

No.141 October 1966



THE IRON DUKE

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

THE IRON DUKE

The Regimental Magazine of

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

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



Hill 60
Somme 1916, '18
Arras 1917, '18
Cambrai 1917, '18
Lys
Piave 1918
Landing at 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
Furma 1942, '43, '44
Sittang 1942
Chindits 1944
The Hook 1953
Korea 1952-53

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OCTOBER 1966

No. 141

BUSINESS NOTES

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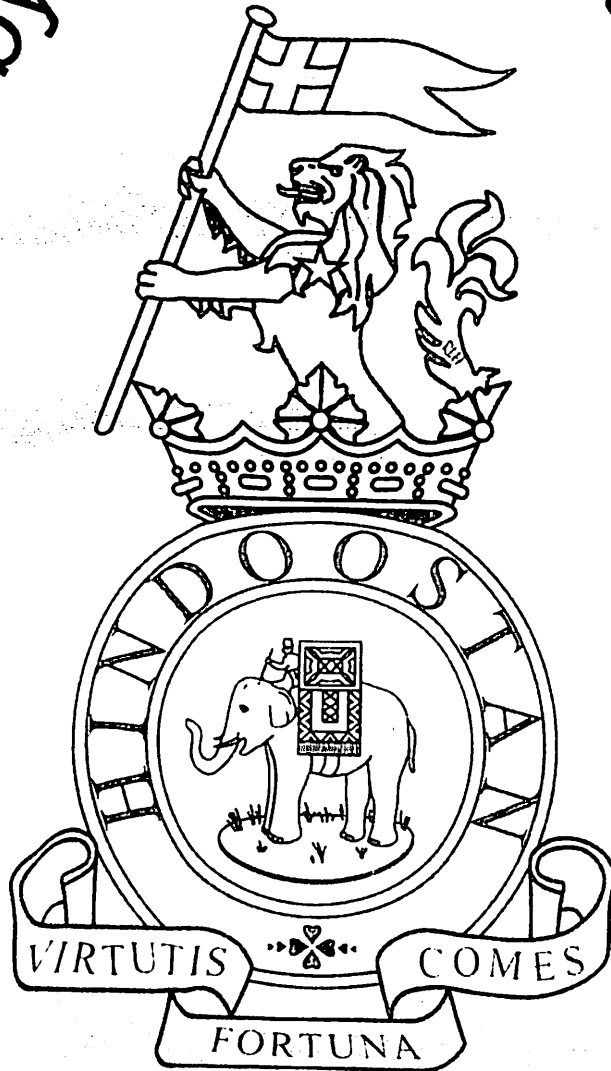
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Digitised by The Regimental Archives



THE REGIMENT

Colonel of the Regiment

GENERAL SIR ROBERT BRAY, G.B.E., K.C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C., *C-in-C, Allied Forces Northern Europe, Kolsas, Norway*

Acting Colonel of the Regiment

BRIGADIER A. D. FIRTH, O.B.E., M.C., *Commander, 127 (E.L.) Infantry Brigade (T.A.), Belle Vue Street, Manchester 12*

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

Wellesley Park, Halifax
Regimental Secretary: Major J. H. Davis

THE 1st BATTALION

B.F.P.O. 36
C.O.: Lt.-Col. D. E. Isles. Adjutant: Capt. T. D. Lupton

THE WEST RIDING BATTALION (T.A.)

St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield
Hon. Colonel: Col. J. B. Sugden, T.D., D.L., J.P.
C.O.: Lt.-Col. J. C. Moncrieff, T.D. Adjutant: Capt. C. R. Cumberlege

ARMY CADET FORCE

O.I.C., D.W.R., A.C.F. Detachments: Major T. Horsfall, 340 Whitehall Road, Wyke, Yorkshire

AFFILIATED C.C.F.

Giggleswick School C.C.F., C.O.: Major L. Wardle, M.B.E., T.D.

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

Patrons

His Grace The Duke of Wellington, K.G.
The Right Honourable The Earl of Scarborough, K.G.
President: General Sir Robert Bray, G.B.E., K.C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C.
Vice-President: Col. C. R. T. Cumberlege, *Dalby Rectory, Terrington, York*
General Secretary: Mr. S. E. Code, M.B.E., *Wellesley Park, Halifax*

THE YORKSHIRE BRIGADE

Brigade Headquarters: Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Strensall, York
Brigade Colonel: J. B. Scott, late Green Howards
Regiments of the Brigade: The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire
The Green Howards
The Duke of Wellington's Regiment
The York and Lancaster Regiment
Brigade Depot: Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Strensall, York
Commander: Lt.-Col. J. B. Sanderson, Y & L



"AT THE READY"
(Pte. Scriven, Burma Coy)

NEWS AND NOTES

Editorial

From the next issue THE IRON DUKE will appear under a new cover.

The present cover was designed by Brigadier Burnett and has been in use since THE IRON DUKE first appeared in 1925. There can be few periodicals which have continued under an unchanged cover for over 40 years and we owe a debt of gratitude to Brigadier Burnett, its originator.

Your editor wishes, incidentally, that there was someone among the present generation of serving officers or soldiers who could produce caricatures of anything approaching the quality of those which Brigadier Burnett used to send in—or, for that matter, light verse vaguely approaching the quality of Colonel Owen Price's even more frequent contributions. Drawings and verse were regular features of the pre-war IRON DUKE and did much to lift it out of the rut—and to show that the serving soldiers took an interest in it.

However, to revert to the cover. The new design is based on a half-tone (black and white to the uninitiated) reproduction of the portrait of the Great Duke by Sir Thomas Lawrence, P.R.A. (Canvas 1814). The Director of the Wellington Museum, Apsley House, has most kindly given us permission to use this portrait without reproduction fee. We are most grateful for this concession.

We would, of course, have liked to reproduce the portrait in full colour but that would have involved us in expense far beyond our means, not only in the making of the block but for each printing. However, the half-tone block will, we think, make an effective and dignified cover.

Some, anyway among the older readers, will regret the passing of the old red cover—and it has, indeed, been a familiar friend in peace and war. We hope that they will come to like the new cover which is more in keeping with present day design. We hasten to assure them that there is nothing "pop" or "op" or even "abstract" about it.

THE REGIMENTAL SWEEPSTAKE

The following were the prizewinners in the Regimental Sweepstake on the St. Leger:—

- 1st (£100) Sodium. Sgt. Glencross, 1 D.W.R.
 2nd (£50) Charlottown. Burma Coy. Funds,
 1 D.W.R.
 3rd (£25) David Jack. Barry Keane,
 c/o Fred Parkinson.
 4th (£10) Crisp and Even. L. Kite, Harold Hill,
 Essex.

Runners (£1)

- Pretendre. Cassidy, C., 1 D.W.R.
 Black Prince II. Miss Parry, Shotton, Flints.
 Hermes. L/Cpl. Parkin, Burma Company,
 1. D.W.R.
 Red Marine. A Whitaker, Calverley, Pudsey.
 Marcus Brutus. Mrs. Taylor, Framwellgate
 Moor.

NOTICES

Officers' Dinner Club

It has now been decided that the 1967 luncheon and dinner will be held on Friday, May 12, at the Hyde Park Hotel.

Annual Regimental Service

Readers are reminded that the annual Regimental service will be held in York Minster on Saturday, October 29, 1966, at 11 a.m.

Officers' Resettlement

The address of the Resettlement and Employment Department of the Officers' Association is now:
 28 Belgrave Square, London, S.W.1
 (Telephone: BEL 8112).

P.S.O.

When the new Territorial organization comes into force next year The West Riding Territorials (T & AVR III) with headquarters at Huddersfield will have a requirement for a P.S.O.—Permanent Staff Officer—to undertake the duties of adjutant and quarter-master.

This appointment would be suitable for a retired officer who would be paid what are known as consolidated rates by the County Association.

The upper age limit for applicants is 60.

It is naturally hoped that this appointment will be filled by a "Duke." Anyone interested should get in touch with Lt.-Colonel J. C. Moncrieff, T.D., The Drill Hall, St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield.



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REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

All events at Regimental Headquarters have been over-shadowed by the tragic death of Nancy Davis in a car accident in Denmark on July 17.

Major and Mrs. Davis were driving back to England from leave when another car ran into theirs. (The case is sub-judice but it can be said that the other driver is being prosecuted.) Mrs. Davis was killed instantly. Major Davis suffered concussion and multiple injuries. He is still in hospital in Denmark. Considering the extent of his injuries Major Davis has made wonderfully good progress, but he is expected to be in hospital until at least the end of September. He will probably then convalesce in Denmark for a few weeks before returning to us here. His address in Denmark is: Villa Nancy, Liseleje, Sjaelland, Denmark.

The shock of this tragedy will have been felt

throughout the Regiment, but nowhere so much as here where our little team was constantly helped and inspired by Nancy Davis's lovely presence and sweet nature.

The funeral service was held at the Frederiksberg Kirke, Copenhagen, on July 25. Amongst those who attended were Colonel William Davis, Major Cecil Davis, Colonel Thomson, Lt.-Colonel W. Skelsey (representing the Colonel of the Regiment), Lt.-Colonel D. E. Isles (representing the 1st Battalion), Captain W. Robins, Major Claes Frost (representing the Danish Life Regiment).

Mrs. Davis was buried next to her daughter, Margrethe. At the graveside the Pastor read a special prayer sent by the Bishop of Pontefract, Hon. Chaplain of the Regiment.

THE YORKSHIRE BRIGADE NEWS

THE TERRITORIAL ARMY

In our last news we wrote of the formation of the Territorial and Army Volunteer Reserve and gave details as to the T & AVR II and III organisation of the Yorkshire Brigade. We have little new to report except to say that planning for the change has been going ahead at all levels.

Titles

Discussion on the proposed titles of the new units has been completed. We at Strensall co-ordinated all the views and suggestions from all our regiments and put firm proposals to the Ministry of Defence. We now await the formal approval and announcement from the Ministry of Defence.

Permanent Staff

Details of what is required are now firm. Permanent Staff for the T & AVR II Battalion, to be provided from the Regular Army, will be:—CO, Training Major, Adjutant, Q.M., R.S.M., one driver and, for each company, one W.O.2 and two Staff-Sergeants or Sergeants.

We aim that all our regiments should be represented at Battalion HQ, whereas the three permanent staff in each company should come from the "parent" regular battalion.

The only regular serving permanent staff on the establishment of each of the T & AVR III battalions is one R.S.M. And for our five T & AVR III battalions two of the R.S.M.s will be provided from outside the Yorkshire Brigade. This is a Ministry of Defence policy in order that other infantry brigades or other arms or corps, not so favourably represented in the T & AVR III as the

Yorkshire Brigade, will be able to keep open a prospect of promotion to W.O.1 at E.R.E.

Certain permanent staff have been selected for the T & AVR II Battalion and posting orders issued as follows:—

CO	..	..	Lt.-Colonel G. T. M. Scrope, Green Howards, at present CO 4/5 Green Howards TA.
Training Major			Major W. T. A. Brooks, PWO, at present commanding a company at Strensall.
Adjutant	..	..	Captain J. C. H. Byrne, Y & L, at present with 1 Y & L.

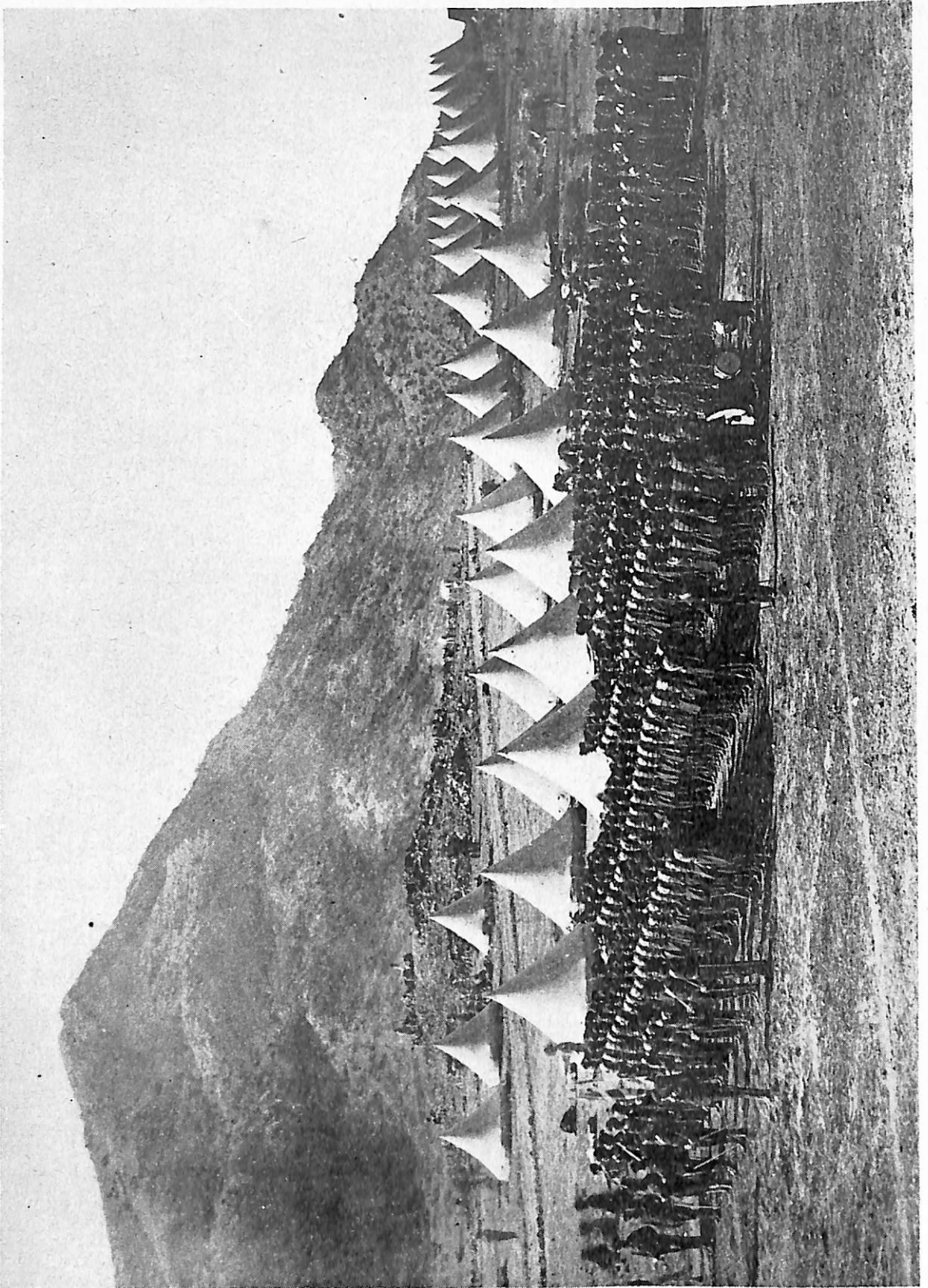
THE 1ST BALUCH BATTALION ABYSSINIA 1868

(photographed by 10th Company, R.E., and reproduced here by kind permission of the Imperial War Museum)

As reported in our last issue Her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to approve an alliance between The Duke of Wellington's Regiment and the 10th Battalion, The Baluch Regiment of Pakistan who are the direct descendants of the 1st Baluch Battalion of the Bombay Army, pictured opposite.

The 1st Baluch Battalion was the only Indian infantry battalion in the Abyssinian Campaign of 1867-1868 in which the 33rd gained its first two awards of the Victoria Cross.

The unit was subsequently re-designated 127th Queen Mary's Own Baluch Light Infantry and, later again, 3rd Battalion (Queen Mary's Own) The Baluch Regiment. This pre-partition title was changed to the present title of 10th Battalion, The Baluch Regiment of Pakistan.



Nominations

The selection of R.S.M.s for the T & AVR II Bn and our three T & AVR III Bns is being discussed now between HQ The Yorkshire Brigade and Officer IC Records. Selection from the nominations for the remainder of the permanent staff will be settled at the next records posting meeting at Strensall in October.

BRIGADE NEWS

Battalion Moves

1 PWO are now back in England at Roman Barracks, Colchester after a very active year's tour in Aden.

Ending of confrontation in Borneo and the phased reduction of British Troops in the Far East has affected 1 Green Howards. They have been returned to England, after only five months away, without being committed to the jungle. The battalion is now at its permanent base in Hyderabad Barracks, Colchester, as part of 19 Infantry Brigade.

Boxing

Pte. Roger Tighe, of 3 PWO (TA), has had a most successful season. He ended up by winning the ABA Light Heavy Weight Championship in April last—beating the ISBA champion in the process.

Shooting

At Bisley Pte. W. E. Larnder, 1 DWR, distinguished himself and ended up with the following results—

Army Championships	..	..	8th
Roberts Cup	..	..	3rd
Henry Whitehead Cup (Class B)	..	..	3rd

Junior Infantrymen's Battalion, Shorncliffe

The Ministry of Defence has announced that a new infantry junior soldiers unit shall be formed. It will be formed in the New Barracks at Shorncliffe and will be known as the Junior Infantrymen's Battalion.

It is planned to train junior infantrymen there (from the age of 15½) as opposed to junior leaders who are trained at Oswestry. This probably means that junior infantrymen will no longer be accepted at Brigade Depots—although junior bandsmen and drummers will continue as now.

Promotions and Appointments

Major General D. S. Gordon, Colonel The Green Howards, has retired from the Active List but has been appointed Vice Chairman of one of the committees set up by the Army Board.

Brigadier A. W. Cowper, late PWO, has been appointed Defence Adviser to the British High Commissioner in Malaysia and assumed his appointment in August 1966.

Colonel J. B. Scott, late Green Howards, has succeeded Colonel J. Davidson, late DWR, as Brigade Colonel, The Yorkshire Brigade.

Lt.-Colonel P. A. Winter, Y & L, has succeeded Lt.-Colonel J. L. Collard, Y & L, in command of 1 Y & L.

Lt.-Colonel Collard has been selected for the appointment of GSO I with the BDLs in Ottawa, in November 1966.

Lt.-Colonel C. E. Archer-Perkins, Green Howards, is now on the Special List, and has been appointed DAAG PS 10 at the Ministry of Defence.

Major J. P. Durcan, Green Howards, has been appointed to Command 2nd Bn The Singapore Infantry Regt., and has been granted the temporary rank of Lt.-colonel.

Major G. Jarratt, has been appointed to command the Leeds Rifles (TA) in succession to Lt.-Colonel Rawlings:

The following have also taken place—

Major D. C. Hall, PWO, from Trg Major 3 PWO (TA) to 1 PWO.

Major J. C. Herkes, PWO, from Brigade Recruiting Officer (on 1 PWO strength) to Trg Major 3 PWO (TA).

Major J. M. Cubiss, PWO, from 1 DWR to Brigade Recruiting Officer at Strensall.

Major T. M. H. Smyth, PWO, from 1 PWO to AAS Arborfield as Military Training Officer.

Major M. B. Callaghan, Y & L, from the Sultan's Armed Forces to Depot HS for six months to January 1967.

Major D. L. Emery, Y & L, from 1 Y & L to 21 Flt Army Air Corps (16 Para Bde) as OC.

T/Major S. J. Burnip, PWO, from GSO 3 Int to GSO 2 Int HQ Middle East Command.

Captain A. B. Bower, PWO, from Brigade Recruiting Team to 1 PWO.

Captain D. J. Rothery, PWO, from 1 PWO to GSO 3 (Trg) at HQ Yorkshire Dist, Catterick.

Captain A. B. Crowfoot, PWO, from 1 Y & L to RMCS Shrivenham, October 1966.

Captain F. J. W. Filor, PWO, appointed Adjutant 1 PWO.

Captain R. J. Rockett, Green Howards, from Royal Marines Infantry School to RMCS Shrivenham, October 1966.

Captain M. R. N. Bray, DWR, from 1 DWR to School of Infantry Warminster as Instructor in Platoon Commanders' Division.

Captain J. R. P. Cumberlege, DWR, from 1 DWR to RMCS Shrivenham, October 1966.

Captain T. D. Lupton, DWR, appointed Adjutant 1 DWR.

T/Major J. B. K. Greenway, DWR, from Army Outward Bound School to RMCS Shrivenham October 1966.

Captain G. R. Bellamy, DWR, from 1 DWR to RAEC School pending transfer to RAEC.

Captain C. B. K. Smeeton, Y & L, from ADC to GOC 43 Div. to 1 Y & L.

Captain C. R. Day, from 1 Malaysia Rangers to 1 Y & L.

Captain M. H. Sharpe, Y & L, from DSSC India to 1 Y & L.

Captain G. M. Longdon, Y & L, from 1 Y & L to 12 AYT.

Captain H. R. Goble, Y & L, from 12 AYT to 1 Y & L.

Captain E. J. Throssell, Y & L, from 1 Y & L to Bde Depot for six months attachment—to March 1967.

Lt. P. G. Rogerson, PWO, from AAJL Regt, Tonfanau, to 1 PWO.

Lt. P. J. F. Mead, PWO, from Bde Depot to RAOC School, September 1966, pending transfer to RAOC.

Lt. R. T. Haywood, PWO, has been granted a limited service regular commission in Royal Signals wef October 1966.

Lt. W. B. Ibbetson, Green Howards, from UN Force Cyprus to Bde Depot.

Lt. M. T. O'Sullivan, Y & L, from 1 Y & L to ADC to GOC 43 Div.

2/Lt. K. F. Robbin, Y & L, from AAC Pilot Training to 1 Y & L.

W.O.1 (R.S.M.) F. Nichols, DWR, R.S.M. 1 DWR, has been granted a short service Q.M. commission in the rank of Lt. and has been posted as Lt. (Q.M.) 3rd Bn Zambia Rifles.

W.O.1 (R.S.M.) S. H. Kirk, DWR, R.S.M. 1 Y & L, has been granted a short service combatant commission in the rank of Lt. and has been posted to 1 DWR.

W.O.1 W. Burke, DWR, from R.S.M. Hallams (TA) appointed R.S.M. 1 Y & L vice W.O.1 Kirk.

W.O.1 G. France, DWR, from R.S.M. Bde Depot, appointed R.S.M. 1 DWR vice W.O.1 Nichols.

W.O.1 J. Webb, Green Howards, from R.S.M. Malawi Rifles, appointed R.S.M. West Riding Bn, DWR (TA), vice W.O.1 Pennington (Retired).

W.O.2 J. C. Riordan, Green Howards promoted W.O.1 and appointed R.S.M. Bde Depot vice W.O.1 France.

W.O.2 (R.Q.M.S.) G. T. O'Brien, PWO, promoted W.O.1 and appointed R.S.M. Hallams (TA) vice W.O.1 Burke.

W.O.2 R. C. Webb, DWR, appointed R.Q.M.S. 1 Green Howards vice R.Q.M.S. P. Sheehan from August 1965 to July 1966.

W.O.2 B. Williams, Green Howards, appointed R.Q.M.S. 1 Green Howards, vice W.O.2 Webb.

W.O.2 C. Nicholson, DWR, appointed R.Q.M.S. 1 DWR vice W.O.2 O'Brien.

W.O.1 (Bandmaster) M. Sumner, Y & L, from Bandmaster to Bde Depot as Musical Instructor for one year, for health reasons.

W.O.1 J. A. Brush, late Para and RMAS Band, from Kneller Hall to 1 Y & L as Bandmaster.

The following have retired or resigned:—

Major H. H. J. Clifford, Green Howards.

Lt. R. H. French, Green Howards.

New Officers

The following newly commissioned officers have been received into the Brigade—

From Cambridge University

2/Lt. R. J. Rowlands, DWR.

From Sandhurst

2/Lt. C. W. Adams, PWO.

2/Lt. N. W. Bottom, PWO.

2/Lt. J. S. W. Powell, Green Howards.

2/Lt. P. J. Bird, DWR.

From Mons OCS

2/Lt. D. W. Townsend, Y & L.

THE BRIGADE DEPOT

Our big news is that we are to start Continuation Training in September. This will add a further four weeks on to the present ten week syllabus; two of them are to be spent in field training at Warcop, near Barnard Castle. This should prove of considerable value in that it lifts the load of further training off battalions who have had considerable problems in finding the time and staff to instruct small numbers of recruits as they trickle in from the output drafts. It will also mean a more self-reliant product from here, for recruits only spend four days out of barracks under the present programme.

The rebuilding and adaption of our buildings continue. We have gained a number of new lecture rooms by re-arranging what was the old cookhouse, and a board has just met to site a squash court, though this will not be started until spring '67. A new pitch has been levelled and planted and will be ready for use next year. There is now no single nissen hut in the camp area. This must be regarded as a triumph for this form of building epitomised part of the army cartoon image (see Giles).

The Depot Public Relations deserves a mention as the Press have had a considerable amount of material from us this summer and have handled it well. Perhaps the greatest success story was the arrival of a Yorkshire Evening Press reporter at thirty minutes' notice to do an article on the men's dining hall. This was the result of an invitation

issued on an earlier occasion to the Press during an open day when a reporter, on examining our menu, remarked that this must have been laid on for their benefit. Accordingly the Press were asked to come up on any day with the minimum of notice to see the usual daily fare. The day the reporter arrived he saw our usual menu e.g. a choice of five meat dishes for lunch, and wrote an ecstatic article on army catering methods which received considerable notice.

We welcome the arrival of R.S.M. J. C. Riordan, Green Howards, but at the same time regret the departure of R.S.M. G. France, D.W.R., who was summoned to the 1st Battalion in a complex multi-posting of five Brigade W.O.s.

Bisley 1966

The D.W.R. representation in the Depot Team at Bisley was as follows—

Captain R. L. Stevens (Team Captain)

Sgt. G. Holliday

Cpl. P. Gott

Cpl. J. D. Nash.

Our placings in the various matches were—

Army Championship (1st & 2nd Stage) 2nd

Worcester & Lindley (G.M.P.G.) 7th

Parachute Cup (S.M.G.) 5th

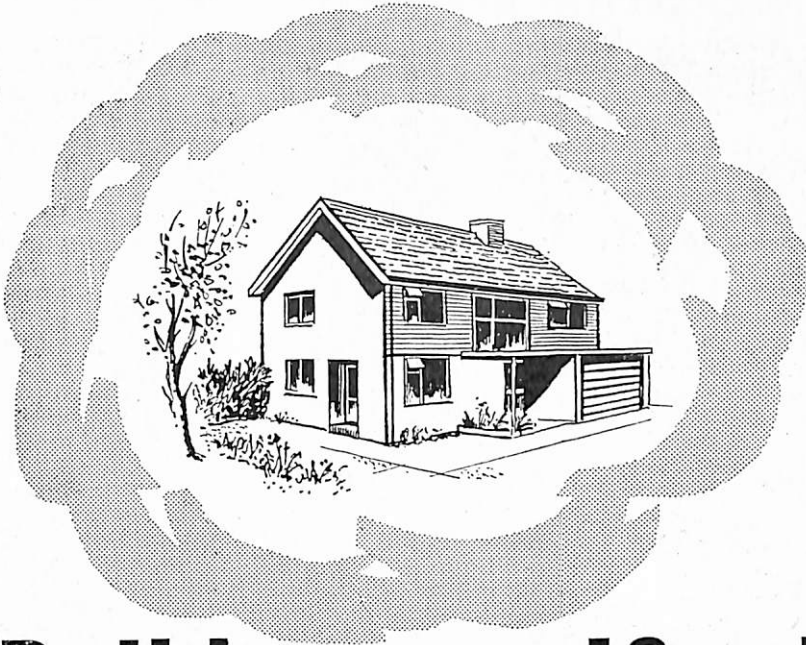
Staff & Schools 4th

Minor Units Small Arms 6th



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in the

HUDDERSFIELD

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1st BATTALION

The 1966 training season draws to a close, with only the autumn exercises to contend with. After what has been probably the most intensive year's work since arriving in BAOR, it is pleasant to take stock of the situation.

The training has centred around the 432, and this has we feel been carried out successfully. There have been a lot of mistakes, a lot of laughs, and plenty of good work done. We are sure that there is still more to learn but, generally speaking, a small pat on the back of the Battalion as a whole would not be amiss. It has been hard work, contrary to some opinions, and there is now a confidence in our ability to be able to make a good effort at tasks given to us.

Other work has been accomplished. Not very easily, but it has been done. Adventure Training

has been successful, and also the Bn Rifle Meeting, and Bisley, have all had favourable results. Sport too has managed to keep its head above water, but only just. Athletics, and cricket mostly, the latter holding pride of place as for the first time the Battalion has reached the BAOR knockout competition semi-final. Here's hoping we can add the third BAOR trophy.

Another heave and we will be through the remainder of the training season, and then we will be starting to prepare for the Admin. Inspection and intensive cadres for next year. Oh yes, that oval ball game starts to assume its prominence in the Battalion again. All heads of departments may raise their eyes to heaven. There is no peace for the wicked!

NEWS FROM THE MESSES

OFFICERS' MESS

Mess life has been almost non-existent since we were all together in Denmark. The Mess at Osnabruck has for the most part resembled a museum with only the odd member of the staff padding about in it as a custodian during the absence of officers on exercises.

We did however manage to hold two guest nights in fairly quick succession in June. At the first our guests were Brigadier P. K. Rooke, Commander Royal Artillery, Lt.-Colonel J. R. Cubberley, Commander Royal Signals, 2 Division, Lt.-Colonel C. W. Bowen, Officer Commanding 7th Field Ambulance, Major Brian Barber, Battery Commander of "K" Battery 5th Field Regt RA to whom we are affiliated, Major Jack Crawford, Commander of 7th Squadron RE, and Major Derek Bishop, DAA & QMG of 12 Brigade. We were delighted to welcome to our own mess for a change two of our erstwhile LO's from Denmark who arrived just in time to change for dinner. They were Flemming Holrick and Hans Hollen who were able to stay for a few days and see us in our natural habitat. At the second our guests were a party of officers and cadets from Manchester University OTC.

During our stay at Soltau we were visited by Mr. Stanley Munday, expert in rocketry and lecturer at the Military College of Science, who endured a few days roughing it and spent a week with us in the more comfortable surroundings of Osnabruck. We hope he enjoyed his stay as much as we enjoyed having him in our mess.

During late May Osnabruck held a "British Week." The Colours, silver and a few pictures were displayed at three functions attended by local

Germans. The Mess Staff also played a prominent part in two of these functions dressed in their scarlet jackets and blue trousers.

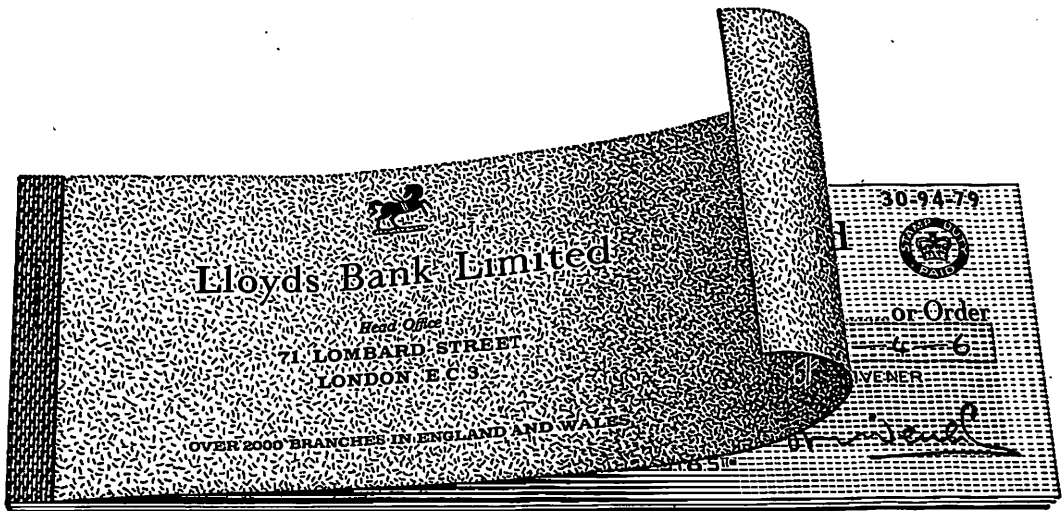
Rodney and Elizabeth Harms have returned to us after a two-year tour at H.Q. B.A.O.R. but otherwise there have been no changes in the Mess. An anxious David Pugh was much relieved to hear only last week that Anne had produced him a son, we congratulate them both. Ian and Merle Reid also had a second daughter on July 1, congratulations again.

We were delighted to see our previous Commanding Officer, Lt.-Colonel Kavanagh, who paid us a short visit early in July. We hope that he enjoyed his visit, and look forward to seeing him again.

Sgt. Crawshaw is the new Mess Sergeant who knows what goes on in the Mess from his band days. He has taken over just in time for organizing a ball on September 28, which we hope will be the highlight of the year.

SERGEANTS' MESS

The main event this quarter has been the departure of R.S.M. and Mrs. Nichols for darkest Africa; R.S.M. Nichols has left to take up an appointment as Q.M. of the 3rd Zambian Rifles, we would like to take this opportunity of wishing Nick and Nancy the best of luck and good fortune in Zambia (perhaps someone there can teach him how to play dominoes). The Mess held a social evening on Saturday July 30 to say goodbye to the old and welcome to the new, the new being in the person of R.S.M. G. A. France (welcome home G.A.F.); the evening went with a swing and, by the state of certain mess members, who shall remain anony-



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BATTALION PERSONALITY Private Margison

Margison joined the Regiment in 1957, and was trained at the Regimental Depot Halifax. He was posted to the Battalion in Northern Ireland in 1958 and, after Continuation Training, went to HQ Coy as company runner. From N. Ireland the Battalion moved to Brentwood in 1959 and Margison joined B Coy and became a member of 6 platoon. He was platoon runner/batman from then onwards whilst serving in Brentwood, Colchester, Kenya twice, Caterick, and British Honduras. It was in BH that he moved to the officers' mess, an employment he has carried out to the present day here in BAOR.

As can be seen Margison is one of our most experienced soldiers, and has been a faithful servant to the Battalion. Many officers, particularly subalterns, will be grateful to him for his hard work, deft handling of situations, and cheerful personality. Probably because of the officers' mess he has become a convert to rugby football and is the Battalion XV touch judge, a position which he jealously guards and carries out dutifully. So experienced is he now that it is rumoured he helps select the Battalion side. When pressed about this he is non-committal.

Margison has always maintained a high standard in his work and if, as he has hinted, he does leave the Regiment and the Army, he will be very much missed.



mous, over England winning the World Cup, one would have thought they had been playing themselves.

One other major event which your scribe must report is the engagement of Bob Stewart, although at the moment no one believes it; congratulations to the happy pair, and the best of luck to you man!

Recent departures are "John Edward" to the Yorks Bde Depot (I'm still recovering from the farewell night we had), Tom Pratt to the West Riding Bn, A.S.M. Rutherford to Singapore as Q.M. and Tom O'Brien to the Hallams as R.S.M., congratulations to the both of you, I'll see you other pair in Hong Kong?

New arrivals have included twins to Matt and Lena Hall, a boy at last Matt, congratulations to you both. R.S.M. France, W.O.2 Arundel, Sgts. Hudson and Holliday from the Depot, back to do some soldiering. "Minty" Mountcastle and Roy Kelly from the T.A. We heard you at Gutersloh Tom, and our new A.S.M., W.O.1 Buckoke, welcome back fellows.

Our congratulations to the following on their promotion or appointments, W.O.2 Nicholson to R.Q.M.S. and Cpl. Butler to sergeant.

Just in case any Mess Members are in doubt about the chap sitting in the C.S.M.'s chair in Hook Coy these days, it's Dick Fenn, welcome back Dick.

In closing would the Mess Members who have

"collared" two red barrel ties, the property of Chilvers and McManus (whilst these two unfortunates were otherwise "engaged"), please return them to the bar, no questions asked.

CORPORALS' MESS

At the moment we are enjoying a well earned rest between exercises, and it's nice to be spending a few weeks in Quebec Barracks; rumours were beginning to circulate that the battalion was being posted to Soltau; this would cut down the expense of travelling to and from there, as that's where most of our time seems to have been spent over the past few weeks.

On our most recent visit to Soltau for the Brigade exercise we found ourselves invaded by a mixture of T.A., R.M.P.s and a party of Yorkshire schoolboys, not forgetting the odd few members of the Ordnance Corps who joined us for a brief spell. It was nice to see some of our old friends from the Dukes (T.A.), congratulations to Cpl. Nichols who recently left the battalion on his promotion to sergeant. The schoolboys who were out here on a short holiday seemed to enjoy themselves, although the awe-inspiring sight of C.S.M. Todd held in check any mischief that they might have got up to.

Now that the exercise season is coming to an end, and the annual administration inspection is looming in the not too distant future, everyone is busy

getting those "iron monsters" the 432 back into a state of cleanliness, the hard part about this is not the actual cleaning, but where to dispose of all the dust that comes off them, probably the best solution would be to send it back to Soltau, but we are open to suggestions.

The last order R.S.M. Nichols gave the Corporals Mess before he left was to get some money spent as mess funds were mounting rather high; Cpl. Dowdall has put his snooker cue down for long enough to remedy this by organising a social evening of bowling, dancing and general merry-making which everyone is looking forward to.

Mess social life seems to have suffered over the past twelve months, due to the many training commitments which we find ourselves confronted with, and it's very hard to find a period when all mess members are in station, but we would like to remind all members that any suggestions for mess functions are most welcome.

Indoor games seem to be the predominant feature in the mess at the moment, the world cup series seems to have left its mark, as the football machines are now in constant use, and since we won

the Garrison Corporals' Mess Darts Cup (we weren't going to be outdone by the Sergeants' Mess) more mess members than ever before are joining in the dinner time darts session, consequently we should do well in the coming season, it would be interesting to match our team against the Sergeants' Mess team, let's hope a game can be arranged. Snooker is as popular as ever and Cpl. Cookson still holds the record of never having won a game.

We think we have found the answer to Mister Wilson's problem of finding the cash to meet the cost of keeping British troops in Germany. Why not approach the Amstel or Heinken brewery, we are sure they would make quite a large contribution towards keeping the Tommies over here.

Can we take this opportunity to say goodbye to R.S.M. and Mrs. Nichols and wish them all the best for the future, also welcome to R.S.M. (no problems) France, an old friend of most of us.

Finally we would like to congratulate the following lance-corporals on their promotion to corporal: Young, Ryan, Warrior, Glasby, Robinson, Cookson, Wilson, also we welcome to the mess L/Cpls. Smith, Walker, Poole, Booth and Pickles.

Training and that sort of thing

"Ask of me anything but time."—Napoleon.

Time is short, life is busy, too much to do, too little time. Even cricket down to 30 overs a side and played—because of pressure—wet or fine to a finish. More wives and children than bayonets. No subaltern or C.S.M. respectable without a bulging brief case. IO groaning and sighing for a thermofax, Orderly Room Sergeant crying out for a computer. 432 track-mileage graphs spiralling menacingly upwards in every office. Classification, field-firing, joint training, Com Sec's visit, Bisley, brigade exercises, amphibious training, divisional manoeuvres and—somewhere along the line—adventure training, a spot of leave and the odd annual inspection. Somehow the diary has become master instead of servant and the forecast of events a monster dictating all our moves, ruling all our lives, forcing us to think, to plan, to calculate, to curse, to improvise, to cannibalise and—if we are not men of steel—to lie awake at nights, distraught and sleepless.

Gone for ever are the gracious days. We live at a pace, at a rare old lick—at about 30 mph to be precise, for the FV 432, with its multi-fuel engine and its snarling radios, is now our *raison d'être*, our very life's blood. Leisurely "O" groups are things of the past—there just isn't time and anyhow why do they give us radios? "Ground has value only as a surface over which to move." You can say that again and it still sounds rubbish; but all the same they tell us it's true—and who are we to argue? No longer do we occupy, or even define, vital ground if only because we never stay put long enough—not even to dig a mobile hole, whatever that may be. Speed, velocity, acceleration, audacity—mechanized infantry boys, that's us!

Yet there was one school of thought (now in Malawi) that feared we were in grave danger of becoming a form of road patrol—something resembling a super type of AA or RAC scout. Good on the road, better at driving and wizard at map reading; and yet mechanized, automated and mobile to such an extent that if ever the crunch came we should be found wanting, utterly incapable of even using our weapons let alone of firing them to effect.

Such fears are not exaggerated and without a careful watch could so easily become stark reality. To behave like an AA scout or, much worse, to be a third class kind of cavalry mounted in, admirable vehicle though it is, a very inferior form of tank is always a frightening possibility. We must avoid *always* motoring onto and through the objective when common sense dictates we take to our feet to do the job properly like the good solid Yorkshiremen we are. "Sweat saves blood" was the old cry and it still does and will. We differ here from the continental APC philosophy of our NATO allies who view the APC as a fighting vehicle proper. Theirs is the easy way, the "clever" way, the exercise method of soldiering. And most of the times it could not be more wrong.

All this by way of an introduction to our doings in the training field since our visit to Denmark. We have been busy (see above). We have mastered our new weapons—the Vigilant ATGW, the Wombat and the 81mm Mortar, replacement for the faithful 3in. In support weapons we have gone back almost full circle by concentrating the weapons as platoons. The next logical step is to reform "S" Company (Somme?). Concentration has paid handsome dividends and the 1 (BR) Corps gathering of support weapons proved how very

SOLTAU II



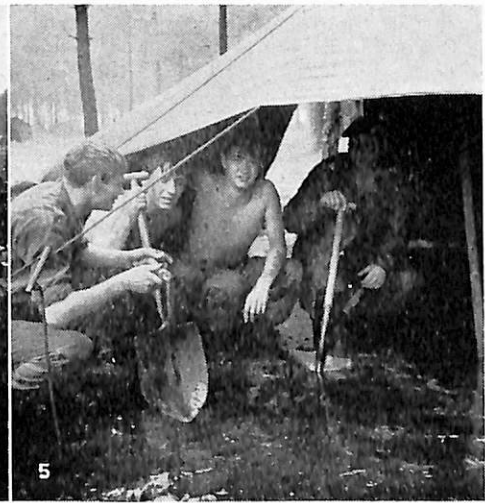
1. Cpl. Robinson (A Coy) and Pte. Barclay

2. Assault Pioneers—"preparing to blow"—Sgt. Butterfield, Ptes. Rushworth and Clarke

3. "It's this way to the pub—No it's not, it's this way"—Pte. Pickern and Pte. O'Shea—Sig PI

4. Alma Coy "in leaguer" with tanks

5. Assault Pioneers—"flotation?"



professional our platoons now are.

One of our many problems has been to get our operating procedures right, the set-up at battalion, company and platoon HQ being not uncomplicated. (Nor is it easy for the section commander who has, almost simultaneously, to listen and talk on a radio while telling his APC driver where to go and how to go there.) At all levels there are at least two radio sets to be maintained and here we strive continually for slickness, accuracy and speed. We are getting better and we have put some original thought into such matters. Trial and error, and we have had many trials and many mistakes but never have we wasted time.

Early June was spent at Soltau mainly in platoon training and revising our foot patrol techniques. Early July saw us at Haltern on platoon and

company training plus training of drivers in flotation. The 432 floats, and floats well, and we now wait for a river with no more than a 5 knot current. As long as the Recce Platoon can find us the right entry and exit points we shall be across. Late July saw us at Soltau again, for inf/armour cooperation with our good friends of "C" Sqn 9/12 Lancers. This phase of training went really well and culminated in a short but arduous brigade exercise. We covered all phases of war, we got no sleep and it was a splendid test for the battalion. We really got a move on; the atmosphere was good and most realistic, and we made a good impression with both the GOC and our Brigade Commander.

And now for that spot of leave before we start preparing for the divisional manoeuvres and that odd admin inspection . . . but this is where we came in!

SPORT

CRICKET

Up to press cricket has been going extremely well. We are now in the BAOR semi-final of the 30-over knockout competition for the first time in our stay here in BAOR. Considering the difficulties of fitting in matches during the training season, and the lack of practice, the results have been very encouraging indeed.

Generally the side has achieved enough runs, and the bowling has been strong enough to dispose of the opposition. Frankly however the batting has been a shade disappointing, as a strong batting side on paper has never really realised its potential. The outstanding innings has undoubtedly been Captain Cumberlege's 52 not out in the 2 Div final against 1 Queen's Surreys. Captain Summers, Major Hardy, Captain Reid, and Lts. Pettigrew, Cartwright and Newell have all had a useful innings or two.

The bowling has been a much better facet of our game. Captains Cumberlege, and Summers have provided a very hostile opening partnership and have been backed up by Captain Reid, Lt. Strong, and L/Cpl. Youdan. Any one of these bowlers has provided the necessary breakthrough, and ensured a happy result for 1 DWR. A word too about fielding which has been keen and aggressive, and all catches have been held.

The first game against 15/19 Hussars was relatively a close run thing. However 8 Regt RCT were disposed of by 64 runs, and surprisingly the strong HQ 2 Div and Sig Regt were beaten by 56 runs. This side had proved our stumbling block for the past two years, and therefore a victory was particularly satisfactory.

The 2 Div final against 1 Queen's Surreys saw a shaky innings by the Battalion capitalised on by Captain Cumberlege, supported by Captain Reid, enabling us to achieve 132 for 6 declared. Thanks to Captains Cumberlege and Summers, the opposition failed to keep up with the clock, and Captain Reid and L/Cpl. Youdan swept through the side to give us an easy victory.

The date for the Semi-Final is on September 1 and a report will be in the next issue of the "Iron Duke."

RESULTS

1 DWR v 15/19 Hussars—won by 8 runs.

1 DWR—110 Major Hardy 38, Lt. Pettigrew 18

15/19 Hussars—102-6 Captain Cumberlege 2 for 13, L/Cpl Youdan 2 for 23.

1 DWR v 8 Regt RCT—won by 64 runs.

1 DWR—117 for 9 Lt. Cartwright 25, Captain Reid 18, Lt. Newell 17, Captain Cumberlege 16

8 Regt RCT—53 Captain Cumberlege 6 for 7, Lt. Strong 3 for 12.

1 DWR v 2 Div HQ & Sig Regt—won by 56 runs.

1 DWR—115 for 4 Captain Reid 34, Captain Summers 28, Lt. Pettigrew 25 n.o., Pte. Tolson 15 n.o.

2 Div HQ & Sig Regt—59 Lt. Strong 4 for 14, Captain Summers 3 for 14, Captain Reid 2 for 10, L/Cpl. Youdan 1 for 3.

1 DWR v 1 Queens Surreys—won by 79 runs.

1 DWR—132-6 Captain Cumberlege 52 n.o., Captain Reid 34, Lt. Pettigrew 18.

1 Queens Surreys—53 Captain Reid 6 for 10, L/Cpl. Youdan 2 for 14.

We learn from the Yorkshire Brigade Depot that 1 DWR won the final at Bunde on September 4 with a 13 run victory over the 13/18th Royal Hussars. 1 DWR scored 170 for six wickets and then dismissed the Hussars for 157. Captain Ian Reid scored 42 runs and took 3 wickets for 36.—*Ed.*

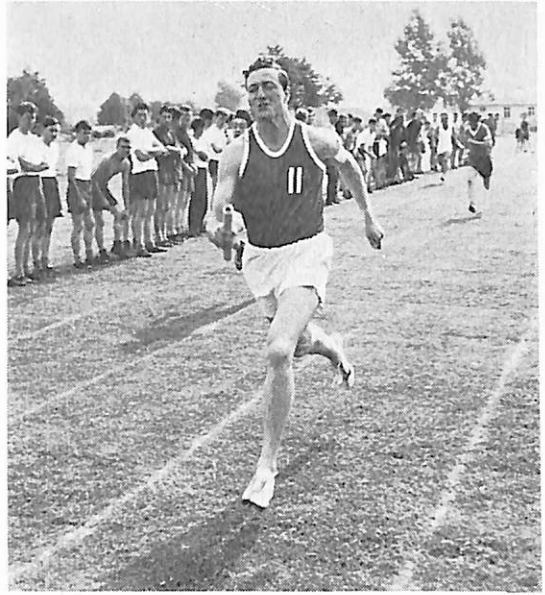
ATHLETICS & REGIMENTAL AT HOME

The season has been very short for 1 DWR and can be divided in two sections. First the BAOR Championships and secondly—The Regimental at home day—June 18.

The BAOR Championships were undistinguished for 1 DWR, understandably so because of the lack of training which was unavoidable. The two day meeting provided one distinction, that of L/Cpl. Ponijasi who came second in the javelin which was a very good performance. Lt. Westcob, Cpl Walker and L/Cpl. Booth are to be congratulated on reaching the semi-final in the 100 and 440 yds. and really that is all. One thing was very obvious and that was the high standard of athletics in BAOR this year. If we wish to do well, it will require much more training by individuals.

Waterloo Day saw the "Regimental at home day," and consisted of an inter company athletics meeting in the morning, and an "at home" in the afternoon. The morning saw some excellent events and a tight finish, which eventually saw Alma Coy the victors thanks to the last race. The Commanding Officer kindly presented the individual prizes.

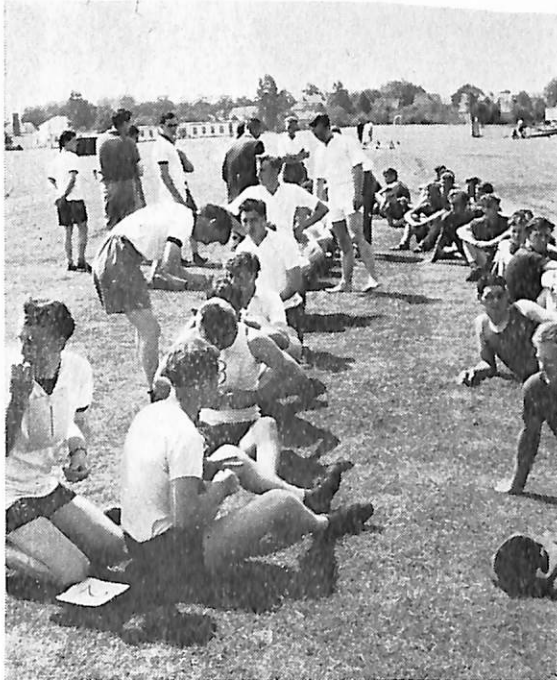
The afternoon saw a lot of stalls run by companies set up, and a variety of amusements, not the least being the Adjutant sitting on a board waiting to be ducked in a pool of water by a well aimed shot with a football. The chain of command race provided great sport and it was noticeable that the C.S.M.s' and colour sergeants' representatives spared no effort to down their beers and cantered to the next group with not a care in the world. However each Company Commander took note of relative slowness



Lt. Edwards—finishing for Corunna Coy

of their company runners and these unfortunates have been given a training schedule.

The show was well patronised by the battalion wives and children who all seemed to enjoy the occasion very much. The Band and Drums Beat Retreat which was an excellent end to a rewarding day.



Preparing for one of the medley relays—HQ Coy



The (late) Adjutant—"taking the waters"

Shooting

Battalion Rifle Meeting

This year we were determined to hold the meeting in spite of numerous exercises and the fact that Brigade, Divisional or even BAOR rifle meeting seem to have died out as being too old fashioned to merit staging. The meeting was held on Vorden Ranges during the first week in August, the week after the Battalion returned from their second period at Soltau Training Area.

Time for practising company teams and rehearsals was very limited but nevertheless the competitions produced the usual amount of interest and rivalry. One innovation was the march and shoot competition which took the place of the falling plate competition. This competition involved a march of 3 miles followed by a shoot at figure targets by teams of eight picked at random from the company nominal roll. Two teams were drawn from each company with complete impartiality using a set of Bingo numbers. There was some excellent marching and very small time gaps separated the 8 teams but the shooting was variable. Alma Company deserved their win as most of their team spent some time and money on the Pool Bull before the competition began.

Pte. Larnder continued where he had left off at Bisley to win both the Cox and the Ozanne Medals and thus round off a successful year. The final of the rifle match produced keen interest as there was little to choose between any of the final 16 firers until the last practice had been fired.

The final results were as follows:—

Rifle Team Match:	1st Hook Coy 1291 points
	2nd Alma Coy 1111 points
Rifle Individual:	1st Pte. Larnder (Alma) 210 points
	2nd Sgt. Holliday (Corunna) 209 points
GPMG Team (Maples Cup):	1st Hook Coy 114 points
	2nd Burma Coy 108 points
GPMG Pairs:	1st W.O.2 Fenn
	Sgt. Clarke (Hook) 89 points
	2nd Pte. Miller
	Cpl. Lamont (Burma) 80 points
SMG Team:	1st Hook Coy 474 points
	2nd Alma Coy 403 points
SMG Individual:	1st S/Sgt. Mullins (Hook) 239 points
	2nd Major Cowell (Burma) 237 points
March & Shoot Competition:	1st Alma Coy 97 points
	2nd Hook Coy 77½ points
Inter-Coy Championship:	1st Hook Coy 1879 points
	2nd Alma Coy 1578 pts.
	3rd Burma Coy 1500 pts.
	4th Corunna Coy 1401 pts.



MARCH AND SHOOT FINAL

“Those targets are a long way away”

Champion Shot	Pte. Larnder	Cox Medal
Best Officer	Major Cowell	Rifles Cup
Best W.O./Sgt.	Sgt. Holliday	Liddell Cup
Best Cpl./LCpl.	L/Cpl. Booth	Corporals Cup
Best Private	Pte. Monaghan	Private Soldiers Cup
Best Young		
	Soldier Pte. Larnder	Ozanne Medal
Best GPMG Pair	W.O.2 Fenn	
	Sgt. Clarke	

BISLEY—1966

This year the three Services held their Rifle Meetings concurrently, pooling their resources and thereby economising in manpower for administrative and range duties. This was an innovation which looks as if it will be very short lived as it was announced that next year a unit will not be forthcoming to run Bsey for the Services nor for the National Rifle Association Meeting. So perhaps we have seen the last Bisley as it has been known for many years. What we can expect in its place has yet to be established beyond competitions on electric targets at Ash and Pirbright Ranges and competitors accommodated in the Aldershot area.

Selection for this year's Battalion team began in March and training continued under C.S.M. Fenn intermittently during April but continuously in May while the rest of the Battalion were in Denmark. The middle of June saw the team (somewhat automatically selected owing to exigencies of the service) set off for UK by air or land and sea according to taste or financial climate. The latter weeks at Vorden ranges had been extremely hot and sticky but scores were encouraging. However, Bisley in its own peculiar way produced winds, squalls and thunder showers and all intensities of light and shade. The conditions certainly were such as to "sort out the men from the boys" as someone was heard to remark. However, there seemed to be a great many "boys" judging from the scores that were produced. In fact the standard to qualify for the second stage of the Army Championship was 21 points lower than last year, a standard which usually wavers only a few points up or down annually. The standard at the top of the scale and throughout was considerably lower than hitherto.

Nevertheless conditions were fair for all and the best came out on top. Our younger members performed with more skill than the rest. In the Roupell Cup Ptes. Larnder and Maynard gained 5th and 7th places in Class B while Pte. Barnett was 45th. In the Henry Whitehead Cup Larnder and Maynard again featured in 3rd and 22nd places respectively while in Class A Major Cowell managed 42nd place.

Thus when Stage I of the Army Championship was completed six of the team survived to shoot in Stage II, The Roberts Cup. These were, in order of merit, Ptes. Larnder and Maynard, Sgt. Bailes, Major Cowell, C.S.M. Fenn and Pte. Barnett. Pte. Larnder distinguished himself in the Roberts Cup not only by narrowly missing being disqualified for arriving late on the firing point but by scoring 130 and coming third in the match. Pte. Maynard, who had shot very steadily indeed throughout,

scored 110 and ensured himself a place in the Army 100.

At the conclusion of Stage II Larnder now lay 4th in the Army Championship and was the leading Young Soldier. Maynard was now in 40th place and Major Cowell in 96th place. Of the other three who shot in Stage II C.S.M. Fenn just failed to qualify for the Hundred.

The Army Hundred Cup, shot for on the final day, produced a much higher standard of shooting than had the previous matches. Our three firers shot steadily and finished in the Championship as follows: Larnder 8th, Maynard 47th and Cowell 63rd.

Larnder's performance had been excellent throughout; he is to be congratulated on reaching so high a position at his second Bisley, and while still a young soldier, but commiserated with for being overhauled in the last stage to lose the Rifle Brigade Cup to Rfn. Burke who beat him by only 5 points in nearly 600.

The performance of the team as a whole was not as good either as we had hoped or as had been the case in past years. The position of a team in the Unit Championship is governed to a large extent by the scores obtained by its members in the Army Championship Stage I. The match points gained by the team in Stage I put us in 8th position in the Unit Championship, this position we held throughout while all other matches count towards the Championship were being decided. In the other team matches we were placed 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th.

A.S.M. Rutherford shot in the Revolver X and finished 12th.



Pte. Larnder receiving the Cox and Ozanne Medals

1st BATTALION COMPANY NOTES

ALMA COMPANY

Our last notes found us saying farewell to Denmark. Since then, Soltau I, Haltern and Soltau II have followed in quick succession and we have just about had time to come up for a breather and a spot of leave before literally going "under" again for flotation training in September. They say there are two kinds of fools in this world, those that have done it and those that do it twice! Anyway it has proved a real spur to the non-swimmers and we hope that by October, when we have to cross the River Weser in a five-knot current, everyone will be reasonably confident of reaching the other bank—with or without their APC.

Soltau I can be remembered best for the fantastically hot weather we enjoyed which resulted in an equally fantastic amount of ale and coco-cola being consumed in the "Safari Bar" in the evenings. We ran a sports day on a field down by the river, with the track marked with coco-cola tins (empty). The races were relays in preparation for the Battalion athletics meeting. L/Cpl. Gill surmised that the track was a mile long by the time he had completed one leg of his 110 metres. By the time he had completed his second leg, due to a misunderstanding, his remarks were unprintable.

Haltern proved to be an ideal little training area (though still sufficiently large to be lost in!). It was there that we first watched our APC's swim. Lt. Long's cry of "Don't worry" as we waddled into the water for the first time with Davies at the helm took us all by surprise. We had all been quite looking forward to it before that!

On Soltau II we had a good company group with the able assistance of the Corps of Drums and some TA soldiers. In fact we had too many soldiers for the APC's. We did some excellent training with "C" Squadron 9/12 Lancers culminating in a Coy/Sqdn Group Exercise. We met them again on the Brigade Exercise, when the battle, with the "Jocks" as enemy, flowed fast and furious. Owing to an underhand ambush in the dying minutes of the battle, they captured I.B. and the complete vigilant platoon. However, they proved more interested in looting the coco-cola tins than in discovering what a valuable prize they had.

Somehow, somewhere, someone has found time to get married. In fact, quite a few and our congratulations go to Ptes. Coates 53, Barclay, Williams, Uttley, Hays 44 and Knowles on their recent marriages. We hope that we shall be able to meet their wives out here soon. Our congratulations also go to Cpl. Robinson on his promotion and L/Cpl. Smith 27 as well. We have said goodbye to Cpl. Donkin and thank him for the considerable amount of work he put into the "engine room" of Alma Coy during his long stay with us. We welcome Pte. Akeroyd in his place. CS 18 is happy to report an increase to his establishment. He now proudly sports two budgies named Ernie and Bernie! We

are also expecting five additions to the heavy gang, if all those now on the driving cadre pass out successfully.

Perhaps it would be wise to end with a few words on the Company's achievements during the last few months. We are undoubtedly browner and fitter than we were three months ago. We won the Battalion athletics meeting after some very good running by the company as a whole; Ptes. Kennedy, Squires, Kirk and L/Cpl. Burridge were noted in the medium distance races whilst Sholanke, Myers, L/Cpl. Smith and Uttley, to mention but a few performed feats of fast running over the shorter distances. Just recently at the Battalion rifle meeting the Company came second overall and as well as producing the Champion Shot and Champion Young Soldier in the person of Pte. W. W. Larnder, achieved a very convincing win in the March and Shoot Competition. All in all, we can look back over our training and sporting achievements with considerable pride and pleasure, and every man in the Company has played a part towards achieving this.

As Captain Cumberlege hands over the Company to Major Harms we would like to thank him for the very considerable effort he has applied to the Company to keep us going "*immer gerade aus.*" We wish him and Mrs. Cumberlege a very successful tour at the Staff College and would like to extend a hearty welcome to Major and Mrs. R. Harms whom we hope will be with us for some time.

BURMA COMPANY

To avoid repetition it should be sufficient to say that we have been everywhere that everyone else has been. In addition 5 Platoon acted as enemy on an exercise with the RCT in the Moselle area but the exercise was curtailed by unduly bad weather. However, the platoon were so taken with the area that they have decided to revisit it as an adventure training exercise. Grapes were mentioned and may have had something to do with the exercise.

Our many exercises have been made unforgettable by a surfeit, owing to an administrative blunder, of brown ale in the canteen which now, thank goodness, has been consumed so that future exercises will see the canteen doing a normal trade again.

There have been several changes of faces in the Company. C.S.M. Sargeant has left for the more sedate tempo of H.Q. Coy, Yorkshire Brigade Depot and we welcome in his place C.S.M. Wilson. "20 Bravo acknowledge, over!"

The support platoons have been reorganised in the Battalion and we now have all six anti-tank detachments under Lt. Power in the Company. There is but one disadvantage to this move—all their vehicles are open and we wonder what to do about this in the winter.

We have lost Sgt. Lofthouse to Alma Coy on his

promotion to that rank and have received Sgts. Smith, Cooper and Middleton.

The family population is increasing rapidly, the following people's wives have borne them children, Pte. Burke 05, not to be outdone by Pte. Burke 76 (see last notes), Pte. Butterworth and Pte. Tyson.

Pte. Evans is congratulated on his marriage, his wife is expected to join him out here shortly.

During Soltau II, W.O.2 Dillon and 20 men from the West Riding Bn joined us for training. It was good to see the old cap badge again. They were with us for perhaps the most interesting period of training of the year when we were working with our affiliated squadron, "C" Squadron 9th/12th Royal Lancers.

CORUNNA COMPANY

Still feeling decidedly "hung over" from our socially exhausting visit to Denmark, we clambered into our 432s at the beginning of June for a fortnight in Soltau. We were blessed with about the only good weather of the summer for what was a hectic but enjoyable spell. The main aim was a complete familiarisation of 432 in all respects and, from later results, it was obviously successful. One of the highlights of the camp was the inter-platoon volley ball competition, in which the Company officers surprised everyone, not least themselves, with their fitness and prowess. Unfortunately the Mortar Platoon, who spent so much of their time on the court, were just a little too powerful in the final.

On our return we had a reasonable spell at home before departing for five days in Haltern. This was a very hectic few days during which most of our 432 drivers and commanders got their "sea-legs" for the first time when they swam their vehicles. We are also furiously practising throwing lifebelts and shouting "man overboard" for four days flotation

near Hamlin at the end of this month. We hear there is no truth in the rumour that the MTO is to buy a pipe and dress up as the Pied Piper to lead us in to the water. Let us just hope that the vehicles do not drown as quickly as the legendary rats!

The last fortnight of July again saw us in our old stamping ground of Soltau, in a fairly busy period culminating with the brigade exercise. During this exercise a helicopter airlift went seriously adrift, when the first two sections were dropped into the lap of the enemy, and half the remainder of the Company were dotted round the countryside out of contact with each other. The final blow came when the helicopters were withdrawn halfway through the lift and so about a third of the company were left in the original take-off position. However, all ended well and all the straying members were eventually rounded up.

August was supposed to be a quiet month, and probably has been for those on leave, but the remainder have found more than enough to keep them occupied. After our flotation, and the brief respite of the Bank Holiday, the company moves off to Southern Germany for the middle fortnight of September for a big exercise.

The training programme for next year has appeared in all its glory and, although there is bound to be some change, it looks as if we have an extremely busy year ahead of us. However, the company is in good heart and has performed extremely well throughout this training season, and we have hopes of making a big name for ourselves next year.

The stork has been doing an active run over Osnabruck since the last edition, and we congratulate Cpl. and Mrs. Kelly, L/Cpl. and Mrs. Fern, Pte. and Mrs. Hall and Pte. and Mrs. Nee on the new additions to their families. Two of our members have taken the plunge into married life,

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Booth (C Coy)





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Ptes. Walker 44 and Fielding, and we wish them both a long and happy married life. L/Cpl. Wilson has recently been promoted to Corporal and Ptes. Booth and Poole are also now sporting bright shiny L/Cpl. stripes and have moved into the corporals mess. Our best wishes to all three of them.

Our turnover of company 2I/Cs continues and we say goodbye to Captain Summers who departs to take over as adjutant at the Brigade Depot. We welcome in his stead Captain Reid who, when he is here, will be a tower of strength to all the company sports teams. We also say "*au revoir*" to C/Sgt. Pratt, who departs for the TA, and we bid a hearty welcome to C/Sgt. Mountcastle who replaces him.

There has been a lot written lately of the life led by those in BAOR. Stories of German civilian servants and of the cheap living. It is true, of course, that we get our cigarettes and drink cheap, but there is another side to this story that is not told. These concessions are frankly small when one considers the life one leads. There is no doubt that the life one leads in BAOR is an extremely full one, and as far as family life is concerned, very unsettling. In the training season as much as 60 or 70 per cent of one's time is spent away and these separations are a great strain on the families. This is a side of the story that is not told. We are not trying to say that we lead a frantically hard life, but we would like to assure our readers that it is not the bed of roses that various people are trying to say that it is.

HOOK COMPANY

Mention "Yo-Yo" and signallers will groan. Merely whisper "notional" and the R.P. Sergeant will hide. Call out "Trace" and the Intelligence Section blanch. Say "Zero Bravo" and everyone will wince. So thick and fast was the signal traffic emanated by the 2IC during Bn HQ training during Soltau I that Soltau II, the Brigade Exercise, was a holiday by comparison.

The Yo-Yo system is Pavlov's method of brain washing applied to radio messages. These are sent quickly one after another about a diversity of subjects from moves of enemy armoured formations to requests for patrol reports in code. Just when the recipient is groggy, the sender introduces a simple message like "send washer for No. 1 Burner to Grid Reference Alpha Papa, Mike Zulu." How easy, no maps to mark up, or action to take, merely answer "Roger, out." A blessed lull, all is quiet . . . then comes the crunch. "Sunray Minor speaking, where is the washer, this delay is unacceptable, send it immediately, and also two jerricans of petrol and ten mens compo." The original message was not notional at all, but real! Instant activity is required, the CQMS to call, perhaps the Armourer from echelon, transport to be obtained, routes studied, commander and driver to be briefed—meanwhile the pressure of radio traffic is suddenly re-exerted. Two radio sets to answer, the lot to write, maps to mark—the officer on duty is reeling again. From all this one soon gathers the main thing is to distinguish between "notional" and "real" exercise messages. To go ten kilometres across country in the dark and find nothing at the R.V. proves the message was notional; to go without breakfast because there are no rations proves the message was real. Just for

interest's sake, there is a third type of message for actual events outside the exercise, such as "Sunray C/S 99 is to return his library books by tomorrow," and these have a standard pre-fix of "No Duff" to distinguish them, so there should be no muddle at all!

Traces are in fashion. Everything is put on a trace, real positions, notional positions, future positions, and future notional positions. The word "trace" is for ever ingrained into the members of the "I" Section. One wonders if Mr. Nichols, who as R.S.M. did assistant Intelligence Officer, has carried this phobia to the Q.M.s in Zambia.

In final, if still needed, explanation: "Zero Bravo" is the exercise home of Major Hardy.

Between Soltaus most of the company ventured forth to Haltern for more Battalion HQ tactical plus administrative exercises, and flotation training. Swimming our new APCs soon brought to light the detailed problems. Sgt. Jackson aboard an APC in the water looked resplendent in orange life jacket, but the M.T.O. was distinctly worried when she started blowing water like a whale—a faulty joint had allowed water to get into the exhaust. The lessons learned will stand us in good stead for full APC swimming training in August and September.



"MT Hierarchy," by whose kind permission we sink or swim on flotation trials—S/Sgt. Sykes, Lt. Long and Sgt. Jackson

In barracks, the main event has been Hook Company's successes at the Battalion Small Arms Meeting. The SLR, GPMG & SMG Competitions were all won, W.O.2 Fenn and Sgt. Clarke in the GPMG Pairs, and S/Sgt. Mullins in the SMG, being individual winners. Sgt. Butterfield and his team (all random picked from throughout the company) also did very well in being the best section in the march and shoot competition.

While W.O.2 Fenn was as Bisley, or leading the company team, W.O.2 Chilvers was acting C.S.M. bringing the number of warrant officers who have occupied this hot seat in the last two years up to ten.

The O.C. hardly had room in his house at an annual re-union!

Other changes include Major Naughton taking over from Captain Bellamy as PRI/Married Families/Company 2IC, and W.O.2 Nicholson changing from TQMS to RQMS.

In sport, Pte. Clarke 66 has played for the Battalion cricket team. The Assault Pioneers at football and the Recce Platoon at soft ball have upheld the company's name in competitions played up at Soltau. A lot of the company are on, or have been, or are going on, adventure training. One scheme is named "Moselle Wanderer." One wonders which has had most priority, the Moselle or the Wanderer, or does the latter come naturally after drinking too much of the former?

Meanwhile, hard working but unobtrusively, the MT, QMs, and messing departments have been doing their jobs. Education classes are being run by Sgt. Stanworth, and learner swimming classes by L/Cpl. Flaherty. If there is such a thing as routine in this hectic BAOR existence we have it now for a few weeks. Soon Ex Lundy Lane, stand-by duties, border patrols and the like will intrude. The heavy stuff, autumn formation exercises and the annual administrative inspection come later.

To sum up, a little poem, composed of Soltau training names, to be recited in a bass voice to a negro rhythm while travelling at thirty miles an hour preferably in a 432:—

From Heber harbour, to Harber harbour,
And Oningen
It was Moide.

SIGNAL PLATOON

With the chinking of glasses, shouts of *skol*, the smell of *Schnapps* and the sight of blondes now merely a hazy blur of the past (except to those who made more than just friends with some of the latter) we have been getting down to some serious work.

On our first visit to Soltau (hereafter referred to as Soltau I) we gave a demonstration of battalion headquarters in the field to the companies. The conducted tour of a typical layout and setting, and the brief explanations of the jobs of the personnel in key positions and what each vehicle does, produced some interesting comments. One corporal was overheard to say:—"So they really do work in Battalion HQ," whilst another was convinced the demonstration was a "recruiting campaign." After the demonstration we moved straight on to our first CP exercise. This was a forecast of things to come. The imagination of the Second-in-Command moved the exercise along at an alarming rate. We thought that on the Danish exercise we had moved quickly but this first CP ex (called Ex Slow Time) proved how wrong we were.

The culmination of Soltau II was a two-day brigade exercise. Communications have never worked better. We are still trying to find out the true story about the Quartermaster's and the Signal Officer's griddle which was the same but different. The REME detachment that went off to the nature reserve to recover the CO's landrover must be interested as well.

Cpl. Wood and his "hairy" band of select

linesmen have been called upon to lay some long lines from our tented camps including a 10 kilometre lay to Brigade on Soltau II (who said responsibility was from higher to lower?). We are still trying to persuade Pte. Firth to continue exchange operating after lightning struck the Signal Centre and our new Adjutant is still not convinced that telephones are harmless (Captain Lupton was using a telephone at the time it happened).

Congratulations to Pte. Walker on his promotion to lance corporal (if you had stayed in A you would have made it too "top heavy," L/Cpl. Walker). Cupid has struck again in the Platoon. Cpl. Wood and L/Cpl. Minto get hitched very shortly—congratulations to you—and the deadly arrow has hit Pte. Sykes. Cpl. Brown and his new wife will be arriving back with us shortly. We hope you settle in quickly and have a continued happy stay.

S/Sgt. (Foreman of Signals) Hunt has joined the Platoon and 522 Signal Troop from England. It looks as though he will have the longest handover/takeover on record from Sgt. Coley who leaves shortly to attend his Foreman's Course. We hope you are successful and will remember us.

RECCE PLATOON

Life during the summer in Germany is always more attractive to the single soldier. He is constantly on the move from one exercise to another. This gives him an excellent opportunity to visit other places and, equally important, to get away from camp. It is important, though, to consider the married families. A tremendous burden is placed on the wives during the exercises. It is possible that a week here and a fortnight away there is worse than a long period of absence. (There will obviously be remarks passed such as "He is under the thumb already!")

In June we went to Soltau. All the NCO's went on the officers' patrol course and did very well. A considerable time was spent in digging holes, and we were trying to find out the best one for the stay-behind role. Unfortunately the area we chose was not the best. The digging was excellent but the 2IC didn't take kindly to having a 432 dug in outside his tent.

This year considerable emphasis has been put on command post training. The platoon has been used as players exercising the CP's. The NCO's have been acting as platoon commander and even company commander. This proved to be great fun but at times slightly frustrating. Field officers do not always act promptly on full corporals' orders!

Cpl. Woodcock got married during his leave. We all wish him and his wife all happiness in the future.

Cpl. Henlie and Heron went sailing straight after their leave, for three weeks on the Baltic. Who says that a soldier's life is not exciting. Cpl. Henlie, who went last year, came back with stories of 30 foot waves. What will happen this year? Anyone's guess.

We are now all getting fit once again and preparing for the Divisional exercise in October. After this we shall be saying goodbye to one or two people. The majority of the platoon have been together for three years, and it is now time for them to move on.

Cpl. Kendrew has been with the platoon since it started in Catterick. He has been very much a live wire; his enthusiasm and vigour know no bounds. He has also done extremely well for the Battalion. Everyone knows of his hard work with the ski-ing team. He was also one of only four who gained an "A" at the Outward Bound School in Norway. He has gone back to England to help with recruiting. We are sorry to lose him.

Cpl. Hollis also joined us at the beginning in Catterick. He is a professional soldier and has been a tremendous asset to the platoon. His knowledge of the platoon and of the recce work was of great assistance to the new platoon commander. He is going on a small arms course at Hythe and then to the Depot. He will do well there and we all wish him luck for the future.

Cpl. Lawrence, who has not been with us quite so long, will also be leaving. He has been in charge of the signals. The communications due to his hard work have improved tremendously, and we wish him the best of luck in the future.

Cope will be leaving us after October. He is going to assist Cpl. Kendrew recruiting, but he is thinking of leaving the Army next year. This is a great pity because the Battalion will lose an excellent soldier. Whatever decision he makes we all hope that it is to his advantage.

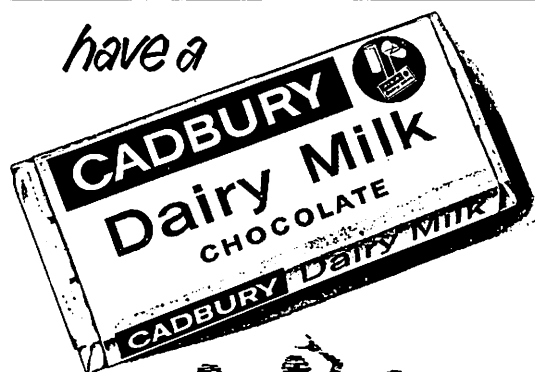
OUR BAND

Like all great English institutions, our band is a glorious admixture of opposites. It is, on paper, an Army Department band but, in practice, The Duke of Wellington's Regimental Band. It is an integral part of the Battalion here in Osnabruck but it is not on the strength of 1 DWR. The bandsmen wear khaki, but are musicians. They are subject to military law, but governed by union rules. HQ BAOR take the band for official engagements, but on the programme, the band plays by kind permission of the Commanding Officer. Public funds provide for parade military band instruments, but only Regimental funds enable the band to appear in public.

A review of the band instruments in 1964 showed that many were over ten years old and needed replacing. The band was greatly helped with a grant of £190 from Regiment funds, which enabled a tenor trombone, piccolo, french horn and a pair of parade cymbals to be bought before the Waterloo Celebrations in June, 1965. The part played by our band at those memorable events needs no re-telling.

Those instruments, however, were only the top of the list ones. Having performed in October for both the old and new Colonels of the Regiment, it was considered a good opportunity for the band to ask for more financial help. The Commanding Officer must have stated the case well, for the Regimental Council approved a further £690 for the band fund to purchase new instruments in 1966. The Band President and Bandmaster then tackled Boosey &

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and keep in touch with
Old friends and Old times*



*it's part of the
GOOD LIFE*

Hawkes in London. This resulted in a steady flow of parcels containing the very precious new instruments and a pair of tympani. Getting a brand new cornet finally decided Cpl. Cook to extend his service. Generally, having the essential new instruments did a lot for the band's morale and playing when it came to the inspection by the Inspector of Army Bands in April. Everyone was pleased when Mr. Wood and the band were accorded a "Very Good" for their fine effort.

Who else thinks our band is super? Well, Lady Goodwin asked for our beat group to play at her farewell party for teenagers before her husband relinquished command of 1 (BR) Corps; the British Embassies in Paris and Copenhagen have both been delighted with our dance band; the Royal Corps of Transport made a special point of asking for the full band to play at their first anniversary parade and social functions in July; and finally, HQ 2 Division engaged the dance band and beat group for their "Kohima" celebrations, both for the all ranks' dance and the officers' ball. If you ask anybody at the British Advanced Base at Grobbendonk in Belgium, they will know no other band than ours—three years running 1 DWR Band and Drums have played at the Queen's Birthday Parade there.

To recount even the main engagements would take too much space, suffice it to realise how often the band represents the Regiment, and presents the regiment in a glamorous, competent and delightful way to so many Europeans. The band on their part are confident in, and most grateful for, the marvellous support of the Regiment.

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THE WEST RIDING BATTALION T.A.

Sub-Editorial

It can now be said that the West Riding Battalion is on the last leg before reorganisation takes place. Although the magical date is April 1, 1967, it is hoped that by January the new AVR III Battalion and the AVR II Company will have paraded in their new identities at Huddersfield and Halifax. In the meantime the signing of declarations of intent goes on. "B" Company is moving from Mirfield to Huddersfield and post-camp training is again in full swing.

Weekend training is now being carried out on a battalion basis instead of companies having their own weekends. We have already had a highly successful Battalion weekend at Huddersfield in August, although our attendance figures still leave something to be desired.

The Battalion Rifle Meeting is to be held at Strensall on September 3/4 and, pay on the day being an added attraction, we hope to have an excellent turnout.

The future holds many training attractions which include the Divisional Rifle Meeting, Battle of Stamford Bridge commemorative march, the Northern Command Night March, another escape and evasion exercise, and eventually we might even allow the powers that be to cut us about.

Officers' Mess

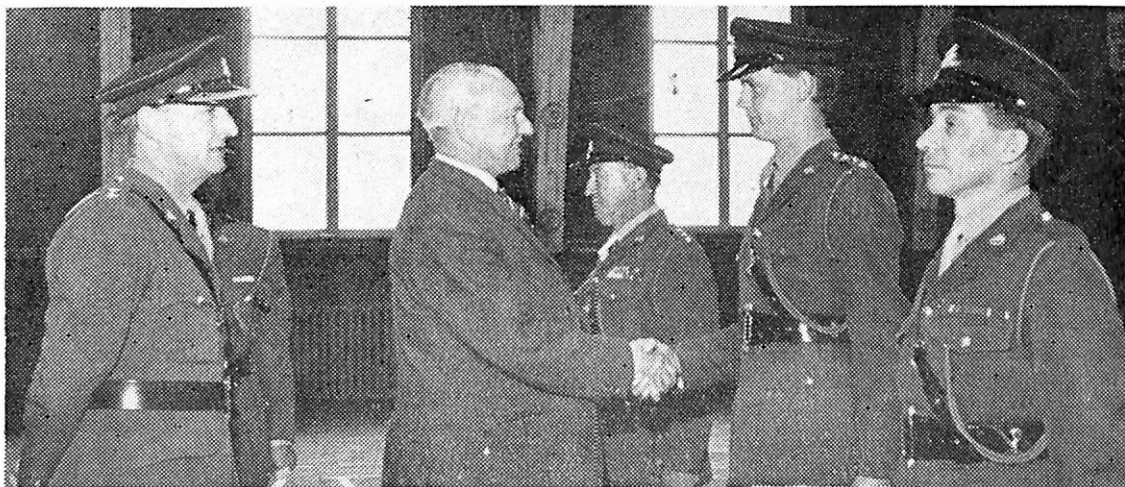
It is perhaps a pity that the last of the two-week camps for the Territorials as we know them should

have been held so far away from our home station. This factor, we are sure, prevented so many of our honorary members and friends from visiting us during that time. However we were all very pleased that the Honorary Colonel, Colonel John Sugden, was able to join us for a long weekend.

At this last camp of the units of 146 Brigade it was our pleasure to be hosts to the officers of Brigade HQ. Brigadier Armour and Colonel Hutton were actually billeted in an hotel but we saw them both often. The other officers settled in very quickly and introduced us to the secrets of "shove halfpenny" a game they all play regularly; in fact the board is a most important piece of their mess property.

The guest night on the first Friday of camp was a most enjoyable affair when we wined and dined a representative body of officers from other units in the Brigade plus a few private guests. Mess games continued well into the night and it was grand to see that the spirit among the younger members is as strong as ever. An obstacle course was erected which included a race under the carpet from one end of the mess to the other; this part did more damage to shirts than any detergent could remedy. Lt. Matthew Bateman and Officer Cadet Adrian Smith excelled themselves in this exercise.

Earlier in the week the more sedate game of roulette was introduced to the mess. Major Ken Buckland proved an excellent croupier but the wheel did not run in his favour and the bank suffered a "squeeze." We intend to recoup these losses one evening in the near future.



Block by courtesy of 'The Huddersfield Examiner'

General Sir Robert Bray, The Colonel of the Regiment, visited Battalion Headquarters on June 7 and met the permanent staff. He was later entertained by the officers in the mess

(r. to l.) R.S.M. E. P. Pennington, Captain C. R. Cumberlege, Captain R. Callaby, M.B.E., M.M., General Bray, Lt.-Colonel J. C. Moncrieff, T.D.

As is now traditional at lunch time on the middle Saturday, we entertained the members of the Sergeants Mess to drinks. The time went all too quickly and most of us were glad it was Saturday and after lunch were able to rest a little. The Sergeants Mess very kindly returned the compliment on the following Monday evening; their impromptu concert was first class.

On the first Saturday when we were all heading in the direction of Tavistock Camp two of our officer cadets were facing a Commissions Board in Newcastle. We are pleased to say that John Steele and Chris. Butterfield gained their commissions and we congratulate them both. Needless to say they both arrived at camp the next day pips and all.

Incidentally, old 7th Battalion members will be interested to know that we have in the Battalion as an officer cadet Philip Heaton, the son of Major Stanley Heaton. He hopes to go on next year to Sandhurst.

Currently the mess is fairly quiet due to officers taking their holidays but we have a full programme between the end of this month and the New Year.

Sergeants' Mess

Camp 1966 at Tavistock once again saw the Mess assembled under one roof, and from the dales of Skipton, across the industrial heart of the West Riding and over the moors to the mills of Mossley came three-score men and lads in uniform to train, complain, eat, drink, reminisce, shout and sing—the Sergeants Mess of the Dukes (TA).

If our numbers were a little under three-score the statement holds good because we were hosts to our Brigade Sig Sqn, 336 Sig Sqn from Leeds, and no better companions, either at work or play, could have been ours. Indeed, as days passed, the real friendly spirit and comradeship that prevailed throughout the Mess would have appeared to have been fostered by a happy and long association—not just days.

Dartmoor, helped by the unseasonable weather, gave us ample opportunity to show our mettle (and voice our opinions) but taken all round we can chalk up another successful and memorable camp—with ammo for conversation when we all meet again—perhaps on Bn exercises, the rifle meeting at Strensall or one of the inter-coy socials that have been held of late. The crowning glory to our training activities was the victory of our platoon, urged on by

Sgt. Nicol, in the Brigade Platoon Competition. We didn't just win it—we "walked it."

In the Mess it was hard to distinguish one night from another 'cause every night seemed to bring some excuse for celebration and raised glasses—oft times raised voices to 1966 camp favourite "Maria Lana" (the only difference between David Jacobs and Arthur Wood is that David Jacobs has more than one record). We had a dinner night in which our cooks, assisted by a maestro from 336 Sqn, proved that it doesn't need the Midland or the Savoy to serve a meal fit for kings.

Our annual highlight at camp—Officers Guest Night—when we stage our "show" saw all the "technical boys" Fitton, Simpson, Dodgson, Wood—and the MC of MCs, Sgt. Spud Taylor—working feverishly to turn our dining hall into the Palladium. The "stars" of the show we'll leave to bask in their glory; they certainly "bathed" in it that night. Lest we forget, "Our Edna" (Miss Fairclough) once again was our make-up and wardrobe mistress—thank you, Edna. Whilst handing out the plaudits, a big "thank you" to Sgt. Roberts and Cpl. Holland, mine host and barman, who did an excellent job, and one which must seem at times a thankless one. We welcome to our gathering, Sgt. Mounsey from "D" Coy.

With the TA in the melting pot once again there has been much speculation on our future role. Although the full details are not yet to hand we know that the "Duke of Wellington's (TA)" will still continue in one form or the other. The most heartening news of all is that the name "Duke of Wellington's" will not disappear. This in itself should be sufficient to quieten the "dismal johnnies."

In the near future we say good-bye to R.S.M. and Mrs. Pennington, who are "retiring" into civilian life. The very best of good luck and best wishes in the future Mr. and Mrs. Pennington (and the lads). As they are staying in the Huddersfield area for a while we hope they will still call in and see us and enjoy the social aspect of the Mess without the organising worries that somehow or other seem to befall the R.S.M.s of the West Riding Battalion.

Sgt. Eric Wakefield now has the nearly "self appointed" task of showing S/Sgt. Tom Pratt the ins and outs of TA life, "Minty" having returned to the 1st Bn. Halifax Drill Hall is still vibrating—but it is a pleasant oscillation.

Annual Camp 1966—Plasterdown, Devon

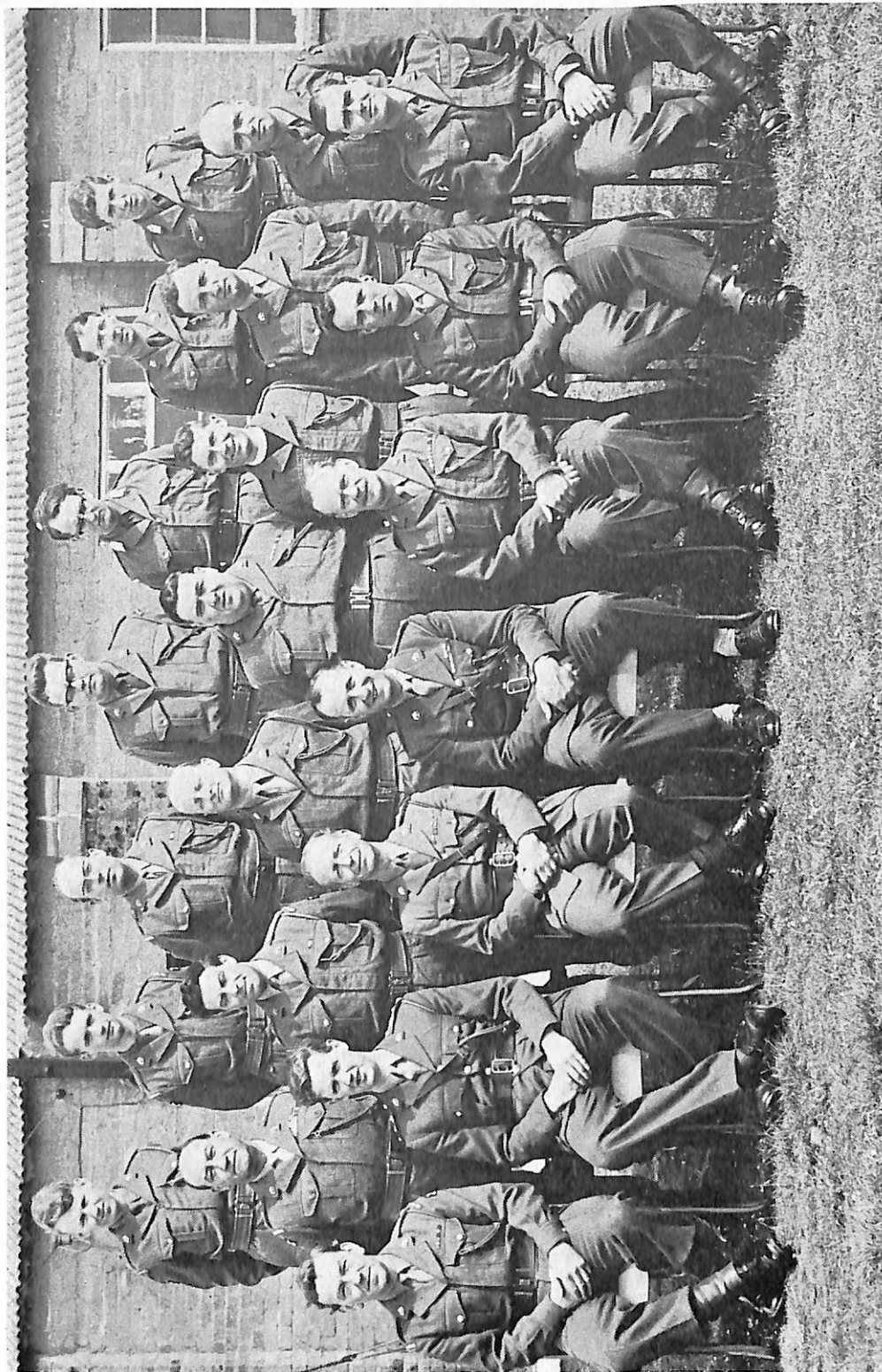
The recruit who asked "Why is it called 'Dry Training' when we get wet every day?" can be reasonably excused.

On June 11 the Battalion moved to Plasterdown in high spirits and bright sunshine. Our spirits remained high but, alas, we were hardly to see the sun again for the next fortnight.

As usual, the advance party, commanded jointly by the "Old Firm" of QM Bob Callaby and Padre Matthews, had done their stuff so that the move went smoothly in spite of the distance from

Huddersfield. Accommodation was the best we had ever had, each barrack room being self-contained with its own showers, bath and drying-room (possibly this should have been a warning).

Training by cadres commenced on Monday, with the trained soldiers under Captain Curry concentrating on battle drills and the recruits learning basic infantry soldiering supervised by Major Knowles. It had been decided that, in view of the impending reorganisation, support weapons cadres would not be run though the signal platoon trained



THE OFFICERS AT ANNUAL CAMP, TAVISTOCK.

(Back Row) l. to r. Lt. J. B. Widdop, 2/Lt. C. J. Butterfield, Captain A. E. Hutchinson, 2/Lt. C. M. B. Bateman, O/Cdt. A. J. A. Smith, 2/Lt. W. R. Steele, O/Cdt. C. P. Heaton.

(Middle): Captain R. C. Curry, Major K. Buckland, T.D., Major H. M. Crowther, T.D., Rev. R. I. J. Matthews, R.A.Ch.D., Major P. B. Knowles, T.D., Major J. D. G. Turner T.D., (RAMC)

(Front): Major B. N. Webster, T.D., Captain C. R. Cumberlege, Colonel J. B. Sugden, T.D., D.L., J.P. (Hon. Colonel), Lt.-Colonel J. C. Moncrieff, T.D., Major C. Barnes, T.D., Major C. D. d'E. Miller, Major P. H. Haws, T.D.

together under Sgt. Berry, 2/Lt. Bateman tore about the countryside with the Recce Platoon and W.O.2 Pilkington's pioneers seemed fully occupied with knots and lashings and lengths of safety fuse.

On Tuesday 14th the whole Battalion paraded to wish the CO a "Happy Birthday" and for him to explain exactly how all ranks would be affected by the reorganisation. When he had finished all ranks were required to complete a mysterious document known as a "declaration of intent," indicating which of the new commitments they would undertake. So eloquent was the CO's address that a rumour rapidly grew that the new AVR III (Territorial) Battalion was to be known as "Moncrieff's Own."

For our entertainment on Thursday Captain Cumberlege devised (rumour has it "while in his cups") an escape and evasion exercise. Such was the blanket of secrecy over the preparation for this exercise that it had to be called "SShhh! (You know who!)." The exercise took the form of 24 "victims" (who were said to have plundered the Devon cornfields) being rudely discharged from their beds at 0345 hrs, stripped and deprived of their "exercise comforts" and allowed to escape at 0630 hrs having eaten a communal breakfast from a bucket. The rest of the day was spent by the escapers walking from agent to agent across Dartmoor, being chased by the remainder of the Battalion under the 2I/C. An added attraction was the interrogation by Major Buckland who tried every trick in the book to get information. Four men got through without being caught and, considering the country, the pouring rain and the toughness of the exercise (which has since been described as vicious), the Battalion did well to end the day with its tail still well up. The exercise culminated for the trained soldiers in night firing during which a certain CQMS made his mark with the CO—on the CO's car.

Due to inclement weather—to use an understatement—the Battalion Sports on Friday afternoon had to be cancelled and it is strongly suspected that most of our athletes indulged in strenuous PT of the Egyptian variety.

Middle weekend is difficult to report as all go their separate ways. The coach trip to Torquay was well subscribed though badly (again) by the weather.

The second week started with company training and a company advance exercise set by Battalion. Unfortunately this again had to be curtailed due to cold and wet. The highlight of this week was a competition platoon exercise set by Brigade with 14 entries from all battalions in camp. The competition consisted of an inspection of each platoon's equipment and weapons, tests of infantry skills, shooting and a cross country march of approx. 12 miles across Dartmoor. Once again the weather proved to be the most difficult part of the test and Lt. Widdop's platoon are to be congratulated not only for winning the competition decisively, but on completing the march over difficult country through driving rain and hail without losing any time points.

Whilst congratulating Lt. Widdop's platoon, a special word must be said of our No. 2 platoon led by 2/Lt. Bill Steele. This platoon was made up mainly from recruits attending their first camp and volunteers from employed personnel including drivers, storemen, band and drums. Even though halfway down in the final placings, this team can well feel proud of themselves for completing a very difficult exercise and, particularly, for being placed first in the inspection phase of the competition.

In view of the hard training on this day it was expected that the company parties which took place in the evening would be somewhat subdued affairs. Not a bit of it! Devon is noted for its attractive pubs and our companies certainly found some with "character" where the events of the last 14 days, and the platoon competition in particular, were thoroughly discussed and voted "a bit rough but not too bad." Very soon, sixteenth century rafters were ringing to the "Rugby Song" rendered by part time soldiers (many of them with only a few weeks' service) who, four or five hours previously, had been wet through, cold and tired in the middle of Dartmoor. An object lesson for those who wish to see the end of the Territorial Army!

So ended Camp 1966 except for the final bangs enjoyed by the Assault Pioneers on Friday morning.

The Battalion will not camp again in its present form, but at least it can be recorded that its last was a good camp where morale was as high as it ever has been in spite of tough training under difficult conditions. If this spirit survives in AVR III, the Territorials are by no means finished.

NEWS FROM THE COMPANIES

"A" COMPANY

There is usually a feeling of anti-climax after annual camp and activities slow down for several weeks so that the permanent staff can enjoy their hard earned leave. This year however has seen a great change. Firstly camp was held earlier than is normal, and secondly there has been a great deal of frenzied activity in trying to induce everyone to make up his mind about his future in the various forms of A.V.R.

The overwhelming majority have chosen A.V.R. II. This as readers will probably be well aware, is

approximately the same as the present T.A., in that the commitment is very little different. Only a few members of the company have chosen A.V.R. III, and in each case they are over the age limit for A.V.R. II. One of the difficulties is in explaining these different commitments to new recruits, who are coming in quite well. They have to complete a multitude of documents, and then have to be told that these will take them up to March 31 next year when the whole commitment is to be changed.

Annual Camp was one of the most successful that we have had. We were the strongest rifle

The West Riding Battalion on Training

(Right): Pte. Harrison crossing a ravine on a Battalion exercise over the Rishworth, Colne Valley Moors, August 1966

(Below) "Ever Readies" of the West Riding Battalion outside Prescott Street Drill Hall, Halifax, en route for training in BAOR with 1 DWR July, 1966



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company and the barrack room did not seem to be too empty. Despite the atrocious weather which restricted training there was most excellent morale and a remarkable cheerfulness. The impression is that the total of soldiers reporting sick was the smallest for a good number of years: the usual diagnosis from the Company's inexpert self-appointed consultant was that the soldiers were suffering from swamp fever.

An account is given elsewhere concerning the training undertaken at camp. As far as the recruits were concerned we feel that the cadre more than justified itself because three new members of the Company have joined the Regular Army. Crossland and Jagger have gone to the depot at Strensall and Parkinson has joined the Royal Artillery. There are rumours that at least three other members of the Company are considering joining and, by this token, we are more than justifying our existence.

An account of the inter platoon competition will be given elsewhere in this magazine. We may modestly claim that we supplied a considerable part of the winning platoon and will disclaim any responsibility for the soldier who, when asked what he would do for a certain "mock" casualty during the first aid part of the test, said that digging his grave now was a sensible precaution to take.

All the members of the T.A.E.R. went to the 1st Bn. for a fortnight's training during the latter part of July. All appear to have enjoyed themselves and all reported that they had found it less exhausting than Captain Macdonald had warned them by giving graphic descriptions of his experiences in northern Norway. We were also able to send several other members of the Company whose employers had allowed them an additional fortnight's holiday.

No account of the Company's activities should go through without a mention being made of our Permanent Staff Instructor, S/Sgt. Mountcastle,

who returned to the 1st Battalion after being with us two years. His efficiency in the administrative details of the Company was extremely high, but it is for his forthright character that we shall remember him. No one will ever forget the gentle voice (!), the quiet persuasiveness (!) of his views, usually in the Sergeants' Mess, his laugh. His ability as a drill instructor was undoubted, and he was a most able and competent P.S.I. We wish him every success with the 1st Bn. and hope that he can find what he regards as a paradise on earth: a pub, selling draught beer, within ten yards of a trout stream. He enjoyed the respect and friendship of the whole Company.

We welcome S/Sgt. Pratt who has joined us within the last week, and we trust that he will find Halifax as enjoyable as did his predecessor.

"B" COMPANY

Farewell Mirfield—Shiny Bee is on the move!

The Company leaves Mirfield Drill Hall, where Territorials have paraded for the last 30 years, during the first week of September and installs itself in Huddersfield TAC w.e.f. September 8, 1966.

The Company has had very useful and friendly relationships with the Council, Police and Fire Brigade in the Mirfield area during this time. The unit has now approached the Council and suggested that the occasion be recognised after the customary Armistice Day Parade, which this year will be held on Sunday, November 13, by their acceptance of an invitation to a reception at the Drill Hall during which a piece of silver will be presented to the people of Mirfield.

It is perhaps a twist of fate that Mirfieldonians should be recipients of this presentation when those who have served with "B" Coy will well remember Mirfield as being the "black spot" of the entire recruiting area.



The victorious West Riding (DWR) Platoon, the winners of the 146 (E & WR) Inf Bde (TA) Brigade Inter-Platoon Championship. Annual Camp, Tavistock—1966

The change of location also affects individual members of the Company itself. CSM Alec Bycroft will no longer be able to pull a pint for us in the Sergeants Mess. Neither will the lower part of CQMS Perrin's body be seen behind the Canteen bar. (We never did take out the glass shutter so that we could see his face as well!)

During this last month L/Cpl. Sharpe W. has become a provost corporal and it was only the other evening that the CSM learned that, even when ten pin bowling, it is necessary to take one's finger out otherwise there is the chance of following the bowl down the lane. (We are told that the hole was very small; some think that it was the finger that was very thick!)

Major Brian Farrow was married to Miss Gillian Hammond at St. Paul's Church, West Hartlepool, on Saturday, August 6, 1966, and was carried "shoulder high" to the going-away car only to find that his accommodation was a single sleeping bag in the "boot." We all hope that he got out of his predicament before he reached Malta.

Camp this year was more a test of individual endurance so it was not surprising that Pte. Housecroft found himself in charge of a section when the section commander became a casualty. Even though Pte. Housecroft had weight and brawn on his side he did not bully his section—in fact quite the reverse. He is said to have kept command by bribing his men with "Spangles." It seems that Bonaparte was not the only man to realise that "an army marches on its stomach."

"C" COMPANY

Now is the time when Company commanders enjoy (?) writing their notes as there is so much to be covered due to camp. This year proves to be no exception as all companies had a full and enjoyable camp. We had a good attendance from "C" Company but some notable faces were missing.

Members of the Company featured well in the various camp activities and seemed to get just as wet as others in the escape and evasion exercise. This unhappily had its effect by putting several members of the company on their sickbeds instead of competing in the Brigade platoon competition. However, we were represented in this excellent competition, and are proud to have provided the officer which led the winning team. Lt. Widdop is to be congratulated for his excellent leadership which undoubtedly held the platoon together in the gruelling endurance march. "March" is in fact a misnomer due to the type of ground which was covered. The company commander believes that "Limpy" Rooney has now forgiven him for moving him from the comfort of the Recce platoon in order to take part.

Administratively the Company ran well at camp due to the keen work put in by our new C.S.M. and C.Q.M.S., Messrs. Dodgson and Hurst. Those who had to leave after one week seemed sorry to do so, and this is always a good sign.

Since camp there has been a very good Battalion weekend held in the Huddersfield area. Attendance was a little low, perhaps due to holidays, but the training was good. There will be repeats of this type of training in future and it is certain that those

who have been once will come again.

Recruits continue to come in at a steady pace, particularly at Keighley. Unfortunately the figures have not looked so good as the company has provided two new officers and three for the Regular Army in July. In addition Sgt. Tennant had to leave due to a business appointment in the South. We wish him the best of luck. Among the recruits we are pleased to see Blenkarn who has now recovered full health. The youngest Akrigg is in the pipeline in replacement for the one that got away. The policy now is for the unit to go out into Keighley to bring in likely lads at weekends and on drill nights. The unsettled feeling of the last few months has now gone and once again we seem to be pulling together with a common aim in mind.

At Skipton Sgt. Wakefield is making great efforts to build up the social spirit of the company. This is undoubtedly having a good result on morale generally. It is especially gratifying to have the P.S.I. taking this interest in the T.A. as well as carrying out the daily duties.

So much for the past; now what for the future? At some time the wind of reorganisation will reach us and it is hoped that we shall yet be able to retain the Keighley T.A.C. It seems however that the T.A. light further up the Craven valley will be dimmed although we are sure that many members will travel the little bit farther required. The powers that be require numbers and unfortunately the country areas cannot provide quantity although the quality is there. We hope that the industrial concentration of the Keighley area will provide enough recruits to make it worth while to retain that drill hall.

"D" COMPANY

One more annual camp has been completed. The company strength was less than last year, but there was plenty of enthusiasm. Our numbers were greatly improved just a week before camp by some excellent recruiting from Sgt. Mounsey. He brought in five new recruits who went to camp with us. Our Company Commander was overwhelmed. Well done Sgt. Mounsey (since camp he has recruited one more).

We were all delighted that the Battalion won the Brigade Inter Platoon Competition at camp this year. Congratulations to Ptes. English, Grant, and Ashton, who were members of the winning platoon.

To complete camp a company smoker was held at a local inn, "The Elephants Nest," a grand night was had by all.

In July the company went for the weekend to the Skipton Area. Charlie Company were our hosts and they looked after us very well. We hope to be able to return the compliment.

Our congratulations to Sgt. W. Mounsey and L/Cpl. K. Walker on their recent promotions.

Amongst the many visitors to Mossley T.A.C. recently were the two sons of C.Q.M.S. Larnder, Pte. W. Larnder 1 DWR, who was on leave after doing so well at Bisley, and J/Sgt. I. Larnder of the Junior Leaders Bn. Oswestry. Also Pte. Williams 1 DWR, who was home for his marriage to Miss Rita Mosley, and J/Pte. M. Sullivan, son of W.O.2 Con. Sullivan our P.S.I., who was on leave from the Junior Leaders Bn. Aldershot.

The Letter

I don't know about now, but in the early 1930s it was forbidden for any member of H.M. Forces—let alone a very junior bandsman—to communicate with the Press. But—well, something had to be done about that letter in the Goole Times.

One bright Saturday—and there were very few which were not bright in Kamptee—the U.K. mail, which arrived once a week, had been distributed. There were the usual “Dear Son, the pig died, soldier on,” “The Guards marched from Woking to London to save the Country's money,” “Sally Jones is getting married. Thank goodness she didn't hook you,” (My Gawd! an' I sent her t'money for engagement ring last week!) Then there were the weekly papers: “The Clarion,” “Green Final,” “The Financial Times” (wrongly addressed, of course) and many others including the “Goole Times.” It was this last which was the cause of the ever turbulent (punkah-wise) air being further rent by a very Yorkshire voice calling (as modified for publication) “Just look at this lot.”

“This lot” was an item in the “Letters to the Editor” column of the Goole Times from one who signed himself “Lucknow.” There, spread over two thirds of a column, was the kind of life a soldier in India lived and which a male citizen of Goole could expect to live should he decide to join up. According to “Lucknow” it was one long holiday of polo playing, pig sticking, gymkhanas, dancing and hunting. Another paragraph was devoted to the joys and comfort of the voyage from England aboard one of H.M.'s luxury troopships. It was a wonder that H.T. Nevasa did not go down that minute under the blast of expostulation from our barrack room. And had the provost sergeant and his merry band been present they would have had sufficient defaulters to build a polo field—Indian pattern—from rock foundation upwards.

What to do? One of us was a Goolite. What were his parents and girl friend thinking after comparing “Lucknow's” heaven in India with their dearly beloved's belly-aching each and every week over the past couple of years.

The Goolite himself solved the problem to the satisfaction of everyone. Everyone, that is, except the oft called (amongst other names) Educated Idiot. This Educated Idiot, hereinafter E.I.—must answer the letter, slaughter the hypocrite “Lucknow” and uphold the bellyaching of our own Goolite. The general feeling was that the E.I. should have no difficulty in doing this; after all, he had passed his 2nd class education exam at one sitting. However, it was only after much pressure from the “mad section”—Jones, Kendrew, Metzner, Ellis and Co.—of which the E.I. was also a member, that he agreed to try.

Every spare minute of the ensuing week was spent on the letter. Alterations, additions, deletions, fresh starts, innumerable pots of Ahmed Din char until finally on Wednesday night, by the light of a

hurricane lamp in the wash house, the letter was finished and signed “Kamptee.” It first dealt with the troopship: the “lavish” accommodation between decks afforded to the troops, the “tempting” dishes served to them in sixteen-man portions—or what was left if the floating place had a “dip and roll” on, the wonderful “relaxation” offered by sentry duty in the bowels of the ship, the “fun” of deck swabbing and similar chores.

On the subject of India the E.I. really let himself go. Of polo fields he had much experience—at least of the joy of pulling a four-ox team roller, but there were no oxen, the length and breadth of the field and then being allowed, in the cool of the evening, to retrieve the ball when it left the field of play, which was often. He also remarked on the lighting up of countenances at the mere mention of “dog and stick hikes,” the glee and anticipation roused by the news that camp was to be held at Lakhnadaon—or some such name—one hundred and twelve Indian miles away, the marvellous swimming facilities at Red Rocks and the days C.B. if one were caught there.

Thursday morning saw the sealing and stamping ceremony. The latter was quite a feat for on that day of the week six annas took some finding. To ensure that the E.I. had no change of heart he had plenty of company on the short walk to the post box on the canteen verandah.

Then it was anti-climax. There were no air mails and a letter took at least a fortnight to get home so it would be five weeks before the Goolite could receive the all important issue of his Times and one would learn whether the editor had dared to print the letter. Long before that date 90% of the barrack room had forgotten all about it. But—and this I have on good authority—the E.I. never had it out of his mind. He dreamed of courts martial, detention barracks, especially the one at Lucknow, of cells aboard troopships, and of pig-sticking where he was the hunted.

But at last the day and the paper arrived. There was the letter and it was immediately apparent that the E.I. had achieved one thing at least: it was longer than “Lucknow's” and took up almost two columns. It looked better in print than it had hand-written on company office typing paper. Everyone was sworn to secrecy but, long before the paper had gone the rounds, we were invaded by the Drums, the “Flappers” and the O & S platoon. Again on the best of authority, the E.I. was “sweating cobs.”

It was then that the worst—up to that point—happened. The band sergeant walked in and, without any preamble, went straight to the E.I. and said: “Right, you've had your fun. Where's the paper?” The accusations, denials, pleadings and threatenings which followed ended only when

continued at foot of next page

Personalia

In August Mr. Sidney Code contracted a severe and unexpected attack of pneumonia. He was in hospital for ten days. We are glad to report that he made a very good recovery. He is back at home but still in bed at the time of writing. We wish him a speedy recovery to full health.

Captain T. M. B. Williams, who was rubber planting in Malaysia, was invalided home with lung cancer. He has made a good recovery and is now living at Alexandra Court, Woodborough Road, Nottingham.

A welcome and unexpected visitor to Regimental Headquarters was Mr. Herbert Beech. He served in the Regiment before and during the last war. Later he was transferred to the R.A.C. where he became a R.S.M. He has now retired and lives at The Bungalow, Oldcroft, near Lydney, Gloucestershire. All those who served with the 1st Battalion in Malta before the war will remember the episode of Corporal Beech and the Regimental Gong.

In the last number of *The Iron Duke* the death was announced of Brigadier-General Adlerson who was Honorary Colonel of the 6th Battalion from 1932. After his death several stories appeared in the

newspapers about this gallant and adventurous soldier.

During the first war he commanded 148 (1st W.R.) Infantry Brigade but whether the following story refers to 148 Brigade is not known. At some stage during the war he was transferred from the command of one brigade to the command of another. The outgoing commander was proud of the work his men had been doing on improving the defences and invited Brigadier-General Adlerson to inspect the wire. As soon as it was dark the sentries were warned and the two commanders climbed out over the front parapet of the trench. After leading the way cautiously into no man's land for a few yards the outgoing commander whispered: "What do you think of that?" "Good God," replied Brigadier-General Adlerson, "that's our own wire. I want to see the German wire."

We were extremely pleased to welcome Major Claes Frost of The Danish Life Regiment who recently paid a visit to Regimental Headquarters. He is a very good friend of the Regiment. He was Liaison Officer with the 1st Battalion during their recent visit to Denmark. He represented his Regiment at the funeral of Mrs. Davis and paid frequent visits to Major Davis in hospital. During his stay in Yorkshire he plans to visit Stamford Bridge to study the site of the battle on which he is writing a paper for his regimental Journal.

We have heard from a very recent Old Comrade who has joined the Sheffield Branch of the O.C.A. He is Ex-Sgt. F. J. Towey who left the 1st Battalion in June of this year. Mr. Towey is now a messenger for Davy United, an engineering firm at Darnall, Sheffield. He says that he is now fairly well settled into civilian life and hopes to be able to introduce a number of other young "Old Comrades" into the Sheffield Branch. His address is: 16 Moorfield Flats, Shalesmoor, Sheffield 3.

We learn from Peterborough in the Daily Telegraph of August 3 that two brothers from Wellington College were planning to spend a fortnight of their summer holiday in walking the 200 miles of the Retreat from Mons, following the route taken by The Duke of Wellington's Regiment in 1914 and inspecting the chief battlefields on the way.

The two boys, Mark and Andrew Corbet Burcher, are sons of a serving Royal Artillery officer. We hope to get an account of their walk for publication in the next issue.

Colonel and Mrs. Wathen will be away from York from November 1 until the middle of May next year, visiting their daughter in Australia.

Colonel Wathen has handed over the duties of secretary and treasurer of the Regimental Memorial Chapel Committee to Major Ginger Wellesley.

Captain Andrew Laurence is still appearing in "Alibi for a Judge" at the Savoy Theatre which has proved so successful that it is expected to run into 1967. In addition to his own part Andrew Laurence

The Letter *continued from page 125*

"Robbo" left the barrack room with the rolled up paper under his arm like a field marshal's baton.

For the rest of Saturday and Sunday speculation ran riot. There was never any question of the E.I. getting away with it; it was only a question of how much he would get—would it be detention or military prison and subsequent discharge? The E.I. said he would not mind the last.

Monday morning came and still the E.I. was in the barrack room, smoking more heavily than usual, perhaps, and his bedcot that little tidier. Then, around 8.15 a.m. the company runner—nobody had ever seen him do that—came in and went out again with the E.I. in close attendance. What was said in the barrack room after that I don't know; it happened to be out.

The C.S.M. and band sergeant were in very pensive mood. But perhaps the best way to finish this would be to use the E.I.'s own words when he re-entered the barrack room—this, in itself, caused quite a sensation for no-one had expected to see him again for some considerable time except, perhaps, as his meal orderly or escort.

"Wha'd ya know," he shouted, "They don't think a blankety-blank private could write a blankety-blank letter like that."

They were quite right. A bandsman had written it.

Sax.



The photograph is reproduced by courtesy of The Times

Sgt. H. Tandy (left) and Major J. P. Huffam (right) seen with two other holders of the V.C., Brigadier Roupell and Captain White, at St. Martin-in-the-Fields for a service of Remembrance and Rededication for members of the Victoria Cross and George Cross Association

is understudying Andrew Cruickshank in the leading role and has played it on several occasions.

Brother Alberic, formerly Captain John Stacpoole, came down from Oxford in the summer with a First Class Degree in history. Less fortunately he was involved in a motor cycle accident as the result of which his right hand will be partially paralysed for some months until the radial nerve links up again.

Engagement

The engagement is announced between Captain Michael Robert Napier Bray, the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, eldest son of General Sir Robert Bray, G.B.E., K.C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C., Headquarters Allied Forces, Northern Europe, and Lady Bray, and Miss Anne Merete Valentiner, eldest daughter of Colonel H. Valentiner, Royal Danish Air Force, and Mrs. Valentiner, of Copenhagen, Denmark.

Staff College

Major J. B. K. Greenway, DWR, has now received a firm nomination to attend for staff training this year. After RMCS Shrivenham (October-December 1966) he will go on to the RAF Staff College Bracknell from January-December 1967.

Miss Patricia Ozanne has bought a house at Swaffham Prior, about mid-way between Cambridge and Newmarket, and was expecting to move in at the beginning of October. The address is: Barn Cottage, Swaffham Prior, Cambs.

5th Battalion Officers' Dinner Club

Lt.-Colonel Denys Hirst, M.B.E., T.D., has accepted the Club's invitation to fill the position of Chairman made vacant by the death of Colonel Keith Sykes. Inevitably, in accepting this appointment, Colonel Hirst felt the time appropriate to resign from the office of honorary secretary which he has held for fifteen years. His successor in that office is Lt.-Colonel Raymond Gadd, E.R.D., T.D., the former commanding officer of the 5/7th and W.R. Battalions.

This year's dinner in October is the Club's fortieth. The first was held in the Albany Hall on Friday, October 3, 1919, and Colonel Sir E. Hildred Carlile, Bt., M.P., T.D., presided. The subscription was 36s. including wines and the caterers' charge for the meal was 15s. a head. There appears to be no record of the menu which, at that price, must have been quite a banquet by to-day's standards. The eighty-three members present consumed 30 bottles of champagne, 10 bottles of whiskey (at 10s. 6d. a bottle!) 8 bottles of brandy, 14 bottles of port and one dozen Bass's ales.

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Obituary

We deeply regret to announce the following deaths and, on behalf of the Regiment, offer our sincere sympathy to the families of the deceased:

Mr. D. Coppack

On August 21, 1966, aged 66, Douglas Coppack of 12 Elborough Street, Southfields, London. Doug will be remembered by the older ex-members of the 2nd Battalion who served in Egypt and Singapore. He was attached to the Regimental Transport.

After his discharge in 1928 he spent a number of years as a driver in London trams and the last five years as a civil servant. Doug was a member of the London Branch of the O.C.A. He and his wife attended all the dinners in London and the Yorkshire one whenever possible.

Cremation took place at Putney Vale on August 25. Bob Temple represented the O.C.A. Doug is survived by his wife and married daughter.

Lt.-Colonel C. W. G. Ince, O.B.E., M.C.

With the death, briefly announced in our last issue, of Cecil Ince on June 25 the last surviving officer of the 2nd Battalion who left Dublin in August 1914 with the Battalion and fought with it in the epic battles of Mons, Le Cateau and Hill 60 has now left us.

Cecil William Gason Ince was born at Stanley Vicarage near Wakefield on August 1, 1888, the eldest son of the Rev. H. G. Ince of Newton Hall Rectory, Northumberland. He was educated at Malvern College and was commissioned into the Duke of Wellington's Regiment from the Special Reserve on Christmas Day 1909.

His peace time service with the 2nd Battalion was at Tidworth and Dublin. Prior to embarking with the Battalion for France he was entrusted with the escort of the two sets of 76th Colours to the Depot at Halifax. This done, he moved with the Battalion and, as commander of No. 1 Platoon of "A" Company, played his part at Mons and Le Cateau.

In September 1914 he succeeded Captain R. M. Tidmarsh as adjutant and in this capacity served a series of commanding officers in the battles of the Marne, the Aisne, Ypres and Hill 60. In the autumn of 1915 he was awarded the Military Cross—an early recipient in the Regiment.

In June 1916 he was posted to 8 Corps Headquarters. This, however, did not prevent him from being severely wounded the following month on the Somme as the result of which his left leg was amputated. This brought Cecil's active soldiering to an end.

In November he married Frances Marian (May) Phayre, daughter of Lt.-Colonel R. Phayre of the Green Howards and a descendant of the Bunbury

family with its strong regimental connections. The children of this happy marriage were two sons: the elder, Dick, now a major in the Regiment, the younger, Tony, to die tragically of wounds in April, 1944, when serving with the Parachute Regiment.

Cecil Ince had been promoted captain in June 1915, became a brevet major in 1919 and was promoted to that substantive rank in April 1921 when he retired. Between the wars he served as a Retired Officer Clerk in the M.S. Branch at the War Office when my generation of officers came to know him first. He was recalled to the active list in June 1939 and served in his old branch throughout World War II and later in Germany with Allied Military Government. He was finally released in December 1946 with the rank of lieutenant-colonel.


So much for his career. As to the man, Field Marshal Sir Gerald Templer writes:

I knew Cecil well when I was a young officer in the Army and he was a retired officer in the M.S. Department in the War Office. I shall never forget his kindness and understanding of the comparatively minor problems of a junior officer. From his point of view those problems must have been minute but from mine, in one or two periods, they assumed enormous proportions. He was kindness and understanding itself. I knew him later when I was Director of Military Government in Germany in 1945 and 1946 and, of course, he did a very good job on the Military Secretary's side of that whole business—and it was considerable. In spite of the fact that he was probably often in pain from the loss of his leg at the Somme I never knew Cecil irritated or unkind to anybody. He was the best type of devoted British Army Officer.

Many of us in the Regiment had similar experiences when we took our petty problems to Cecil. The burning question as to which battalion of the Regiment a subaltern returning from service in West Africa would be posted received the same sympathetic attention as the really important appointments which it was his duty to study.

Cecil's disability did not prevent him from taking a most active part in regimental affairs. Anyone who reads General Bruce's history of the Regiment in the first world war will be struck by how Cecil's accounts of the actions in which he took part make them come to life. He was secretary of the Battle Honours Committee, hon. secretary of the London branch of the O.C.A. and a loyal participant in all regimental occasions.

He also took a most prominent part in all village activities in West Clendon where he lived. He was president of the local branch of the British Legion and a keen supporter of the village cricket team. The afternoon before he died he spent happily



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watching the team play.

What perhaps I most remember is Cecil's immense charm—a charm composed of real humanity, great understanding and a very genuine kindness. He will be greatly missed; as an old soldier said to me the other day, "We don't make that sort any more."

B. W. W-C.

The following tribute to Colonel Ince from the Rector of his church appeared in the East and West Clandon parish magazine:

Cecil Ince was a notable soldier, whose pride in the best tradition of his calling and knowledge of the history of his Regiment were unmatched.

But you would be gravely mistaken if you were to suppose that he rejoiced in war. He loathed it. Not with the loathing born of fear, for he had conquered fear. Nor with the loathing born of resentment, for he had not an ounce of resentment in him. He loathed war as he detested any evil that can mar and make miserable the lives of men. This cheerful man, ever ready to stop and chat, was most powerfully eloquent when he spoke of peace.

Nor, as you would expect, was he content to speak of peace. He created it. He took up the task where it lay closest to his hand, in his home and village. Of the peace he created in his home, the remarkable affection and care for him shown by his wife and family are striking testimony. And I dare to judge that no man has done more, or tried more, to make a community out of the people of his village.

Quietly, expertly, unremittingly, he has helped the weak, succoured the afflicted, strengthened the faint-hearted. And, almost uniquely, he honoured all men. That a man was rich or poor, clever or foolish, meant not a whit to him. He counted all men his brothers and worthy of his respect.

Others may tell of his generosity, his steadfast loyalty. I may tell of his faith. This man, who had seen, more than most, the terrible malignity of evil, yet possessed the certain conviction that love will ultimately triumph over evil. He served his Lord in the hidden places of his soul and the public places of the church.

We thank our God that he, who once loved us here, still loves and prays for us in heaven.

Captain A. T. Sykes, M.C.

The death has occurred, at Bankfield House, Almondbury, of Captain A. Theodore Sykes, M.C. Captain Sykes served during the 1914-18 War with the 5th Battalion, and also with the 7th Battalion. He was awarded the Military Cross in 1917.

He served for a number of years on Huddersfield Council which he represented on the T.A. Association.

Legacies

The Regiment has received the following legacies in the wills of General Ozanne and Colonel Ince:

From General Ozanne:

£100 to the Regimental Association.

£100 to the 1st Battalion.

His decorations and medals to be held by the 1st Battalion when in U.K., otherwise by R.H.Q.

From Colonel Ince:

£100 to the War Memorial Fund, for the Memorial Chapel in York Minster.

£100 to the Regimental Band Fund.

£50 to the Regimental Association.

£25 to the Retired Officers' Association.

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

The annual general meeting and reunion dinner of the Regimental Association took place at the Drill Hall, Prescott Street, Halifax, on Saturday, September 24.

In the absence of the Colonel of the Regiment on duty, Brigadier A. D. Firth, the Acting Colonel, presided. Lt.-Colonel J. C. Moncrieff, Officer Commanding The West Riding Battalion, proposed the toast of "The Regiment." The Acting Colonel replied.

Some 220 old comrades and their ladies were present. The minutes of the annual general meeting and an account of the dinner will appear in the next number of THE IRON DUKE.

THE REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

The Albert Medal of Lt. F. Kelly

Fred Kelly was commissioned to the 6th Battalion in 1915. After a period of service in France ill health compelled him to return to England where, having passed a bombing course, he became an instructor.

On January 30, 1918, whilst carrying out rifle grenade practice, one of the men caught the loop of the grenade with his bayonet and caused the fuse to ignite. Lt. Kelly ordered the man to drop his rifle and get clear but he lost his nerve and remained in the trench gripping his rifle. Kelly then with great difficulty was able to drag the rifle out of his hands and throw it away. He tried to push the man out of the emplacement but before they could get clear the grenade exploded and they were both slightly wounded.

For this action Lt. Kelly was awarded the Albert Medal (bronze). This medal, which is reputed to have been designed by the Prince Consort himself, was first introduced by Queen Victoria in 1866. It is still issued posthumously for saving life at sea or on the land; otherwise it has been superseded by the George Medal and the George Cross.

Lt. Kelly's widow, Mrs. M. H. Kelly of Greenfield, Oldham, has presented the Medal to the Regimental Museum and also a Mills bomb, mounted on a plinth, which was presented by the Bombing Staff of the 6th D.W.R. on Lt. Kelly's retirement owing to ill health in April 1918.

This is the first Albert Medal in the Museum collection and to the best of our belief the only one presented to a member of the Regiment.