

No.136 April 1965



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

Vol. XLI

APRIL 1965

No. 136

### 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**

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Copy for the next 1965 issue should reach the Editor by July 1, 1965

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**LT.-COLONEL D. E. ISLES**  
**Commanding 1st Bn. The Duke of Wellington's Regiment**

*Photo: Harcourt, Paris*



## EDITORIAL

After the disappointing near misses of recent years it is good to report that the 1st Battalion has once again won the Army Rugby Cup, defeating the Welsh Guards, the holders, by 11 points to 6 at Aldershot on March 3.

It was not, perhaps, a great game, but it was a clean and exciting match—for our supporters at times nerve wracking. The more credit for their victory is due to Captain Mundell and his team in that they had found no opposition in Germany able to give them a real test or experience of being under pressure.

An account of the match by Major Dennis Shuttleworth, captain of our last cup winning team in 1957/58, starts on page 51 and reports of earlier rounds, including the B.A.O.R. final, will be found in the 1st Battalion's sports notes. The remainder of this note will be mainly social.

Needless to say a great concourse of "Dukes" converged on Aldershot. A number arrived at the Aldershot Club for lunch to which The Colonel of the Regiment had invited Major General R. G. S. Hobbs, President of the Army Rugby Union, and Mrs. Hobbs. (Lt. Colonel Dalrymple, in this issue's instalment of his rugger reminiscences, recalls that General "Pooh" Hobbs was a member of the 11th Field Brigade side which beat the 1st Battalion in the final of the Aldershot Command

Cup in 1931 when the 1st Battalion had just won the Army Cup.) Many more "Dukes" arrived for the match and, afterwards, for tea in the club, and a great day was had by all in spite of the horrid cold and, it must be said, somewhat unappetising fodder.

It is impossible to list all who were there, easier to name some who were missed: Brigadier Burnet and Colonel Cecil Ince wisely did not face the biting cold; Brigadier Ramsay Bunbury was also, we are sorry to hear, not well enough to come; Colonel Jimmy Davidson was embroiled as a member of the General Court Martial which was then sitting. Snow in parts of England less lucky than Aldershot deterred some, like Colonel and Mrs. Bishop, who were intending to drive there and back in the day. Perhaps Major Jim Maclaren from Glasgow had come the farthest, but we would not take a bet on this.

Mention must be made of gallant efforts by supporters who were not all "Dukes." Major Shuttleworth pays tribute to the party from the Brigade Depot who spent two consecutive nights travelling by bus from and back to Strensall. Perhaps the palm goes to the 1st Battalion's Divisional Commander, Major General T. N. S. Wheeler, O.B.E., who flew over from Germany, arriving, we gather, just before and returning immediately after the match.

There were messages of goodwill, again too many to list. Perhaps particularly appreciated were the one from the West Riding Battalion (T.A.)—the text of which we don't know as it was rushed off by the C.O. to be read to the team—and the one which read "Brigadier Denaro and All Ranks, The York and Lancaster Regiment, send their very best wishes for an enjoyable Army Rugby Final and hope you will have a thumping good win."

Among telegrams of congratulation after the win, two which have been specially brought to our notice were from Colonel John Sugden, Honorary Colonel of the West Riding Battalion, and from the Mayor of Halifax, Ald. Douglas Fawcett, J.P.

### NOTICE

The next issue of THE IRON DUKE will be a special "Waterloo number" to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the battle. To give time for us to get reports of the parades and other events which are to take place in Brussels and London it will be published in August instead of July.

If any reader has any account or item of information connected with the battle which he thinks would be of interest we shall be glad to receive it as soon as possible.

### THE OFFICERS' DINNER CLUB

The annual lunch and dinner will be held in London at the **Hyde Park Hotel on Thursday, June 10.**

Details have been notified to members by the Secretary.

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### Lt.-Col. D. E. Isles

Lt.-Colonel Donald Isles, who succeeds Lt.-Colonel Kavanagh as CO of the 1st Battalion, joined the Army in 1943 from Leeds University and was commissioned into the Regiment at the end of that year.

He joined the 1st Battalion at Anzio and was just in time for the liberation of Rome in June, 1944. He spent the rest of the war in Italy as a platoon commander in "A" and "D" Companies. After service in Palestine, Egypt, Syria and the Lebanon he was made adjutant of the Battalion in 1946 when it was engaged on internal security duties in Palestine. He left the Battalion in 1947 from Khartoum in the Sudan to become adjutant of 33 PTC (DWR) at Halifax.

Since those days he has had a succession of staff appointments interspersed with service with the 1st Battalion in Gibraltar, Colchester, Kenya and in British Honduras with Burma Company. He was a student at the Royal Military College of Science from 1950 to 1953 and attended the Joint Services Staff College at Latimer in 1961.

A useful rugger player he was capped twice for the Army in 1950 and has also played for Blackheath, Halifax and Yorkshire. His last game was for the Battalion in the final of the Army Cup in 1962.

He is married and he and his wife, Sheila, have four children.



## REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

The proposed arrangements for the 15th Anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo, so long shrouded in the mists of indecision, have recently been released as follows:—

### *In Brussels:*

1. H.E. The Ambassador's Ball, on June 15, to which it is hoped invitations will be sent to all Colonels of "Waterloo" Regiments, in addition to other senior officers.
2. A memorial service at Hougoumont Farm. Regimental representation will be four officers and 21 soldiers.
3. A Massed Bands Display in Brussels.

### *In London:*

1. A "Waterloo" Parade, consisting of a Massed Bands Parade on the evening of June 12, on the Horse Guards' Parade. Regimental Colour

parties of all "Waterloo" Regiments will take part.

2. A Memorial Drumhead Service at 11.00 on Sunday, June 13, on Horse Guards' Parade (if wet, in Westminster Abbey).
3. Her Majesty The Queen has indicated that she will attend the Army Dinner in the Banqueting Hall, Whitehall, on June 12.
4. A "Waterloo" exhibition in the officers' mess, Wellington Barracks, from mid-May to mid-July.

The Regiment has offered items at present on display in our Halifax Museum. Brigadier Webb-Carter has been nominated the "Military Expert" and is to be responsible for the selection of items for the London Exhibition.

*(continued at foot of page 51)*



*Block by courtesy of the Huddersfield Examiner*

Before the match at Huddersfield the 1st Battalion team was presented to Mr. Norman Ramsden. Mr. Ramsden, of Towend, Almondbury, Huddersfield, who is 83, was a member of the 2nd Battalion team which won the Army Rugger Cup in 1907, the year it was instituted, beating the Royal Engineers in the final at Aldershot. (A photograph of this team was the frontispiece of I.D. No. 55 of June, 1943)

## THE ARMY RUGBY CUP FINAL

Almost three months elapsed between the BAOR final on December 12, 1964, and the Army final in Aldershot on March 3, 1965. During this period members of the XV completed their annual leave, some attended skiing courses in Bavaria and Norway, and were ready for the intensive training which began on February 1.

After their easy victories in Germany it was decided that the team should do a short tour in Yorkshire with a view to toughening and sharpening up the players against good opposition. Huddersfield and Halifax Clubs very kindly agreed to play the unit side in mid-week. Both clubs produced good sides and, after hard games, all

*(continued overleaf)*

### RHQ Notes—(continued)

The Waterloo Anniversary will inevitably overshadow the 50th Anniversary of the Gallipoli Campaign.

Two Halifax men, the Marshall brothers, who were there with the 8th Service Bn. D.W.R., brought along a yellowed cutting from *The Halifax Courier* of 1917, describing the fierce fighting around Anafarta. It was here that the C.O. (Colonel Johnston), severely wounded and being evacuated, insisted on the stretcher-bearers putting him down and dealing with other wounded. Colonel Johnston's body was not recovered when the retrieving of killed and wounded was completed.

The Regimental Secretary, representing the Regiment, attended Sir Winston Churchill's lying-in state. He joined the queue opposite St. Thomas's Hospital at 10.40 in the evening of January 28 and reached Westminster Hall as Big Ben was striking 2 a.m. on Friday, 29. Apart from the dignity and solemnity of Westminster Hall, another lasting impression of the patient crowd was its youth and diversity of race and colour.

We are most grateful to Mrs. Marjorie Lindsey for the gift on long loan of the awards and decorations of General Sir Hugh Rowlands, V.C., K.C.B.—Colonel of the Regiment from 1897-1909. These, together with his magnificent presentation sword, will be on display on a model in the full-dress uniform of a General Officer of the period.

The Halifax Corporation have accepted the offer of the Regimental Museum of the 4th/7th Dragoon Guards. Whether their display will enhance or detract from our own Museum can only be assessed when the additional exhibits are seen.

Mrs. R. A. Scott has kindly presented some books to the R.H.Q. Library, including two volumes of J. E. Alexander's "Life of Wellington" and "The Life and Military Services of Viscount Lake."

The latter volume is interesting in that the flyleaf



**THE TROPHIES**  
The Army Cup (left) and BAOR Cup

is marked "J. E. Auchinleck, Quetta, 1920." Scottie was a friend and may have borrowed the book. The Field-Marshal told Mrs. Scott he could not remember the incident, but would be pleased for the book to be given to the Headquarters Library.

## The Regimental Association

### LONDON DINNER

The annual reunion dinner of the London and Home Counties Branch of the O.C.A. and Regimental Association will be held this year on **Saturday, May 8**, at 7.30 for 8 p.m.

It will again be held at **The Victory Ex-Services Club, 63-79 Seymour Street, London, W.2.** (The nearest tube and bus stops are at Marble Arch. Go up Edgware Road for about 150 yards and turn left into Seymour Street).

Applications for tickets, **price 12s. 6d.**, should be made to **Mr. R. H. Temple, Secretary and Treasurer, 59 Burnfoot Avenue, London, S.W.6.**

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND REUNION DINNER

The 1965 annual general meeting and reunion dinner will be held on **Saturday, September 25**, in the **Drill Hall, Prescott Street, Halifax.**

Price of tickets 10s. each, obtainable from the General Secretary at R.H.Q. or from Branch Secretaries.

members of our team were much wiser and more prepared for the type of football which the Welsh Guards would play.

The side drew with Huddersfield but lost, 3—24, to Halifax. However, comfort could be drawn from the noticeable improvement of the pack and this was felt to be most important. Further comfort could be derived from the fact that Lt. Edwards would return to the side for the final and that Captain Campbell-Lamerton was also eligible and available.

The task which confronted the "Dukes" was to defeat a team with a heavy, tall pack and kicking half-backs. The whole side, therefore, was delighted when an examination of the pitch showed it to be firm and in splendid order. The sun was trying to shine when the game started and there was a moderate wind blowing diagonally across the pitch. Even though it was very cold and fingers would be numbed it was apparent that, if the "Dukes'" forwards could secure a reasonable share of the ball, conditions were ideal for their fast three-quarters to show their paces.

The Guards won the toss and elected to play with the wind. Most of the early play was around the Guards' 25 line. This was most important for the opposition were being prevented from using the wind to secure an attacking position in our half. Good heeling by Redwood-Davies, hard tackling by the back row and steady play by the scrum-half, Bray, were denying the Guards possession of the ball.

In the 22nd minute of play the forwards secured the ball on the left and, after good passing across the three-quarter line, Edwards on the right wing rounded his opposite number, swerved around the full-back and scored an excellent try which Pettigrew was unable to convert.

This score spurred the Guards to greater efforts; their forwards began to break through and their halves supported them with some judicious kicking. Fortunately for the "Dukes" the Guards' goal kicker missed an easy penalty and then another on the stroke of half-time when a forward was caught off-side at a set scrum in front of the posts. To the horror of the spectators the Guards were given the opportunity to retake this second kick when one of the "Dukes" team tried to charge down the first attempt. This time there was no mistake and the half-time score was three all.

### Comment

The Guards had been prevented from taking full advantage of the wind. They had, however, begun to break through at the back of the line-out and this was becoming dangerous. The "Dukes'" forwards had started well and were winning the ball in the set scrums. Gilbert-Smith, Nickell and Ponijiasi in the back row were playing extremely well. Pettigrew, at fly-half, injured his foot in the first minute of the game and was not able to influence proceedings in his usual way. Our three-quarters looked better than their opponents but the whole side was giving too much away by careless play.

### Second Half

Soon after the start of the second half Campbell-Lamerton secured the ball in a loose scrum and gave it to the scrum-half on the stand side of the field. He sent it swiftly to the threes and Walker put in a long kick for Edwards to chase. The Guards' wing man and full-back failed to smother the bouncing ball and Edwards picked it up well and scored his second try which, again, was not converted.

Campbell-Lamerton was again prominent when, after fighting hard for the ball, he threw a long overhead pass to the three-quarters. Again Edwards was given the ball and this time, although apparently well covered, he scored another excellent try by cutting back into the covering defenders and then using his weight and strength to force his way across the line. Pettigrew converted this try with a splendid kick from near the touch line.

This was about half way through the second half and now the Guards took advantage of a bad mistake. A misunderstanding of a line-out signal resulted in a long throw over and beyond the last man of the "Dukes" line-out. Scrum-half and wing forwards were not expecting this and were not in position. Guards players quickly kicked the ball ahead, kept it moving for almost half the length of the field and scored a good try which was not converted.

This was a tonic for the Welshmen and their forwards began to win more of the ball. Their half-backs began to run and kick intelligently and the "Dukes" had slipped from attack to desperate defence. During this phase Gilbert-Smith tackled and covered magnificently, Ponijiasi was everywhere, Campbell-Lamerton was an enormous power in the pack, Nickell broke through the line-out well and Bray and Newell were steady and reliable under pressure. Although they were many times close to the "Dukes'" line the defence held and the nearest the Guards came to a score was another missed penalty.

It was a great moment when the final whistle went with the score 1 DWR—11 points; 1 Welsh Guards—6, and Dick Mundell went forward to receive the cup from Mr. Reynolds, The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for War.

### Comment

In the second half Campbell-Lamerton showed his power; in addition to having a hand in both second half tries he was continually menacing with storming bursts. The front row continued to win the ball in tight scrums, a major factor in the victory. Gilbert-Smith and his two partners in the back row were tremendous. As a pack the forwards had done their job for they prevented the strong Welsh Guards forwards from dominating the game.

Bray, at scrum-half, played his best game for the Regiment and was cool and steady when it was necessary. The three-quarters were handicapped throughout by the injury to Pettigrew but in Edwards they had a wing who scored three times

*(continued at foot of page 53)*



**CAPTAIN W. R. MUNDELL****Captain of 1 DWR XV****A Tribute by "An Onlooker"**

Captain Mundell began the season with little hope of winning the Army Cup for certain key players were employed elsewhere and would not be available. Even though there seemed a good chance of winning the BAOR competition there was always looming ahead the prospect of meeting the current holders, The Welsh Guards.

From the beginning of the season, although this was much interrupted by exercises in Germany, he has patiently and diligently trained the side to play good attacking rugby. He has consistently stressed the importance of team spirit and it is a measure of his success in this respect that the team reserves have been among the most loyal and devoted members of the team group.

With Cpl. Hemmings and 2nd Lt. Redwood-Davies he has formed a formidable front row and there is no doubt that much of the success of the team has stemmed from the domination of the pack in the set scrums.

It has been Captain Mundell's policy that as many men as possible in the Battalion should have a chance to play and he has organised and encouraged the formation of a second and third team.

It is not easy to produce a team to win the Army Cup when the opposition in BAOR is as weak as it is just now. By his personal example and determination and his insistence on team spirit he produced a side which worthily defeated the holders.

**The Final—(continued)**

although he received very little of the ball. Newell was also noticeable for steadiness in times of stress.

The Guards, committed to a forward game, found too late that some of their backs were quite dangerous when given the ball with a chance to run.

All in all the "Dukes" were the better side but at times they made rather heavy weather of it.

The game was excellently refereed by W.O.2 P. L. Lillington, R.E.M.E., and it is a tribute to him and to both teams that the game was played without incident or loss of temper.

**The Teams**

**1ST BN. WELSH GUARDS (U.K.)**—Fullback: Gdsm. K. Haines. Threequarters.—Right Wing: L/Sgt. L. Walker; Right Centre: Gdsm. D. Perry; Left Centre: Gdsm. B. Ackerman; Left Wing: Gdsm. L. Green. Fly-Half: Capt. P. R. G. Williams. Scrum-Half: Gdsm. R. Griffiths. Forwards: L/Sgt. D. Bowen, L/Sgt. G. Phillips, L/Sgt. L. Turner, Sgt. G. White, 2/Lt. A. D. I. Wall, Capt. C. R. L. Guthrie, L/Cpl. K. Thomas, Sgt. D. Hearne.

**1ST BN. THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGT. (B.A.O.R.)**—Fullback: Lt. L. D. D. P. Evans. Threequarters.—Right Wing: Lt. C. G.



**Captain Mundell receiving the BAOR Rugby Challenge Cup from Lt.-General Sir Richard Goodwin GOC 1 (British) Corps**

Edwards; Right Centre: Lt. R. Newell; Left Centre: Lt. E. J. W. Walker; Left Wing: Lt. A. R. Westcob. Fly-Half: Lt. P. A. Pettigrew. Scrum-Half: Capt. M. R. N. Bray. Forwards: Capt. W. R. Mundell (captain), 2/Lt. A. R. Redwood-Davies, Cpl. J. Hemmings, Capt. M. J. Campbell-Lamerton, L/Cpl. J. Dickens, Capt. D. S. Gilbert-Smith, m.c., 2/Lt. A. J. Nickell, L/Cpl. S. Ponijiasi.

Referee: W.O.II P. L. Lillington, R.E.M.E.  
Touch Judges: Major G. F. Entwistle, L.F., Major G. G. M. Richey, R.A.

**Footnote**

It was most heartening for our team to get such tremendous support from the spectators. In addition to the "old and bold" there were many who had made long and difficult journeys. Among these was the large party from the Yorkshire Brigade Depot, led by Lt.-Colonel Sanderson, which travelled by coach overnight from York and returned there overnight after the match. Captain Mundell, The "Dukes" captain, has said how much the team appreciated the support of all those who were there.

## THE YORKSHIRE BRIGADE NEWS

*Note. To save space and avoid duplication news items about 1 DWR and individual "Dukes" which are reported elsewhere in this issue have been omitted.—Ed.*

### Sub-Editorial

News from battalions has been scant during the period under review, except from 1 PWO and 1 DWR in the sporting field. There has been a considerable amount of movement amongst officers and senior ranks, so we thought we would devote most of this news to individuals.

### Battalion Moves

1 Y and L departed for Cyprus in March. 1 PWO advance party is now at Colchester, and the battalion should be complete, in UK, by the end of March.

### Sport

1 PWO came second in the Army Cross Country Championship, runners-up to the Parachute Regt. They ran extremely well to come second to the 'Para,' who seem to have had a monopoly in this event in recent years. It will be recalled that 1 Green Howards were runners-up, also to the Parachute Regiment, in 1962.

This fine effort was followed by your Yorkshire Brigade Junior Soldiers, of the Junior Soldiers' Wing at Strensall, steadfastly upholding the Yorkshire Brigade sporting efforts by coming second in the Army Junior Cross Country Championship (Class A), (again, runners-up to the Parachute Regiment Juniors)—the event we won in 1961.

In addition, 1 PWO won their Brigade boxing and soccer championships. Also teams from 1 Green Howards won their Area hockey, rugger, cross country and rifle championships—and the

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### BRIGADE GOLFING SOCIETY

The 1965 meeting of the Yorkshire Brigade Golfing Society will be held on Friday, 9th July, 1965, at The York Golf Club, Strensall. This is a spare day during the Brigade Cricket Week.

It is hoped that as many officers of the Yorkshire Brigade as possible, serving or retired, will take part in this meeting.

Applications for entry forms and requests for accommodation should be sent to the D.A.A.G., H.Q. Yorkshire Brigade by June 21, 1965.

At a meeting of the Council of Colonels, the Colonel D.W.R. offered the silver putter of the 2nd Battalion, D.W.R., to be played for annually for the Brigade championship. The Council accepted the offer and expressed their appreciation. The putter will be suitably inscribed as presented by the officers of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

Padre of 1 DWR, Ian Bull, came second in the BAOR Chaplains' annual exercise competition!

So all in all, the Yorkshire Brigade have done well in Army sport in the past few weeks.

### The Green Howards and "Desert Sand"

Inter-unit co-operation in the Brigade helped the Prince of Wales's Own to complete part of the old East Yorkshire Museum collection of exhibits from the 1939-45 War. The 4th and 5th Battalions of the East Yorkshire Regiment both fought in the Western Desert, but there were no relics in the museum to commemorate this service. 1 Green Howards obliged by collecting some sand from the Gazala area—between El Alamein and Wadi Abait—and some other relics picked up from the battlefields, and sent them by hand of a soldier to Beverley. These were received, and duly lodged in the museum, with some ceremony, and attention from the Press.

### Brigade H.Q.

Most of our visitors during the last three months have been officers and warrant officers of the Brigade. Lt-Colonel Collard came to say goodbye before taking 1 Y and L to Cyprus. Lt-Colonel Kavanagh came to lecture at the Northern Command study week, and to do some "house hunting." Lt-Colonel John Scott, having handed over in Tripoli, came through, on leave, on his way to his new post in Whitehall.

Other visitors have included Lt-Colonel Scrope, 4/5 Green Howards CO, Major Sevenoaks from HQ 42 Div, also Green Howards; Major Newton on his way to Singapore and Major Miller from the West Riding Battalion—both DWR; Major Glazebrook, PWO, on his way to Aden, and Major Hall to 3 PWO (TA). And, finally, amongst many others, the new quartermasters, Messrs Robins, Maddocks and Long have paid frequent visits, RQMS O'Brien on his way to 1 DWR and WO1 Richards, the new Bandmaster, to 1 PWO.

The Brigade Colonel and DAAG spent a day and a half with 1 Y and L at Chester and, having discussed numerous burning questions, were pleasurably entertained at dinner and a Mess dance.

### Promotions and Appointments

Lt-General Sir Robert Bray, late DWR, at present C-in-C ALFNE, has been promoted to full general—*London Gazette*, February 23, 1965.

Brigadier G. H. Cree, Colonel PWO, will become the Yorkshire Brigade Representative Colonel in succession to Major-General Exham on May 1, 1965.

The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Halifax has succeeded Colonel H. P. Robson as Hon Colonel 3 PWO (TA).

Colonel J. B. Oldfield, late Green Howards, has been appointed to command 128 Inf Bde (TA), in the rank of brigadier, from March 15, 1965.

Colonel A. W. Cowper, late PWO, has been appointed Chief of Intelligence to the British High Commissioner in Aden, with the rank of brigadier.

The following appointments and promotions have also taken place:—

Lt-Colonel E. A. K. Dennison succeeded Lt-Colonel P. P. Steel as CO 3 PWO (TA).

Lt-Colonels G. H. H. Coles, PWO, and R. W. Nicholson, DWR, have been promoted to substantive Lt-Col.

Major W. A. E. Todd succeeded Major J. F. Skelton as 2IC 1 PWO.

Major J. F. Skelton, PWO, from 1 PWO to GSO 2, MOD.

Major P. G. T. Bates, PWO, from MOD to GSO 2, HQ, BAOR.

Major D. C. Hall, PWO, from HQ 1 (BR) Corps to Trg Maj 3 PWO (TA).

Major C. W. Crossland, PWO, from 1 Y and L to GSO 2 at RAR and DE.

Major E. M. P. Hardy, DWR, from Directorate of Infantry to 1 DWR.

Major R. Eccles, Y and L, succeeded Major B. F. Watts as 2IC 1 Y and L.

Major B. F. Watts, Y and L, from 1 Y and L to DAQMG, HQ, BAOR.

Major F. A. M. Thierry, Y and L, from 1 Y and L to GSO 2, HQ, NORTHAG.

Captain D. H. Dodds, PWO, to 1 DWR.

Captain W. C. A. Battey, PWO, to Special Duty for one year.

Captain C. Kreyer succeeded Captain P. A. Inge as Adjutant, 1 Green Howards.

Captain P. A. Inge, Green Howards, relieved Captain S. J. Nash, Y and L, as OC Junior Soldiers Wing, Brigade Depot.

Captain N. D. McIntosh, Green Howards, relieved Captain C. R. Chapman as OC 11 AYT.

Captain R. M. Weare, Green Howards, from Staff Captain, East Africa to GSO 3, HQ, Scottish Command.

Captain I. H. S. Homersham, Green Howards, from United Nations Force Cyprus, to Instructor Army School of PT, Aldershot.

Captain D. W. Hargreaves, Green Howards, from Trucial Oman Scouts to Adjutant, BRIXMIS.

Captain R. T. Rockett, Green Howards, from 1 Green Howards to Platoon Weapons Instr., Royal Marines Inf Trg School.

Capt. D. S. Gilbert-Smith, DWR, Special Duty for three months.

Captain E. J. H. Dasent, DWR, from HQ Uganda Army to GSO 3, HQ Northern Rhodesia Army.

Captain S. A. Berry, DWR, from 1 DWR to GSO 3, HQ Malta and Tripoli.

Captain S. J. Nash, Y and L, succeeded Captain C. B. Gorton as Adjutant 1 Y and L.

Captain H. R. Goble, Y and L, relieved Captain W. R. E. Hart, Y and L, as OC 12 AYT.

Lt P. J. B. Combie, Y and L, relieved Lt P. J. Puttock at the Brigade Depot.

Lt C. J. Lacy, Green Howards, accepted for Cambridge, to read for Science Degree, October, 1965.

Captain (QM) W. N. Oliver, Green Howards, from 4/5 Bn (TA) to QM Civil Defence School, Devizes.

Captain (QM) A. H. Sedgewick, Green Howards, succeeded Captain (QM) Oliver as QM 4/5 Bn Green Howards (TA).

Lt (QM) C. L. Wiley, PWO, from 1 DWR to QM Hong Kong Volunteer Force.

Lt (QM) H. Rushworth, PWO, relieved Lt-Colonel (QM) R. A. Watson as QM Leeds Rifles (TA).

RSM N. Maddocks, PWO promoted Lt. (QM) and appointed OC and QM 221 Mob Civ Artisan Gp, BAOR.

RSM G. Long, Green Howards, promoted Lt (QM) and appointed QM 2 1 DWR in relief Lt (QM) Wiley.

RQMS T. A. Brint, Y and L, promoted to WOI, and appointed RSM 4/5 Bn Green Howards (TA) in relief of RSM Long.

WOII S. J. Fogarty promoted to WOI, and appointed RSM, Army Camp Comdt, HQ Middle East.

WOII G. T. O'Brien, PWO, appointed RQMS 1 DWR, in relief of RQMS Brint.

WOI A. R. Pinkney, PWO, has been appointed Brigade Bandmaster of the Green Jackets Brigade. WOI P. G. Richards, late RWF, has been appointed Bandmaster to 1 PWO.

The following officers have retired or resigned: Lt-Colonel (QM) R. A. Watson, PWO; Major (QM) R. Outhwaite, PWO; Major A. G. Evans, Y and L; Major J. A. Davies, Green Howards; Captain J. A. C. Warrington, Green Howards.

Finally, only four officers from the Brigade succeeded in the recent Staff College Entrance Examination; they were all from the Green Howards: Captains P. A. Inge, I. R. Kibble, N. A. Hallidie, R. T. Rockett.

### Recruiting

Numbers of recruits fell disastrously low in November and December, with the result that the final figure for 1964 was only 424 adult recruits. Thus, instead of being a fairly good year as was anticipated, it ended up as the worst since 1960. The reasons for the bad figures have been inconclusively debated at length, but the loss of our Regimental recruiting team must be a factor. Losses of men from run-out, purchase and other causes have also been heavy, so that during the last quarter of 1964 the Brigade was barely maintaining its strength. Figures for January and February at 35 and 38 respectively show a distinct improvement, but great efforts will have to be made in both internal and external recruiting if the Brigade is to approach the man-power target by early 1967.



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## YORKSHIRE BRIGADE DEPOT NOTES

As might be expected most of the activities that are worthy of note during the past quarter have been of a social nature.

Most noticeable and important of all our visitors was the 1st Battalion rugby team who spent a week here for a final training session before going on to Aldershot for the final.

The depot hockey team have reached the final of the Northern Command Minor Units Knock-out Competition which is to be played on March 10.

### Training Company

A successful two-day course on the general purpose machine gun was run by QMSI Church, SASC, and was attended by PSI's of the TA battalions of the Brigade in December. The Duke's were represented by S/Sgt Mountcastle and Sgts Kelly and Hartley.

A junior NCOs cadre was run in early January for the benefit of the more recently joined instructors.

Advantage of the lean recruiting period during the winter was taken to prepare several of the permanent staff to take 1st and 2nd Class Certificates of Education.

### Junior Soldiers' Company

The command of the Company has changed from Captain S. J. Nash, Y and L, to Captain P. I. Inge, Green Howards.

The Christmas period was marked by a dance on December 16 and a carol concert, to which parents were invited, on the following day. Both were held in the Globe Cinema and set the mood for the Christmas holiday. At the Christmas dinner Junior Lance Corporal K. Walker, DWR, was presented with the shield for the best all-round junior soldier. This shield has been innovated and presented for annual competition by Captain G. J. Cave, RAEC.

The Company cross country team distinguished themselves by coming second in the Army Boys' Cross Country Championships held at Aldershot on February 26.

The .22 shooting team are doing well in both the Depot Home League and in a league organised by the Lowland Brigade Depot for junior soldiers and lie in a position from which they could win both leagues. One of the best shots in the team, J/Dmr Larnder, DWR, has now unfortunately left to join the 1st Battalion.

The hockey XI beat the Light Infantry Brigade in the first round of the Junior Soldiers' Hockey Competition.

### Officers' Mess

The senior officer's flat in the north-east corner of the Mess has been successfully converted into what can best be described as a "cocktail bar and lounge" and has been dubbed the Hi-Bar. It makes a highly suitable place to hold an informal

party or to take a lady guest for a drink, the atmosphere being less dignified than that of the anteroom.

A second party with a foreign flavour was held in December. This time it was a Slavonic Party and costume, food and drink were in keeping with the title.

In January we entertained members of the Sergeants' Mess and their wives at a lunch party and later held a ladies' guest night. At the latter nearly every officer was accompanied by wife or girl friend and it was only by a careful arrangement of the tables that room was made for all to dine in the same room.

Ian Reid is to be congratulated on two counts, and Merle Reid on one of them. They had a daughter on February 1. Ian has also gained his seventh Army rugby cap.

### Sergeants' Mess

The annual Christmas draw was held on December 19 and attracted a gathering which filled the Globe Cinema; old friends from all over Yorkshire turned up to see what luck they might have, and few were disappointed.

On December 22 our wives were entertained at dinner in the Mess and to round off the festivities a dance and social were held to herald 1965.

The Mess fielded a soccer and a hockey team against the corporals and officers respectively. We lost to the former but held our opponents to a draw in the latter (or did they hold us to it?).

### Corporals' Club

The annual ball held on December 15 started the Depot off on a series of Christmas entertainments. It was an excellent party which we all enjoyed except for Corporal P. Gott, whose wife broke her arm at the eleventh hour before the ball began. She has recovered but, unfortunately, he is now in hospital at Catterick.

It should be recorded that, although we were beaten in the games when we were invited to the Sergeants Mess in January we did win the "boat race."

### Memorial Service

A Memorial Service to commemorate the death of Sir Winston Churchill was held in the Garrison Church, Strensall, on January 29, and was attended by all ranks of the Depot.

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# 1st BATTALION

## Sub-Editorial

The first few months of 1965 were quiet in Osnabrück with many people on leave. The weather was unexpectedly mild and we had very little snow. This did not please those who had hoped to do some winter sports locally. However, a large number of the Battalion did manage to do some skiing by travelling to Norway or Bavaria; an account of both of these courses appears later on.

In early February our M.T. Department was subjected to the annual serviceability inspection and a great deal of hard work was put into this by everybody associated with the vehicles. It is, perhaps, a criticism of this form of inspection that, by holding a complete vehicle check over a short period of time, the Battalion is completely immobile for a whole month. One wonders whether two checks per year would not be a more logical system, thus only immobilising half of the Battalion's transport at any one time.

The Army becomes more complex every day with the introduction of modern weapons and vehicles. Despite this modernisation in equipment, we are still hampered by out-dated administration methods. A typical example of these is the pay parade, which lasts approximately one hour every week. Therefore, in the average infantry battalion you have about 600 man hours wasted each week.

Although not advocating an overnight revolution in the traditional ways of doing things one feels that, in accounting and inspection, there is still a great deal of inefficiency which, in view of the present shortage of manpower in the Army, is inexcusable.

The problem of shortage of labour was encountered in the Battalion in late January when leave and skiing commitments had reduced working parties on vehicles to a minimum. In order to alleviate this problem, C.S.M. Nicholson in Hook Company simply introduced a staggered pay parade. This meant that each man spent only five minutes drawing his pay, a saving of 55 minutes per man. While such simple solutions are not always possible, there is scope for improvement in our traditional methods of administration.

Returning to more domestic affairs, one must congratulate the Battalion 1st XV on winning the B.A.O.R. Rugby Cup. It was a spectacular final and spread the name of The Duke's throughout Germany.

A more individual sport in which interest has recently been revived is riding. The instigator is C.S.M. Simpson and, owing to his efforts, many people are taking up this pastime. We are particularly fortunate in Osnabrück as the Garrison Saddle Club is probably one of the best in Germany. It has excellent facilities and a wide selection of horses. In the future it is hoped to raise a Garrison polo team and already several members of the Regiment have shown interest and promise.

By the time this edition of THE IRON DUKE is published we will have started next season's training cycle and will be heavily involved in company exercises. With the new Second-in-Command, Major Robertson, wielding the metaphorical whip, shooting is the order of the day and already he can be heard muttering about Bisley.

## NEWS FROM THE MESSES

### OFFICERS' MESS

The improvement in the appearance of the Mess which was noted in the last issue has been steadily maintained. It is, however, a very slow business and there is still a great deal to be done. We now have attractive blue carpets in the main rooms and Diana Mitchell has made some colourful lamp-shades for the ante-room. Unfortunately officers' living quarters and the remainder of the Mess still require complete renovation and re-decoration. We understand that this is "in hand" but it will be interesting to see how soon results appear.

On the occasion of the Annual Administrative Inspection we entertained the Commander 12 Inf. Bde. Gp. and attendant staff officers to lunch. This was followed on the same evening by a guest night at which our main guests were General

Sir Robert Bray, Brigadier Tower and Air Commodore Walker. This was the last official visit of the Brigadier before relinquishing command of 12 Inf. Bde. Gp. As he was leaving the Mess about 2 a.m. he found himself rather unceremoniously lifted aloft by the younger officers and transported to his car to the sound of "For he's a jolly good fellow."

The chief guest of the evening was General Sir Robert, who came from Oslo to pay an unofficial visit to the Battalion. At an informal buffet lunch in the Mess the following day, many of our wives were introduced to the General and Lady Bray. Charles Bunbury, now A.D.C. to the General, also enjoyed his stay with us and positively beamed when he saw the gaming room.

At the beginning of December the Mess became a hive of activity and apparent confusion. Sgt.



Cooper and his pioneers, directed by Shirley Dennison, started preparing the ante-room for a party—our first major entertainment since our arrival in Osnabruck. As the day and the hour grew closer the grand design revealed itself—the theme was Paris. The ante-room became a *boulevard* with golden lamp posts and coloured café tables. Down one side of the room just above eye level ran the carefully prepared silhouette of Paris and below was the reflection of the skyline in the River Seine. Subdued lights had been cunningly arranged behind so as to shine through the coloured windows of the many churches and buildings. Down the other side of the *boulevard* were the shop windows; these were expertly dressed to represent wine, gown, antique shops, etc. The dining room was transformed to produce a delightful woodland scene and the entrance hall looked dark, sultry and very French. The decor was superb and was admired by all; and we must thank Shirley Dennison for a magnificent show. The pioneers did their part, as did the ladies who so carefully and tastefully dressed the window boxes.

Drinks, buffet, supper, dancing and roulette—the evening was an enormous success!

On December 22 our ladies dined with us in the mess and the pattern of a normal guest night was followed. A novel idea was the giving of a single red rose to each lady present.

The usual festivities at Christmas included a very vigorous and entertaining game of soccer in the snow against the Sergeants' Mess. Eleven of our officers, in peculiar attire, honourably held at bay hordes of the opposition even more peculiarly attired. Fortunately William Webb Ellis was ignored and it was a surprisingly good game. Afterwards we had the pleasure of entertaining members of the opposition in our Mess.

Early in January we dined-out Bob Callaby, whose departure has been described elsewhere. We were honoured to join our Sergeants' Mess in presenting Bob with a token of our affection and regard. The same evening Leslie Evans dined with us for the last time before returning to civilian life; we also took opportunity of welcoming Walter Robins. It is amusing to recall that one of the staff, remembering well the power of an R.S.M., asked whether Mr. Robins should be put in the guest room on his arrival that evening. "Certainly not," was the answer, "He's a subaltern now."

Brigadier Thomas, our new Commander, dined with us on February 10. He has a formidable record as a soldier and we now know that he is not to be trifled with at the roulette table—in fact, he almost "broke the bank." At the same guest night we entertained our new Brigade Major and Oberst Leutenant Achsel, the Commander of the local Luftwaffe unit. It was particularly pleasing to welcome Lt.-Colonel Peter Taylor, the Commanding Officer of 1 PWO, and a number of his officers who had travelled from Berlin to support their side in the B.A.O.R. cross-country championships.

Jeremy and Elizabeth Cumberlege have returned



General Bray speaking to Pte. Bagshaw

and Peter Pettigrew has introduced us to Anne, his charming and very new wife.

Throughout this active period our Mess Staff have risen to the occasion and have consistently provided excellent service, particularly at the most important functions. We are indebted to them.

We finally would like to congratulate Captain Mundell and Lt. Newell on being elected honorary members of the local Teachers' Mess. Why they should be so favoured is a complete mystery.

#### WOs AND SERGEANTS' MESS

The end of the exercise season saw social life in the mess picking up once more. The main events being a very successful dinner at which the wives were present and, of course, the Christmas draw, very ably organised by the Bandmaster; in spite of the R.S.M. winning most of the prizes, a very enjoyable evening was had by all. Geoff France won a bathroom stool with a purple plush seat and the single members are still hoping to catch him sitting on it in the bathroom.

Christmas Day saw all members in station trudging through the snow taking tea and rum to the troops in bed. Sgt. Curling was overheard ordering a soldier back to bed in order that he could have tea served properly. At lunch time we had the officers in for drinks and then served the soldiers Christmas dinner.

On Boxing Day, suitably dressed in nightdresses, we allowed the officers to beat us in the annual

football match and then were entertained by them in the Officers' Mess.

The New Year was seen in with a social and dance; we were joined on this occasion by C.S.M. Geoff Nicholson, whom we welcome back to the Battalion; we are delighted that he and his little friend Albert are challenging to lead the "Plonkies."

We were loath to say farewell to Ray Batty, who has gone to the West Riding Battalion. He will be missed by all, and to him and Julie we wish all the very best.

Also among the departures were Frank Creighton and Bill Galley to "civvy street," which leaves us without a singer of Frank's capabilities. Still on losses to the mess, we saw Captain (QM) and Mrs. Callaby leave for the West Riding Battalion. They were regular visitors and likewise will be missed. However, we welcome back and congratulate Lt. (QM) Robins and hope he will be a constant visitor.

In closing, the darts team deserve a mention inasmuch that, up to press, they have only lost one match in the Garrison League.

### CORPORALS' MESS

Leave has been the main occupation over the last three months, and at no time during this period has the Mess been able to assemble complete.

We started our Christmas festivities by buying a children's "round-about," and presenting it to the local orphanage in Osnabruck. It was suitably inscribed in English as being presented by the

corporals and lance-corporals, and none realised until the plate had been engraved how much better it would have been had the engraving been worded in German. However, the children (average age 3-4 years) will be able to learn their first few words of English at a very early age.

Christmas Day was celebrated in barracks because all the "Guest Houses" closed in Osnabruck. Even the N.A.A.F.I. tried very hard to close their doors; however, after some very strong words from the Commanding Officer, the beer supply was guaranteed. Sgt. Towey and L/Cpl. Harrison, with the help of others, maintained a small bar in the dining room, while the Commanding Officer, officers, warrant officers and sergeants served us lunch. The N.A.A.F.I. managed to find one of our regular staff who kindly volunteered to run our bar on Christmas night, and we should like to record our thanks to Frau Katie Haurert for her kindness in helping us out.

New Year was seen in with a Mess Social, and we were pleased to see the R.S.M., A.S.M., R.Q.M.S., with wives, who left their own mess party to come and see how the lower deck lives. A first-class buffet was arranged by our Corporal Cooks and we thank S/Sgt. Smith and his staff for organising and running a second bar.

The R.S.M. has visited us on odd occasions recently; we don't know if he has "gone off" the Sergeants' Mess for his Sunday lunch time drink or if he has switched messes for some ulterior motive.

We are under the impression that our visits to the local Brauerei (Brewery) have been terminated. The representative informed the P.M.C. that many visits like the last would probably result in an increase in the price of the beer. However, it was good while it lasted. We could not hope to convince the brewery staff for ever that our only interest was technical, motivated by our unquenchable thirst for knowledge.

### The Kindly Corporal

Germany can be cold and frosts hard. Outside our guard room hangs a container filled with anti-freeze mixed with water to the same strength as the mixture in our vehicle cooling systems.

The Guard Commander inspects this container at intervals and, if the fluid starts to freeze, he must go along and wake the M.T. Duty N.C.O. who in turn wakes up the drivers to start up vehicles and prevent freeze-ups. This plan worked until a certain corporal guard commander decided the container was freezing and so took it into the guard room.

He was later visited by the Orderly Officer who noticed the container on the fire. When questioned the corporal explained: "Well, Sir, what is the point of me walking down to the M.T. Office to wake the Duty N.C.O. who would have to come to the Guard Room on a cold night to de-frost the container, when all I had to do was to take it down and heat it over the fire."

This corporal, if he continues to show such kind consideration to his comrades, will surely reach the Sergeants' Mess; he may even be awarded the Nobel Prize.

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# SPORT

## SKI-ING

The sport of ski-ing is one in which the infantry has not made its mark since the West Yorks were stationed in Austria just after the war. The reason is not difficult to find. Those units of the British Army which have spent many years in Germany have produced skiers. In the past infantry battalions have been in Germany for far too short a period to justify the financial expenditure necessary to produce results.

Since it is possible that the Battalion will on this occasion stay for some time in Germany we have taken up sk-ing in a big way during this, our first, winter.

The experts say that it takes three or four years to build up a good team and we certainly did not expect to produce any spectacular results this year. However we achieved our aim, namely to get as many as possible on skis, and had the largest team out of two dozen regiments competing in the Divisional Ski Meeting. We had a team of 24 of which 23 were novices.

The term "ski-ing" covers two entirely different sports. Firstly there is cross country ski-ing, sometimes called "Langlauf," which is the type of ski-ing most common in the Scandinavian countries. This is in some ways similar to cross country running in its demands on the participant and it is not a sport to be undertaken by any but the physically fit. By using a light ski and boot, with loose bindings, it is possible to travel quickly on the flat or uphill. The writer has covered 30 kilometres with loaded rucksack and rifle in under three hours. This form of ski-ing has considerable military applications, particularly to the infantry. Winter warfare on skis is a most interesting and worthwhile form of training for us. To the Norwegian Army ski-ing is their daily bread and butter in the winter and they are experts in this field.

The other form of ski-ing, downhill ski-ing, is more widely understood. This is the sport common throughout the rest of Europe and familiar to most British people by virtue of first hand holiday experience, or the study of newspapers, magazines, etc.

Unfortunately Osnabruck is 500 miles from Bavaria and, although it is possible to ski in places only 200 miles away, snow cannot be guaranteed in any of the latter areas. It is a great pity that we have so far to go for snow, because as a result ski-ing has to be done in the form of highly organised expeditions for selected people. If one could ski outside our back doors, as can the Americans and Germans in the south, there is no doubt that it would be a most popular sport. Two hundred men on skis at the week-end would be quite probable and such a state of affairs would greatly alter our life here. The effect on morale and the relief of week-end boredom would be tremendous. However such is not the case and we have planned accord-

ingly. During the winter 160 men will have been on skis by one means or another.

## Norway

On Sunday, December 13, 1964, 12 "Dukes" (2 Officers, 3 Corporals and 7 soldiers) set off from Osnabruck for Norway. Because none of the Battalion had done this type of ski-ing before the team was made up mostly of soldiers who had proved themselves creditable cross country runners. Pre-Norway training had taken the form of circuit training in our gym under the critical eye of S.I. Beaty and L/Cpl. Walker.

On December 15 we arrived in Oslo (temperature -10°C.) where we were met by a bus from the Norwegian School of Infantry in Elverum where we were to be stationed for the next four weeks. During an Allied Officers' Winter Warfare course at the school, Captain Bray had made a few discreet inquiries and as a result the commandant agreed to billet and train The Duke's Langlauf team.

After the preliminary medical examination and issue of equipment and skis serious training began under two Norwegian officers, Captain Baumann and Lt. Cendalen. Elementary instruction took place for the next eight days and ended with our first five kilometre race, won convincingly by Pte. Booth.

On the afternoon of December 23 we started our Christmas break which was to be spent in Oslo. The Norwegian Army had kindly booked our soldiers into their hostel in Oslo. The two officers were kindly offered the use of Charles Bunbury's flat just outside Oslo. During our five days stay the team was extremely well looked after by the British contingent at Kolas, the N.A.T.O. Headquarters, and they had the opportunity of meeting a very senior Duke, namely General Sir Robert Bray who was very interested in the progress of the team. A special mention should be made of Flt. Sgt. Tony Sahoia, who made himself responsible for seeing the team was looked after so well, and of Captain Charles Bunbury who had helped a lot with our planning.

On December 28 the team met at a ski shop in Oslo where, under the guidance of Captain Baumann, racing skis and boots were fitted and bought for each member. We then returned to Elverum to continue our training. The team made very satisfactory progress over the next fifteen days marred only by an unfortunate accident when Pte. Heaver fractured a leg. Every member managed to qualify for the Norwegian Civilian Bronze Award which entailed covering 10 kilometres in less than 65 minutes. Pte. Darcy did the fastest time (46 mins. 28 secs.) and our slowest man got round in 57 minutes.

Some of the non ski-ing highlights were Pte. Robson winning the attention of Miss Elverum 1963 and 1964 and the general success of the rest

of the team with the fair Norwegian beauties.

On January 14 we sailed from Oslo on the way back to Osnabruck en route for Bavaria.

We were all very sorry to leave. The Norwegian people and in particular the inhabitants of Elverum had been most kind and hospitable. We were all very grateful to the School of Infantry who did so much for us.

## 12 Brigade Scheme

12 Brigade sponsors a good scheme in Bavaria to enable soldiers to have a go at downhill ski-ing. We have Lt. John Moir living down there as our organiser and instructor. The men go for a fortnight and live in a private house in the village of Kranzegg near Immerstadt. Living conditions are a bit rough and the food is compo but where else can one get a fortnight's ski-ing including instruction, equipment and ski lift for £3.

We have 16 on each course and are running seven courses so in all a good number of men will have had a bash. Major Peter Hoppe is so far the only one to return in plaster although several others have got plastered in other ways. The atmosphere is very friendly in that part of Germany.

The Corps of Drums went on the first course and a party of Corunna Company on the second. From these two courses we selected the last eight men to form two teams for the 2 Divisional Meeting.

## 1(BR) Corps Winter Warfare Centre

This training centre is at Silberhutte in the Hartz Mountains. It runs fortnightly courses for groups of about 15 men from about 12 units at a time. The aim is to give men a grounding in winter warfare and ski-ing.

The Battalion has got two vacancies this winter. A party from Corunna Company under 2 Lt. Peter Mellor has already been and a party from Burma Company goes next month.

Unfortunately the Corunna Company men have escaped on leave without leaving an account of their experiences, but they did tell us on their way through that it had proved an excellent holiday. We are not quite sure that this is as it should be. Pte. Robinson evidently came second out of 200 in a race they had. We hope to hear more in due course.

## Divisional and Army Meetings

Possibly for the first time in history the Dukes took part in the Divisional, BAOR, Army and British (cross country) ski championships. These were held at Oberjoch, in Bavaria, which is one of Germany's best ski-ing resorts. We had three weeks there and it proved a most valuable and interesting experience. We certainly learnt a great deal which will be of use in the future and, considering that we were competing against all the best skiers in the country, some of our results were creditable.

In the Divisional Meeting we entered teams for the novices downhill and slalom, 4 x 10km. relay, 15km. individual and the patrol race. After this meeting the downhill skiers went on leave and the cross country skiers stayed on for the Army Meet-

ing in which we entered the 4 x 10km. relay, the 15km. team and individual and the patrol race.

We had great difficulty in sorting out our cross country skiers because they had all achieved a very similar standard. Anyone who knows anything about cross country ski-ing will know that there are many "ifs" and "buts" mostly concerned with the right wax and not breaking equipment. We had not trained for nearly as long as most teams and all our men were very new on skis. We also learnt that one must train at the right altitude for a best part of a fortnight before racing. The Adjutant straight from his office was badly out of breath to begin with.

However, everybody had at least one race in which nothing went wrong and we all returned much the wiser for our experience.

*Teams:* Downhill—Drum Major Allerton, Cpl. Nixon, Dmrs. Allen, Whapam, Calvert, L/Cpl. Timson, Ptes. Cook, Anderson and Turner.

Cross-country—Captain Bray, Lts. Westcob, Fitzgerald, Cpls. Jackson, Hewson, Kendrew, Ptes. Robson, Wilson, Ward, Booth, Grey and Darcy.

## Best results

*Teams:* Army Patrol—14th out of 22.  
 Army 15 km.—18th out of 24.  
 Army 10 km.—19th out of 24.  
 2 Div. Patrol—12th out of 21.  
 2 Div. Novices Downhill—3rd out of 5.  
 2 Div. Novices Slalom—2nd out of 5.

*Individuals: Army 10 km.:*

Captain Bray. 13th out of 96.

*Army 15 km.:*

Cpl. Kendrew 48th out of 172

Cpl. Jackson 82nd " " "

Pte. Robson 89th " " "

Pte. Grey 92nd " " "

Pte. Darcy 96th " " "

## SOCCER

During the last two months only a few Battalion 1st and 2nd XI League fixtures have been played. The pitches have generally been too hard and many games have been left over until later in the season.

Before Christmas the Soccer Club organised a Social in the Battalion Sports Club. The evening's entertainment was combined with our return match against a very friendly German team from nearby Recke. The game was played throughout in pouring rain. A hard and enjoyable game ended in a draw with two goals to each side.

After the game the German team and spectators came down to the Sports Club and joined in the Social Evening. Guests from all the soccer teams in the Brigade also arrived and helped to make the evening a success.

A very successful raffle was the highlight of an enjoyable party. Thanks are due to Cpls. Wilson and Lawrence and L/Cpl. Lockwood for organising and arranging the Soccer Club's first Social.

# Ski-ing Champion- ships



1



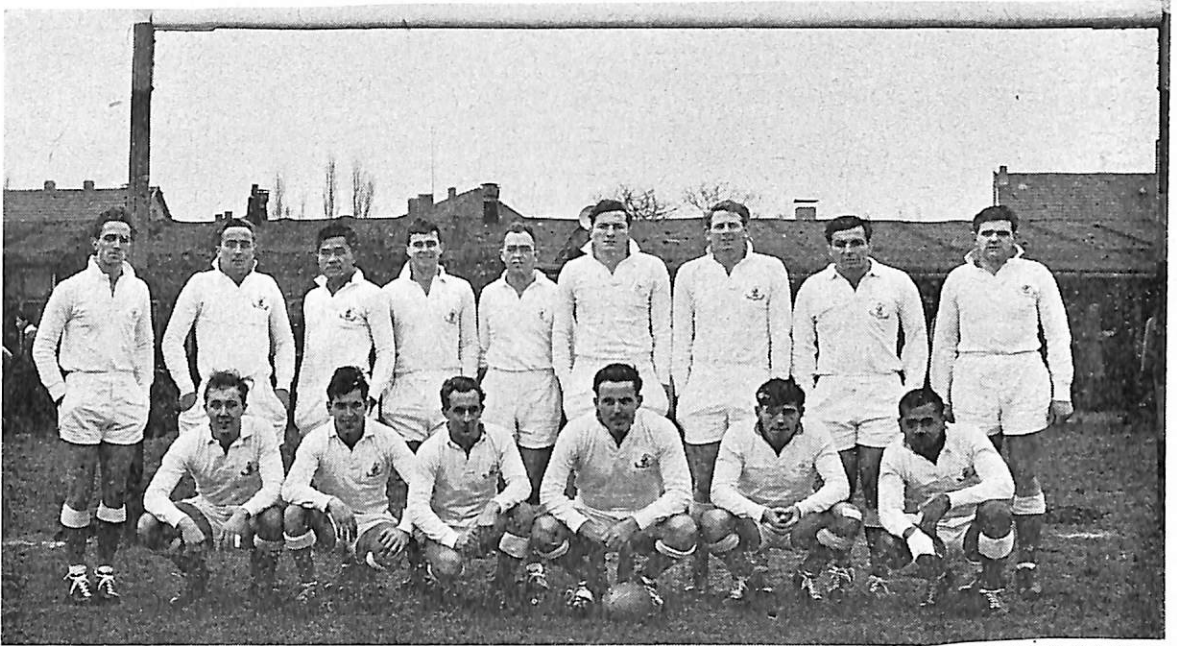
2



3

1. D.W.R. team, of Capt. Bray, Cpl. Kendrew, Ptes. Robson and Grey, being inspected before starting the Army Patrol Race
2. Cpl. Kendrew competing in the Army 15 km. Race
3. Dmr. Calvert having completed the Novices Downhill





*Photos by Public Relations Photo Section H.Q. B.A.O.R.*

**Top: WINNERS OF THE B.A.O.R. CHALLENGE CUP**

*Standing (Left to Right) Lt. E. J. Walker, 2nd Lt. A. R. Westcob, Pte. T. Waqabaca, 2nd Lt. A. Redwood-Davies, Cpl. J. Hemmings, Lt. C. G. Edwards, 2nd Lt. A. J. Nickell, Capt. D. S. Gilbert-Smith, L/Cpl. J. Dickens. Front Row (Left to Right) 2nd Lt. L. D. D. P. Evans, Lt. P. A. Pettigrew, Capt. M. R. N. Bray, Capt. W. R. Mundell, Sgt. M. Hall, L/Cpl. S. Ponijiasi.*

**Bottom: THE TWO TEAMS AFTER THE B.A.O.R. FINAL AGAINST S.C.L.I.  
Captain Mundell holding the Cup.**

## HOCKEY

The aim of the hockey enthusiasts has been to play as much hockey as other commitments will permit, with a view to building up a side for next season. We have, therefore, played comparatively few games.

In theory there are two pitches within the barracks, but neither is by any means ideal. The grass pitch has now, for this year at least, been turned over to the moles, while the pitch on the square is excellent, except for a rain gutter which runs the length of the field and produces some surprising moments.

A large number of players have turned out for the team at one time or another, and there is no doubt that the basis exists for a good side next year. Mention should be made of the Band who, under the enthusiastic control of Mr. Bowyer, can always be relied upon to provide players.

We have not actually managed to win any matches but, nevertheless, have never disgraced ourselves, and can only hope to improve in the future.

## RUGBY

### 4th Round Army Cup

1 DWR 48 : 5 Fld. Regt. RA 0

This was a very enjoyable game played against a very plucky opposition who never stopped trying and were still pressing hard in the last few minutes. David Gilbert-Smith did not play and his absence was very apparent, while John Walker was injured and left the field at half-time. The main features of the match were Peter Pettigrew scoring 33 points (he never stopped telling us—SUB-ED) and some very scrappy line-out work with atrocious throwing in by the wings.

### 5th Round Army Cup

1 DWR 25 : 34 Fld. Regt. RA 0

A game played on the one unfrozen pitch in Germany at Rheindahlen in sleet, rain and wind. Here, Robin Newell, having arrived from Stren-sall, played his first game—in the centre. Although out of position and not the fastest centre, he filled

the gaps and nearly scored with two drop goals. Although the score was quite satisfying, this was not an enjoyable game as the conditions made good rugby impossible.

### B.A.O.R. Final

1 DWR 33 : 1 SCLI 3

Last year S.C.L.I. beat the Welch Fusiliers 26—0 and held the Welsh Guards to 6—3 in the A.R.U. Final. A bright day, good referee, large crowd and our band set the scene. Dick Mundell won the toss and played with the slight wind and sun behind us. After 10 minutes of continual attacking, everything had gone well—but no score! Then it started, the ball was passed between backs and forwards—we lost the ball in only three tight scrums, monopolised the loose and whenever they got the ball in the line-out they found themselves being forced back towards their own line; our backs never dropped the ball, ran and inter-passed as if giving an exhibition. An example of this play was shown in the second half; the S.C.L.I. rallied and got a penalty goal in our 25. A very rapid line-out, Evans passed to Walker who cut through and passed to Waqabaca to Gilbert-Smith to Hemmings to Waqabaca to Edwards, who scored. General Goodwin presented the cup, and paid tribute to the team and to Waqabaca. Team: 2 Lt. Evans, 2Lt. Westcob, Pte. Waqabaca, Lt. Walker, Lt. Edwards, Lt. Pettigrew, Captain Bray, Captain Mundell, 2 Lt. Redwood-Davies, Cpl. Hemmings, L/Cpl. Dickens, Sgt. Hall, L/Cpl. Ponijiasi, Lt. Nickell, Captain Gilbert-Smith.

After the final, winter arrived and rugby was postponed until March. To sum up the first half season in B.A.O.R., over 60 members of the first Battalion have played and people are beginning to request fixtures only with our 3rd XV. Dick Mundell assembled the first XV again in February. Andre Dennison now runs the 2nd XV which has less than 10 per cent. officers; the 1st dare not play them. Godfrey Bellamy moved down to the 3rd XV—the 2nd XV became too serious. It has been an excellent start and augurs well for the future.

## PARSON'S PROGRESS

Having heard the story of Exercise Parson's Pleasure II from Padre Bull in your last notes, it is only right that you should hear of his further exploits.

Firstly—The Parable of the Good Samaritan (20th Century version). While visiting men on a recent exercise the Padre (he drives like John) was travelling at speed down a very muddy track when he came upon several vehicles stuck in the mud. "I can't stop, Jack, or I'll get stuck, too," he cried as he roared by, spraying all concerned with mud.

Reports have it that he has a novel answer to the map reading problem—drive three times as fast and you will conceal your errors by arriving on time.

As reported in your previous issue the Padre's

driver, Pte. Watson, can't drive. Unfortunately, someone thought he could and gave him a licence. On his first day out he placed the Champ neatly in the ditch 20 yards from the Guard Room gate. This malicious attempt to write off the Champ and secure a Land-Rover in its place having failed, Watson then did the job properly by colliding with a train. The Adjutant threatened to shoot the Padre for being a party to the near martyrdom of an Orderly Room clerk, but fortunately no one was hurt. The case of Bundesbahn v. Bull (and others) is still to be heard (next issue perhaps). S/Sgt. Sykes was as pleased as he always is on these occasions and the Padre is now wandering around Camp with a hub-cap where his halo used to be.

*Honi Soit Qui Mal Y Pense.*

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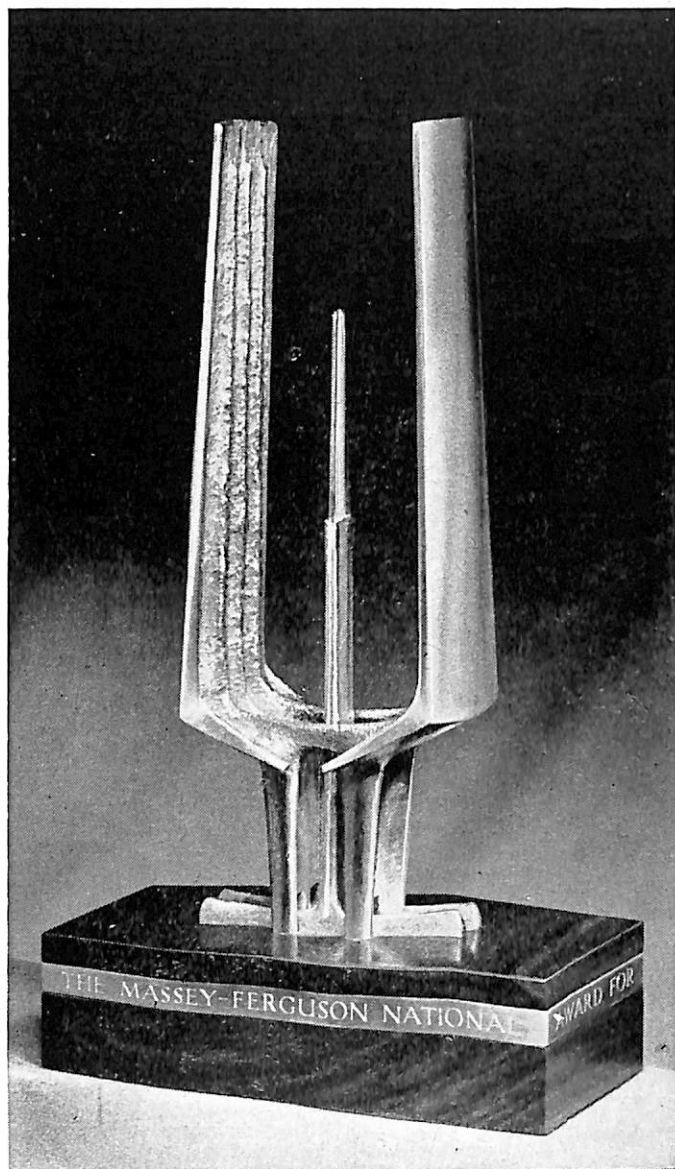
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## 1st BATTALION COMPANY NOTES

### Battalion H.Q.

The new Adjutant and Second-in-Command have settled into the routine of office work, but the former seems to be burning quite a large amount of midnight oil just of late—that is what becomes of being a rugby player as well as adjutant.

Captain Cumberlege arrived in December and took over from Captain Mitchell as PRI. Once the new PRI was *in situ*, curtains appeared on the windows and in general the place took on a new look. It is thought that Frau Schultz had these ideas of old, but it took a new PRI to make them materialise.

Tom Dooley is soldiering once again after being a non-trade tested clerk for two years. He left the Orderly Room to go on a NCO's Cadre, and we wish him the best of luck when he is up the "sharp end."

Pte. Larnder—Ex-Jnr.—has taken the vacant slot "G" Clerk. He does very well considering he has had little or no experience in the clerical world, and it is hoped that he will become another of the "old contemptibles."

L/Cpl. Harrison is leaving the Army after four years of typing the Iron Duke notes—once known as the Sub Sub-Editor. It is not known who will take the step-up—but quite a few of the clerks have hopes. Once Pte. Bower got wind of L/Cpl. Harrison leaving a new trend of efficiency took place on his behalf (commonly known as "Tapeing"). Pte. Bennett also had instructions from an unknown source (wife) "get it or else." Ptes. Briggs and Walsh just seem to take it as a matter of course, but they, too, have a deep-down hope. We shall see.

### HOOK COMPANY

With the disappearance of WOII Webb to the Weapon Training Office, WOII Nicholson has taken over the company office chair, having just returned from Hythe.

All in the office seem bent on educating themselves, as the Company Clerk, Company Orderly Sergeant and even the CSM are taking a course of instruction in GCE.

Our Colour Sergeant has managed to get his drill course cancelled and is looking very cheerful at the moment.

We have one or two additions to the Company—Captain Cumberlege having taken over as PRI, Sgt. Innes on his return from Aden, and Cpl. Johnson, who is seen around the Company Headquarters occasionally.

### Signal Platoon

With Darcy in love with a Norwegian, L/Cpl. Wood, Gunn Woodruff and even Walker making roosting noises, you have to be a senior NCO to remain single these days! (or RSO—Sub-Ed.).



Sgt. Ingham's pet dog left its mark during a brief visit to the guardroom

Sgt. Booth has returned from Hythe with the expected "B," and his favourite phrase seems to be—"when Sgt. Coll goes I shall take over," Sgt. Curling and Cpl. Wilkinson are yet to return.

The Cadre finished on time, with L/Cpl. Basu just beating Kench and Hirst in coming top. If you want to drive "join the Signal Platoon" is the latest cry, but you have to watch out these days, for Shaw can't see over the steering wheel and Lowth drives as he used to run the battery shop!

At the moment basketball seems to be the craze and even Winterbottom forgets his flat feet.

### Band

Since our last notes we have lost another member—Bdsm. Lazaro through ill-health. However, Bds. Jagger, fresh from the Boys' Training Unit, has come to fill the vacancy.

Prior to the Christmas festivities we had a successful concert in Osnabruck, enhanced by the appearance of two eminent German soloists, Ursula Scholten (soprano) and Ernst Burg-Linden (piano). The newspaper critics were very pleased with our performance and praised the evening's entertainment.

After a 30-minute broadcast on BFN, we started the round of dances and performances for Christmas and New Year. "The Cheeters," our best group, are starting to carve themselves a good name in the area, and are now on the road to fame.



**VISIT OF GENERAL  
AND LADY BRAY**  
Lady Bray (extreme left)  
meeting 1 DWR wives  
*Left to Right*—Mrs. Wappett,  
Mrs. Wilson, Mrs.  
Chilvers, Mrs. Pratt,  
Mrs. Owens, Mrs.  
Simpson, Mrs. Serjeant

The notable event in January was the massed bands' concert in aid of the children of Osnabruck. For two hours the audience was charmed and thrilled by the magnificent sound of four military bands, playing a varied and enjoyable programme.

The coming summer season promises to be interesting, if not lucrative, as unfortunately paid engagements are very scarce, but we all live in hope.

Future engagements include more massed bands' displays in Munster and Berlin, and, of course, the celebrations in Belgium for the Battle of Waterloo, in which all bands stationed in West Germany are taking part.

### ALMA COMPANY

The first four months of 1965 have seen the completion of Alma Company's first year in Germany. It does not seem like 12 months since we waved farewell to British Honduras; but the weeks and months have literally flown by. As ever, the memories of the Caribbean grow rosier with every beer.

Faces have come and faces have gone—but the hard core remains. . . .

The Office and Stores continue to function with a smoothness that makes the rest of the Battalion green with envy, nothing can surprise them now, they have seen it all!

During the last year several Company Commanders have retired, beaten; however, there are still more ready to step into the breach. Captain P. Mitchell has now joined us, Captain D. Gilbert-Smith having departed for places unknown. He has also changed his number to 008.

Lt. Andrews has returned to Yorkshire, and Lts. Moir and Fitzgerald are seen very occasionally passing with skis over their shoulders.

One thing that Germany has taught the Company is the art of being invisible! Charts posted all over the Company Office proved hopelessly out of date, when one of the "Snow Queen" skiers was arrested on a building site in Huddersfield.

The Government would also do well to consult Pte. Flaherty on the "illegal emigrant" problem. He took three days' local leave in Osnabruck and was found having a pint of "Tetley's" in Halifax.

Most people have now been to Bavaria in one guise or another. We are not quite sure whether it was the "call of the snow," which was attractive, or the thought of all those filthy vehicles to be cleaned back in camp!

A few of the Company have left for a closer look at civilian life. Some more reluctantly than others, but we wish them all well . . . and their employers! We mention Pte. "Stacker" Hughes, who had been one of our drivers for a long time, he was a tower of strength. He will do well as a brewers' drayman.

Our congratulations are extended to Ptes. Rutherford and Dyke on their recent marriages. We all would wish to record our sympathy to Pte. and Mrs. McLean on the loss of their baby daughter.

And so on into 1965 and the next "Exercise Season." Perhaps Sennelager and Haltern do not conjure up the exciting images they did a year ago, but there are rumours of a trip to Norway. The old hands scoff, but still. . . .

Let our last thoughts be for those seasoned veterans and campaigners Oxley, Bates and Cowley. If you are ever on a long journey with them and a little bored, ask them to show you the "three card trick." The result should be expensive.

### BURMA COMPANY

With Admin. behind them, 6 Platoon were able to relax in Amsterdam for a weekend. This proved



to be a most successful trip, not only for 6 Platoon but also for the inhabitants of Amsterdam, who appear to have profited considerably, judging by the state of everybody's pockets on their return. Reluctant to leave, 6 Platoon arrived back minus only one man, who was returned by courtesy of the Dutch police.

Shortly after Amsterdam came a trip to Bastogne; this was duty with pleasure, or at least pleasure with a little duty thrown in for good measure. We were part of a guard supplied by the Brigade sent to take part in the celebrations of the 20th Anniversary of the Battle of Bastogne. After the parade the town was thrown open and the Company was stretched to its utmost to maintain its blameless reputation, but we returned without blotting our copybook, having been excellently entertained for two days.

Since then ski-ing has taken up most of our time, and we have been extremely fortunate in being able to send nearly 40 people. The first to go were Lt. Westcob, Cpl. Jackson and Cpl. Hewson, who went with the Battalion cross-country team to both Norway and Bavaria. Sixteen people have also been with Sgt. Collins to Silberhutte on the winter warfare course, and a further 20 went to Rottenburg to learn to ski. Major Shuttleworth also went ski-ing to Bavaria; and managed to avoid the unfortunate fate that overcame OC "C" Company.

Our congratulations go to Ptes. Stoddart and Boyes on the occasion of their respective marriages during the Christmas leave, and we wish them every happiness in the future.

### CORUNNA COMPANY

The Company's two ski courses in early January went well. The first away was the course bound for the Corps Winter Warfare School in the Hartz Mountains. The course consisted of 2 Lt. Mellor, Corporal Laherty and 14 other Corunna

Company stalwarts. A difficult hazard to be overcome before learning was the passing of the physical efficiency tests. The day set for passing these tests was soon after Christmas and one was able to see those of the Company who had partaken of Christmas fare "too well but not too wisely." However the hard work beforehand soon proved worthwhile when pulling sledges and equipment on ski patrol races. Considering all attended the Centre were complete novices a fourth place in the final patrol race against five other teams was a stout effort.

The second ski course running at about the same time was held at Brigade Winter Warfare Centre in Bavaria. This course only taught the art of downhill ski-ing. Sixteen of the company joined the course and apart from one or two men whom the instructor "Carl" christened "nix Olympics" all became fairly proficient during their 10 days on skis. Major Hoppe, the Company Commander, unfortunately injured his ankle and has spent the last few weeks encased in a plaster cast. However, four of the course, L/Cpl. Tyson and Ptes. Anderson, Turner and Cook qualified for the Brigade First Class Certificate and were selected for the Battalion novices downhill ski team. At the end of the course these four stayed on in Bavaria practising for the Divisional and BAOR Championships to be held at Oberjoch. In these events Pte. Anderson skied so well that he clocked the third fastest time in the Divisional Downhill Race.

The following are to be congratulated on the recent promotion, Corporal Ingham, L/Cpls. Everard and Shaw. A word of praise is also due to Corporal Lindsay for a first class report from the School of Infantry, Hythe.

Congratulations to Sgt. and Mrs. Hall on the birth of a son and to Corporal and Mrs. Laherty who also had a small boy.



### CORUNNA COMPANY IN BAVARIA

*Left to Right*—L/Cpl.  
Timson, Pte. Davis,  
Pte. Batt, Pte.  
Anderson, Pte. Cook,  
Pte. Turner



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# THE WEST RIDING BATTALION T.A.

## Sub-Editorial

The past quarter has seen many changes in the West Riding Battalion. Firstly, we must say farewell to our oldest-serving TA Officer, the 2IC, Major D. R. Siddall, M.B.E., T.D. Major Siddall has seen extensive service in this Regiment originating in 1938 with the 2/7th Battalion. During his service, both in peace and war, he has seen numerous changes and has remained a driving force throughout, keeping the Regiment's and Battalion's interest and well-being uppermost. However, we still retain his services and innumerable connections in his self-appointed civvy attached position of "Clerk of Works."

Major Siddall is succeeded as 2IC by Major C. Barnes, T.D. (who is still reported to set out for Mossley at 1900 hours every drill night).

Secondly, we have had a change-over of Quartermasters from Major C. C. Kenchington, M.B.E., on retirement, to Captain R. Callaby, M.B.E., M.M., from the 1st Battalion in Germany. Then there has been the creation of a new post in Battalion HQ, that of Unit Recruiting Officer. This post has been allotted to Major B. Farrow, T.D., and great things are expected from him in the way of new ideas and recruits.

As we will be attending annual camp before the next edition is published, this opportunity is taken to invite all members, past and present, to visit us at camp, this year to be held at Stanford PTA from June 12 to 26.

A familiar face is soon to depart from the St. Paul's Street Drill Hall.

Major C. C. Kenchington, M.B.E., is shortly to retire from the Regular Army after completing thirty-four years' service, the last three of them as Quartermaster with the West Riding Battalion.

It was in 1931 that he joined the Regiment and before the war he served on the North-West frontier of India. He holds the North-West Frontier Medal and bar. During those operations he was presented with a certificate of merit for devotion to duty by the Commander-in-Chief, India.

At Dunkirk Major Kenchington was with 3rd



Major C. C. Kenchington, M.B.E.

Brigade anti-tank unit and later in 1940 he became a member of the 1st Reconnaissance Regt. and was again presented with a certificate of merit. Subsequently he served in the African and Italian campaigns and took part in the Anzio landings.

In 1945, while serving with the 1st Battalion in Palestine, he was awarded the M.B.E. and the General Service Medal.

In 1956, after service in Gibraltar, he took part in the Suez operations, serving again in North Africa, Malta and Cyprus, and was awarded a bar to the General Service Medal.

Last year Major Kenchington was commended by the Commanding Officer of the West Riding Battalion for his courage in approaching and quietening a fourteen-year-old boy who for over an hour had held police, soldiers, and civilians at bay with a loaded rifle at the Drill Hall.

He and his family are to continue to live in Huddersfield after his retirement.

## OFFICERS' MESS

Our Christmas season this year seemed to be rather short, but hectic. The Officers' Mess party on the Saturday before Christmas was the usual happy affair. Unfortunately, this year we did not have our small band, and had to make do with "canned music"; however, no one dances very much anyway. Due to the undoubted genius of the PMC (who is writing these notes), the catering and

general running of the affair were up to the usual high standard.

The New Year's Eve Ball this year was voted by most members as the most successful for many years. It was attended by well over 400, and went with a real swing. Charles Curry, who is the secretary of the Ball Committee, did most of the work, and is really to be congratulated. He had a happy



smile on his face throughout most of the Christmas period, most probably because his favourite caterer was re-engaged this year to handle the bar and catering. It is rumoured amongst the more unkind members of the Mess that Charles has some financial interest in catering.

The Ball Committee also worked very hard and are to be congratulated on the decor of the bar, which was done in a shipboard motif. On this venture they were very ably managed by Stephen Kaye, who sat in the middle of the room issuing instructions.

Dennis Siddall, our Second-in-Command, has

retired, as reported above. He has been with us now for many years, so much so that we really almost regard him as part of the fixtures and fittings. There is no doubt that we shall miss him, though, it is rumoured, not altogether.

We are all sorry to see Cyril Kenchington go. He has been with us for five years, and during that time he has made life easier for all of us. He will live in Huddersfield during his retirement, so we expect to see him frequently. Our new QM, Bob Callaby, was with us before, we are very pleased to have him with us again.

## NEWS FROM THE COMPANIES

### "H.Q." COMPANY

The last two months have seen many changes within the Company, many due to a reorganisation in the Battalion. Captain Hawkins has left us to command "D" Company and make that notorious trip through ice, snow and fog "over the hill." We wish him success in his new appointment. Captain Hutchinson takes over as 2IC, leaving 406 inspections and work tickets for the mysteries of bar stock and accounts. Lt John Frier is now responsible for keeping the "waggons rolling" and the MT Section happy.

A welcome to Mr. Pollard, who comes with all the enthusiasm and knowledge befitting an ex-Royal

Marines Bandmaster. An opportunity here to thank WO1 Bodsworth for the way he has kept the Band together during the last two years; it is due to his efforts that Mr. Pollard has a hard core of keen bandsmen to build round.

The last farewell is to WOII Bryan, who has carried out his duties so well, quietly and patiently. Our loss is Leeds University Corps' gain, and we wish him the best of luck with his students, male and—yes—a WRAC section! We welcome in his place that "Compleat Angler" WOII "Isaak" Batty. It is already rumoured that if the Company Commander wants his PSI he can always find him on the canal bank waiting for a bite.



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Recruiting is going well in the Company, and we won the CO's Recruiting Prize for November and December, allowed "C" Company to win in January, but have high hopes again for February. A very successful social was held recently, and it is hoped to make this a monthly effort. Thanks to WOII Fitton and his "Aides" our children were able to enjoy their usual Christmas Party and receive the customary wonderful gifts.

The Company has responded well to the forthcoming battalion three-day exercise at Leek, but more of this, and shooting, cadres, prize distribution, band contests, etc., in our next notes.

### "A" COMPANY

It seems strange reminiscing about such seemingly far-off things as Christmas parties and annual prize-givings, but these very successful affairs certainly deserve mention.

The party went with its usual sparkle and zest which the children seem to bring along with them, and there was no less merriment at the annual prize-giving. L/Cpl Galloway carried off the "Smartest Soldier" trophy with Pte Burnside as his recruit partner; "Best at Drill"—highly coveted in "A" Company—was Pte Baxter with, once again, Pte Burnside; Pte Kehoe, setting an important example for all ranks, gained the "Best Attendance" trophy, and the best .22 shot was Sgt Howell.

A good note was struck at the Brigadier's annual inspection when he arrived on the scene at the exact moment Pte Bailey was being enlisted. (We don't know what Pte Bailey told his "mates" but recruiting figures shot up for a short period after that!)

Talking of recruiting, we have been bringing out the big guns recently because, apart from reserving the third Thursday in each month as a recruiting night, we have realised what a challenge the present five-a-side soccer tournament, taking place in the Drill Hall, presents. Here are the very "likely lads" we are always looking for!

By some means we have weeded our way into the tournament itself, got together a drill display, dragooned men into taking part in weapon training, relay races, bombarded our audience with loudspeaker announcements, and so on. We are now anxiously watching our graphs.

"Hot news" includes: "A" Company—winners of .22 shooting competition by nine points over "HQ" Company.

Lt Edward Duckney married on January 16— to live in Harrogate. We sincerely hope Ted will come over as much as possible, and wish him everything possible for the future. A final note is—for the writer, at least—a sad one. Cpl Dare, that provider of infinite "copy," has "defected" to the Regular Army. This has cut down these notes by at least 300 words for a start!

### "B" COMPANY

Whether it was due to the personal cost of his recruiting challenge in the January edition of THE IRON DUKE or to a natural aptitude in originating new ideas, we may never know; but we do know that Major Brian Farrow has now been elevated to the gin drinking circle of PROs in his new

appointment as OIC Battalion Recruiting Team.

CSM Laherty has made a rapid recovery from his car accident that caused CQMS Bycroft to become Acting/CSM and Sgt Greenwood Acting/CQMS. Now that Lt I. Fillan has been appointed Coy 2IC in place of Captain K. Buckland, TD, who is now OC, the "wind of change" has temporarily blown itself out.

The admin inspection came and went but not before a young NCO in reply to the Brigadier's enquiry as to his age, replied "Well guess, Sir!". The incident ended on a happy note, however, for the Brigadier did guess—and he guessed correctly. (It just shows how much more difficult the job is getting.)

With the posting of Lt J. P. F. H. Cook (ex Warwicks) to the Company we are looking forward to improved shooting results.

The evening of March 6, is a special occasion in Mirfield for it is the evening of the "B" Coy Dance, Cabaret and Barbecue. As well as the Can-Can Girls from the famous City Varieties Theatre, Leeds, to entertain us, we shall have Roy Douglas, the comedian at the Windmill Theatre, London, just prior to its closing. (We are assured that he was not the cause!) One remaining decision will determine whether a guard on the girls' changing room should be made up of senior NCOs to keep at bay the private soldiery or vice versa.

### "C" COMPANY

The three months from December to February are the quietest of the TA year with the virtual take-over of the drill halls by the Post Office for nearly the whole of December, and the concentration of training into specialist and cadre instruction at battalion level.

Despite this, we have had the welcome influx of recruits, at Keighley in particular, and it is particularly pleasing to see their enthusiasm and regular attendance. The arrival of a certain Pte Steele, a Keighley schoolmaster, has caused a certain anxiety in one respect because his hobby is cross-country running over the "Three Peaks" course, and some of us trust that this is not to be included in the training syllabus. Seventeen miles, including climbing 4 or 5,000 feet in 3½ hours is an average time for this ordeal.

We have been glad to welcome Captain Curry who has been posted to us from HQ Coy; he has concentrated his work at Keighley. The Company after being extremely short of officers and cadets is now in the happy position of having its full establishment, with three officer cadets as well, and other potential officers. This has meant that much more supervision can be given to training and planning, with the consequence that more adventurous and involved activities can be undertaken later this year.

We should like to congratulate Pte Purvis on winning three awards in the Battalion competitions for shooting. An account of the results will be found elsewhere in this issue, and we do not know our position in the Champion Coy at the time of going to press with these notes. We gained a



somewhat Pyrrhic victory in the recruiting competition during January when we had the smallest net loss of any company in the Battalion. We look forward, however, with considerable confidence to the coming year. We feel that our standards have never been as high, and we are satisfied that we shall increase our strength and our efficiency as TA soldiers in the ensuing months.

On a less serious note we can claim two records. The attendance at the children's party was an all time high; we managed to entertain 80 children for three boisterous hours, only a week before admin inspection. Secondly, we have rebuilt the bar at Skipton, and redecorated the mess at Keighley with the result that it is becoming much better patronised with takings at record level.

### "D" COMPANY

Since our last notes training has taken its normal progress for this time of the year. Almost every Sunday the same old faces trek over the hills to Huddersfield for the various winter cadres.

Recently we have had two farewells. Firstly to Major C. Barnes our Coy Commander for the past

four years who has returned to Battalion HQ as 2IC. He has been succeeded by Captain R. A. Hawkins the former RSO. Before handing over to Captain Hawkins Major Barnes headed a gathering of the clans (Mossley and Thongsbridge) in the den at Mossley. Captain Hawkins was introduced to us, then a few words were spoken, in each other's favour "of course" and then pints of "mead" were handed round as a token of acceptance. Secondly, our CSM, WO2 R. W. Wood, has finally left the Army. The company this time assembled at Thongsbridge Drill Hall to give Dick Wood a rousing farewell. Major Barnes presented him with a silver tankard on behalf of the members. Dick, who is a postman in civilian life, has now decided that the "Last Post" must come first.

Shortly after Christmas members entertained the children at their annual party. The ladies were most generous with gifts of food and sweets which helped to make this party a great success.

Captain Hawkins, now in "the chair," has really made sparks fly and we are hoping that his tenure of command will be a happy one.

## BOOK REVIEW

**SUEZ—THE SEVEN DAYS WAR** by Colonel A. J. Barker (Faber 30/-)

May of last year found the Commons (notably Shinwell and Foot) again clamouring for an official history of the Suez operation, and for a Commission of Inquiry "with terms of reference similar to those of the Dardanelles Commission"; but apart from reviving charges of collusion, the clamour achieved nothing.

Then, by Christmas, Colonel Barker produced his purely military account of the occupation of Port Said on November 5-7 1956. It does not begin to fulfil parliamentary hopes, confined as it is to a *reportage* of the military action; but it adequately covers that aspect as far as it can be divorced from the political. It is the soldiers' story beginning at Whitehall and ending back at Whitehall (or more precisely the floor of the House) with the Sandys Defence White Paper of 1957. Around a thin strand of theory is woven a tale of smoke and blood and frustration, which is the very stuff of war.

In some regards it seems to be the Dardanelles all over again—the first inception of a rapid rapier-like incision into an enemy too leisured in the craft of war to stand such a blow; then the ponderous planning and gathering of suitable forces together; then delays of the law, or rather of political masters dabbling in military brew; then a strategic shift to a more complex level, necessitating a more ponderous plan and a larger task force; then a laborious elephantine execution, which horrified the conceivers of the initial plan; then a bellying down, a paddling about on a perimeter, and a withdrawal which spelled political disaster without military defeat. In both events blame must be shared for the ineptitude by politician and serviceman alike, and scant credit goes to an enemy, who was asked to watch the farce in appalled amusement. It was our faults that beat us, not our adversaries.

Colonel Barker, remembering his own experience, compares Op. Overlord (Normandy 1944), an amphibious invasion in the face of an able and resolute enemy, and the most complex military operation of all time, with this little pocket of amphibious activity only a dozen years later. Why had we unlearned so much; why should so small a venture be so futile? "The answer," he suggests, "seems to lie in the fact that the preparations for an armed descent on Egypt were conducted in a peacetime atmosphere devoid of the urgency or the bond of union that existed in the years between 1939 and 1945 and—worst of all—in a political arena." He contrasts Op. Musketeer's poor "stage-management" (Monty's phrase) with the brilliant surprise achieved by the Israelis under Yadin, together with their mobility and superior tactics. He chides General Keightley for not showing the dash of the cavalryman that he had been trained to be (what might Allenby have done? Or Marlborough, of whom Churchill wrote: "even when fighting in fetters and hobbles, swayed and oppressed by influences which were wholly outside the military situation, he was able to produce victory with almost mechanical certainty . . ."?).

Colonel Barker closes by reminding us in Montaigne's words that "one must always be booted, spurred, and ready to go." Yet he finds time to give us the authentic intensity of modern war—airstrikes, exploding petrol vats, a fire-storm in Shanty Town, helicopter cas. evac., armoured duels in streets, drivers dead in their cabs and horses lying bleeding on pavements; and after it all the pall of futile wastage which lies in the wake of modern arms. The canal lay choked and Port Said bespattered as Anglo-French forces retired disgraced but untested.

A.J.S.

## 'Dukes' who came back get the Duke's plaque



*Block by courtesy of the Huddersfield Examiner*

*Left to Right—Mr. Wright Hamer, Major R. H. Royds, Col. W. A. Hinchcliffe, Col. G. Taylor, Mr. S. A. Claydon, Major V. Gledhill*

The plaque from the cross-channel steamship which brought the 2/7th Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment back from France in 1940 has been presented to their "heirs and successors" The West Riding Battalion.

The presentation was made by Mr. S. A. Claydon, continental travel chief of British Railways (Eastern Region) at the annual reunion of the 1/7th and 2/7th Dinner Club at St. Paul's Street Drill Hall, Huddersfield, on Saturday, October 17, 1964.

It was on the railway's cross-channel steamer Duke of York that the 2/7th were brought back from St. Valery after their gallant rearguard and diversifying action in which they drew off and tied down large German forces that would otherwise have been thrown much earlier on to the evacuation taking place at Dunkirk.

When the ship was later taken over by the Navy it had to be renamed because they already had an HMS Duke of York and by happy coincidence the powers that be selected HMS Duke of Wellington—no doubt with past associations in mind.

Now that the vessel has been sold to Greece the

plaque has been removed. It is self-standing, made of oak, lists the actions of the ship, and has a cast of the head of The Duke of Wellington superimposed in the centre.

It was received on behalf of the West Riding Battalion by the CO, Lt.-Colonel J. C. Moncrieff. Major Dick Royds, one of the survivors of the 2/7th action in France in 1940 and who was evacuated on the SS Duke of York, thanked Mr. Claydon.

### 51st Highland Division Re-union

A re-union for selected categories of former members of the Division, which includes those who served with it between mobilisation in 1939 and St. Valery, will be held at the Highland Brigade Depot, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen, on Saturday, October 2, the day of the Divisional Games.

Anyone wishing to attend should apply for tickets and fuller information to H.Q., 51st Highland Division (Re-union Office), Highland House, Perth.

## “I PUBLISH THE BANNS OF MARRIAGE”

The District Officer sat in his office in a red brick fort-like building, known locally as “The Boma.” It served as the centre of colonialist-imperialist administration in a small town in one of those African countries which now call themselves by baffling new names. Although of mature age his experience as a D.O. was embarrassingly brief; a matter of three weeks, in fact. Nevertheless, some bizarre events had already come his way. Life in the Boma would not be dull, he felt.

There was the man who, clutching the Boma flagpole as sanctuary, had confessed loudly and repeatedly that he had killed his wife with an axe. True, this had proved to be wishful thinking on the part of a harmless lunatic, but it had been disconcerting at the time. Then there had been that attack by an enormous swarm of wild bees, launched with admirable timing during the visit of the Members of Parliament from England. Last week the League of African Nationalist Women had organised a demonstration outside the District Commissioner’s window. A very colourful episode—particularly when the Commissioner had . . . the D.O. became aware that he was not alone. A bearded man of giant physique and European extraction confronted him. He spoke to the point: “Can I get married here, man?” From his manner of speech it was plain that he was South African. The question was quite beyond the range of the D.O. He ushered his client into the presence of the District Commissioner.

The D.C. knew all about civil marriages. Indeed, he knew all about every aspect of his widely-varied job. “When do you wish to be married?” he asked. “Right now, man,” said the visitor. “She’s outside in the truck. You see,” he added with a disarming frankness, “the divorce is just through and we want to get fixed up before the kids get back from school.” “Very understandable,” said the Commissioner diplomatically. He went on to explain the procedure.

By approaching certain authorities a special licence could be obtained in a few days, but it would cost thirty-five pounds. The normal procedure involved posting up publicly the banns of marriage and waiting three weeks. The bearded man grasped the essential point. “Thirty-five quid, eh? That’s money. I’ll ask her.” He left. The conference was short and he returned alone. “We’ll wait,” he said. “Publish the banns.” A man of few words.

The D.C. was involved in a number of rather tiresome affairs at the time. But on the morning of the wedding he remembered to get some flowers for his office and to hide his overflowing in-tray under the desk. The bride and bridegroom were punctual. She was very blonde, very pretty, and had a sweet smile. She was even less talkative than her groom. The D.C. got down to business. The ceremony was short and rather forbidding. It consisted mainly of a list of the penalties incurred should either of the couple be committing bigamy. Then the register was signed and the customary things said. The D.O., feeling perhaps that his part in the proceedings so far had been rather inadequate, stepped forward and kissed the bride. As they were leaving, the bridegroom pressed a pound note into his hand. “Buy yourself a drink, pal,” was his valediction.

Clutching his first professional tip, the D.O. waved to them as their truck drove off. He had liked the inarticulate couple and hoped that they would be very happy together. He re-entered the Boma. Outside his office his clerk was surrounded by a small crowd of Africans of both sexes. They were all talking at once. The loudest was a small man with a bandage round his head. “Sir,” said the clerk, “this man is complaining to you. He is saying that his wife is beating him.” It’s brief interlude of romance over, Boma life was back to normal. W.S.

## 1st BATTALION RUGBY BETWEEN THE WARS

by Lt.-Colonel Jack Dalrymple

(Continued from *Iron Duke* No. 135, January 1965)

Still on the subject of the players of those days, three wing three-quarters come to mind: Bentley, Bill Summers and Gordon Upjohn. I will take the latter first as his career was all too brief.

### Gordon Upjohn

Gordon joined the 1st Battalion from Felstead School at the same time as Dick Lonsdale joined from Eastbourne College. Both were above average schoolboy players and both later played for Sandhurst. Gordon, unfortunately, was dogged by injuries to his knee so was never able to fulfil his

early promise. I am sure that had the fates been kinder to him he would have proved himself a very good player indeed. He is now a major general, commanding Catterick Area.

### Bill Summers

A great athlete, Bill, and a character who endeared himself to us all. He was 100 yards and hurdles champion of the Army and I believe his 100 yards record of 9 7/10th seconds still stands today. Bill was never a natural rugby player but by perseverance he turned himself into a very use-

ful wing three-quarter. "Horsey" Browne used to say, "You must put pace on the wing." In Bill Summers we were certainly well provided with pace.

### Pte. E. Bentley

If ever a man was equipped by nature with all the necessary attributes of a great player, that man was Bentley. Somehow he never quite "clicked" and this, I think, was due to a highly strung temperament. Very strong and fast, he was a beautifully balanced runner who could jink at speed either way. He was a match winner and scored many tries for the Regiment. He played only once for the Army which was not a true reflection of his natural ability. However, Bentley served the Regiment well and we were very lucky indeed to have such a gifted player available.

### Outstanding Matches

Four matches stand out in my memory—two Army Cup finals, one Aldershot District final which we lost to the 11th Field Brigade and one friendly (if it could be called such) against the Harlequins.

The latter match strikes a note in my memory because the Harlequins were represented by practically a 1st XV. If my memory serves me right Chapman, son of the old Arsenal Football Club Manager, H. C. C. Laird, the England fly half, and Jerry Gould, recently Hon. Secretary of the Harlequins, were all playing and so, I think, was H. C. C. Pattison. A good enough side! Doubtless they won but I do remember it was a very close match and I also remember that Bob Moran scooped practically an entire plate of cakes and sandwiches after the game.

### Army Cup Finals

The two Army Cup finals, both of which we won, were against the Leicester Regiment and 1st Training Battalion, R.E., Two fine games which produced some very good open football.

The Leicester Regiment had a first-class XV, captained by Tony Novis, the then reigning England captain. A very gifted player, he could play equally well as a wing or as a centre. Fortunately for us he chose to play fly-half in this particular final and this, in view of our excellent back row and the defensive qualities of George Townend, was all that we could desire. Joe Kendrew, also an English international, now Governor of Western Australia and the recipient of a D.S.O. with three or four bars, was also a member of this Leicester side. Another I remember in particular was Beatty Pownall, an Army centre. It was no mean feat to beat this fine side, especially as we were well down on points at half time. Our front row, surely the toughest in the Army, of Humpish, Dowas, and Eyre played no small part in the victory as they gained more than their fair share of the ball. Humpish was a player of vast strength and could absorb all the punishment meted out to him. Personally, I doubt if there was a better front row to be found in the Army at this time.

Against 1st Training Battalion, R.E., we had an easier match. The one personality I remember in their team is Lew Harris, now a brigadier, Director of Army Survey and Chairman of the Army Rugby Union Committee. He was a fine centre or wing, gaining a Welsh trial and, of course, representing the Army on numerous occasions. I have a feeling that Roy Withers also played in this match. Roy died shortly after the war which was a sad blow to his many friends as he was a most friendly and charming character. Withers played for both Ireland and the Army and proved himself a most consistently good all-round forward in addition to his skill as a hooker.

### 11th Field Brigade

Our game against the 11th Field Brigade in the final of the Aldershot District Cup Competition went against all the canons of form. We had just won the Army Cup and were therefore justifiably firm favourites. However, I do not consider the quality of the 11th Field Brigade had been given just weight. Their team was quite first-class by any standard and contained such players as "Pooh" Hobbs, an English international second-row forward, now a major-general and Lieutenant Governor of Chelsea Hospital, Crawford, a Scottish international wing three-quarter, "Snipe" McCreight, an Irish international trialist scrum half, "Pooh" Hobbs brother, Peter, who played wing forward for the Army, and several more of that calibre. The 1st Battalion was stale and suffering, as any team inevitably does, the reaction



that comes after a major success. However, let us not be churlish and admit that we were beaten by a better side on the day.

### Conclusion

My story of 1st Battalion rugby football ends here. I, myself, severed connection with the 1st Battalion at this point, departing to take up an appointment at Sandhurst. However, it is a convenient point at which to finish because the Battalion was posted to Malta and played little serious rugby until their return in 1938.

Several distinguished players joined during this period, however; Jeff Reynolds, a fly-half of outstanding merit, capped four times for England. Jeff was one of the most modest men I ever met: he never would believe that he had any ability at all but he was a superb all-round games player. Charlie Grieve, another fine all-rounder, also joined about this time—an Oxford rugby blue and Scottish international, a cricketer of well above average standard—in fact he just missed his blue—and a scratch golfer. Charlie, possessed of a great sense of humour and fun, is the very best of companions.

Lastly there was John Harrison, an ebullient and amusing character who was, sadly, killed at

Dunkirk. John was a fine centre three-quarter who played for Rosslyn Park and Surrey and would doubtless have played for the Army but for the war. He was also a good cricketer and I remember, on a regimental cricket tour, having to share a double bed with him and being so overcome with laughter that I got no sleep at all.

Rugby is still prospering and the old traditions being maintained. I doubt if many regiments could boast an international honours list as long as ours:

W. C. Wilson, England.  
C. K. T. Faithfull, England.  
W. F. Browne, Ireland.  
C. F. Grieve, Scotland.  
F. J. Reynolds, England.  
G. Townend, English Trial.  
E. M. P. Hardy, England.  
D. W. Shuttleworth, England.  
D. Gilbert-Smith, Scotland.  
M. J. Campbell-Lamerton, Scotland.

May the spirit of those who have sung "The Dukes are coming up the hill" over the many years continue to pervade the rugby players of the 1st Battalion.

Floruit, Floret, Floreat.

## More Reminiscences of a Subaltern in the Boer War 1899-1902

By the late Lt.-Colonel M. V. le P. Trench

(Continued from THE IRON DUKE, No. 134, page 133)

*In September, 1901, "B" and "F" Companies of the 1st Battalion moved on detached duty to Zilicatz Nek, near Reitfontein.*

During the time we were at Zilicatz Nek, Becher occasionally took an afternoon off and rode over to Reitfontein to play polo with the Lincolns, who had started it on very rough ground. We had frequent thunderstorms, and had only a waterproof sheet stretched over a sangar to protect one. My diary records one miserable night, soaked to the skin and valise sopping, and that I recalled the words of the play "Another night of misery and mortification!" Even though sunshine came next day to warm one, we had to dry our clothes and bedding and clean our rifles which got into a terrible state.

### Unpleasant Experience

On October 9 we got a list of those of the Regiment mentioned in despatches. They were le Marchant, Tyndall, Exham, Jenkins and Oakes. That night I had an unpleasant experience while visiting sentry posts at a distance from the block-house, covering nearly half a mile, and posted among rocks; there were no paths and in the dark

it was difficult to find one's way along a steep rocky hillside. On this occasion I realised I was getting too low, and had started to climb back when, on nearing the top of the ridge, a man jumped up from behind a rock and fired at me at about five yards. I dropped flat and yelled at him to stop, calling out my name, but I heard his bolt click out and in again, and I thought my last hour had come, for I couldn't see how he could miss me again. The picket just behind woke up and stopped him in time. He was a young soldier and was in a dither himself, and said he thought he was being rushed, and had fired before challenging. It was a pitch dark night with a strong wind which prevented him from hearing me. The next two days we were enveloped in a thick mist, and could not see for more than a few yards, and as this had succeeded heavy rain we remained in damp clothes until the third day brought sunshine.

We had news this day, October 12, that the Regiment had had the following awards. Le Marchant, Harris and De Gex all got brevets, Tyndall and Jenkins the D.S.O., Sgt.-Major Kearns, C/Sgt. Throupe and Dmr. Haigh (the late Colonel Lloyd's bugler) the D.C.M.

(continued on page 87)



## PERSONALIA

### Congratulations

On behalf of the Regiment we heartily congratulate Sir Robert Bray on his promotion to full general on February 25.

We also congratulate Captain Mike Campbell-Lamerton on having been selected to captain the Scottish rugby team against Wales and Ireland.

We believe that it is the first time that either of these peaks in the varied range of fame have been scaled by a "Duke."

General Exham wrote on behalf of the Regiment to congratulate Field Marshal Sir Richard Hull and General Sir James Cassells on their appointments as Chief of the Defence Staff and Chief of the General Staff respectively. Both replied expressing their appreciation and sending good wishes to the Regiment.

### Engagements

The engagement is announced between Lieutenant Miles Freeman, Royal Navy, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Francis Freeman, of Quarwood House Cottage, Stow-on-the-Wold, Glos., and Diana, elder daughter of Colonel and Mrs. James Davidson, of Headquarters, Yorkshire Brigade.

The engagement is announced between Peter Andrews, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, elder son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. D. H. Andrews, of Threeways, Rockbourne, Hampshire, and Anne Mary, youngest daughter of Lieutenant-General Sir Charles and Lady Coleman, of Government House, Guernsey, Channel Islands.

The engagement is announced between Captain Charles Cumberlege, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, youngest son of Colonel and Mrs. C. R. T. Cumberlege, of Dalby, Terrington, Yorkshire, and Jo, eldest daughter of Major-General and Mrs. J. K. Shephard, of Bourton, Gillingham, Dorset.

### Marriage

The marriage took place on Saturday, January 23, 1965, at the church of Our Lady and St. Andrew, Galashiels, of Mr. Peter Alastair Pettigrew, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, son of the late Lieutenant-Colonel W. N. Pettigrew and Mrs. Pettigrew, of 193, Kimbolton Road, Bedford, and Miss Anne Carysfort Loch, daughter of Colonel and Mrs. L. J. C. Loch, of Monksford Cottage, Newtown St. Boswells, Roxburghshire.

The bride, who was given away by her father, was attended by three bridesmaids, Miss Angela Young, Miss Susan Pettigrew (sister of the bridegroom) and Miss Anne Peacock. Captain Charles Bunbury was the best man.

### Birth

On February 1, 1965, at Westcroft Maternity Home, Malton, to Merle and Ian Reid—a daughter (Fiona Merle).

### Change of Address

Mrs. Boutflower is now living at Otterden Place, near Faversham, Kent.

Mrs. Grimley is now living at 6, Farnborough Street, Farnborough, Hampshire.

Mr. C. E. Gundry was admitted to The Royal Hospital, Chelsea, as an in-pensioner in January of this year. He is 82. Mr. Gundry joined the Regiment in 1904. He served with the 2nd Battalion in India and Dublin, and in France throughout the first war. After the war he served with the 1st Battalion in Palestine, Egypt, Gibraltar and Turkey. He left the Regiment in 1927 and went to live in London.

Recently he was knocked down by a car in London and suffered severe multiple injuries. He is now in the Infirmary of The Royal Hospital. Mr. Temple, Honorary Secretary of the London Branch of the O.C.A., has been to see him. He says that Mr. Gundry is doing very well there and would be pleased to receive visits or letters from any of his old comrades.

Lieutenant-Colonel Dennis Hamilton, who commanded the 1/7th Battalion during the last war and is now Editor of *The Sunday Times*, won the Hannen Swaffer Award for 'Journalist of The Year' for 1964.

Many will have seen the colourful film 'Zulu' which depicted the defence of Rorke's Drift, where Lieutenant Gonville Bromhead of the 24th Foot won his Victoria Cross. His elder brother, Captain Gonville Bromhead, served in the 76th. The two brothers met in Rangoon in 1868 when both regiments were stationed in Burma. Captain Gonville Bromhead died shortly afterwards. Two years later the two regiments were stationed together at Secunderabad. In his 'Historical Records of The 76th "Hindoostan" Regiment' Colonel Hayden writes:

"The 76th and the 24th Foot were great friends, and I shall never forget the last night of the 24th in the station, when the officers dined with us, and after a most festive evening goodbye was said under our two sets of Colours which had been brought from the mess room. Little did we think at the time what was in store for these friends of ours, and how many of them were to lay down their lives at Isandula."

We have heard recently from Mr. G. W. Jones, M.B.E., who has emigrated to Australia (I.D. No. 134). He writes:

"I am now working as a gardener for Mr. D. E. Fairbairn who is Minister for National Development. He is a grand chap to work for and treats us very well. The other week-end he had a guest who turned out to be none other than that famous soldier and rugger player, Major-General Sir Douglas Kendrew, who is now Governor of Wes-



Two Officers of  
The 1st Regiment of Foot Guards  
Circa 1815  
on Guard Mounting

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tern Australia. I had the honour of being introduced to him and what he said about The Dukes made me feel very proud to belong to the Regiment. We had quite a yarn and amongst those he mentioned were Colonels Firth and Kavanagh and the Moran brothers. It was grand to know that The Duke's had done so well back in the Korea days—but then didn't we always? General Kendrew also recalled very vividly the battles he had with The Dukes on the rugby field when he was in The Royal Leicesters."

Mr. Jones' present address is c/o Dunraven, Woomargama, via Anbury, New South Wales, Australia.

We also had an account of this meeting from General Kendrew himself.

We have frequently appealed for more readers to send in items of personal news—but with little result. We would draw your particular attention to this example of an important and busy man who can yet find time to write a personal letter of this sort to the journal of another regiment.

Government House,  
Perth.  
January 9, 1965.

Dear Colonel Turner,

I have been staying with the Hon. David Fairbairn, who is Minister for Northern Development in the Federal Government, and met ex-CSM G. W. Jones and Mrs. Jones with their family.

Both of them have settled on the estate of Mr. Fairbairn and are enjoying the new life, with the warmth and sun which Australia provides.

We had a long yarn on past and present personalities of your Regiment—your present Colonel of the Regiment, Bonzo Miles, Jackie Dalrymple, Bobbie Bray, Upjohn, the Morans, Bunbury, Barry Kavanagh, Tony Firth, Le Mesurier and many others.

Mr. Jones also showed me the medals won by his grandfather which included the Waterloo medal.

It was interesting to find this connection with your Regiment in a town on the borders of New South Wales and Victoria.

With kind regards to all the "Dukes" that I have known and those who served with me in Korea and Cyprus.

Yours sincerely,  
DOUGLAS KENDREW.

Mr. Walter Downs, Chairman of the Huddersfield Branch of the Regimental Association, and another Huddersfield business man, Mr. Joe Battye, have been in the sporting news recently.

Mr. Downs is the shooting tenant of the Apple-girth estate near Lockerbie in Scotland and, with the able help of his gamekeeper, Mr. William Bruce, of Corncockle Quarry House, has developed the estate into an attractive rough shoot with pheasant, partridge, wild duck, wild geese, roe deer and hares in abundance.

To their monthly shoot recently Mr. Downs invited a local landowner, another keen shot. The



**Beginner's Luck**

day was so successful that the guest in return invited them to a day's salmon fishing on his stretch of river.

Mr. Battye is a skilled fly fisherman and was soon producing results. Meanwhile Mr. Downs was struggling along with spinning tackle without success. But near the end of the day luck favoured the novice and he hooked and held the largest salmon of the day, a 16½lb. fish, 3ft. 6in. long, a dog salmon in first class condition. Only with the skilful help of Mr. Battye was the salmon landed.

The total bag for the weekend consisted of 29 pheasant (14½ brace to the initiated), 14 duck, eight hares and three rabbits along with 42lb. of salmon.

A member of the fifth generation of that notable regimental family, the Harpers and the Hartes, is now serving in the 1st Battalion. He is Lance Corporal E. F. Soper of Burma Company. He is a great-great grandson of Private Benjamin Illingworth who enlisted in the 33rd in 1843 and served with them for 21 years. His great grandmother, Harriet Illingworth, married Sergeant Major George Harper of the 33rd. His grandmother was one of their daughters, although her name is not shown in the family tree in *The Iron Duke* (No. 31, of

June, 1935). Q.M.S. Charles Harte, who wrote the letter which appeared in the October, 1964, number of *The Iron Duke* under the title "The Fair Maid of Perth," was Corporal Soper's great uncle.

This remarkable span of family connection with the Regiment is not quite the longest amongst present serving soldiers. Captain Charles Bunbury beats Corporal Soper by four years. His great-great grandfather, Colonel H. W. Bunbury, joined the 33rd as a Captain in 1839.

At the three-hundred-year-old Ceremony of the Cheeses at The Royal Hospital, Chelsea, last Christmas, it fell to Colour Sergeant Fred Stephenson, who served for 23 years with the Regiment, to voice the Yorkshire proverb: "An apple pie without cheese is like a kiss without a squeeze." The ceremony dates from an order to London cheesemongers to supply Christmas cheese to The Royal Hospital at threepence a pound. A true Yorkshireman, Colour Sergeant Stephenson chose Wensleydale for his cheese.

This issue marks the 40th anniversary of THE IRON DUKE, the first issue of which appeared in May, 1925. Exactly half our age, the Army magazine "Soldier" celebrated its 20th anniversary in March. For its cover to mark this occasion it chose a photograph of a young soldier who "as 'Soldier' looks back on its 20 years . . . looks forward to the Army of tomorrow."

The young man selected for this photograph is the son of C.S.M. Arundel, 1st D.W.R. He is 19-year-old Apprentice Tradesman Squadron Sergeant Major C. A. Arundel, of Penney Squadron, Army Apprentices School, Harrogate. In August he will join a Royal Signals Regiment.

The editor of "Soldier" for the past seven years, Mr. Peter N. Wood, was formerly a member of the *Halifax Courier and Guardian* and for 10 years was in charge of its Elland office.

Mr. Robert Campbell-Lamerton informs us that another youngster, Pte. P. Robinson, who has recently joined the 1st Battalion, had an outstanding record in the Infantry Junior Leaders' Battalion at Oswestry. He was Junior R.S.M. of the Battalion and got his colours for boxing, rugby and cricket, being captain of both the rugby XV and the cricket XI and boxing for the Junior Army in the Inter-Services Tournament. He won the prize for the "Best Passer Out" and was only narrowly beaten into second place in the Tactics Prize.

Robinson came back to England with the 1st Battalion XV in February as a reserve and played in the match against Huddersfield.

On page 13 of our last issue we wrongly referred to Mr. A. W. Harrison, D.C.M., M.M., as having been R.Q.M.S. of the 2nd Battalion in Egypt. Mr. Harrison left Aldershot with the Battalion for Egypt and, being the senior W.O.2, acted as R.S.M. during the voyage on H.T. Huntsend and for some

time after arriving in Egypt. When a more senior W.O.2 came out he returned to his company, No. 3, and remained with them as C.S.M. until he left the battalion. We don't know how we dreamed up the R.Q.M.S. bit and apologise to Mr. Harrison for the mistake.

### CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Editor,

As I sit in my room reading someone else's copy of the January IRON DUKE I cannot resist the opportunity of doing battle with the Business Manager. Where has mine got to this time?

When the 1st Battalion moved to Catterick from Colchester all the IRON DUKES describing this move were addressed to 1 DWR Colchester. We left Catterick for Germany, with much IRON DUKE publicity, and our IRON DUKES went to 1 DWR Catterick Camp.

Having, as I have said, borrowed a current IRON DUKE I am delighted to find that for the first time for several issues I have not been slandered. I had thought of suing the Editor. Had this proved successful we would no doubt have been subjected to another Appeal, and the blank bankers orders would *not* have gone via Catterick. One just can't win!

Yours sincerely,

MAGLESS DUKE.

P.S. Dear Reader. If you are sitting in the Officers Mess, Palace Barracks, Holywood, would you please forward my IRON DUKE when it arrives?

### The Editor replies:—

It is unfortunately true that, owing to a misunderstanding with our Printers, who do the despatching, individual copies of the January issue for members of the 1st Battalion were sent to Catterick. We apologise, and the Business Manager seems fairly confident that this number will go direct to the right address. If "Magless Duke" had voiced his grumble when he was in Catterick and his IRON DUKE in Colchester, the matter might have been righted before.

As "Magless Duke" did not follow normal procedure and enclose his name and address (which would make most editors "regret"), we have no idea in what matter he thinks he has been slandered. But it was presumably something in the Battalion Notes, so perhaps he should seek satisfaction nearer home. We cannot imagine, anyway, that he could expect more than 4d. damages, which would not necessitate another appeal.

It may, however, be appropriate to say here that we have unfortunately been informed that our production costs are to go up by five per cent. with effect from the next issue. The increased postal charges will be an added burden. Since the last appeal, to which readers responded so generously, we have been managing reasonably comfortably, and we hope very much that we shall just about be able to meet the new charges. We cannot, however, be sure of this yet and, as the blank bankers' orders for an appeal are inserted in the magazine, "Magless Duke" may one day wish that his copy was still going to Catterick.

## Obituary

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

### Mr. W. C. Bailey

Mr. W. C. (Bill) Bailey died at his home, 13, Walker Street, Halifax, on December 10, 1964, aged 81 years.

Bill was a Londoner and enlisted into the Regiment in 1904. After 22 years' service, mainly with the 1st Battalion, he took his discharge at Gosport and became the licensee of the George and Dragon Inn, Elland, and later of the Wharf Hotel, Sowerby Bridge. At the outbreak of the last war he re-enlisted and served until 1948 when he retired at the age of 65 years. His decorations include the L.S. and G.C. and the Meritorious Service Medals.

He leaves a widow, son and three daughters.

### Major R. H. W. Owen

Major Owen died by accident at his home, St. Joseph's Cottage, Froyle, Hants., on February 20. In November of last year he had a stroke which had partially crippled him.

Robert Henry Withington Owen was born on December 20, 1888, and was gazetted to the Regiment in October 1908, joining the 1st Battalion in India. Belonging to an era when nicknames were preferred to Christian names he was universally known as "Snikey." He served in the 1st Battalion continuously for 20 years, seeing active service on the North West Frontier in 1919, and was probably the last officer in the 1st who regarded the 2nd Battalion as something upstart and inferior. However, in 1928 he was posted to the 2nd Battalion and served with them in India until his retirement as a major in 1933.

Lt.-Colonel Cox who knew "Snikey" first at Ambala, 1910-1914, and served with him for most of the post war years in both battalions writes that he was at least 6ft. 4in. tall with a fine figure. He was selected to carry the Colour when the 1st Battalion furnished the King's guard on the Royal Camp at the Delhi Durbar in 1911. (Lt.-Colonel Cox was the subaltern of the guard.)

When young he was a useful athlete, being a fine hurdler. He had a good brain and great charm but was shy, possibly because he suffered from a strange trumpeting form of stutter, and modest and it was only after some time that it was found that he had considerable artistic talent. (Later he produced many clever drawings and verses for THE IRON DUKE.)

But he was not endowed with the energy to match his frame and never made full use of any

of his varying talents. When he retired he lived a quiet solitary life in his small cottage. He did some local charitable work and was a sidesman at the church but gradually lost all his regimental and other interests.

Lt.-Colonel Cox and Major Kavanagh attended the funeral.

### Mr. J. H. Riley

Mr. J. H. Riley died at his home, 26, Whitehill Drive, Illingworth, Halifax, on December 14, 1964, aged 75 years.

Mr. Riley served with the old 4th Battalion for 12 years before the outbreak of the 1st War. Called to the colours he went overseas with the 2/4th Battalion Signal Section. He served the whole of the war in France and Flanders and was demobilized in 1919. When the 4th Battalion O.C.A. was formed he became a prominent member and for many years served on their welfare committee. He leaves a widow and two daughters.

### Major R. A. Scott

Major Raymond Aldwin Scott, known to all in the Regiment as "Scottie," died at King Edward VII Sanatorium at Midhurst, Sussex, on December 30, 1964.

The funeral service was held at Pulborough Parish Church on Monday, January 4. The large church was crowded and the Regiment was represented by Brigadier B. W. Webb-Carter, Deputy-Colonel of the the Regiment. The following officers of the Regiment were also present: Brigadier A. Firth and his sister, Mrs. Everett (cousins), Captain J. B. K. Greenway (great-nephew) and Lieut.-Col. and Mrs. C. W. G. Ince.

### Lieut.-Col. Ince writes:

"Scottie (I prefer to call him this, as he and I have known each other intimately for 56 years) joined the 2nd Battalion at Tidworth in 1909 after being educated at Wellington and Magdalen College, Oxford. Being a university candidate he was granted seniority of some 18 months and so I found him with the Regiment when I joined in February, 1910.

"To me he was always a good friend and I can remember well all his kindnesses to me when I arrived. Scottie all his life was a very friendly soul, always ready to help anyone in trouble. He was a tall, heavily built man and as strong as a lion. I remember on one occasion when the Battalion were marching back to Tidworth from manoeuvres, a march which I think was about 43 miles, how Scottie was to be seen carrying rifles and packs of some of the less robust men. His great figure always stood out and often he was



selected to carry one of the four colours on ceremonial occasions. Nothing was too much trouble for him. He was willing to give a hand at any time and I can say he was loved by his men.

"Unfortunately, the record of his service is sparse. He left the 2nd Battalion in Dublin in 1912 after the Battalion had moved there from Tidworth and was posted to the 1st Battalion in India. When returning home on leave to England he had the misfortune to fall out of a train, by opening the wrong door in the night, whilst travelling from Marseilles. This handicapped him for some years and he was placed on half-pay in August, 1921, and retired eventually on account of ill-health on April 24, 1926.

"Unfortunately, I cannot trace when he was stationed at the Depot for a period. He had many friends in Halifax so I feel sure someone will be able to add details of his time there. Prior to the 2nd World War he took a tremendous interest in recruiting for the T.A. in Sussex and served on several committees. In 1937 he was appointed to the Army Officers' Emergency Reserve and appointed a Local Army Welfare Officer with the acting rank of major. Welfare work was after his own liking and in Sussex where he lived he spent his whole time looking after the aged, the sick and the disabled. He did, I know, much in this respect for The Royal Sussex Regiment.

"Scottie will always be remembered for the great interest he took in The Duke of Wellington's O.C.A. and for the fact that he rarely, if ever, missed a Regimental occasion wherever it was held. I owe him a great debt of gratitude, as he always

kept me in the picture of what was going on in the Regiment.

"To me his passing is a very great loss and I shall miss his many telephone chats and also the occasional visits we had to our respective homes. He will be much missed at Regimental gatherings, etc. I know of no one in the Regiment who was more staunch in his love for his Regiment.

"Scottie was married on February 8, 1933, and lived first at Nutbourne, near Pulborough. Recently he had bought a house at Pulborough. We of the Regiment can only express our deepest sympathy with his wife, Lettice, and our thanks to one who gave of his best to his Regiment and his Country."

#### Mr. W. S. Woods

Mr. W. S. Woods died at his home, 16, Lockyer House, Hemans Estate, Wandsworth, London, aged 76 years. He joined the Regiment in 1906 and served until 1920 with the 1st Battalion except for one year with the 2nd Battalion. Mr. Woods was amongst the first to join the London Branch of the O.C.A. on its formation and up to three years ago was an active member. From this time he was continually ill and spent long spells in hospital but he never lost interest in the activities of the Branch or the Regiment.

Before his illness Jack—for some reason he was always known as Jack—never missed an O.C.A. Reunion either at Halifax or in his native London; neither did he miss the annual ceremony at the Empire Field of Remembrance at our Regimental Plot at Westminster. He leaves a widow, two sons and a daughter.

## FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE

*Supplements dated 27th November, 1964, to 26th February, 1965.*

### MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

#### REGULAR ARMY

Col. J. D. Lunt, C.B.E., late R.A.C., to be Brig., 7th Dec., 1964.

Col. P. G. L. Cousens, C.B.E., late Inf., retires on retired pay, 26th Jan., 1965.

Lt.-Gen. Sir Robert Bray, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., late Inf., to be Gen., 25th Feb., 1965.

### COMMANDS AND STAFF

Maj. Gen. G. R. D. Musson, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., B.A., late Inf., is appointed General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Northern Command and is granted the temporary rank of Lt. Gen., 1st Dec. 1964.

### INFANTRY

#### D.W.R.

#### REGULAR ARMY

Maj. D. H. Wood retires on retired pay, 11th Nov., 1964.

The following Lts. to be Capt., 19th Dec., 1964:  
W. R. Mundell, M. W. Summers.

2nd Lt. A. R. Westcob to be Lt., 2nd Feb., 1965.

Lt.-Col. H. S. Le Messurier to be Supernumerary to Establishment, 7th Feb., 1965.

Capt. C. R. Huxtable, M.B.E., to be Maj., 8th Feb. 1965.

#### Short Service Comms.

W.O. Cl. 1. Walter Robins to be Lt. (Q.M.), 2nd Nov., 1964.

### REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

#### Class III

Lt. D. A. B. Bardsley, from A.E. Res. of Offrs., Nat. Serv. List, to be Lt., 6th Feb., 1965.

### TERRITORIAL ARMY

2nd Lt. R. A. Innes (on probation) resigns his commn., 1st October, 1964.

### TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Capt. P. W. Cockcroft, having attained the age limit, ceases to belong to the T.A. Res. of Offrs., 11th Jan., 1965, retaining the hon. rank of Maj.

# THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

## O.C.A. Welfare

During the current financial year 96 cases of hardship have been assisted and the sum of £1,115 has been disbursed from Association Benevolent Funds. As it is thought that some members of the Regiment and Association are not fully aware of the scope of the Association's welfare work we give below extracts from the minutes of the weekly Case Committee meetings, showing some typical examples of the cases helped.

### Case No. 38. Mr. S., Leeds

Mr. S., aged 67 years, is a 1st World War man with a 60 per cent. pension for amputation of the right leg above the knee. The Ministry of Health have agreed to provide him with a Mini Car. The construction of garage space and access thereto is scheduled to cost £291, of which the County Welfare authorities are giving £100. B.L.E.S.M.A., who put up this case, report that £125 of the remaining £145 required has also been raised. They request that the outstanding £20 be granted from our funds.

*Decision:* Grant of £20.

### Case No. 48. Mr. W., Sheffield

Case submitted as deserving by Sheffield Branch O.C.A. Mr. W. is a permanent invalid and has not worked for eight years; wife goes out to work; general assistance required.

*Decision:* Grant of £20 through Sheffield Branch, who are requested to make an immediate payment of £5, and £1 per week thereafter.

### Case No. 53. Mr. H., Wakefield

S.S.A.F.A. ask for a grant of £20 in this case to pay off an accumulation of debts, incurred during Mr. H.'s period of unemployment. There is a history of sickness, with ulcers and deafness, and his wife also suffers from anaemia.

*Decision:* Grant of £20 to clear debts through S.S.A.F.A.

### Case No. 70. Mrs. D., Leeds

Mrs. D. is the widow of a South African and 1st War veteran. S.S.A.F.A., Leeds, ask for a grant to this aged lady to help her furnish a new flat, which has been allotted to her. They also mention that she has never been able to afford a TV set.

*Decision:* Grant of £25, S.S.A.F.A. to be asked to look into the prospects of a TV set for Mrs. D.

### Case No. 75. Mr. M., Leeds

Mr. M.'s son, William, died recently while serving with 1 D.W.R. and was buried in Germany. Mr. and Mrs. M. were flown out for the funeral at Government expense. They were also given £10 by S.S.A.F.A. towards out-of-pocket expenses. S.S.A.F.A., Leeds, now ask that we consider help-

ing the M.'s with outstanding debts incurred by the deceased, namely £10 on a bicycle and £9 on a civilian suit.

*Decision:* Grant of £19. S.S.A.F.A. to be thanked for their initial aid.

### Case No. 77. Mr. G., Leeds

S.S.A.F.A., Leeds, ask for a grant for Mrs. G., an aged widow of an ex-Regular soldier who served in the 1st World War, stating that she needs financial assistance:

- (a) To pay off arrears on her gas cooker;
- (b) Towards providing winter coal;
- (c) Towards the replacement of worn-out bedding.

The Committee deemed this a deserving case.

*Decision:* Grant of £20.

### Case No. 83. Mr. G., Micklefield

S.S.A.F.A. ask for a grant of £20 in this case to pay off electric light and cooker bills amounting to £11 11s. 9d., the remainder to be used for general help. Mr. G. has suffered from lung cancer and has not worked since 1963. A Government grant now enables him to attend a Rehabilitation Centre. He has a wife and four children, all under 15 years of age.

*Decision:* Grant of £20.

### Case No. 91. Mr. M., Canada

Case received from R.H.Fus. Association. It appears that Mr. M. owes some \$900 to various bodies, contracted when he emigrated to Canada. The Canadian League took up his case and through their efforts the Trustees of the Imperial Army Benevolent Fund have agreed to make available £35. An application by us to the Army Benevolent Fund produced a further £100, which, with our grant of £15, brings the total grant to £150.

*Decision:* Cheque for £115 to be forwarded to The British Commonwealth Ex-Services League for disbursement.

### Case No. 99. Mr. A., Pudsey

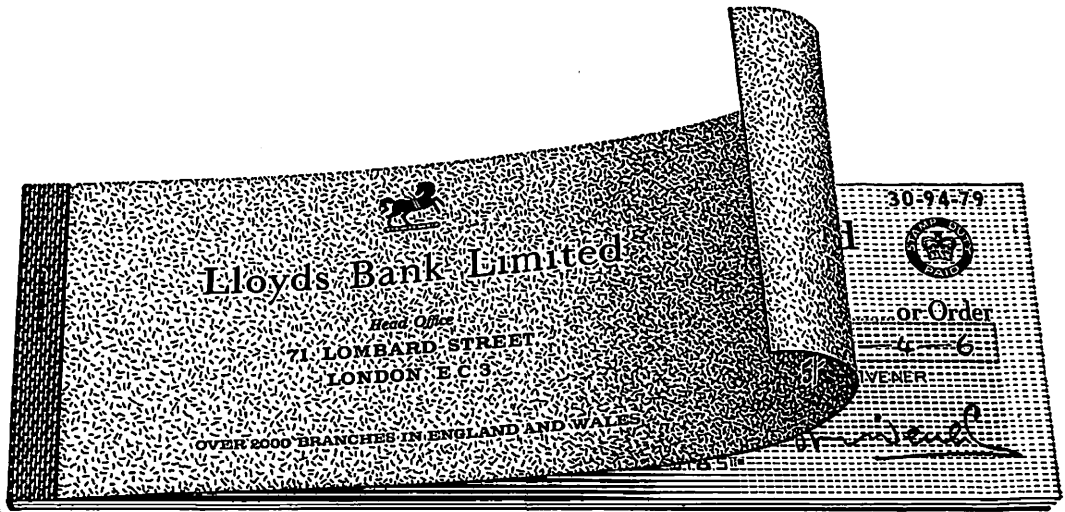
Mr. A. suffers from chronic bronchitis and has been off work for three months. S.S.A.F.A. say he has used up his savings and recommend a grant of £10. He is a Life Member of the O.C.A.

*Decision:* Grant of £20.

### Case No. 113. Mrs. S., Mossley, Lancashire

Mrs. S. is the 77-year-old widow of a 1st War Sergeant, who died of war injuries in 1927. War Pensioners' Welfare Service ask for a small grant of £3 10s. to enable her to purchase a few bags of coal.

*Decision:* Grant of £15.



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**Reminiscences of the South African War**  
(continued from page 78)

On October 16 we were relieved by the Lincolns and next day marched to Pretoria escorting an ammunition column, to which my half company was rear guard. I developed a blister after five miles and by the time we reached Das Poort, 16 miles on, I was dead lame. Many of the men were too, as our boots had been worn out with all the Kopje climbing. After two hours' rest we went on to Pretoria, where the men were billeted in the Stats Artillerie Barracks, which were very fine and spacious. Becher, Harman and I had a very pretty little villa nearby. These villas were the quarters of the Boer Artillery Officers, and were very attractive, covered with climbing roses and many rose trees in the gardens, all in full bloom. It was luxury after the last two months; we dined in the Camerons' mess in the same area. We were able to replace our worn out and filthy clothing and get new boots.

I had taken a number of photographs and developed them in the villa. I had no red lamp, and used a biscuit tin with candle inside, and a page of the "Pink Un" over it. Unfortunately, it was not good enough and many of the photographs were fogged.

**Lord Kitchener**

Becher and I went to watch polo being played by some of the Headquarter Staff; Lord Kitchener and his A.D.C. rode on to the ground and stood a few yards from us, and I wished I had had my camera with me.

On October 22 we returned to Pienaars River by train. The line was very changed since we last saw it as circular blockhouses had been put up about every mile with stone ones at 10-mile intervals. All were manned by the Regiment from Waterval to Warmbaths, and the bush had been cleared to about 1,000 yards.

Cricket was being played most days, some coconut matting having been bought for the pitch; Becher and Exham were the best performers, but Tyndall, who was a very good cricketer, was always too busy as adjutant to play. We had concerts some evenings, at which Exham, who had a very good voice, sang, and Ernle Taylor, a first-class pianist, accompanied the songs and played excerpts from the operas, chiefly Gilbert and Sullivan's,

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and the latest musical comedies. He played entirely by ear, and could pick out tunes from one hearing. Several new subalterns arrived about this time; Clifton, an oldish man for a subaltern, from the Yeomanry, Farrell, from the ranks of the West India Regiment, and McCleverty and Fairbairn, from Sandhurst.

On November 7 we had a very severe thunderstorm, and the telegraph wire close to the mess tent was struck while we were at dinner. Several officers were nearly knocked off their seats, but no one was hurt. We were having thunderstorms nearly every afternoon at this time.

On the 13th I was moved to a stone blockhouse halfway between Pienaars and Hamans Kraal, and as I was in charge of blockhouses along the line I was given a horse to ride. I also had to superintend the bush cutting by some 200 natives. The Battalion had had to take over fresh posts as the Gordons, who were holding the line further up north, had been sent to India. I went down with malaria on December 12, and was sent into hospital at Pienaars, returning to duty rather weak on 18th.

On Christmas Day, 1901, Exham and Taylor rode over from their blockhouse to have dinner with me. My batman cooked a very good meal, with a plum pudding sent out from home. Exham arrived during a heavy thunderstorm and was soaked, but I was able to fit him out with some spare clothes. Exham made a golf course of three holes, later extended to nine, near his blockhouse, and had got hold of a cleek and some golf balls. I went over and played with him once or twice,

(continued on page 89)

**THE RETIRED OFFICERS' FUND**

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR 1964

INCOME		£	s.	d.	EXPENDITURE		£	s.	d.
Balance Credit, 1963	...	88	11	3	Regt. H.Q. Entertainments	...	10	0	0
Defence Bonds Dividend	...	7	10	0	Iron Duke	...	15	0	0
Officers' Subscriptions	...	59	2	6	Lady Grover Fund	...	7	7	0
Donations	...	13	10	0	Bank Charge	...	10	6	0
					Gale and Polden	...	4	11	10
					Wreaths	...	7	6	3
					Cheque Book	...	5	0	0
					Balance Credit	...	123	13	2
		£168	13	9			£168	13	9

January 17, 1965

R. K. EXHAM, Major-General



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and we took photos of each other. Two of them appeared in the *Daily Graphic*, the only daily newspaper with illustrations at that time; most of them were sketches, and I had had some of my drawings in it previously.

My diary mentions an incident about this time. I was having a bath (canvas) on the roof of my blockhouse when a pigeon settled on the parapet. I dashed into my shelter room in a state of dripping nudity, grasped my shotgun and shot it. It was very unsporting, but we had such tough meat (it was said that the trek oxen were only killed for meat when they were worn out from pulling wagons), and it was a fat and very welcome change.

On January 7, 1902, Exham rang me up to ask me if I should like to put my name in for the King's African Rifles, which were just being formed in Uganda, pay £400 a year for a subaltern, a princely one to our £110. I jumped at it, but eventually, when a selection was made I was turned down as I was just under the age limit of 22. Jenkins and Tidmarsh were accepted and went off on the 25th and I was moved to Warmbaths to take over the former's company (A). Becher, Maffett and Taylor were there, and Carlyon was in hospital.

I was glad to be in a mess again, and make up a bridge four in the evenings. When I first joined only whist was played, but when Becher came out from England he introduced the new game of bridge, which was getting very popular, ousting the older game; some of the older officers, however, could not be induced to change.

In addition to my company I had to take over railway Staff Officer from Jenkins and found it rather a tie not being able to get out much, as one had to be at the station when each train came in. Warmbaths had been a health resort for officials from Pretoria, and had a fairly large hotel, which had now been turned into a hospital. At this time a gramophone I had ordered from Cape Town arrived. It was the first one any of us had seen, and by present standards it was a horror, very scratchy and the records wore badly, the needle used to stick in a groove and drive one silly. I remember one record of a popular song called "Mary was a housemaid, modest and content," and the needle stuck at "Mary" till some one got up and moved it. But it gave a lot of pleasure, and even Colonel Rivett-Carnac, who disliked it very much at first, got to asking for a tune!

Headquarters had moved up to Warmbaths by the end of the month and Becher and B. Company went up the line to Nylstroom to take over from the Northamptonshire Regiment. On February 8 Whish arrived with a draft from the 2nd Battalion in Rangoon, and brought the bad news that the officers' mess had been burnt down with the loss of the colours and all the silver plate. Captain William Umfreville arrived about this time. He was a great character, full of fun and loved by the men. When it was what we now call "elevenes" time, he would come up and say: "Isn't it time for a stoup?" Another draft from the 2nd Battalion arrived on March 19 under the command

of Horsfall. He brought me a letter from my uncle (Col. S. J. Trench, the C.O.) and some Burmah cheroots, which were too strong for me, but much enjoyed by Seaman, our old quartermaster. Horsfall told me that my uncle still played polo as well as ever, and was the best in their team. He left next day with a draft of our men for Rangoon.

For some weeks we had been on the alert with three armoured trains patrolling the line, as Shalk Burgher and some of the Boer Government had been east of the line and were expected to attempt to cross it. So I was kept very busy all through several nights. We had news that General Methuen had had a disastrous fight with De la Rey, and had been wounded and taken prisoner, but later released. There were conflicting accounts of this affair, and also rumours of the Boer Leaders seeking a peace parley. Later we heard that they had been to Pretoria to receive terms for ending the war, and had left to try to persuade the Commandos to accept them.

A new subaltern named McGuire Bate came out from Sandhurst. He wore the new khaki serge uniform, with badges of rank on the sleeves of the jacket; we thought it hideous. On April 29 there was a general post. I handed over R.S.O. to Whish and went to a blockhouse south of Pienaars, kilo 76. The mess were quite sorry to lose my gramophone, the men in my blockhouse, however, were delighted with it, and we used to give the men in other blockhouses a treat by putting it close to the telephone mouthpiece and with their receiver off several men close to it could hear.

On May 6 the Colonel received a very good report of the Battalion from General Barton, in which he congratulated it on the continued improvement in strengthening the line, the healthy appearance of the men during the hot season, and their good spirit and cheerfulness under trying circumstances.

On May 17 we had news of the disastrous eruption and loss of life at St. Vincent and St. Pierre in Martinique.

I was all on my own at Kilo 76, but managed to get in to Pienaars fairly often for cricket and tennis, travelling on a railway bicycle or a trolley used by gangers on the line.

On June 1, 1902, I went out shooting with Corporal Kilner. As we approached the blockhouse we saw one of the men on the roof fixing up a flag, and on getting close were greeted with the news that peace had been signed; it had come through from Headquarters at Warmbaths. A later message came that all work should cease, and I gave each man a bottle of beer from my store and cigarettes to celebrate and they had a sing-song that evening. The next day I went in to Pienaars and during a set of tennis with Strafford and Exham and the doctor a telegram was delivered to Strafford, who read out: "Lt Trench and 10 men will proceed to Pretoria by train today en route for Cape Town and England to represent the Regiment at the Coronation of King Edward VII."

(To be concluded)

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