we moved, to the accompaniment of burbled pearls of tactical wisdom. The others were, of course, deep in military conversation—"She will." "Not that one." "Well, she might." "Well, you try, I've tried."

Suddenly there were cries of anguish and, like the pigeons in Trafalgar Square rising from the cynical boot of somebody less well fed, three platoon commanders erupted in all directions, their arms flapping like crazy-man, crazy, shrieking as they went.

It seems that "Sir," mumbling quietly to himself as he walked, had kicked a hornets nest. Score in stings: Nickell—9, Andrews—4, Newell—1, Pettigrew—1, OC Company—nil. Such is life. The moral is: "Whenever you bash on regardless everybody else cops it!"

We discussed the solution to Problem No. 1 in relation to Andrew's platoon defensive position. I ruled that both sides had won and then it was lunch time, except for "Saint," who must always have the last word; "Of course if you'd had the Mobat in the right place . . ."

Jim had organised a splendid lunch under a big cotton tree beside the Belize River. Richardson had put out the tables and chairs in the shade. The table looked well and we sat happily drinking cold beer out of the 2nd Battalion goblets, our conversation interrupted only by the clicking of cameras and the flitting in and out of Pte. Staples catching butterflies.

Then came lunch: Mushroom soup, cold chicken and salad, fruit and cream, blue cheese and biscuits, café noir, and with it two bottles of Graves Superieur. Afterwards six very smug and slightly inebriated officers sat watching the Duke's

statue and the other silver glinting in the filtered sunlight, and thought that life was very good.

While we sat thus there came a gaucho, his sleazy nag saddled with vile sacking. He took one look, his eyes popping like chapel hat pegs, muttered "No croy esto" (I don't believe this), turned on a sixpence and was off.

The afternoon's problem was the company group in defence. The subalterns were more or less "with it" except that they had forgotten that they had any tanks. Then Jim took them on a problem about casevac and feeding in the field, on which he is certainly an expert.

After that I had to come back for Don Stauffer's cocktail party but "the boys" went down to Tim and Jill Fannings for supper.

On Saturday morning's muster parade the men looked ugly—well, uglier than usual. Jim and "the boys" beat me to it by a short head—but then I'd had breakfast.

THE WEST RIDING BATTALION (T.A.)

We regret that the West Riding Battalion notes did not reach us in time for us to be able to accept them for publication. The following is a summary of some parts of them:

Shooting

Teams from nine major and five minor units took part in the Brigade Group meeting at Strensal. It was a fine week-end and building employers did not want to lose men from work so several of our men did not turn up. In Match 1 only three points separated the top three teams, 3 PWO, 4 KOYLI and WR Battalion, scoring 613, 611 and 610 respectively. So one point, or one-fifth of a good bullet, kept our team from going on to the Divisional meeting.

We won the China Cup, but this was not included in the Divisional meeting; our young soldiers did not shoot well and three of the eight did not turn up. In Match 8, the total of all matches, we came second to 4 KOYLI, who went on to the Divisional meeting.

As individuals, C.S.M. Webb, "D" Company's PSI, was runner-up in the SMG match and Major Robertson was runner-up in the rifle match.

We were therefore represented only by five individuals at the Divisional meeting at Beckenham on September 21/22. These were: Major Robertson, Class C (Regular); R.Q.M.S. Machen and C.Q.M.S. Bacon, Class A (T.A.); L/Cpl. Williams and Pte. Boyle, Class B (Young Soldiers).

R.Q.M.S. Machen got into the second stage of the rifle match, the Top Twenty. Major Robertson won Class C and was individual Divisional champion of all classes, adding some fine tankards to his collection.

Officers Mess

On November 29 we dined out Major Roberts, our MO, and dined in his successor, Major J. D. G. Turner, T.D., who was formerly with 382 Medium Regiment. "Max" Roberts is joining the Regular Army. We wish him the best of luck and thank him for the silver ash tray he presented to the mess.

1st Battalion Rugby Between the Wars

Some Personalities and Incidents

By LT.-COLONEL JACK DALRYMPLE

Part I—The Era of "Bull" Faithfull and "Horsey" Browne

(Continued from I.D. No. 130)

Our stay at Gosport was broken by the General Strike of 1926 when the Battalion was ordered to Scotland—the first English regiment to serve in Scotland for, I believe, Heaven knows how long. Whilst there "Horsey" and I played for the West of Scotland.

Gosport had one drawback in that we found it impossible to get first-class rugby for such fine players as George Townend. The United Services Club, Portsmouth, in those days catered for officers only. Charles Faithfull, "Horsey" and I had very enjoyable games for the U.S. under the captaincy of Lt.-Commander Charles Hallaran, R.N., the Irish international and a rich character to wit.

Devonport

From Gosport we moved to Devonport and, from a rugby playing point of view, we could not have been luckier. This station had the great advantage that Devonport Services, a first-class club of great tradition, played all ranks. Several of us were regular members of Devonport Services and frequently the side contained several more "Dukes" as the Regiment furnished most of the club's reserve talent.

Captain Gosling, R.N. (now Captain of the Tower Bridge) and I were talking only the other night about our happy days at Devonport. Gosling played for Devonport Services, being a full back of great class; he gained two international trials and many worse full backs have played for England. He reminded me of two amusing incidents connected with Pte. Foy and Pte. Eyre.

Pte. Foy

Mick Foy, one of the staunchest of second row forwards, was a regular member of the Services' team. I can see him now, with his mop of ginger hair, toughing it in the mauls or in the line-outs. One day Gosling met him hobbling home after having taken an awful hammering against Plymouth Albion. Gosling asked: "How is you leg, Foy?" Mick answered: "I think it's broken, but it will be all right."

Pte. Eyre

Travelling home by train after a game versus Northampton the Naval contingent of the side espied the short, burly figure of Pte. Eyre standing at their compartment door, wrapped up in his military greatcoat. Not liking to leave him out of their game of cards Gosling asked him—reluctantly, as he thought he would be a novice—if he would like to join in. Two hours later Pte. Eyre got ready to leave the train with his pockets stuffed with notes won from the senior service.

Pte. Dowas

Northampton reminds me that another character merits mention at this point, namely Pte. Fred Dowas, who was a remarkable little man. He was a pocket Hercules, about 5ft. 4in. in height with a neck almost as large as "Horsey" Browne's, but with no aptitude for learning—I doubt if Fred ever gained a third-class certificate of education. "Horsey" taught him the art of hooking, and owing to his height, or lack of it, he was able to get under most hookers opposed to him. Fast in the loose and a good tackler, he gained two or three Army Caps.

On one occasion we were playing for Devonport Services against Northampton and Fred Dowas, who was on leave in Yorkshire, had been instructed accordingly. He had never heard of Northampton, so he turned up in Southampton.

But perhaps the stories I most like to remember about Dowas concern the time when he was picked to play for the Army against the French Army at Twickenham.

The team was staying in an hotel. Half-way to Twickenham it was discovered that there was no Dowas. "Horsey" stopped the bus and rang up the hotel to start an emergency search. Dowas was eventually brought to the phone and explained in his broad Yorkshire accent that he had been "having a kip." He was told to attach himself to the V.I.P. party and he arrived at Twickenham in the French General's car.

For the dinner after the match "Horsey" had hired him a dinner jacket. He had, I suspect, never seen such a form of attire before but, helped by "Horsey" and perhaps "Bull" Faithfull, he presented himself at the dinner complete with dinner jacket and stiff collar and shirt—which everyone wore with dinner jackets in those days. After dinner, having smoked a cigar, he eventually retired to bed.

Next morning at breakfast Fred was missing so "Horsey" made tracks for his room. There was Fred, very blue in the face, prostrate on the bed and still in his dinner jacket having nearly strangled himself while trying to get his stiff collar off.

These were happy days and, compared with the present, carefree days.

Army Cup Matches

It was during our time at Devonport that we had those stirring contests in the Army Challenge Cup with the 5th Battalion, Royal Tank Regiment, who were under the captaincy of the great England half-back and lovable personality, Arthur Young. Arthur's strong suit was his burst from the scrum, but "Horsey" playing in his normal position, wing forward, always had the counter. As a result we managed to win both our games with the 5th by a narrow margin.

Our next opponent, both years, in the semi-final of the Cup was the 1st Battalion, The King's Own Royal Regiment. The King's Own were captained by that fine centre, Alfred Aslett. He played for England and captained the Army for many years. Very strong, a fine kick and tackle, he was a match winner in any class; he also had that rare gift of being able to time a pass to perfection.

There was little between our two sides—both first-class; Aslett just turned the balance as "Horsey" had by then been afflicted by the disease that was shortly to kill him. I wonder how many Army Caps and County Caps those two sides mustered. In this context it is perhaps worth recording that three of us: "Horsey," George Townend and I, gained Devon caps during our period at Devonport.

Two other matches in the Army Cup at this period come to mind and these were against the Dorset Regiment. We won both matches very comfortably but the Dorsets had some rare personalities in their XV: Eric Downe, a very good centre near international class, now General Sir Eric Downe, recently C-in-C Southern Command; Dudley Ward, Army 220 yards record holder, now General Sir Dudley Ward, Governor of Gibraltar, and "Bird" Partridge, Army quarter-mile champion who, sadly, was killed in the war.

Some Officers

Whilst at Devonport we started mid-week fixtures with the Royal Military College, Sandhurst. I remember our present Colonel of the Regiment, Kenneth Exham, who had recently come home from the 2nd Battalion, played on the wing in one of these contests. Unfortunately he got seized with cramp in the leg early on and was a passenger for the rest of the game.

From the R.M.C., about this time, we got Bob Moran—and what a very good player he was. He had been in the Sandhurst XV, gaining the reputation of being a very clever-running centre three-quarter. I remember well that he had a most deceptive swerve and change of pace; I always wondered at this because he had two of the largest feet I ever remember seeing. Had he not been sent to join the 2nd Battalion in India I believe he might well have gone very near to gaining an Irish cap.

Jim MacLaren also joined us at Devonport for a short period before being posted overseas. He was a fine wing forward, having played for Birkenhead Park and Cheshire. A great character and companion, Jim, and a wonderful entertainer after dinner. I have never heard "Minnie the Moocher" sung better.

"Bunny" Reynolds was another officer who joined about this time—a fast, robust forward who had learnt his rugby at Blundell's School. He gained an Army Cap or two but his career was tragically cut short when he was burnt to death in a tent whilst in camp with the Territorials.

I think Jimmy Troop joined during the latter part of our tour in Devonport but I will refer to

him in the next part of my story. This will deal with "the 'Bonzo' Miles era."

Lt.-Colonel Freddy

Before finishing with the Faithfull-Browne era I must make mention of our then C.O. because, indirectly, he had a great influence on our results. Lt.-Colonel Freddy Wellesley was a terribly keen all-round sportsman and one of the most amazing characters I have ever met. A keen brain he was a man who could talk on any subject intelligently and who enjoyed all aspects of life to the full. His consumption of liquor was enormous and he was a voracious smoker—I believe that, whilst the Battalion was serving in Palestine, he drank gin for breakfast.

However, we all loved Colonel Freddy and he took an intense interest in our rugby football doings. Often did "Horsey" and I knock him up close on midnight and talk well into the morning on rugby strategy. After one guest night, given in honour of a visiting team, Colonel Freddy, about midnight, asked for a cake of soap so that he could expound his theories on place kicking to Sam Tucker, the English hooker.

In my memory I often see Freddy walking up and down the touch line in a shabby old leather coat, smoking copious cigarettes and encouraging us at the top of his voice. It was the irony of fate that we never won the Army Cup during his period of command.

To be continued



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PERSONALIA

The present address of General Sir Robert and Lady Bray is:—
C/O Headquarters Allied Forces, Northern Europe,
Kolsas,
Norway.

Two old Dukes have joined the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, as in-pensioners. They are Mr. George Shaw and Mr. Herbert Clinch.

Mr. Shaw joined the Regiment in 1911 and served with the 1st Battalion in India during the First World War.

Mr. Clinch joined in 1914 and served throughout the war on the Western Front. He left the Regiment as a company sergeant major in 1936. He was recalled in 1940 and served with the Regiment at Halifax during the Second World War.

Major Rupert Marett is now living at Hillfield Cottage, Yately, Hampshire. His son, Peter, is in his intermediate term at R.M.A., Sandhurst, and is hoping to join the Royal Engineers.

"Peterborough" of The Daily Telegraph (October 3, 1963) reported that there were as many Duke of Wellington's regimental ties as there were Aykroyds when Sir Keith Joseph opened the new Kingsway showroom of T. F. Firth and Sons, the carpet and soft furnishing manufacturers. Colonel Harold Aykroyd, the Chairman, who succeeded his brother, Sir Alfred, last year, and other members of the family were there to welcome Sir Keith. The last Aykroyd to serve in the Regiment was Mr. John Aykroyd, who was with the 1st Battalion in Gibraltar in 1955.

Major Bill Blakey, who is commanding the Singapore Guard company, has sent us the photograph below. He writes enthusiastically about the qualities of the Malay soldier and says that he is enjoying his job very much indeed.



Major P. B. Hall retired on November 28 for reasons of health. His address is Stone House, French Mill Lane, Shaftesbury, Dorset.

The 1963 regimental sweepstake on the St. Leger made a profit of £291 14s. 2d. for the funds of the Regimental Association. This is an increase of some £25 over 1962.

The engagement was announced in *The Times* during the autumn of Flying Officer S. A. H. Maffett, son of the late Wing Commander J. F. Maffett, R.A.F., also of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

John Maffett joined the Regiment in 1932 and served with the 2nd Battalion in India. He was seconded to the Air Force in 1937. He was reported lost at sea and presumed dead while on transit to the Middle East in a Beaufighter in February 1942.

In connection with the photo of the St. George's Day parade in Liverpool in 1921, published in our last issue, Colonel Armitage has written to say that he thinks Mr. Ramsbottom is correct in believing that this was the first time the 2nd Battalion celebrated St. George's Day with a distribution of white roses.

Colonel Armitage was himself on the parade. He recalls that then, and for some years after, the officers were given real roses. This was discontinued later, chiefly owing to the difficulty of obtaining them abroad, or even in England in April. He wonders if the practice has been resurrected.

Mrs. Bouflower is spending the winter at the Rolle Hotel, Budleigh Salterton.

Birth

HARRIS.—To Ann (née Huffam) and Gordon Harris, of Mataroa, Taihape, N.Z., a son.

We take this opportunity of apologising for a mistake in the notice of Miss Huffam's wedding (IRON DUKE No. 127) when her husband's name was given as Gordon Clifford instead of Gordon Clifford Harris.

Colonel Harvey, who has been visiting his son in Rhodesia, writes to say that he and his wife have decided to sweat the winter out there instead of returning to freeze it out in England.

While on his tour of game parks, described on p. 39, Colonel Harvey crossed the border into Mozambique. The Immigration Officer at the border post, Mr. Harrington, late of 5th D.Gs., said that he remembered The Duke's in Palestine in 1924 and recalled the occasion when two of our C.Q.M.S.s were murdered by a gang of Arabs on the Jaffa-Jerusalem road. (Actually they were C.S.M. P. E. Walker and C.Q.M.S. T. Dunn, both

of No. 1 Coy.—Ed.). Mr. Harrington was Superintendent of Police in the area and was responsible for catching the thugs who were hanged.

We have received another claim to be the last officer to be married in full dress uniform before Captain Lupton. This is from Lt.-Colonel Dick Collins who was married to Miss Helen Franks at St. Bartholomew's Church, Smithfield, on December 12, 1936. Both regular battalions were overseas at the time so very few "Dukes" were present. Unfortunately, however, this marriage ended in divorce.

Last summer Berkshire County Council appointed a Litter Warden, believed to be the first in the country, to help control the litter left by picnickers and others in the county's beauty spots. The man selected for this appointment was Captain Sydney Turnbull who served with 1st Battalion in North Africa and Italy and was wounded and taken prisoner during the first retreat from Anzio while acting as signals officer.

We were sent a cutting about Captain Turnbull's work by ex-C.S.M. A. E. Cutler who would be glad to hear from any old "Dukes" of Anzio days. His address is: "Kahala," Tintatal Road, Wokingham, Berkshire.

We congratulate Major Peter Robinson, R.A.M.C., on gaining his majority. He has just returned to England after a period of service in Nigeria. He is the son of the late Major Jack Robinson, who was awarded the Military Cross for outstanding gallantry with the 2nd Battalion at the Battle of the Sittang River in February, 1942, and who, tragically, was killed a month later.

The wedding of Major Nick Naughton and Fräulein Anna Margarete Christel Müssigbrodt took place at Bünde, Westfalia, on Saturday, August 24, 1963.

In accordance with German custom the civil ceremony took place at the Rathaus in the morning, and the religious marriage service was conducted in the afternoon at St. Joseph's Church, Bünde, by Father Cotton, Chaplain to the Forces.

Major Naughton's mother came over from England for the occasion as also did his sister with her husband.

The ceremony was a charming blend of English and German customs. The bride and groom exchanged wedding rings and the bride was "given away" by her father, Herr Erwin Müssigbrodt.

In the English fashion, Fräulein Brigitte Jahn acted as bridesmaid whilst two small attendants—a nephew of the bride and a daughter of an Army friend of the groom—strewn roses in the path of the bridal party as is customary in Germany.

Captain Mike Roots, an old Sandhurst friend of the bridegroom, acted as best man, and the "Dukes" were represented by Major Steve Dunn from Bielefeld.

A wedding reception was held at the Stadt-



Major and Mrs. Naughton

sparkasse and, later, relatives and friends danced at the bride's home until the early hours of Sunday in the company of the bride and groom, who left later for their honeymoon in Italy.

From the "London Gazette"

Supplements dated 24th May to 27th August, 1963

INFANTRY D.W.R.

REGULAR ARMY

2nd Lt. Andrew John Nickell from Short Serv. Commn. to be 2nd Lt., 18th Apr. 1963 with seniority, 14th Apr. 1962.

The following 2nd Lts. to be Lt., 22nd June 1963:
P. A. Pettigrew, C. N. St. P. Bunbury, H. de C. Cartwright.

Capt. P. B. L. Hoppe to be Maj., 22nd July 1963.
The following Lts. to be Capt., 2nd Aug. 1963:
M. R. N. Bray, D. Marsay.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Lt. J. H. Gladwin from Res. of Offrs., Class I, to be Lt., 18th June 1963.

Short Serv. Commn.

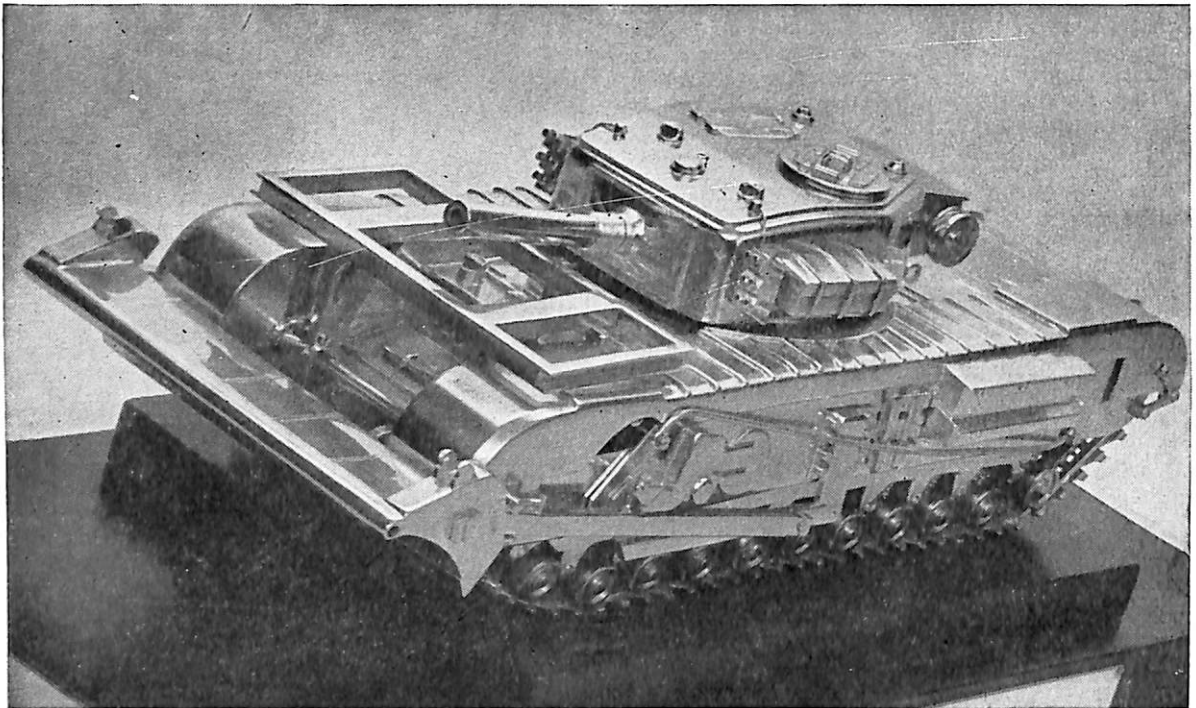
Lt. M. C. McCallum from Active List to be Lt., 4th May 1963.

(continued on page 37)



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CORRESPONDENCE

NOVEMBER 30, 1963.

SIR,

I am writing to you hoping that all is well with the Dukes. I am an old soldier who joined the Duke of Wellington's in 1906 and left in 1919. I would very much like to hear from any of the Old Boys, if you happen to know of any. My regimental number was 8708, and I served with the 1st Battalion in India from 1907 until the early part of 1914, and served with the 2nd Battalion in World War I. I came to Canada in 1923 and served in the Canadian Army all through World War II. I was in service with the late Earl of Athlone, in Government House at Ottawa, and was then sent to Washington, D.C., U.S.A., attached to the British Army Staff, serving with the late Field Marshal Sir John Dill, Field Marshal Sir William (Jumbo) Wilson, General Sir Gordon McCready and General Davidson; so you can see I have had a very exciting time since leaving the Dukes.

I am enclosing a little poem, which was given to me by a friend of mine, Colonel Swayze of the Lincoln and Welland Regiment. It was inscribed in a sentry box in Gibraltar by a soldier of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment while stationed there in Wellington's time, so I thought I would pass it on to you.

Once more wishing you all the very best of luck and health.

I remain yours very respectfully,

WM. P. FERRER.

242 River Road,
Welland, Ontario,
Canada.

The poem sent by Mr. Ferrer reads:

*"God and soldiers we adore,
In time of danger, not before;
When danger's passed and all things righted,
God is forgotten and soldiers slighted."*

It is very nice to get a letter like this from an old "Duke" who has been away from the Regiment for so long. We hope that it will catch the eye of some of his old comrades and that they will write to him.

The verse he sends was written by Francis Quarles (1592-1644), the version given in the Oxford Dictionary of Quotations being:

*Our God and soldiers we alike adore,
Ev'n at the brink of danger; not before.
After deliverance, both alike requited,
Our God's forgotten and our soldiers slighted.*

We had not heard of its being inscribed in a sentry box and in the interests of strict history it must be said that the 33rd Foot was not in Gibraltar until 1836, which is, perhaps, not quite what one would understand by "in Wellington's

time." It was, however, a time when the verse might seem apt to a soldier serving there, particularly when the 33rd were told they were for the West Indies again when they thought they had deserved some home service. Perhaps the sentry had just heard this unwelcome news.

(GAZETTE—continued from page 35)

TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

The following Capts. (Hon. Maj.), having exceeded the age limit, cease to belong to the Res. of Offrs., retaining the hon. rank of Maj.: B. V. Tomlinson, T.D., 8th June 1963; D. A. Rostron, 21 Aug. 1963.

GENERAL LIST

ARMY CADET FORCE

York (West Riding)

Lt. J. W. Briscoe and Lt. G. R. Lawton are awarded the Efficiency Medal (Territorial).

Supplements dated 30th Aug. to 27th Nov., 1963

WAR OFFICE

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Maj. Gen. K. G. Exham, C.B., D.S.O., having attained the age limit for liability to recall, ceases to belong to the Res. of Offrs., 17th Sept., 1963.

COMMANDS AND STAFF

Lt.-Gen. Sir Robert Bray, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., relinquishes his appointment as General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Southern Command, 1st Nov., 1963, and is appointed Commander-in-Chief, Allied Forces, Northern Europe, 18th Nov., 1963.

D.W.R.

REGULAR ARMY

Offr. Cadet Alan Roger Westcob, from Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, to be 2nd Lt., 2nd Aug., 1963.

Maj. S. G. Dunn retires on retired pay, 17th Sept. 1963.

Lt. C. W. Ivey to be Capt., 26th Oct. 1963.

Short Service Commission

Lt. C. L. J. Bailey resigns his commn., 2nd Oct. 1963.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Maj. (Hon. Lt.-Col.) J. M. Ricketts, having reached the age limit, ceases to belong to the Res. of Offrs., 8th Nov. 1963.

Class III

Lt. H. M. P. Miles from Res. of Offrs., Class I, to be Lt., 15th Oct. 1963.

TERRITORIAL ARMY

Capt. P. B. Knowles to be Maj., 6th July 1963.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to confer the award of the 1st clasp to the Territorial Efficiency Decoration upon Major C. Barnes, T.D.

Obituary

We greatly regret to announce the following deaths and, on behalf of the Regiment, offer our deep sympathy to the families of the deceased.

In-Pensioner A. Banks

In-Pensioner A. (Billy) Banks died on October 23, 1963, aged 78 years, at Elland, Yorkshire, whilst on leave staying with relatives.

Billy enlisted at Halifax on September 23, 1905, and after depot training went out to join the 1st Battalion in India at Sitapur. He remained with the Battalion until December, 1919, when he came home to the 2nd Battalion at Sheffield. Later he was re-posted to the 1st Battalion and subsequently did a tour as Ship's Orderly Room Sergeant on the troopship "Neuralia." He retired on pension on September 22, 1926. He held the Indian General Service Medal (Afghanistan 1919) and the British War Medal.

After retirement, Billy became a postman at Brighton and remained so until entering the Royal Hospital in August, 1960.

Ben Taylor, an old friend and contemporary of Billy's, writes:

"I first met Billy in Sitapur in September, 1908. I always found him a very cheerful man. He was good at all sport, particularly boxing, although he never made a name for himself outside the Regiment.

"Billy was always sociable and full of fun. He also had a good voice and often entertained his comrades with his repertoire of Yorkshire dialect songs at Regimental concerts."

In recent years Billy made many friends at the O.C.A. Reunion Dinners, both in London and Yorkshire.

Captain J. M. M. Bilham

An appreciation by Captain A. M. Verity

All those who knew John Bilham will be immensely saddened to hear of his death, following a short illness, a few months ago.

Captain Bilham served as an officer in the 9th Battalion from early 1941 until 1945, seeing service with them in South East England, then in India and Burma after mechanisation into 146 Regiment R.A.C. It was my privilege to be one of his closest friends during those years, and I like to think that John would feel me to be worthy of the role of his chronicler.

John was, in every sense, a big man. He stood well over six feet and weighed 17 stones but was (except when charging with the scrum in a Regimental rugby match) in all respects a gentle person. He was appointed adjutant in India and held that

appointment until he left to return home on repatriation. As adjutant he did not have to exercise his authority, because John himself was authority enough. Respected as he was by officers and men alike I never, in all the years I served with him, heard an unkind word said about him, or by him. He served as adjutant to Lt.-Colonel Pat Woods, Lt.-Colonel R. L. Agnew and finally Lt.-Colonel Jock Hetherington and all, I feel sure, have happy memories of their association with him, and grateful thanks for his support and loyalty.

Perhaps as one of his closest friends I may be forgiven for this eulogy. We all have our faults, and I have no doubt John had his share of them. I can only write of John as I knew him, and I am grateful for the many happy memories of his company, both at work and leisure. To me, John recalls the famous lines:

"He nothing common did or mean
Upon that memorable scene."

Major L. C. M. Dutot, M.B.E.

Major Dutot joined the Dorset Regiment on July 7, 1919, and went with them to Ireland, Malta, Khartoum and India (in 1929). Here he stayed until 1938 when he returned to England as R.Q.M.S. At the outbreak of war, he was made R.S.M. and went with the Dorsets to France and after Dunkirk joined the Duke of Wellington's.

At the end of the war he returned to the Dorsets as Q.M. and went to Austria with them for three years. On his return to England he was again posted to the Depot. (During his stay in Austria he became Major.)

He was awarded the M.B.E. in 1954 and retired on age limit in 1956.

He became R.O.3 to the Signal Regiment at Bulford Camp, Salisbury Plain, in 1957, and was still working there when he died on August 9.

Lt.-Colonel F. P. A. Woods writes:—

Basil Dutot served as quartermaster to the 9th Dukes from their raising until their disbandment.

I was very fortunate to find such an able officer as my Q.M. when I took over command in 1941. He was a Q.M. of the "old school" and knew his job inside out. He was deservedly popular with all ranks.

During my tenure of command I recommended him for the M.B.E.; he did not receive this on my recommendation, but was awarded it in 1954.

An able officer and a good companion has passed on.

Mrs. D. E. Firth

Mrs. Firth, widow of Major Denys Firth and mother of Lt.-Colonel Tony Firth, died suddenly after an operation in a Cambridge nursing home on December 4.

Dorothy Lindsell was the daughter of the late Arthur Knox Lindsell. She was married to Denys Firth in 1911 and they were with the 1st Battalion in India until he was invalided home with a serious illness in 1913. A severe wound in 1915 brought

an end to his military service and he died in 1929, but Mrs. Firth retained an interest in the Regiment which was naturally strengthened when one of her sons joined it.

She loved attending regimental gatherings and will be remembered by many as a talented mimic and gay companion. It was the greatest pleasure to her to be able to visit her son and his family in Gibraltar when the Battalion was stationed there.

She is survived by four sons and one daughter and a number of grandchildren.

The Reverend E. G. Semple, M.A.

Everyone who served in the 2nd Battalion in Singapore in 1926-27 will remember Padre "Bo" and be sad to hear of his death on November 30. As Brigadier Green, who sent us the obituary notice from the *Daily Telegraph*, writes: "It is doubtful if there was ever a better-liked battalion chaplain."

There can also have been few more unconventional. Dressed always in an open bush shirt and shorts, with a crucifix round his neck, and accompanied by a fox terrier appropriately called "Fat Anne," he seemed to be everywhere in barracks. The shirt was presumably dry when donned, but no one ever saw it other than soaked with sweat, while the towel which he carried everywhere, even into the pulpit, was soon incapable of absorbing more moisture.

He greeted everyone from the C.O. downwards with a wave of the towel and a cheerful shout of "Bung ho!"

He was quite tireless in his work for all ranks and their families, and in the evenings held open house in his bungalow, teaching the men to play whist.

He was a splendid preacher and when, at request, he published his series of sermons on Singapore religions, over 400 men in the battalion bought a copy—in the more expensive edition, at that.

We have no definite knowledge of what happened to Padre "Bo" after he left Singapore, but have heard that his unconventionality brought a premature end to his career in the Army Chaplains Department. If so, that department was the loser. Few men could spring so vividly to mind, and with such credit to the Church, from an announcement of their death 36 years later.

Mrs. T. Whitaker

Mrs. Thirza Whitaker, wife of ex-C.S.M. A. Whitaker, died at her home at 20 John's Avenue, Lofthouse, near Wakefield, on September 7, 1963, after a long illness patiently borne.

The funeral took place on September 11 at Wakefield Crematorium.

Among those present to represent the Regiment were Mr. J. Bourn, his daughter, Beattie, and Mr. M. F. Brown.

IN THE GAME RESERVES

By Colonel H. Harvey

During our tour of various national game parks in Northern and Southern Rhodesia we also crossed over the border into Mozambique (P.E.A.) to visit the famous Gorongosa National Park, which is about 100 miles from Beira.

Gorongosa is famous for its kingdom of lions amongst other wild beasts such as elephant, hippo and rhino. We were able to get some good shots at close quarters (over the sights of a camera). One is not allowed to leave the car, but there came a time when we were a matter of yards from the king of his kingdom, and I attempted to slowly open the door of our car in order to get a better picture of H.R.H. when he suddenly showed his distinct dislike and, throwing up his great head, made a mighty roar: "Shut that door." Needless to say, I obeyed instantly; however, I had got a nice close-up. A minute later H.R.H. gave us another look and then contemptuously strolled away.

In this reserve we saw many prides of lion and, at 5.30 a.m. one morning, we were fortunate to be able to follow up a kill across the wide plain. The victim was a wildebeest; soon vultures were circling in the sky and from nowhere came ugly Mr. Hyena in expectation of some crumbs from the table.

Another morning we visited an old camp site with its few buildings falling to bits. Here a pride of lions had taken possession and we saw them climbing to the roof top in order to get the cooler air. This day we saw 23 lions. We camped in the reserve for three days of great interest.

Later we went 800 miles into Northern Rhodesia along dirt roads and tracks to the Luangwa Valley Reserve, east of Fort Jameson. This was the Mecca of the old elephant tusk hunters. There are many hundreds of these great animals and some lovely fine tuskers. One has to be very careful not to get into the middle of a herd as you slowly drive through the often thick, lush and high grass.

In this reserve you take an armed game guide (African) with a 450, just in case of arguments. When we got too close to the tuskers they made frightening feints at us, flapping their huge ears and pounding the ground as they made a charge of a few yards. Normally it was the head of the family who warned us away.

On one occasion we found the track ahead barred to us because a mum and her babes were rolling in its dust. Then we discovered more of the mighty grey shapes in the high grass on either side of us. It was a ticklish position from which we very

(continued at foot of next page)

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

Remembrance Day

FIELD OF REMEMBRANCE

Sunday, November 10, 1963

Mr. Bob Temple, Secretary of the London and Home Counties Branch, Regimental Association, writes to say how gratifying it was to see the better turn-up at our regimental plot at Westminster this year. Although it rained hard until within a half-hour of the ceremony, it was lovely and fine during the two minutes' silence and thereafter.

Those present were Lt.-Colonel R. G. Collins, M.B.E., Captain R. H. D. Bolton, Messrs. S. E. Code, M.B.E., General Secretary, R. H. Temple, secretary, London Branch, A. Sykes, G. A. Richards, J. Cunniff, W. Hammond and G. Gray. Mrs. Wood, wife of Jack Wood, and grand-daughter also attended.

After the service we all watched the Cenotaph Parade disperse and then adjourned to the nearest hostelry for a "chota" reunion. This turned out to be a jolly party. The remainder of the customers were quickly left in no doubt as to our regimental connections.

During a crowded 30-hour visit by Mr. Code, he and Mr. Temple attended the Royal Hospital on the Saturday evening and entertained our In-Pensioners and spent a pleasant evening. They had a word with our latest "recruit" there, ex-C.S.M.

(IN THE GAME RESERVES—continued
from page 39)

slowly reversed and then waited and waited until they decided to move away.

Luangwa Valley is teeming with wild life and is said to be the finest fenced reserve of its kind. Once Northern Rhodesia becomes independent one wonders if it can survive.

We wanted to see Mr. Rhino, and one day our armed guide promised to take us if we were prepared to walk. This we did for some 12 miles and then suddenly a fine Mr. and Mrs. Rhino charged from the scrub ten yards ahead. A fine tusker he was. He put his front feet firmly into the ground and then turned his hindquarters till he was looking directly at us. I got a snap of them—but poor.

Great excitement, as we did not know how many would show up, or from where. Our guide, "Freddie" by name, was tense with the thought, no doubt, of his responsibilities, and had his gun ready. I was glad he was not trigger-happy.

A wonderful tour. Later we are going to view the mighty Victoria Falls and the game reserves there, also the Kariba Dam and other places in this great and wonderfully peaceful country.

H.H.

October 1963.

H. R. Clinch; we hope he will settle down and enjoy life amongst these fine old gentlemen.

On Sunday afternoon Mr. Code and Mr. Temple visited Mr. Jack Wood at Wandsworth. Friends will be pleased to hear he is keeping his end up and improving slightly after the rather serious operation he underwent during the past year.

They then went to Brixton to see Mrs. Briscoombe, widow of the late Sgt. Briscoombe, whom many of the old 2nd Battalion will remember from pre-1914-1918 war until Singapore days. Mrs. Briscoombe is nicely settled in a new flat with all mod. cons., etc., and is keeping well. She is visited regularly by Mr. Temple and a daughter of the late Captain C. Shepherd, M.B.E., D.C.M.

LEEDS FESTIVAL OF REMEMBRANCE

The Leeds Branch had the honour of representing the Regimental O.C.A. at this memorable festival which was held in the Town Hall, Leeds, on Sunday, November 10, and which, except for magnitude, was equal in magnificence and solemnity to that held at the Albert Hall in London. It was produced by the British Legion whose organiser, Mr. B. Sheldon, invited representatives of the O.C.A. to take part—an invitation Leeds was proud to accept at the suggestion of the General Secretary of the O.C.A.

In the morning our representatives, Messrs. Newby, Simpson and Hampstead, took part in the march to the War Memorial and, in pouring rain, laid a wreath thereon as a token of remembrance of the Regiment.

In the evening the Leeds Branch provided three representatives, Messrs. Newby, Hampstead and Bourn, one of whom carried the Regimental Standard in the procession of some 40 British Legion and other standard bearers. During the proceedings, the Boer War, the 1914-1918 and 1939-1945 wars were recalled by veterans of these wars appearing on the platform; one of our representatives was in each of the last two groups.

It was thrilling to hear again the strains of the Regimental March—among other marches of the Yorkshire Brigade—played by the "Leeds Rifles" Band, to see the expert calisthenics of a group of young soldiers of the Dukes, to join in gustily singing "My Girl's a Yorkshire Girl," "On Ilkley Moor B'ah At" and "Keep the Home Fires Burning."

In all it was an unforgettable occasion, culminating in the mass singing of that stirring hymn "Abide with Me," the trumpet sounding the "Last Post," followed by the "Reveille" and the thousands of poppy leaves floating slowly down like blood-stained snow. It was an occasion that revived one's memories of fallen comrades and of rejoicing for those that survived.

A WEEK-END IN BARRACKS

Redeeming an earlier promise, Lt.-Colonel Kavanagh invited a representative party of the Association to spend the week-end of October 5/6 in barracks at Catterick as guests of the Battalion.

Knowing that this was an event eagerly awaited by many whose previous intimacy with the Regiment in barracks ended decades ago, Sid Code quickly accepted and set about organising the trip, with the result that on the morning of the 5th a coach left Halifax and, picking up members en route, arrived at Bourlon Lines, practically on time, with 30 members drawn from branches at Halifax, Huddersfield, Leeds, Bradford and Keighley.

Warm Welcome

Welcomed on arrival by the C.O., officers of the host company and the R.S.M., we quickly disposed of hand luggage in the room allocated to us and made our way to the officers' mess, where all available officers were present to meet and entertain us for the short period before lunch-time.

The unreserved friendly treatment, which dispelled any feelings one might have of not now belonging, the freely-flowing liquid refreshments, Regimental Colours, mess silver, and names, Kavanagh, Bray, Bunbery (present serving officers, sons of fathers who had been our commanders), aroused in us an immediate stimulation of interest and set in motion a mental process culminating in a severe attack of nostalgia. The foundation stone of a successful week-end was well and truly laid.

Lunch in the N.C.O.'s dining hall followed and, to avoid repeated eulogy on the food and feeding arrangements, let me say here and now that throughout our stay these were excellent; so much so that the lunch amazed us and we remained amazed, and delighted, by each succeeding meal. A free meal incorporated as a feature of recruiting drives might prove profitable.

Inclement weather failed to reduce interest, and the early afternoon was spent in an introduction to modern weapons and equipment, the use of which was very ably demonstrated by sections of N.C.O.s and men—thus giving practical support to the main theme of R.S.M. Robins' speech at the annual dinner. An added interest was the opportunity given a few members to fire the Energa—an excellent weapon, properly handled (no offence meant).

The end of this very interesting period in the open coincided with the cessation of rain so, in true army fashion, we moved indoors, where, in a very clear and concise lecture, Col. Kavanagh explained the Battalion's role, present and future. The future commitment is heavy and responsible, but one felt little concern for the Regimental name having met the key custodians. A film show by Captain Bray, commentary by Colonel Kavanagh, of the battalion at work and play in Kenya, British Honduras and at home emphasised the points made

earlier by the C.O., and its conclusion left us with a feeling of reinvigorated pride of Regiment.

An excellently-performed retreat beating rounded off a very refreshing afternoon's experience. This was greatly appreciated, particularly as a strong, cold wind blew throughout and gave the bass drummer a very rough time indeed; how he managed to stay on the parade ground let alone keep his place in the ranks remains a mystery.

Evening in the sergeants' mess! Need one say more? With a full supporting cast of W.O.s, sergeants and their ladies, R.S.M. Robins set a royal seal upon the events of the day by providing a first-rate evening's entertainment with all the trimmings—large slices of ham and beef carved to order, curry and rice, and a large assortment of other delectable items included. Time was of little consequence, drinking capacity appeared to be the deciding factor; consequently, many of our members were literally correct in singing "Three o'clock in the Morning" on their way from the mess, though their ability to appreciate the fact was open to doubt.

Tea in Bed

Reveille (curse that bugler)—groans as heads appeared too heavy to raise from pillows—tea in bed!—realisation of one's whereabouts—post mortem on the events of the previous day—an outpouring of nostalgic sentiments.

After breakfast a short but necessary recuperation period was followed by a shooting competition (Association members only) on the 30 yards range. As expected, but not quite so easily as expected, George Machen won the shoot by the narrow margin of one point and was later presented with a very acceptable tankard for his efforts.

"Liveners" in the sergeants' mess for the hardy ones, tea for the less hardy, thence to the corporals' mess. In the short space of an hour the corporals proved themselves, socially at least, worthy of elevation to the sergeants' mess and, if a momentary aberration had led the R.S.M. to grant a requested time extension, our roadworthiness for the afternoon journey home would have been doubtful to say the least.

A short unprogrammed visit to the sergeants' mess after lunch brought our visit to a fitting conclusion with the symbolic carrying of George Machen from mess to coach by a bearer party of mess members.

That little bit extra, better described by Lt.-Colonel M. N. Cox as "one from the bottom of the bag," was added to our departure by the fine gesture of a number of officers arriving to say goodbye at the entrance to barracks.

Our deeply felt thanks go to Lt.-Colonel Kavanagh, the officers, R.S.M. Robins and all ranks who gave so freely of their time and money to provide us with a wonderful experience. Its memory can only be dimmed by the next, provisionally arranged, similar event.

HOW YOU CAN HELP THEM

EVERY day brings to light new cases of hardship among ex-soldiers or their next-of-kin. The benevolent funds of Corps and Regimental Associations do what they can—but they rely financially on the Army Benevolent Fund. This is the central fund of all military charities. Through the Army Benevolent Fund you can give help where it is most needed.

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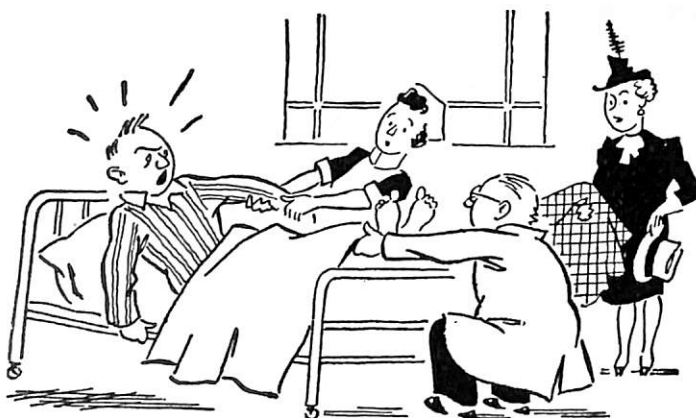
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BRADFORD BRANCH

Continuing our series of notable personalities in the Regimental Association, we present:

Mr. A. Copley Honorary Treasurer of the Bradford Branch

Albert Copley's claim to the fame occasioned by inclusion in this series would appear to be unwarranted if his connection with the Regiment and the Regimental Association was simply stated in terms of years; on that basis the majority of Bradford branch members have a prior claim, but none will disagree with the merit of his selection on the grounds of his outlook as a "Duke" and of his unflinching devotion to branch affairs and members' interests generally.

Enlisting in the York and Lancashire Regiment in November, 1939, Albert early realised his error (from our viewpoint) and transferred to the 7th Battalion, DWR, in March, 1940, remaining a private in that battalion throughout the war.

Narrowly missing service in Norway in 1940—the Battalion, having embarked to join the expeditionary force there, was withdrawn at the last moment as the futility of the operation had become apparent—he spent the next two years on garrison duty in the southern ports of Iceland. Naturally inclined to action, and further bent in that direction by early training as a coal miner, Albert found the sojourn in Iceland wearisome; the only highlights being arctic and mountain training periods.

Returning home in 1942 he found the intensive battle and combined training, with its changes of scene between Wales, Scotland and England, more to his liking. Particularly so as this preceded his setting foot on the beaches of Normandy on D + 4 day. As a member of "C" Company, and later with "B" and "SP" Companies, he took part in the many (now renowned) actions of the 7th Battalion in its progressive fight from the beaches to Arnhem and beyond. The last months of the war were spent as a DR with the A.Tk Company and in this capacity he became involved in the famous defence and saving of the Nijmegen Bridge.

Demobilised in December, 1945, Albert married, decided against continuing his work as a miner in the South Heindley area, and moved to Bradford, where he is now employed as a trainee foreman in a coke production plant; he has recently been joined there by his son, who is engaged in research work. His hobbies are gardening, handyman about the house, and "spoiling" the other member of his family, a girl of four years.

Attending the inaugural meeting of the present Bradford Branch in June, 1960, Albert volunteered his services as treasurer, which office he still holds. His interest in the branch and his outlook as a "Duke" are such that his work extends beyond that of branch treasurer and includes doing any job in furtherance of branch interests, taking little account of the sacrifice of time and money entailed. One need not be especially observant at a branch meeting or social to note the extent of his contribution to events, nor very discerning to assess the



Photo: Mr. E. Hustwayte

Mr. Copley (right) with Mr. J. W. Foster who holds the plaque referred to in the Branch Report below

value of his work in terms of finance and *esprit de corps*.

Quietly confident, reliable and popular, Albert's work within the branch and the Association combines both quality and quantity—a rare combination—and is a salient factor in the achievement of the present healthy state of the Bradford Branch.

Branch Report

The period early September to mid-November can best be described as a social whirl from the branch viewpoint for, in addition to the usual fortnightly meetings, Association events attended include the Association Sweepstake Draw and Social Evening at Halifax, the A.G.M. and Annual Dinner at Huddersfield, the week-end visit to the Battalion at Catterick, and a Social Evening with the South Elmsall Branch. And, further, our branch Annual Social Evening and Dance was held on October 19, and two branch visits have been made to the Victoria Hotel, Leeds Road, Bradford, where Dougie Haigh is now the licensee. All these mentioned events proved thoroughly enjoyable.

Our members were particularly pleased with the contents of the report to the A.G.M. on the reinvestment of funds, which clearly indicated

sound policy and lively interest on the part of the Trustees. The successful activity in other connected fields is appreciated also, notably recruitment of Association members and the raising of funds by direct appeal to men now serving and to ex-regular officers.

Thanks to the strong support of local branches, and the attendance of Colonel Cumberlege and Colonel Wathen, who we were delighted to have with us, our Annual Social and Dance proved highly successful. Guests numbered some 200, which, together with our members and wives, gave us a total of about 260. Fortunately we had provided for the larger than usual attendance by engaging the use of part of the main drill hall. The outstanding feature was the fine effort by the ladies of the branch in catering so well for such a large number.

For the fortunate few who were present the highlight of Association events was the week-end spent with the Battalion at Catterick, and this article would not be complete without the recorded appreciation and gratitude of Bradford members to Lt.-Colonel Kavanagh for his fine gesture in providing such an opportunity.

Although details of its presentation have previously been reported in these columns, the branch Plaque of the Regimental Badge, carved for us by Mr. George Adcock, of Bradford, is such a fine piece of craftsmanship that its photographic reproduction in the Regimental Magazine is felt to be necessary—hence the photograph which accompanies these notes.

Finally, we are pleased to welcome to the branch new members Harold Childs, Chris (Tabby) Coxon and William Walmsley, and hope they will find us easy to get along with.

9th BATTALION REUNION DINNER

The 16th reunion dinner was held on October 5, 1963, at The Victoria Hotel, Leeds, when 70 ex-members and their friends attended, with Lt.-Colonel F. P. A. Woods in the chair. In his address to the members, Lt.-Colonel Woods recalled the years when the Battalion served so well together; he expressed regret at the passing of J. Bilham, L.C.M. (Bas) Dutot and A. Barker, who had all served in it—Bilham for several years as adjutant and Bas Dutot as quartermaster from re-forming to dissolution. The members stood in silence in memory of these old comrades.

Harry Brunskill, with his usual wit and charm, addressed the meeting, following with the more serious toast of "absent friends." Gary Hall, as R.S.M. of the meeting, ensured that the funds of the Association remain fluid.

Appreciation was recorded for the help given by Major Larry James of the 8th Battalion, who had helped with the addressing of envelopes for the circular letter.

The date for the 1964 dinner has been fixed as October 10, 1964, at the Victoria Hotel, Leeds.

Apologies for absence were received from the following: Lt.-Colonel R. L. Agnew, Major Sir

(continued at foot of next column)

Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Regimental & Old Comrades Associations of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment held at Huddersfield on Saturday, 21st September, 1963, at 17.30 Hrs.

Present: The Colonel, in the chair, Major-General Upjohn, Colonels Cumberlege, Turner, Taylor, Howcroft, Lt.-Colonels Skelsey, Gadd, Moncrieff, Majors Lennon, Roberts, Davis, Scott, and 20 other O.C.A. members.

1. Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting having been previously published in the Regimental Magazine, it was agreed the Chairman should sign them as a true record. There were no points arising from them.

2. Secretary's Report

The Secretary read his report, a summary of which appears below.

3. Chairman's Remarks

(a) *New Members.*

The Colonel said he considered the figure of 262 new members enrolled since the last meeting reflected the greatest credit on the efforts of the O.C.s 1st Battalion and the Yorkshire Brigade Depot. Thanks were also due to R.S.M. Robins, 1 D.W.R., and the Training W.O.s of D.W.R. at Strensall. He adjured all concerned not to relax now that the drive for new members was paying off so handsomely.

(b) *Investment Policy.*

Our new investment policy as foreshadowed at the last A.G.M. had turned out a success. The overall income to the benevolent funds had increased by £160 in a full year.

(c) *Grants.*

Average grant level was, in his opinion, too low and more money was required to raise grants to a more realistic level. Even so, we had paid out over £2,000 in benevolence in the past year.

(d) *Money Raising.*

Methods of money raising were in hand. All regular and retired officers had been asked to covenant £1 each annually which, with tax reclaimed, would represent a not inconsiderable increase in annual income. The sweepstake had yielded £291 this year; an increase of £30 on last year's effort. The help of the West Riding Battalion was also to be sought.

Jocelyn Simon, Major Alex Luhrs, Major Arthur Spong, Padre Bill Hall, Captain Alaistair Scott Johnson, Captain Gordon Buckley, Captain Stan Gorst, Captain Jim Stockley, D. McGlashan, G. Hands, F. W. S. Richardson, W. A. Mockridge, M. Colton and N. S. Stephenson.

Day's Pay Scheme.

The scheme was going ahead in 1 D.W.R. Some 100 soldiers had agreed to take part in the Scheme. A further 270 would be eligible next year.

The Colonel said all these money raising efforts were part of his plan to ensure we always had enough funds to help our ex-members unfortunately in need through no fault of theirs and to be able to look after our older members in their old age.

4. Accounts

The balances of the audited Association Accounts were circulated to members present. There were no comments and the Chairman asked for a proposition that the accounts be passed.

Proposed by Mr. F. J. Deighton, seconded by Major R. A. Scott. Carried unanimously.

5. Other Business

(a) Mr. Stringer brought up the question of retired officers attending ordinary branch meetings. Chairman agreed the question should be explored.

(b) Colonel Cumberlege said that a list of branch socials was drawn up last winter and circulated to retired officers in the North of England. For various reasons this had not worked satisfactorily. Branch Secretaries should write direct to any retired officer whom they wished to see at their social and give him a definite invitation for a specific social occasion. R.H.Q. could always supply addresses.

Chairman said he welcomed this and hoped, besides the middle-aged, something should be done to stimulate the young officers to turn up also.

(c) Colonel Kavanagh said the Battalion-Branch liaison scheme was not so far working well. He would see what could be done to improve the position. Mr. Deighton commented on the scheme, stating an invitation by Bradford Branch to the 1 D.W.R. Drums had not been taken up. Colonel Kavanagh undertook to look into this point.

(d) Major Tedd said he hoped something would be done to encourage young soldiers leaving the service to join their home town O.C.A. branches.

(e) A suggestion that the venue of the O.C.A. dinners should be varied between other towns in the West Riding was discussed. It was agreed to consider this point at the next Management Committee meeting.

(f) Mr. Rowlands asked about the possible use of the former Sergeants' Mess at Wellesley Barracks as an O.C.A. Headquarters Club. It was agreed to consider the question and Major Davis was instructed to open an inquiry to explore the possibilities and report to next Management Committee meeting.

(g) Mr. Benson, of London Branch, reported the poor attendance of ex-Dukes at the Empire Field of Remembrance, Westminster, last year. Chairman deplored this, but pointed out that most people attended their local Cenotaphs. He hoped London Branch would consider steps to improve the situation.

There being no other business to transact, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 18.20 hours.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

MR. CHAIRMAN AND OLD COMRADES

Again it is my pleasure to present my report to the Annual General Meeting of the Regimental and Old Comrades' Associations of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment. This report covers the period September, 1962, to September, 1963.

Case Work

Since my last report the Case Committee have dealt with 167 applications for assistance. Of these, 150 individuals have been given financial assistance; the remaining 17 were either turned down as not worthy or were referred to "parent" units. The figure of 167 cases is an increase of 24 over last year.

Of the 150 individuals helped, 121 were Regimental Association and 28 Old Comrades' Association cases. One case was helped from the Mitchell Trust Fund.

The McGuire Bate Fund Committee dealt with 4 applications and helped all on a yearly basis.

A study of the figures reveals the average grant as £8 per individual from Regimental Association and about £9 from the O.C.A. But these figures can be slightly misleading; in fact, grants are generally much higher. It sometimes happens that British Legion, "parent" units and other interested bodies co-operate by sharing a grant, which means we pay less. Our share only is shown in our records and this reduces the apparent average amount of grants.

A summary of monies disbursed in grants and subscriptions follows:—

<i>O.C.A. Fund:</i>		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
28 cases assisted	...	256	6	0			
Pensions	...	302	15	4			
Iron Duke	...	20	0	0			
					579	1	4
<i>Regimental Association Fund:</i>							
121 cases assisted	...	923	17	10			
Institutions	...	89	18	0			
Iron Duke	...	20	0	0			
					1,033	15	10
<i>McGuire Bate Fund:</i>							
4 cases assisted	...	278	12	0			
Institutions	...	25	10	0			
					304	2	0
<i>Mitchell Trust Fund:</i>							
1 case assisted	...	20	0	0			
					20	0	0
					<u>£1,936</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>2</u>

N.B. — Contributions to national charities formerly made by our funds have now been taken over, on our behalf, by the Army Benevolent Fund. Contributions to local charities only, i.e., Salvation Army, Halifax and Sheffield Councils of Social Service, of two guineas each, will in future be shown in the summary of monies disbursed on benevolence.

Pensions Grants

Since my last report, one of our old pensioners, Mrs. C. Payne, widow of the late C/Sgt. Payne, 1st Battalion, has died. Her position on the pensions roll has been taken, pending confirmation by the Finance Committee, by Mrs. T. Drewitt, widow of the late Pte. Tom Drewitt, 1st Battalion.

We are pleased to be able to report that O.C.A. pensions have been raised from 10s. p.w. to 15s. p.w.

Accounts

The annual audit date for the Association's accounts has been brought forward from June 30 to March 31. This brings us into line with the national financial year end and is also convenient for our dealings with the A.B.F.

The accounts presented at this meeting therefore cover a nine-month period only.

The results of the first year's working of the new investment scheme has proved successful. There has been an increase in income in all accounts and, in the case of the Regimental Association and Old Comrades' Association, it has been reasonably substantial. The Colonel will be elaborating on the success of the scheme at a later stage of this meeting.

The General Account has been explained to the last Management Committee Meeting on August 12. The Committee adopted the account unanimously.

I now ask for the current accounts audited at close of business, March 31, 1963, to be adopted.

Army Benevolent Fund

A.B.F. grants are now made by allocating a block grant to Associations made up of a basic grant and a supplementary grant. The basic grant is assessed annually on the benevolent work of each Regiment and Corps. The supplementary is granted when the basic grant is insufficient to meet estimated needs of the year. Our grant from the A.B.F., received since April 1, was £420 which, allowing for the take-over by the A.B.F. of our national charity contributions, brought the total allocated to £536.

Sweepstake

The Sweepstake run by R.H.Q. on the St. Leger yielded a profit of £290, which has been credited to the Regimental Association Fund.

Membership

It will be recalled that in last year's report we deplored the paucity of new members recruited. I mentioned that Colonel Kavanagh and Colonel Le Mesurier, commanding 1st Battalion and The Yorkshire Brigade Depot respectively, assured me of a much a brighter picture by the time the next A.G.M. came round.

I am pleased to be able to state that their prophecies came true and their plans bore fruit. We have never had a better crop of new members in any one year since before the second war. Figures to date are:—

1st Bn., 170; Depot, 88; Others, 3. Total, 262.

Much praise for this fine effort must also go to R.S.M. Robins, 1 D.W.R., C.S.M. Pennington and C.S.M. Simpson, of Yorkshire Brigade Depot; their work on behalf of the O.C.A. over the past year has been untiring.

Branches

All branches are going well at the moment. Inter-branch socials have been held throughout the year and, whilst new member recruitment is slow, the old members still stick to the branches and one gathers they are going quite well. Keighley struck a bad patch earlier in the year, but now the Secretary reports there is some ground for optimism, as seven new chaps turned up at the last branch meeting.

The ladies' section in the various branches still perform their sterling work in providing food and delicacies on branch occasions, which does so much to ensure their success.

Conclusion

I now take this annual opportunity to thank again the ladies and gentlemen of S.S.A.F.A. and the Forces Help Society, and all other voluntary bodies who so kindly undertake, on our behalf, the investigation of cases. Also, our Auditors, Messrs. Whitham, Smith and Mitchell, Major J. E. Driver, Honorary Solicitor, and Major Coop, Honorary Stockbroker, who advises on our investment policy.

This concludes my report.

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