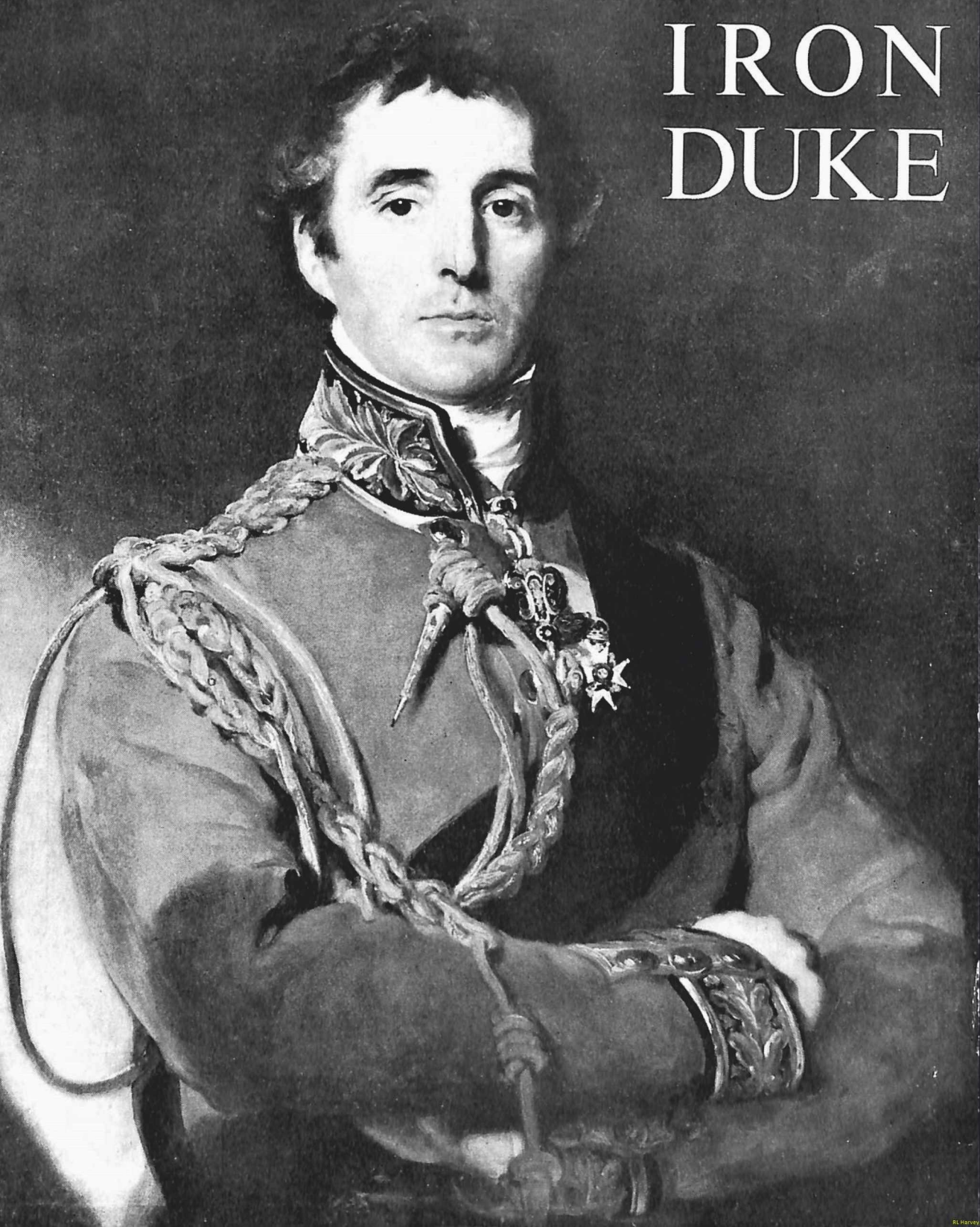


No.144 July 1967

THE  
IRON  
DUKE





# THE IRON DUKE

*The Regimental Journal of*

## THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

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



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

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### BUSINESS NOTES

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#### Acknowledgment

The portrait of The Duke by Sir Thomas Lawrence, P.R.A. (Canvas 1814) is reproduced on our cover, without fee, by kind permission of the Director of the Wellington Museum, Apsley House.

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# THE REGIMENT

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GENERAL SIR ROBERT BRAY, G.B.E., K.C.B., D.S.O., A.D.C., *Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe, B.F.P.O.26.*

## *Acting Colonel of the Regiment*

BRIGADIER A. D. FIRTH, O.B.E., M.C., *The Old Rectory, Chappel, Nr. Colchester, Essex*

## REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

*Wellesley Park, Halifax*

Regimental Secretary: Major J. H. Davis

## THE 1st BATTALION

*UNFICYP B.F.P.O. 667*

C.O.: Lt.-Col. D. E. Isles. Adjutant: Major T. D. Lupton.

## THE WEST RIDING TERRITORIALS, THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

*St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield*

Honorary Colonel: Col. J. B. Sugden, T.D., D.L., J.P.

C.O.: Lt.-Col. C. Barnes, T.D. P.S.O.: Captain R. Callaby, M.B.E., M.M.

## YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS

### C COMPANY (THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S)

*Prescott Street, Halifax*

Commander: Major R. C. Curry

## ARMY CADET FORCE

O.I.C., D.W.R., A.C.F. Detachments: Major J. Howarth, 4 *Heather Road, Meltham, Nr. Huddersfield*

## AFFILIATED C.C.F.

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

## THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

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The Right Honourable The Earl of Scarbrough, 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:* Col. J. B. Scott, O.B.E., late The 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. F. Skelton, P.W.O.

*Senior D.W.R. Officer:* Captain S. A. Berry.





#### IN UNFICYP

On April 24, the advance party of the 1st Battalion arrived at Akrotiri for six months duty as part of the United Nations Force in Cyprus.

The Battalion took over Limassol Zone from The Black Watch who returned to Minden.

Lt.-Colonel Isles, CO 1 DWR, is pictured with Lt.-Colonel Earle Nicoll, CO 1 BW, shortly after arrival.



# EDITORIAL

The generous response from readers to the appeal for help for the "Iron Duke" which was made in 1960 has kept the journal financially solvent until now. Costs, however, have been steadily mounting during these seven years while the advertisement revenue has somewhat fallen off. So, once again, we are in difficulties.

It is not felt that we should raise the subscription or that we can again appeal for donations or other help. It was, therefore, decided at the Regimental Council Meeting, held again by kind permission of His Grace the Duke of Wellington at Apsley House in May, that we should reduce the number of issues of the Journal in 1968 from four to three.

This seems preferable to economising by reducing the size of issues and the number of photographs. With only three issues we should be able to maintain the size and standard of each; indeed, it is hoped that we may be able to make them slightly bigger and better.

The issues will probably appear in April, August and December.

## How history gets lost.

Shortly after arrival in Cyprus the CO of the 1st Battalion wrote to us as follows: "We took over from the 1st Black Watch. I was not in Korea but the liaison then of 1BW and 1DWR was, I believe, very great. One integrated company was called 'The Black Dukes'. This may be worth mentioning in your editorial, Walter will have more details".

Walter, otherwise our Business Manager, said, when applied to: "Yes, it was about the time of the Hook. Details? No, I don't know any details. You'll find them in one of the old 'Iron Dukes'". He did vouchsafe that there was a company sign-board or direction post of "The Black Dukes" in the Regimental Museum.

Peering laboriously through the "Iron Dukes" of the period we found the following in the 1st Battalion sub-editorial: "In our present position we loan one company to our friends of the Red Hackle. The first to leave us was "C" Company in early April but it has now been relieved in the line by "A" Company. These two companies have both enjoyed the unique distinction of becoming "V" Company, The Black Dukes, a story which can be told later when the Battalion History is written".

There is evidence in the notes of "C" and "A" Companies that they were in fact, and in turn, "Victor" Company, The Black Dukes—on Point 146. But if there is any further story it has, so far as we can discover, yet to be told in print.

Perhaps the then sub-editor—and we have a shrewd idea who he is—would like to repair the omission now.

For the excellent photographs of Cyprus appearing in this issue we are indebted to the staff of "The Blue Beret", a weekly newspaper issued by the Information Office of the United Nations Force in Cyprus.

# NOTICES

## Minster Service

The annual Regimental Service in York Minster will be held this year on Saturday, October 28, at 11 a.m.

## REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

### Annual General Meeting and Reunion Dinner

The 1967 annual general meeting and reunion dinner will be held on Saturday, September 16, in the Drill Hall, St. Pauls Street, Huddersfield.

Price of tickets 15s. each, obtainable from the General Secretary at RHQ or from any Branch Secretary.

We regret the increase in the cost of the tickets, but owing to rising prices generally it is no longer possible to provide a reasonable meal at the old price of 10s.

## The Regimental Sweepstake

The annual Regimental Sweepstake will again be run on the St. Leger this year. The proceeds will be devoted to the Charitable Funds of the Regiment. The Regiment really does need this money in order to keep our charitable work amongst Old Comrades and their dependants up to its present standard. We have already started to send out books of tickets. If you received some please sell them and ask for more. If you have not received any please apply to Mr. S. E. Code, M.B.E., at Regimental Headquarters, Wellesley Park, Halifax. Tickets cost 1s. each and are in books of ten. The prizes will be the same as last year—1st £100; 2nd £50; 3rd £25; 4th £10; Any starter £1.

## Arthur Sunley

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## REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

The long-awaited paper on the proposed re-organisation of the Infantry has been published recently.

The major change is that our present brigade system is to be replaced by what are to be known as "Divisions". Our Division is to be called the King's Division and will consist of the Yorkshire, Lancastrian and Northern Ireland Brigades.

The paper is produced below.

What is not yet certain is how any reduction in the overall size of the Infantry is to be made: whether there are to be further amalgamations of units or whether Regiments are to be put into suspended animation or even disbanded.

The Regiment sent a donation to the Halifax Rugby Football Club for their Pavilion Development Fund. This was a small recognition of the friendship extended to the Regiment by the Halifax R.U.F.C. over the many years that "Dukes" rugby players have been made welcome and given good rugby at Ovenden Park. They were delighted that the Regiment won the Army Cup again, but were disappointed that it was found impossible to play a game in Halifax.

The first of our two annual cocktail parties was held on April 21, as near to St. George's Day as we could manage. Colonel and Mrs. Cumberlege came over from Dalby and acted as host and hostess for the Regiment. The Sunday parade on St. George's Day was reduced in size, as the Territorials had only just completed their re-organisation.

### Alliance with the 10th Battalion The Baluch Regiment

Lt.-General Abdul Hamid Khan, the Colonel Commandant of the Baluch Regiment, replied in February to the Colonel's letter welcoming the alliance. He hopes the alliance will be a live concern and that officers will get the opportunity to visit each other's Regiments.

We have sent copies of our Regimental histories and a plaque of the Regimental Badge.

The 10 Baluch was originally 27th Regiment, Bombay Light Infantry (1st Balooch Regiment). It was raised on May 8, 1844. It became 27th Regiment (1st Belooch Battalion), Light Infantry in 1889. In 1903 it was re-designated as 127 Regiment (1st Belooch Battalion) Light Infantry. The battalion, however, continued to be known as "First Beloochies" till 1920 when it was renamed as 3rd Battalion (Queen Mary's Own) The 10th Baluch Regiment. On amalgamation of The 8th Punjab Regiment, The Bhawalpur Regiment and the Baluch Regiment on May 7, 1956, it became 10th Battalion The Baluch Regiment. It is now commanded by Lt.-Colonel Syed Hasan Raza Rizvi, *psc*.

As 1st Belooch Battalion it served with the 33rd in the Abyssinian Campaign of 1867-1868. An account of its later service, particularly in the two

world wars, appeared in our last issue. Lt.-Colonel Hasan Raza has written to Lt.-Colonel Isles and expressed the hope that he would be able to visit the 1st Battalion and that any "Dukes" officer visiting Pakistan should try to visit his Battalion.

## RE-ORGANISATION OF THE INFANTRY

### Introduction

1. The White Paper on the Defence Estimates 1967 stated that a wide-ranging examination of the long-term structure of the Army was being carried out, and that it was hoped to announce further plans for the long-term size and shape of the Services later this year. Decisions have already been reached on the future organisation of the Infantry. As these are of very close concern to the army the earliest opportunity is being taken to announce them.

### Present Organisation

2. The Infantry is at present organised into Brigades or Large Regiments. The Brigade of Guards contains eight battalions. The Infantry of the Line is made up of ten Brigades, three Large Regiments and The Parachute Regiment, each containing three or four battalions. A Large Regiment is a more closely integrated group than a Brigade of Infantry of the Line.

### Divisions of Infantry

3. It has become clear that, for the reasons given below, the present groupings of battalions within Brigades and Large Regiments are too small.

4. The Infantry structure of the future must allow for contraction, which could be considerable, or for expansion in the number and size of infantry units with the least possible difficulty. The present structure is a well-established organisation, but it is now necessary to develop it further into larger groupings to meet such changes.

5. Recruiting is largely on a territorial basis. There are inescapable fluctuations in the recruitment to individual Brigades and Large Regiments. The formation of larger groups for personnel management purposes will make it easier to eliminate any inequalities in strength and in specialists.

6. With larger groupings, it will be possible to concentrate recruit training into fewer Depots; this will make for training efficiency and for economy.

7. The Army Board have rejected the possibility of a Corps of Infantry devoid of subordinate groupings of Regiments. A single Corps would be unwieldy and impersonal to a degree inimical to effective personnel and general management. What is needed is a reduction in the number of groupings, not their abolition. They have accordingly decided that the Infantry should be re-organised into larger groupings to be known as "Divisions".

*Continued on page 100*



## BIG MIKE

Captain Michael Campbell-Lamerton has announced his intention to retire from "big rugby". Thus ends a career in which he has won more, and more varied, honours than any other member of the Regiment.

His "caps" and other distinctions give evidence of a formidable record. What makes this record even more remarkable is that Mike was not able to break into first-class rugby until seven years after he was gazetted to the Regiment. His career did not, therefore, start until he was of an age when some players are beginning to think of retirement. Within seven years, it will be remembered, Horsey Browne's career had tragically burnt itself out.

Mike joined the 1st Battalion in early 1953 in Korea—a country where, it appears, not even "The Dukes" attempted to play rugger. So he first played for the Battalion in Gibraltar in 1954. But Gibraltar is, also, not a place where much serious rugger can be played and Campbell-Lamerton does not, on the evidence of the Battalion's "Iron Duke" notes, appear to have attracted much notice, though he is recorded as having scored a try in a game against H.M.S. Valiant.

The Battalion returned to Chisleton in 1956 too late to enter for the Army Cup. But Campbell-Lamerton was now able to start playing club rugby. He played frequently for Blackheath and the Battalion rugger notes for that year conclude: "We should like to conclude by congratulating Mike Campbell-Lamerton on his selection to play for Surrey. We are all hoping (*sic*) that he will get his name in the *News Chronicle* yet".

Now, however, his career was interrupted—and nearly terminated—by the Suez crisis. The 1st Battalion, instead of playing in the Army Cup in the following season, found itself whisked off to Malta and then Cyprus. And here Campbell-Lamerton was seriously injured when disembarking down a rope from a helicopter.

He was seven months in hospital and it seemed unlikely that he would ever be able to play serious rugby again. When he first returned to the Battalion in Northern Ireland he was unable to get a regular place in the Battalion XV.

With immense grit and determination, however, he regained his health and strength and in 1960 played regularly for the Army and Combined Services. His career had at last started.

The following year he was capped for Scotland. He played for them in all their international matches from 1961 to 1966 inclusive, except on three occasions when he was injured. He gained a total of 23 Scottish caps.

Meanwhile he was playing regularly throughout these years for the Army and Combined Services; in club rugby for Blackheath, season 59/60; Halifax, 60/62; London Scottish, 62/66; and in county rugby, for Yorkshire in 1962 and 63, and Surrey in 1964, 65 and 66.

For the Regiment he played in five Army Cup



Photo by courtesy of 'The Huddersfield Examiner'

finals. In 1960, 61 and 62 he was on the losing side but in 1965 and 1966 he played a leading part in our victories over the Welsh Guards and 63 Para. Sqn. RCT.

To fill in time he played for the Barbarians each year from 1962 to 1966, the Scottish Co-optimists in 1964 and 65, the Irish Wolfhounds in 1964, and Stanley's XV in 1964.

In 1962 he was selected for the British Lions' tour of South Africa. During this he played in all four test matches, achieved a record for the tour by playing in 20 out of the 24 matches, and captained the Lions' team in the last match of the tour.

Campbell-Lamerton was selected many times as captain of the teams he was playing for. He started by captaining his school XV, at Ottershaw, in 1949 and 1950. In 1964 he captained the Combined



Services XV and during the 1965 and 1966 seasons was captain of the Army, Combined Services and Surrey. He was captain of Scotland twice, of the Irish Wolfhounds twice, of the Barbarians three times and of the Scottish Co-optimists once, in the Jubilee match against London Welsh at Twickenham in 1965.

In 1966 his career was crowned by his selection as captain of the Lions' tour of Australia, New Zealand and Canada. This is probably the highest honour that a British player can achieve.

It is sad to have to record that Mike cannot look back on this tour with unqualified satisfaction. The team's performance roused a great deal of criticism, much of which, naturally, landed on the captain's shoulders. This however, does not alter or obscure the fact that Mike's career on the rugby field and its culmination as captain of the British Lions is something of which he and the Regiment can be very proud.

### The Player

What was he like on the field? Clearly at 6 feet 4 inches and 16½-17 stone he was a formidable figure. Add to this a fair turn of speed, good hands, tremendous determination and enthusiasm and it is obvious why he became such a power in the second row of the scrum, and was in such demand. It was in the tighter aspects of the game that he excelled for he gave strength and steadiness to the packs in which he played. He was never a truly great line-out forward yet he frequently dominated in this phase of the game, particularly in the later stages of a match when his opponents had worn themselves out against him.

Although rugby is a hard game, and Michael Campbell-Lamerton was a powerful player, he was, in fact, always gentle and considerate—until punched.

## From the London Gazette

*Supplements dated March 18, to June 1,*

### COMMANDS AND STAFF

Brig. G. C. H. Wortham, O.B.E., RAOC, to be appointed Commander, Base Organisation, RAOC, and is granted the paid acting rank of Major-General, March 31, 1967.

D.W.R.

### REGULAR ARMY

Captain S. A. Berry to be Major, May 21, 1967.

### REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Major (QM) C. C. Kenchington, M.B.E., having attained the age limit, ceases to belong to the Reserve of Officers, April 19, 1967.

### TERRITORIAL ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

The following Lts. from Active List to be Lt.: C. E. Kilner, February 1; T. D. Sugden, February 15; K. Brown T.D., February 16, 1967.

## INFANTRY REORGANISATION

*Continued from page 98*

8. The Infantry of the Line, less the Parachute Regiment, will be organised into the new Divisions by grouping together existing Brigades and Large Regiments as follows:—

<i>Division</i>	<i>Existing Brigades and Large Regiments</i>
The Queen's Division	The Queen's Regiment The Fusilier Brigade The Royal Anglian Regiment
The King's Division	The Lancastrian Brigade The Yorkshire Brigade The North Irish Brigade
The Prince of Wales's Division	The Wessex Brigade The Mercian Brigade The Welsh Brigade
The Scottish Division	The Lowland Brigade The Highland Brigade
The Light Division	The Light Infantry Brigade The Royal Green Jackets.

9. The Scottish and Light Divisions are smaller than the others, but each has distinguishing characteristics justifying a separate identity. In general, the new groupings reflect geographical continuity of home recruiting areas. In each Division a Headquarters will be formed, superseding existing Headquarters of Brigades and Large Regiments. Officers will be gazetted, and soldiers enlisted, into the Division. Whenever possible, officers and soldiers will be posted initially to the Regiment of their choice. Basic training will be carried out in Divisional Depots. Regiments will preserve their identities, territorial affiliations, titles and initially their existing cap badges. To facilitate postings between battalions, there will in due course be some rationalisation of dress and eventually a Divisional cap badge will be introduced.

10. The Brigade of Guards, which is already roughly of the size proposed for a Division, will continue as a separate organisation. In conformity with the new nomenclature its title will be changed to The Guards Division.

11. The Parachute Regiment, because of its special characteristics, will not be included in any Division of Infantry and will remain in its present form.

12. The new Divisional organisation, which will be introduced by planned stages, will be complete by the middle of 1969.

### The Future

13. The new system of Divisions of Infantry will meet the needs of the future while preserving the best features of the regimental system inherited from the past. It will be flexible enough to meet all the demands that may be made upon it and will thus provide a stable, enduring structure for the Infantry.





### NOTHING TO REPORT

**Drummer Chapman, wireless operator attached to Burma Company, on duty at the UNFICYP Town HQ in Limassol.**

## 1st BATTALION

### Sub-Editorial

Chalk 5 touched down at Akrotiri Airport at 0350 hrs. Zulu on Saturday, May 6, and out of the Caledonian Airways' Britannia stepped the last 66 "Dukes" to arrive in Cyprus. We were in at last and some twelve hours later the rear party of the 1st Black Watch flew out, bound for Minden. The takeover had gone well and the Battalion was on post spread from Polis in the north through Paphos in the west to Limassol and Kophinou in the south. Red hoes tops and blue berets shimmered in the sun

and will continue to do so for the next six months until our tour of UN Duty is over.

After the C.O.'s recce in early March it was known that the one viable element in our new role was the rifle platoon and that we needed to reorganise into a four-rifle company basis. Thus the mortar and anti-tank platoons reverted to a rifle role, as did the combined drums and assault pioneers making a total of 12 rifle platoons of a minimum strength of one officer and twenty five.

The C.O. is responsible for the Limassol Zone which, itself, is now organised into the three



districts of Paphos (Major Harms), Limassol (Major Newton) and Kophinou (Major Huxtable.) Within these districts companies are deployed as follows:—

Alma Coy. (3 platoons) Ktima  
 Burma Coy. (2 platoons) Limassol.  
 Corunna Coy. (6 platoons) Kophinou.  
 Dettingen Coy. (1 platoon) Polis.

The strength of companies varies according to their operational role and it is essential to be flexible and to be able to react quickly in the face of rapid rises of tension. Our role was well described in an article on UNFICYP in the January issue of THE IRON DUKE and needs no amplification here. Our aim is clear—to keep the peace—and it is a worthy and rewarding role.

Perhaps now we should revert to our last three months in BAOR before leaving for Cyprus. On the training side we concentrated on IS and driver cadres but it was really a period of administration and “moth-balling” of our beloved 432s and other vehicles. We also went on block leave and that was that. But in the sporting world we did remarkably well in the Infantry Soccer Cup reaching the final. True we were beaten 4—0, but it was a great game and it was splendid to do so well. At squash we were beaten in the Divisional Final, 4—1, when only the C.O. won his game. Fortunately the ladies won the Garrison Small-bore competition with some brilliant shooting.

The C.-in-C. BAOR visited us on March 3, and,

in a letter to the C.O., said that it “would be hard, right now, to find a better battalion anywhere”. Our new Brigade Commander, Brigadier H. M. G. Bond, arrived in the New Year and visited and dined with us. His great-grandfather, Colonel Blake, was the distinguished commander of the 33rd during the Crimean War, so we are in very good hands.

General and Lady Bray also visited us for a long weekend in April and a most enjoyable regimental occasion it turned out to be. The weather was good, the Band was in splendored form and the whole visit was the highlight of our year both regimentally and socially. We now only hope that the General will be able to visit us in Cyprus.

Reorganization and “cuts” are discussed elsewhere but we remain optimistic. In fact the older hands, taking encouragement from troubles in Hong Kong, Aden and other places East, are all saying that “They” will have to re-form second battalions if it goes on at this rate. Perhaps not, but the general feeling is that Dukes will be coming up that famous hill for a very long time yet. “They” just wouldn’t dream of cutting us.

And so, after Cyprus, a few months remain to us in BAOR and then it is to be UK. What our role or future is we just do not know, but certainly we need to know soon. We have a lot of planning to do and with our wives and families at Osnabruck we are somewhat off balance for any rapid move. However, we will certainly have a good Christmas!

## NEWS FROM THE MESSES

### OFFICERS’ MESS

Life in the officers’ mess has been somewhat disrupted in the past three months. However, before the block leave, one guest night was held in the mess to which our new Brigade Commander, Brigadier H. M. G. Bond, and members of the Brigade Staff and officers from the other battalions came. We were very pleased to be able to welcome the Brigade Commander before leaving for Cyprus.

The other important event as far as the Mess was concerned took place in Roberts Barracks. Colonel and Mrs. Tony Jones were kind enough to ask all the officers and their ladies to the wedding of their daughter Gel to Alan Westcob. The wedding was held in the church in Roberts Barracks, Osnabruck, and the reception in the officers’ mess of 25 Corps Engineer Regiment. It was a very good party indeed and everyone enjoyed themselves. Alan and Gel left the reception in a 432 suitably decorated and furnished.

During the visit of the Colonel of the Regiment in April the mess staff were on leave and so we were not able to entertain the General and Lady Bray in the mess. However, a very successful lunch party was held in the sergeants’ mess which was attended by officers and sergeants.

Before we left Osnabruck the mess was closed up completely and the silver put into store. The Brigade Headquarters mess has very kindly under-

taken to look after the officers of the Rear Party whilst we are away. They were in fact kind enough to look after a lot of the officers while the mess staff were on leave and during the last week before the move when our own mess had closed down.

Before we left Germany there was a considerable change in the officers in the Battalion. Michael and Elizabeth Hardy returned to the UK, Michael to go to the JSSC, Michael and Sunhild Fife have gone to Strensall and John and Susan Walker have also left us; John to become A.D.C. to the Colonel of the Regiment. Arrivals have been even more numerous. We have been glad to welcome back Jim and Allison Newton, Peter and Audrey Hoppe, Charles Cumberlege and Robin Stevens. Alastair Roberts, Chris Gilbert and John Thorne have arrived from the RMAS and Mons.

In Cyprus, although there is a central battalion mess in Limassol, most of us see very little of it and have our company messes in our own areas. Most platoon commanders, in fact, are living with their platoons on out-posts so there is little opportunity for corporate activity. However from what one has seen of the Limassol mess it has the potential of being a very attractive little mess provided those who live there are prepared to put in plenty of work in the garden! From all reports, however, not even in the flesh pots of Limassol do they have much time for riotous living.

**SERGEANTS' MESS**

It is with great pleasure that we record a hat-trick of wins in the Osnabruck Garrison Darts League. This notable feat was achieved by the mess "A" Team, although the "B" team gave them some shocks, as well as some help, during the season. Our congratulations to the "A" Team and their supporters for this magnificent achievement.

A dance and social was arranged in the Schlossgarten by the 9/12 Royal Lancers which was attended by some 450 members and ladies of the Garrison to witness the presentation of the shield, cup and trophies to members of the team. We would like to thank the R.S.M. and members of the 9/12 Royal Lancers for their splendid organisation in making the evening a most memorable one.

The Paadeberg Ball (*Another 5s. due—Ed.*) was also held during the quarter, again at the Schlossgarten, and our thanks go to W.O.2. McManus, S/Sgt. Fee, Sgt. Kelly and Sgt. Atkinson, for making this an evening to remember, also to S.Q.M.S. Quick and his cooks for the most excellent buffet they produced; they seem to get better every time.

After the Paardeberg (*Congratulations—Ed.*) all members went on leave prior to the move to Cyprus. After hectic packing and weighing, the advance party arrived in Cyprus on the 23rd April to become members of UNFICYP. We were made very welcome by the Black Watch who, I may add, were very pleased to see us; no doubt we will feel the same around November. The Mess is split with Hook and Burma in Polemidhia, Alma in Ktima, Corunna at Khopinhou and Dettingen at Polis.

It was very pleasing to receive a visit from some friends of the York and Lancaster Regiment, namely R.S.M. Burke (with money), W.O.2. Erswell, D./M. Evans and Sgt. Roebuck; we hope to see more of them during the next six months. Departures during the quarter have been S/Sgt. Sykes and S/Sgt. Mountcastle to civilian life; R.S.M. Nicholson (on appointment as R.S.M. Bde Depot), Sgt. Gay, S/Sgt. Mullins (REME) and Sgt. Burton (ACC) who we now hear is S/Sgt., congratulations Derek. It's nice to see back in the fold Sgt. Morris and Sgt. Wright and a welcome to W.O.2 Pipkin (REME). Our congratulations to S/Sgt. Middleton, Sgt. Hughes and W.O.2 Fenn on his appointment as R.Q.M.S., and the award of his LS & GC which was presented to him by the Colonel of the Regiment, General Bray.

**CORPORALS' MESS**

Having arrived safely in Cyprus and taken over the Mess from 1 BW three weeks ago, we are just about settled in.

The mess is quite a good one and we have had a television installed, a brand new dart board and some new sets of darts. Everyone keeps asking about a snooker table but nothing has happened as yet and we feel lost without one. The N.C.O.s out here unfortunately are not all together as there are so many out-posts, but we are hoping to see them in the mess when the locations rotate, which occurs every six or seven weeks.

Having left Germany we find quite a difference in the climate which everyone enjoys. It is also very

nice to be able to get down to the beach for a swim in the Mediterranean Sea every other afternoon and all day Sunday. Considering that we have only been here for a few weeks, some of the mess members are already looking like the locals. If our Post N.C.O. and Cpl. Claughton get any more sun they'll look like something from Darkest Africa.

Our night life in the mess is not quite the same as in Germany owing to the amount of duties which have to be performed. Standby platoon call-outs seem to be a regular occurrence. This we regret interferes with our "plonking up" sessions. However, we always manage to have quite a few members in on Saturday and Sunday lunch times, and they always seem to be the same group i.e., Cpl. Merrin & Co Ltd. On these lunch time sessions we can sit out on the veranda and enjoy the views of Limassol and Akrotiri Bay. The R.S.M. keeps telling Cpl. Merrin that as near as he will get to the sea will be looking at it from the Guard Room veranda.

Up to now we have had no new members in the mess, but we are expecting the odd one or two in the near future.

The Mess would like to congratulate Cpl. Fred Kendrew and his wife on their marriage on March 25, 1967. The best of luck and all happiness to them both.

We would also like to congratulate Cpl. Jeff Firth and his wife Doreen on the birth of their daughter. Their third. Well done.

Welcome back to Cpl. Tommy Martin after a two year skive with the YBD recruiting team. Never mind Tommy, we all have to start work sometime.

# Fillans

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## SPORT

### SOCCKER

#### THE INFANTRY CUP FINAL 1967

1 DWR 0 1 RHF 4

A score of 4—0 in favour of 1 RHF will go down in the record books as a convincing victory and no-one who saw the match can deny that the best team won. The match, however, will not be remembered for its exhibition of football so much as for the wonderful spirit in which the game was played. The display of sportsmanship from both teams was of the highest order and all the unpleasant facets which have developed in the modern game were missing. There was no playing for time, arguing among players or tactical fouling, to quote but a few of the more unpleasant skills of the game.

The RHF began with a direct thrust down the middle, ending in a firecracker of a shot from the inside-forward. Cpl. Youdan in goal for "The Duke's" had no problem in covering the shot but we had already seen a glimpse of the direct attack that was going to prove very troublesome to our defence.

From Youdan's clearance to right half and captain, Cpl. Hirst, "The Duke's" set up their first attack. The ball moved smoothly from Hirst to L/Cpl. Ward on the right wing then inside to Pte. Heron and across to centre-forward, L/Cpl. Higgins. Higgins drew the defence to him and then put the ball through the very square RHF back line, for Ward cutting in to pounce on it. With only the keeper to beat, Ward steadied himself before shooting low to the right-hand corner of the goal. The RHF keeper, anticipating the shot well, had to go full length to stop it.

Both teams, having had their initial thrusts parried, now settled down to playing good constructive football, with attacks from both teams being broken down by equally sound defence. The RHF with the wind behind them used the long accurate pass very well, frequently catching "The Duke's" defence off balance, but quick recoveries from Pte. Anderson at left-half and Pte. Hayes at centre-half blunted the attacks. The link men for "The Duke's", Hirst and Pte. Pennington at inside-left, worked very hard to get their attack going, but the RHF centre-half played excellently, staving off many threatening "Dukes" moves.

As half time approached it seemed that the teams would change round with honours even, but this was not to be. The RHF breaking up yet another "Dukes" attack, quickly countered with a break-away down their right wing. "The Dukes" centre-half seemed to have the situation well under control but the RHF winger following up fast succeeded in taking the ball from Hayes. With only goalkeeper Youdan to beat, the winger made no mistake putting RHF one goal in the lead. "The Dukes" now pressed hard for an equaliser. Centre-forward Higgins scored a spectacular goal from thirty yards but this was disallowed for offside. The score remained the same until ten minutes after the restart when Youdan, having parried two shots from point blank range, was left with no chance with the third shot from the RHF left winger.

The supremacy of the RHF was now beginning to tell and for the remainder of the game there was little doubt left as to the final outcome. "The Duke's" tried again and again to break through,

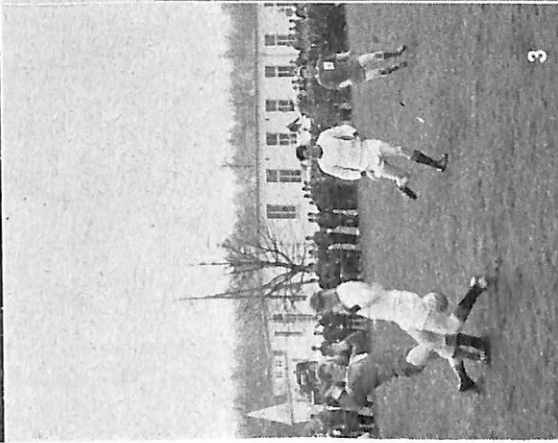
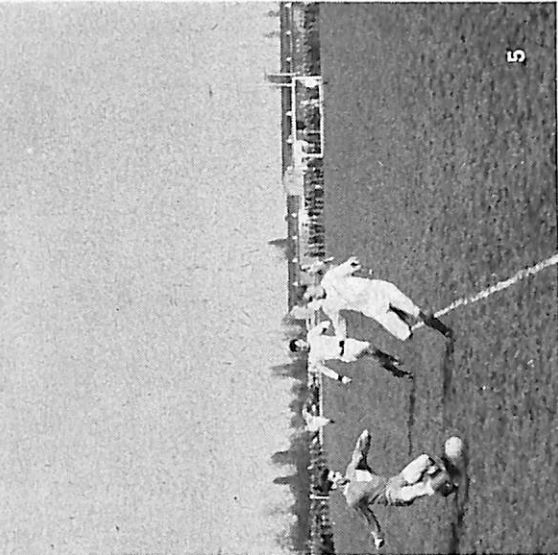
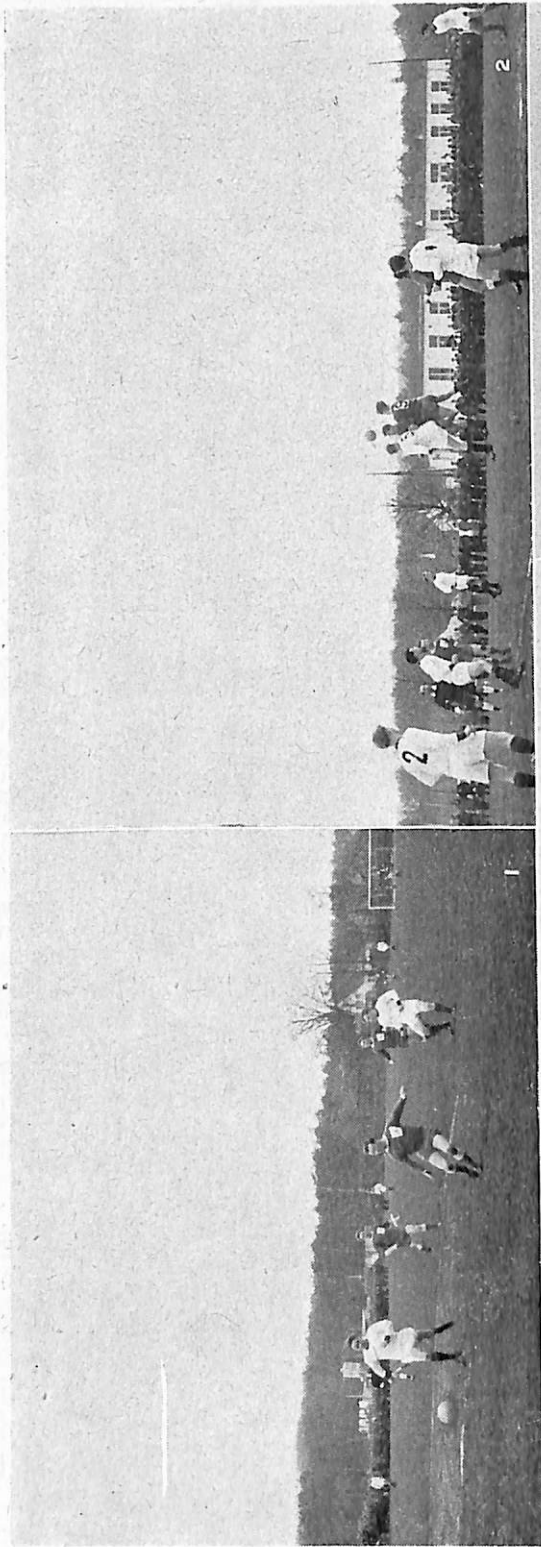


#### TEAM MEMBERS

*Standing:* Cpl. Hirst, Pte. Loxam, Pte. Backhouse, Cpl. Youdan, Pte. Haigh, Pte. Heron, Pte. Anderson, Pte. Pennington, Pte. Mathiot, L/Cpl. Higgin, L/Cpl. Ward, Pte. Hayes.

*Sitting:* Capt. Thompson, Lieut.-Col. D. E. Isles, Lieut.-General Sir John Mogg, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., G.O.C., 1 Br. Corps, Brig. White, Chairman of Management Committee, Infantry Cup.





1. Ward tries for goal.    2. Up go the heads.    3. Hirst Goes for the ball.    4. Higgin beats his man.    5. Heron prepares to pass.



# **FIRTH CARPETS**

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but the excellent defence of the RHF held out, and they were quick to send their forwards away on the attack.

The RHF scored two more before the whistle for time and, but for the brilliant display put up by goalkeeper Youdan, and the courageous hard work of Pte. Loxam at right back, Hayes in the middle, Pte. Backhouse at left-back and Pte. Anderson at left-half, the deficit might have been greater. Cpl. Hirst never gave up making thrusting movements into the opponents' half, trying to drive his team into scoring. All the forwards, left-wing Pte. Mathiot, inside-left Pte. Pennington, L/Cpl. Higgins, Pte. Heron and right-wing L/Cpl. Ward, all had their chance, and the RHF keeper was forced to make some spectacular saves.

So 1 RHF ran out deservedly as winners of the *first ever* Infantry Cup but both teams deserve a medal for the wonderful display of sportsmanship.

Who were these men who took "The Dukes" into their first football final of any consequence for over 30 years?

At goalkeeper there was lofty **Cpl. Youdan**, whose massive form deterred many an opposing forward from trying to bundle him into the net. Throughout the season Cpl. Youdan has made many brilliant saves to keep "The Dukes" goal intact. He hasn't quite made the BAOR side but is on the fringe.

**Pte. Loxam** at right-back only recently made the first team but his physical fitness and stamina has more than made up for any lack in football skills.

**Pte. Backhouse** at left-back is a young player with a good potential. He is a little slow at times but, as he gains experience, will develop into a useful addition to any Battalion team.

Team captain **Cpl. Hirst**, at right-half, is a very sound player indeed. He makes few mistakes and is always ready to link the defence to the attack. A prominent Battalion skier, his services are much in demand. At Centre-half, tall, blond, **Pte. Hayes** commands the centre of the field. A good player who distributes the ball well.

**Pte. Anderson**, at left-half, tall and gangling, but always giving his best. Has to fight for his place in the team but when he is on form few players can match his tremendous stride and reach.

At right-half, **L/Cpl. Ward**, a small player with bags of enthusiasm. A great asset when he has a good game.

**Pte. Heron** at inside-right is an industrious worker. He is really more a half-back than an inside-forward, but always plays hard whatever he is asked to do. Heron, like Cpl. Hirst, is a prominent Battalion skier.

At centre-forward is red-haired **L/Cpl. Higgins**, top scorer for the Battalion. L/Cpl. Higgins, like some others, is not in his true position at centre-forward, but is quite willing to forsake his natural position as left winger for the benefit of the team.

**Pte. Pennington** at inside-left is the other link man always working in midfield to set the attack going. He has represented the Osnabruck Garrison Team and is well-known for his long distance shots at goal.

Finally, at outside-left, Seychelle Islander **Pte. Mathiot**. He has the fortunate habit of scoring goals, and always keeps his place in the side for this reason.

Four more men deserve a mention in any report on "The Dukes" football on this season. They are firstly, **Bdsm. Haigh**, who was substitute in the final, and **Cpl. Waite** who played in the earlier rounds. Both men gave their best and were instrumental into getting "The Dukes" through to the final. Secondly, behind the scenes, **CSM Chilvers** and **Sgt. Lawrence** did much to prepare the team and coax them through the various games to the final.

## HOCKEY

A small but determined band of enthusiasts played hockey throughout the winter. The results, while not outstanding, have been satisfactory. The team joined the Osnabruck League and, although it was not possible to complete the league programme before leaving for Cyprus, the side had only lost two league games throughout the season. The team entered the Army Cup but was beaten in the Divisional Semi-Final 3—1 by 24 Missile Regt. RA, who produced too powerful a forward line for us to hold for the whole game.

It has been encouraging to see a number of young soldiers playing hockey this year in addition to the regular supporters of the side such as the Commanding Officer, Major Hardy, Major Huxtable, C.S.M. Todd, S/Sgts. Fee, Brown and Derbyshire and SSI Beatty. In particular the side has had very good support from the Pay Office and LAD.

Although it was intended to hold an inter-company knock-out competition, this never came to fruition. This was a pity as there is a need to modernise the forward line and unless inter-company hockey is played the young players who do not at present rate the Battalion side get no opportunity to improve.

## RUGBY

### 2 DIVISION AND BAOR SEVEN-A-SIDE

Without much concerted training, 1 DWR prepared to defend the Divisional and BAOR Seven-a-Side trophies for the fourth year in succession. With players on leave up to a day or two before the Divisional Sevens, practice was at a premium, and it was a case of relying on the ability of players who knew the game.

On Wednesday April 26, we journeyed to Minden for the Divisional Sevens. The weather was perfect, and an enjoyable tournament ended with 1DWR winning the trophy, beating 2 Div. HQ and Signal Regt. in the final by 28 points to 3. The afternoon was well utilised in gaining practice and, by the end, the machine was running smoothly and gave us confidence for the BAOR Sevens on the following Saturday.

For the BAOR Sevens there was one change, Pte. Cuss replacing Pte. Waqabaca. Again the weather was excellent, and it was soon apparent that we were hitting our best form. Comfortable wins were gained at the expense of 17 Rear Vehicle Depot,

30—0, and 11 Bde HQ, 23—0. Then came the semi-Final against old rivals, 7 Signal Regiment, who were fancied to go one better than last year when we beat them by 10—8. However this time we were well prepared and made no mistakes. Having held strong Signals pressure in the first half, "The Duke's" stole away for an unconverted try. This demoralised 7 Signals, and with the sun, wind and slope in our favour in the second half, the side put on a fine display, scoring four converted tries to win by 23—0.

The final was against 34 Light Air Defence Regiment, and this proved to be a hard struggle, due mainly to Cpl. Robinson, a prop, sustaining concussion in the first minute. He gallantly stayed on the field, and by doing so saved us from the inevitable disaster of playing with only six men. However the battle was very much on, as Cpl. Robinson could hardly participate in the game. Some fine running and hard covering in the first half enabled us to score two tries against one by the Gunners, and the second half was obviously going to be a question of whether or not we could hold out. By clever use of the ball, incisive running and good

covering in the second half "The Duke's" scored two more converted tries, and gradually made the Gunners become more desperate. This led to mistakes and they never really managed to make a serious effort in the second half. Thus "The Duke's" won 16—3, to win the BAOR Sevens for the fourth successive year.

Again "The Duke's" showed that a side which has mastered the art of Sevens is very difficult to beat. Stating that 1 DWR have won four years in succession may sound boastful, but in fact the results speak for themselves. This particular side played extremely well, their performances as a whole were better even than last year.

This winds up another very successful rugby season for "The Duke's", winning again the BAOR Cup (Army Cup Semi-Final), the Army Cup, and the BAOR Sevens Trophy. Also again this year players from "The Duke's" represented the Combined Services, the Army, and BAOR XV's.

Team: Pte. Cuss (BAOR Sevens) Pte. Waqabaca (Div. Sevens) Lt. Edwards, Capt. Reid (Capt.), Lt. Pettigrew, 2 Lt. Bird, 2 Lt. Westcob, Cpl. Robinson.

## COMPANY NOTES

### ALMA COMPANY

The Company took over United Nations duties for Ktima town and area at 1400 hrs. on May 3, 1967. The take-over from Don Company, The Black Watch, went very successfully.

"The Alma's" new home is called St. Patrick's Camp and our arrival was made welcome by large displays of wellington boots hung around the camp from convenient electric light wires. However the festive air of the Black Watch's departure was soon forgotten and the camp once again assumed a true United Nations' impartial air. Grass cutting and making all shipshape is steadily progressing under C.S.M. Battye's eagle eye.

Platoons of the Company are scattered wide. Number 2 Platoon is soldiering with Corunna Company at Kophinou. In their place at present we have 10 Pl. Dettingan Company. Our deployment in Ktima is Company HQ and a platoon in St. Patrick's camp, a platoon in Ktima Town, and a platoon in the country at Xeros Bridge.

It is planned that, during a month's spell, the three platoons will do ten days in each of the three positions: in Camp, in Ktima and at Xeros Bridge.

We have now been doing United Nations' duties for a little over ten days and fortunately our area has been peaceful during the early period of our stay in Cyprus.

One or two small incidents have served to keep everyone on their toes and show us a few of the hazards ahead when refereeing the two communities. On our first day a Greek Cypriot pig escaped into the middle of a Turkish Cypriot goat herd and this set the wires buzzing until Cpl. Dooley of 10 Pl. ran out, caught the animal and placed it under close arrest. Later the renegade pig was handed over to

the Greek Cypriot police. The Sergeant Major, when he first heard of the trouble, thought a "one ton armoured pig" was driving around starting a war. Fortunately he realized his mistake before alerting the Company rocket launcher team!

Another more serious occasion happened when the Turkish Chargé D'Affaires was stopped in Ktima and the Standby Section was warned to mount a rescue operation. There was much disappointment when they were later stood down without the Section's help being needed.

In off duty hours swimming takes top place and we are luckily near several good beaches, the best being Coral Bay lying a few miles north along the coast from Ktima. When possible, bathing parties are organised in the afternoons and include men from St. Patrick's and Ktima Town. The platoon at Xeros Bridge have their own private beach near the Mandria Caves Post. Other games and exercises vary between early morning runs, section volley ball and football games against local teams. I am sorry to say that, in the first game against Ktima Turkish Cypriots, the selected XI were well beaten. However it was a good game and did everyone good. We are hoping to arrange a return game quite soon.

### BURMA COMPANY

With a sigh of relief the advance party left for Cyprus on April 23, leaving behind our wives, sweethearts and others to the elements of the North German Plain. "Come to Sunny Cyprus" the advertisements advise. We did and, for ten days, shivered and longed for our heavy wool sweaters. "This is the worst winter we have had for years", the locals say, but, as if an omen for our good



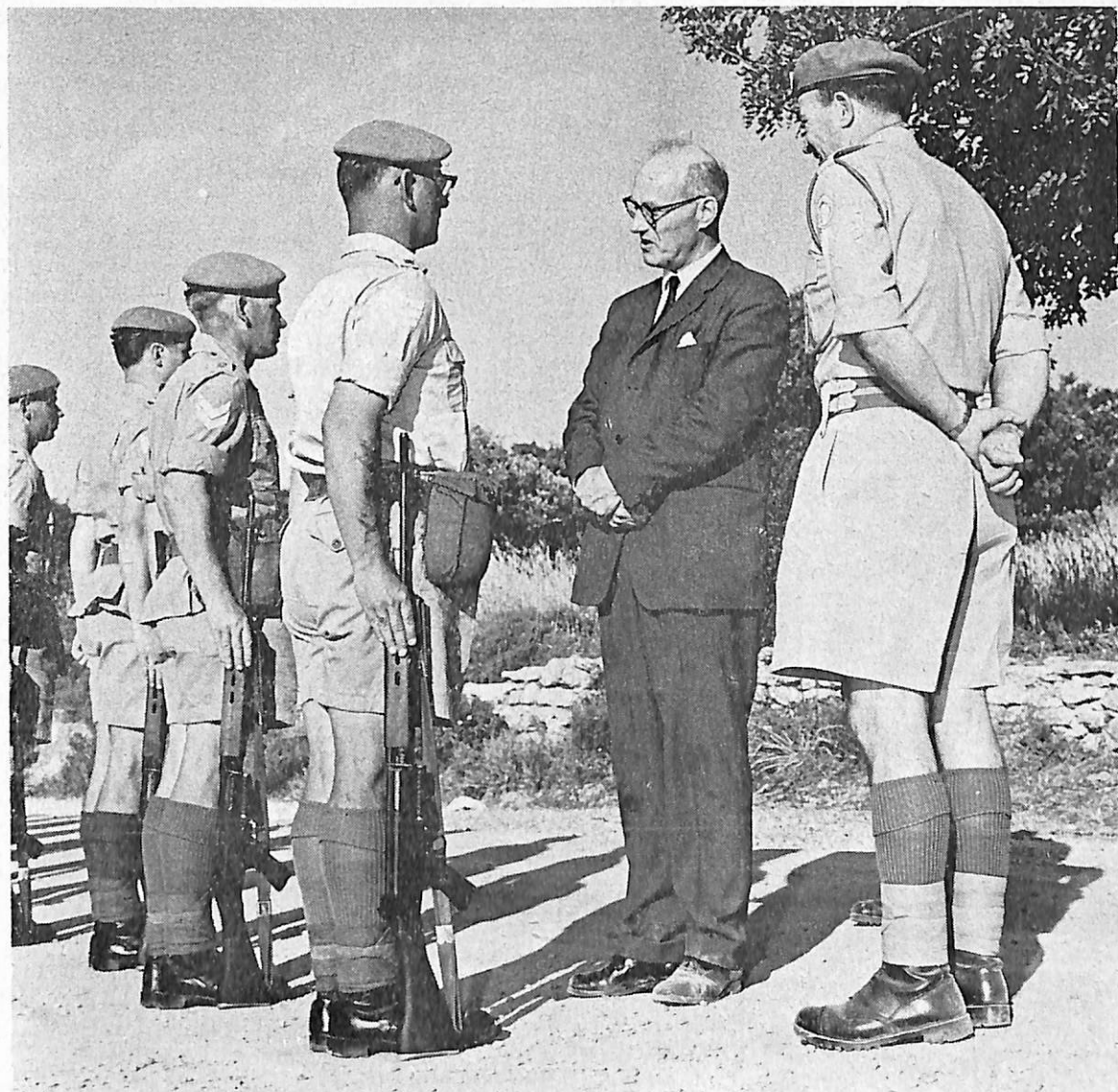
fortune here, the weather improved with the arrival of the Main Body over May 2—6. Against the advice of the doctor those who are able are taking advantage of the sun and burning their fish-belly-like skin into a colour more appropriate for a travel agent's "glossy". Don't feel envious, those of you left behind, there is a lot of work being done too, much of which could become monotonous and boring when the novelty of working with a UN Force wears off.

Burma Company is based alongside Battalion Headquarters in Polemidhia Camp, just outside Limassol. Platoons and sections, however, switch rapidly from one location to another, depending upon the itchiness of the trigger fingers of the Greek National Guard and Turkish Cypriots. The

Company mans two outposts, one in Limassol Town and the other in Episkopi Village. Both these posts are comparatively comfortable with all mod cons including the "Telly". There is no need to ask the soldiers whether they would prefer to be on outpost or in the base camp.

Our MT glistens. Cpl. Waite, who is in charge of the vehicles, is in his element. Ably assisted by that jack of all trades, Pte. Barker, he seems to be forever adding a bit of yellow paint here and red there. All of which we are assured, by the man who is always on the go, the MTO, adds to the efficiency of the vehicles. They look good anyway. Cpl. Waite must also be currently the brownest man in the Company.

Cpl. Ryan works wonders with ancient wireless equipment and does much to refute the statement



**Mr. J. Boyden, M.P., The Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Ministry of Defence (Army) seen here talking to Sgt. G. Butterfield and Cpl. R. W. O. Smith at Mari during his recent visit to Cyprus.**



Pte. Marshall of "C" Company at Kophinou with the Platoon Mascot.

that the stuff won't last for ever. In spite of his hard work he still looks as prosperous as ever.

You will undoubtedly read elsewhere in this edition of the success of the Regimental soccer team. Most of the credit for moulding the team must go to C.S.M. Chilvers who spent a great deal of his embarkation leave on the soccer field. Four members of the Company were in that soccer team. Cpl. Youdan, who entertained us all with his acrobatic agility in the goalmouth, and those stalwarts of defence Ptes. Backhouse, Loxam, Hayes.

We have so many new arrivals in the Company that to list them all would almost be the same as writing a platoon role. We welcome them all and hope they enjoy their stay in Burma Company. We welcome one new platoon commander, 2/Lt. Roberts, the son of—Ssh, you know who—and wish him every success in "The Duke's".

#### "KORUNNA" COMPANY

"Force K", as it is known, which until yesterday consisted of Corunna Company, 2 Pl. of Alma Company, 5 Pl. of Burma, one and a half troops of The 5th Inniskilling Dragoon Guards and one officer and 39 men of the Swedish Contingent of the United Nations has undergone an overnight transformation. Yesterday the Swedish Contingent were required to reinforce their own battalion in Larnaca and were replaced in "Force K" by 4 Pl. of Burma Company. Consequently at midnight on May 16, Force K passed from under command Famagusta Zone to under command Limassol Zone, thus reverting to the command of the Battalion.

The two weeks we have spent in Force K under Swedish Command have gone very smoothly and we have found the Swedish Contingent very helpful and very easy to work with. We have also been most impressed by their ability to speak English. However it is comforting to be once more under the command of our own battalion and commanding officer.

The Force is distributed around twelve different posts which vary in size from the "compound", with a large Company HQ and two platoons, through platoon and section posts down to a post of four men and two scout cars. The bulk of the Force is centred in Kophinou where there is an ex-Turkish police station in a small fenced compound of about 100 yards square. In this compound, in some discomfort, live approximately 80 men. Their task is to safeguard the compound against attack and to preserve freedom of movement on the Limassol/Nicosia and Limassol/Famagusta roads which join at Kophinou. Around the village of Kophinou other posts are scattered whose tasks are again to ensure that there is no interference with the freedom of movement on the main roads. The other main centre of interest for the Force is the village of Mari, another Turkish village, where there was a small battle between Greek National Guard and the Turkish Fighters which resulted in the closing of the main road. Their task is to ensure that there is no recurrence of the fighting and that, again, freedom of movement is maintained along the road.

The platoons within the Company "rotate" each week so that every week a platoon is in a fresh area and, perhaps more important, so that no platoon spends more than a week at a time in the compound. There are rather more comforts in the compound than on the outposts but, nevertheless, weeks spent inside are much less popular than those spent out. C.S.M. Todd, however, has taken on the task of turning the compound into a more comfortable place to live in and is to be seen every day directing work on his projects.

The soldiers' job in this area is largely one of observing and reporting the movements of all Turkish forces and Greek National Guard. From time to time some unusual event occurs which disturbs the even tenor of our lives. Two weeks ago the people of a Turkish village started to build a swimming pool. They were building it just outside their village and the Greeks objected that they were extending the village and that the Turks would shortly start building fortifications to protect the swimming pool. They were reassured when they were told by the United Nations that there was no military significance to the pool. However, a few days later, the Turks prepared to put up a flag-pole by the pool. It was obvious that they intended to raise the Turkish flag on this which the Greeks would undoubtedly have found provocative. Consequently, late one afternoon, reserve forces from the compound were rushed to the area with instructions to prevent the pole being put up. On their arrival the last guy rope was being fastened. It was two hours later, after much negotiation at all levels, that the Turks eventually consented to





1. Ptes. Irwin, Whittaker and Dyson of " B " Company filling their jerry cans at Kophinou.
2. Ptes. Uttley and Aspin helping to improve the Camp at Paphos District.
3. Pte. Monaghan at Ktima operating the Telephone Exchange at the Villa.
4. Cpl. Dowdall briefing Pte. Smith of " A " Company at Stavrokono before he goes on Sentry Duty.

remove the pole, thus allowing the swimming pool to revert to its non-political status. This is only an example of events which occur from time to time, but it explains the need for every man in the force to be prepared to move at very short notice anywhere in our area in the event of trouble.

Finally, everyone is enjoying themselves. There is no question that, here in the Kophinou area, there is a real need for some form of peace-keeping force and we are getting real satisfaction from trying to keep the peace. What is more we are all thoroughly enjoying the sunshine. The only pity is that our families are not enjoying it with us.

The usual congratulations are not included in this issue as it is anticipated that within the next six months nearly everyone will have served in "Korunna Company" and it would be impossible to cover them all. Our congratulations this time are therefore confined to those members of Hook, Alma, Burma and Dettingen Companies who are fortunate enough to join us here from time to time.

### Personalia

*New Arrivals:* Captain C. R. Cumberlege as Ops "B" Officer. 2/Lt. C. Gilbert—Commander 7 Platoon. C/Sgt. Middelton.

*Departures:* Lt. Cartwright to become 2IC Burma Company. Lt. Edwards, Sgt. Blacow and Mortar Platoon to Dettingen Company.

*Promotions:* To CSM—C/Sgt. Brown now CSM Dettingen Company. To C/Sgt.—Sgt. Middelton—CQMS Corunna Company. To L/Cpl.—Arundel, Ormerod and Walker.

### Marriages

Congratulations to Ptes. English, Bowes, Taylor 75 and Watson.

### Births

Congratulations to Sgt. Spearman—Son. Pte. Broadley—Daughter.

## DETTINGEN COMPANY

After a number of years sitting on the shelves in the Quarter Master's stores, Dettingen Company has come alive again. Our task in Cyprus required the Battalion to be organised on a four company basis; hence the re-birth. Very mysteriously odd items of the last Dettingen Company are beginning to appear. C.S.M. Brown has produced the old company flag while Cpl. Hodkinson can be seen playing volley ball in an old D Company singlet. Cpl. Baker, it is rumoured, has discovered D Coy's old dog from Cyprus. At least this is how he is managing to explain the presence of his current dog.

The Company is desperately trying to improve its football side. Both the Greeks and the Turks have given us a sound thrashing. It is hoped, however that the Mortar Platoon will soon rectify this.

Our Signal Section seems to have objected to the HQ's latest venture—carrier pigeons. While the signallers are no doubt doing an excellent job, there is a definite movement to have a more reliable system.

The task here is an unusual one, but an agreeable one. We are all kept quite busy and very few wish to be elsewhere.

All our posts are busily improving their positions in an attempt to really enjoy the amenities of Cyprus. The weather is improving daily and the increase in the swimming parties bears witness to this.

There seems to be a definite air of the old support company around, caused mainly by the Anti-tank and Mortar platoons, who form the basis of the Company. However, Dettingen it is, and any old members can be assured that the past traditions are to be continued.

## HOOK COMPANY

The deadline for Iron Duke Notes is always the day upon which they are written. Today is no exception. Fate has taken a hand, though, in that, as a result of a little excitement in Limassol this Company has put two platoons in the field, not counting the Drums or Assault Pioneers, and the Camp is strangely silent. In the next office Drum Major Allerton (whom we welcome as Hook Company C.S.M. for Cyprus) is phone orderly. W.O.2. McManus, our C.Q.M.S., is typing. Capt. Stevens (whom we welcome as OC Hook Company in Cyprus) is moving rapidly between the Operations Room and our final reserve platoon, commanded by Lt. Kirk, to keep them in touch with the situation. Great days!

W.O.2. Fen was promoted to R.Q.M.S. just before we we left, so he had to stay behind (with very mixed feelings) Many congratulations.

The PRI is run by Captain Stevens and Sgt. Stanworth, who deals in matters educational. This organisation distributes NAAFI Stores, UN Cigarettes and newspapers throughout the area, besides coping with our Pakistani Contractor. In conjunction with the PRI, Cpl. Pollard handles the films, for we provide fourteen performances of two (quite modern) AKC films weekly.

So we are doing the tasks for which we were trained. Morale is high and of course it is not all work—swimming, volley ball, tennis and badminton all have their place. The OC is to be seen vanishing seaward with his aqualung, but where is Knut? Non Combatant?

## RECCE PLATOON

There is one word which sums up the period covered by these notes, and that is "change". In the Recce Pl. there have been so many changes that we are only just certain who exactly is in the platoon. The platoon commander has gone to take over the intelligence world, and the new platoon commander has left the refined atmosphere of Bn. HQ for this more earthy number.

Sgt. Glencross was whirled away to take over the Drums platoon in Cyprus, in a tactical as opposed to a musical role, so we are told! Sgt. Lawrence, only recently Cpl. Lawrence of the recce, has stepped into his shoes, and is getting on with the job in Cyprus.

Cpls. Kendrew and Garth, and Ptes. Beevers, Austin and Cobey have left us for various employ-



ments both in the Battalion and in England. In their place we have welcomed at short notice L/Cpls. Blood and Coates, and Ptes. Laycock, Hartley and Sharp, which just about brings the platoon up to strength.

Apart from personnel changes, like the rest of the Battalion, we have changed countries and climates. Gone are the waterproofs and tank suits of the German plains, and in their places emerge tanned and manly chests encased in KD jackets, much more appropriate to the Mediterranean sunshine.

The platoon is split here in Cyprus into two groups. Two thirds of the platoon are at Paphos under the command element, and doing the very necessary job of keeping in touch with the grievances of the far flung villages in the district, and spreading an aura of calm by purely venturing into the remoter regions.

The other six men, under Cpl. Woodcock, are holding the fort at Kophinou, with the help of "C" Company and three other platoons. There they are helping the signallers man a 24 hour watch on the control sets, and also getting out round the villages.

The job here is indeed interesting from the recce point of view, and there can be few better climates in which to perfect the techniques of driving, signalling and map reading.

On the lighter side, the swimming is quite excellent, according to the soldier who knocked off the platoon commander's trunks, and the local fauna is quite fearsome, as Pte. Laycock will testify. He practically put the platoon commander down the mountainside because a beetle, fully half an inch long, flew up his KD shorts whilst he was driving. The length of the beetle is purely guesswork, for it seemed to disappear.

### MORTAR PLATOON

Since our last notes, we have changed companies three times and our title once, all this because of the "settling in" process for UN in Cyprus. In fact many of the changes were unsettling, particularly the loss from our midst of the drivers which included Ptes Smith 77, Hartley, Peaker, Browne, Cook and Wilde who, we are assured, are somewhere on the island under the careful watch of "D" Company at Polis? The remainder of us are known as 10 Platoon, by everybody except ourselves, and we are currently in the front line at Ktima/Paphos.

Although at the time of writing many of the lads are different colours of red, pink and brown as a result of the Mediterranean sun, we have otherwise settled down to life in Cyprus as a normal rifle platoon very happily. No sooner had we climbed out of the aircraft on landing at Akrotiri, donned our light blue hats, scarves and badges, than we found ourselves residing in The Villa, Junction House, and Mavroli, three UN posts from where we bravely kept the peace between Turk and Greek for ten days. There were many distinguished feats of devotion to duty, courage and fortitude in face of the . . . (there is no enemy)! during this period. As a result of which the title of King of Ktima was bestowed on the Platoon Commander, and Cpl. Dooley's section gained special notoriety for the

number of times they told the CYPOL post to put their weapons away, and the Turks to shoot at somebody else; whilst Cpl. Ingham and his men were famous for the speed with which they unearthed any new signs of Turk digging. Unfortunately our tour of duty came to an end all too soon, everyone having benefited enormously from having a certain amount of independent command, and we were withdrawn to the safer but more trying precincts of St. Patrick's Camp, where grass cutting became a daily routine of testing monotony. However the swimming and sunbathing at Coral Bay in the afternoons made up for much of the hard labour of the morning.

Our future in Cyprus is known up to the end of June: Sgt. Blacow, "Ole Dad", takes 15 men, out of our total of 20, to Nicosia for a week where they will take on the responsible job of HQ UNFICYP Guard; the remaining 5 men will look after their Platoon Commander. Then on June 2, we are scheduled to take over from the A/Tk Platoon up in the hills around Polis, and we should stay there for a month. But as we are so often reminded—"we are ready to move anywhere at any time", so long as someone gives us ten minutes notice!

### SIGNAL PLATOON

Since the last edition of these notes, the Signal Platoon have not been together as a Platoon for more than a few days at a time. The preparation for the Battalion's move to Cyprus has kept all detachments of the Platoon very busy. Apart from the essential leave, which only Cpl. Jackson disdained, the main tasks have been the preservation of our vehicles and a thorough examination and careful storage of our radio equipment. We hope that L/Cpls. Kelsey and Sykes, with Sig. Bulmer, take good care of it for us while we are in Cyprus, and that Pte. Childs, at present seconded to the Rear Party as Company Clerk, will be fully fit by the time we meet again.

The Platoon has seen yet more additions to its ranks in the form of wives and children. We congratulate L/Cpl. Kench and Pte. Hoyle on their recent marriages, Cpl. and Mrs. Wood on the birth of their daughter, and Pte. and Mrs. Brooks on the birth of their child. Not to be out-done, the Bulmer family has also had an addition: congratulations to you both.

Everyone has now settled down to six months in the sun, where the local situation has demanded that the Signal Platoon be split up into small detachments—stretching from Polis to Kophinou. We are sure that L/Cpl. Bartlett, R. Sigs, will enjoy being "monarch of all he surveys", although anxious ears wait for any signs of his going "Bush" in his lonely (signal-wise) post in the mountains at Anadhiou: at least he'll save a fortune up there, and can while away the time counting his hoard.

Although we have found that work is inclined to detract from the joys of Cyprus as advertised in the magazines, the Signal Platoon are enjoying themselves, sun-bathing and swimming being the main pastimes. The next six months should prove extremely interesting.

### MT PLATOON

*"Cyprus . . . a land famous in all ages. The rosy realm of Venus, the romantic kingdom of the Crusaders"*  
"Lord Beaconsfield"

The author was, I have no doubt, gazing through the rosy tinted spectacles of another and far more leisurely era; however, even today, Cyprus has much to recommend it. Aphrodite certainly knew her onions, when she decided it was hers.

Getting to Cyprus was pleasant enough and everyone had a pleasant flight; at least no one complained about it.

The advance party quickly settled in their new billets which are situated, for a change, close to the MT which is a godsend for admin. purposes etc. The billets, though rather tumbledown, are pleasantly situated with a magnificent view of the bay of Limassol.

There was little opportunity however during the first ten days either to admire or enjoy the views. The MT Chiefs who comprised the whole Advance Party quickly got down to work taking over vehicles and tech. stores from 1BW. Any spare time was taken up with lightning visits to everyone and anyone who might be of assistance both officially and unofficially.

The evenings were spent in knocking back some of the foliage which threatened to creep completely over us like something from a horror movie.

By the time the main body arrived we were more or less in order with all the vehicles taken over. We received a great deal of assistance from Capt. Jimmy Duff-Henderson and his drivers of the Black Watch during the hand-over; our thanks to them all.

We are now firmly settled in and everyone is rapidly becoming bronzed. Leader at the moment is Cpl. Claughton who is already three shades blacker than the locals.

Work on the vehicles is a pleasure under these conditions as anyone who has messed around a 432 in mid-winter will testify. From the point of view of facilities for inspection and servicing, we are far better off than we ever were at Quebec Barracks. We have any amount of inspection pits, bays and even a completely covered-in servicing bay complete with a water jet for underneath the vehicles, this is pure "Heath Robinson" but very effective.

A quick change of company locations when we first arrived had Sgt. Rusby dashing over to the other side of the island with Dettingen Company to Polis.

In closing we must not forget to mention our Tech. side. AQMS Vickers and his chaps are rapidly repairing any vehicle casualties, whilst S/Sgt. Bell and Cpl. Pickles are quickly getting rid of any they can't and keeping the FAMTO Stores rolling in at the same time.

#### Personalia

Our congratulations to Pte. Bill McLachlan and his wife Margaret on the occasion of their marriage; may their life together be a long and happy one.

Congratulations also to Pte. David Waterman and his wife Dorothy on the birth of their daughter Deborah at Munster, and Pte. David Robinson and his wife Janice on the birth of their son David.

### ANTI-TANK PLATOON

We have unfortunately been forbidden to use the title of "Anti-tank" for the next six months, and are now known as 11 platoon "D" Company. However, all concerned would be quite prepared to forego this loss of title if only we could remain at Polis for the entire six months. The first month in Cyprus has passed peacefully and uneventfully. The platoon arrived on May 2, and was immediately dispersed to three outposts in and around Polis. 2 Section plus Sgt. Hemmings to the Guardroom in Polis itself, 3 Section plus Cpl. Hodgkinson to the Hill OP and finally 1 Section and Platoon HQ to Anadhiou. After a fortnight the Hill OP and Guardroom changed around, but the "inmates" at Anadhiou professed themselves to be content not to be changed.

That great cry of "impartiality" has made itself felt already at the Guardroom. Sgt. Hemmings, when asking the Company Commander if he could play football against the Turks, was told "yes if you play the Greeks tomorrow". They were "hammered" on both occasions. Anadhiou's great sporting occasion was volleyball against the village. The result, needless to say, was almost catastrophic, the Turks being expert and the platoon being without a recognised player. The platoon commander distinguished himself by failing to get a single service over the net.

Life's not all beer and skittles though; in fact there's no beer at all, and some of the more portly members of the platoon seem to be improving their figures thanks to this total abstinence. It's surprising what a month or so without a beer will do for the figure.

Much excitement was caused in Polis when the Company Commander bought six bags of cement. The Turks thought it was for the Greeks and vice versa. However it was only to concrete the floor of the marquee at Anadhiou. Three days of "forced labour" and we had an excellent concrete floor thanks to the expertise of L/Cpl. Bartlett (R. Sigs., att.) and his merry band of helpers. McAloon chief mixer, Oxley, Bates, Ward and Barclay labourers, and Soulsby and Carlill doing the carrying. Not content at that, we then built an "Ops Den", under the guidance of the Platoon Commander, chief designer, and Cpl. Lamont as head nail basher; in fact a great deal of work has been done at Anadhiou to make the place more habitable. Cpl. Baker's efforts at the Hill OP must not be overshadowed. They built themselves an excellent Mark I shower, (the Mark II has a fire underneath).

I am due to leave the platoon half way through the tour, at the beginning of August. I should like to take this opportunity to thank the platoon for all that they have achieved over the past 18 months, and to say that it has been a pleasure to command such a loyal and hard working platoon.

Finally congratulations to Cpl. and Mrs. Hodgkinson on the birth of a baby girl, and to Cpl. and Mrs. Soper on the birth of their baby boy.

#### Footnote

Culinary specialities. Oxley-Bates will give anyone free tuition on the making of sausage rolls, guaranteed to crack any concrete.





*Above:* Cpl. Robinson and L/Cpl. Young going over the daily sitrep.

*Below:* Ptes. Oxley-Bates and Ward 22 digging their jerry cans in to keep them cool at Anadhiou with "A" Company.

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## Ist Battalion Rear Party

The Rear Party has now been in existence for about three weeks. Consequently these notes will be brief and will serve largely as a background for our contribution to the next edition of the "Iron Duke".

Our commander is Major David Cowell. Supporting him are Major Nick Naughton and Captain David Pugh—the latter being at present in hospital, we take this opportunity of wishing him a speedy recovery. The Rear Party consists of the HQ under C.S.M. Wilson, QM department under R.Q.M.S. Fenn, LAD under A.S.M. Buckoke, Band under B/M Wood, MT under W.O.2. Arundel and S/Sgt. Sykes, the Pay Department under W.O.2. Pullen—and the workers. All told we are about 150 strong, most of whom are specialists. To date we have been busy getting ourselves organised, making the barracks secure, finding a cricket team and doing annual classification. Later on we hope to be able to report the success of our Nijmegen March team, organised by the LAD. At the moment they are starting on their twenty mile marches, prior to reaching the climax of twenty five miles a day in full kit for four successive days.

A vital part of the Rear Party are the wives. So far close co-operation between all the wives, aided and abetted by our commander, has succeeded in solving all our family problems and helping the grass widows to survive the first difficult weeks of separation. S/Sgt. Derbyshire has put in long hours keeping their lawns cut for them with our new mower—a service which is much appreciated.

Congratulations to Cpls. Soper and Harrison and Pte. Cobe on the birth of their daughters, and to Pte. Dransfield and Sig. Bulmer on the arrival of their sons.

Congratulations, too, to R.Q.M.S. Nicholson on his promotion to R.S.M. of the Depot. We were very sorry to see him go, but delighted to see the

right man get the job. We all wish him and Ann well in their new posting.

We have also said farewell to S/Sgt. Sykes and to Ptes. Winterbotton and Richardson who have left us on discharge. S/Sgt. Sykes and Pte. Richardson will be known to many "Dukes past and present" and articles on them appear elsewhere in this issue.

### REGIMENTAL BAND

It is not often that we come into contact with the German Army, but when we do one can be sure of a warm welcome, as happened to us in a small town of Lingen, north of Osnabruck. As mentioned in our last notes, we perform quite often for the promotion of good Anglo-German relations and this concert was put on in a large German barracks to further the good cause. After the show, which was a resounding success, we were entertained by the NCOs and men of the unit. Friendships were struck up and the following weekend many of the Band were invited to spend a few days with the German families. Although the language barrier still exists, we can all communicate with our comrades in arms quite successfully.

During the past 4 years we have had contact with all NATO forces bar the Americans. Our chance to see how our mighty allies work came in May when we played in Mannheim, in the ex-American Zone of Western Germany. As we had to stay over-night, the American Forces kindly accommodated us in their barracks. We found that the Americans had their entertainments well organised. At their NCO clubs, top variety acts from the States and Germany entertained the troops regularly and one felt that one was sitting in a night club somewhere in the middle of New York. Our performance in Mannheim was for a Flower Festival and was, as usual, a great success.



Police Sports Day, Bielefeld, May, 21, 1967.



Last week, when we were in Bielefeld, the whole Band was arrested by the German Police but instead of being led away to the cells and eating bread and water, we were put on a beer and bock-wurst diet. We were in fact playing for the Bielefeld Police Sports Day and were handsomely rewarded for our efforts.

This week our round of massed bands displays started. Our first year in BAOR was fairly quiet in this respect but, as these shows became more and more popular, the whole thing escalated and now performances are held in Munster, Bielefeld, Hannover, Berlin and Brussels. These shows are usually held in football stadiums and one can guarantee a full-house every time. On an average, 30,000 people attend each performance, except in Berlin when a crowd of 80 to 90,000 will pack the Olympic Stadium.

A notable event happened in Munster. Fifteen minutes before the march-on to the dress rehearsal it was noticed that in the Massed Infantry Display which consisted of five bands, there were only four drum-majors. A quick conference was called and, when the gates of the castle opened and the bands marched on, the centre band (1 DWR) was proudly led by our own S/Sgt. Cooper.

We congratulate S/Sgt. Cooper and Sgt. Cook on their recent promotion and Mrs. Rochelle on presenting her husband with a daughter. We hope that Bandsman Rochelle will soon recover from the injuries he has recently sustained in a motor accident.

## LADIES SHOOTING CLUB

The Club recommenced this winter with a very keen and enthusiastic membership, and Monday night is now one of the highlights of the week for many of our wives. A high standard has been maintained throughout the season, with scores in the mid 90's a regular feature, much of the credit being due to the help and encouragement given by S/Sgt. Goad and Sgt. Wappett, who have devoted so much time to the Club.

We were sorry to say good-bye to Mrs. Cumberlege, one of our best shots; she handed over to Mrs. Robins as Captain. We welcomed the arrival of Major Cowell, who has taken a great interest in the Ladies' Shooting, and his calm presence has helped many a nervous wife holding a rifle for the first time.

The season culminated with the Garrison Ladies' Shooting Competition, which our "A" Team won for the second year running, our "B" Team coming third. The teams being:—

"A" Team: Mrs. Huxtable—94; Mrs. Northend—95; Mrs. Wappett—87; Mrs. Robins—87;

"B" Team: Mrs. Fenn—87; Mrs. Delaney—83; Mrs. Todd—89; Mrs. Stewart—90.

We congratulate Mrs. Northend on being the highest scorer in the competition, and Mrs. Huxtable, a very close runner-up.

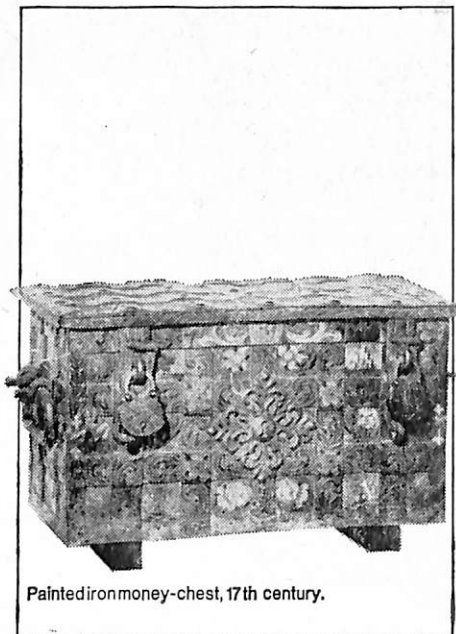
We will miss both Sgt. and Mrs. Wappett next season as they leave the Battalion on posting this summer. We very much appreciate all their hard work. Mrs. Wappett hands over, as Secretary, to Mrs. Delaney.

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### 1 DWR LAD, REME

This is the first time that we have been asked to contribute to the "Iron Duke", and possibly the last, so we will make the most of this occasion and try to enlighten a few people on the fact that we do exist.

Our gallant band of pilgrims consists of seven senior ranks and 31 ORs and, of course, our good old EME, Captain C. M. P. Thompson, who is due to leave us in the near future.

At this moment two-thirds of our strength is stranded in the wilds of Cyprus gallantly upholding the traditions of REME, caring for the sick and tired vehicles of "The Duke's". Consequently the rear party are burdened with the responsibility of once again making roadworthy the tattered remnants, known as vehicles, left behind in

Osnabruck. But we still find time to field a Nijmegen March team of the fittest personnel in the Corps.

We are taking this opportunity to say goodbye to L/Cpl. Robinson who is shortly due to leave to cause alarm and despondency in Civvy Street. He will be closely followed by Cpl. Sage. Both will be missed technically, and also as friends, by all members of the LAD.

The extreme hardship caused by the Nijmegen Training has luckily enough brought about only one casualty, "Q" Pipkin, who on the following morning wanted to have his foot amputated.

We welcome back L/Cpl. Chant from his course where they taught him that his left foot was different from his right.

In the absence of EME in Cyprus, A.S.M. Buckoke takes over the leading role of OC LAD.

## FAREWELLS

### 14051599 S/Sgt. J. SYKES

Jack Sykes has become an institution, and now we have the sad task of saying goodbye to him. Luckily his farewell party was held sometime ago, so he will be leaving us, as he joined us, in good order.

Jack joined the 1st Battalion in Egypt in December, 1945 when Lt.-Colonel Orr was commanding and Capt. McGuinness was MTO and he has served continuously with the MT platoon from that day to this. This really must be a record. Having qualified as a driver, he then drove for Brigadier Webb-Carter, both when he was CO and later in York, for Colonel Isles when he was adjutant and for many other officers. After twenty-two years he has such wide connections in the Regiment that his attendance at OCA functions will no doubt be made obligatory. He is a life-member, and has been in since 1952.

During his career he has attended every type of course which is run at the Army MT School. He has represented the Battalion in Army motor-cycle trials and has trained sixteen MTO's.

Now he has come to the end of his active army career. From now on he is to work for Rolls Royce in Northern Ireland, His new address will be; 9 Willow Vale, off Church Road, Dundonald, Co. Down.

We take this opportunity now of thanking Jack and Ray for all they have done for "The Duke's" and we wish them the best of luck for the future.

### 22793862 Pte. ARTHUR (STRIPEY) RICHARDSON

The month of May is a sad month for the "Dukes". On May 8, "Stripey" Richardson leaves the 1st Battalion on his way to England for demobilisation. Stripey, known to many also as "Old Man", is the oldest known serving other rank left from the 2nd Battalion. He enlisted into the RAOC in Leicester in April 1942 and, after serving in France and Germany, transferred to the 2nd Battalion DWR in Meerut in 1945 where his first company commander was Captain "Baron" Emmett. After



Major Cowell says goodbye to Pte. Richardson.

eighteen months of civilian life Richardson returned to "The Duke's". Since then, with two short breaks, he has served with the Regiment until this year, when he finally leaves us.

"Stripey" Richardson has become one of the Regiment's great characters. Known and liked by all who have served with "The Duke's" over the last twenty years he has spent most of his service in the Officers Mess, either as silverman or batman. In this latter capacity he has "batted" for many well-known "Dukes" including Brigadier Firth, Colonels Isles and LeMesurier, Majors Roberts, Tedd, Hoppe, Cowell, Huxtable and Dasent. He is a soldier in the old tradition, always cheerful, always loyal and always ready to work, regardless of the hours involved. The Mess will certainly find it hard to replace him.

We all wish him the best of luck in his new career in the General Post Office in Hebden Bridge and we shall look forward to seeing him at the OCA Reunions (he is a life-member of the OCA) in the coming years.

## AVR II

### "C" COY. (DWR) THE YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS

Supported by the "new image" the Company has gone off to a fine start since April 1. The National Recruiting Campaign added a lot of weight to our own local efforts and, as a result, gaps in the establishment have now been filled. The total increase ending up at nearly 30. This has presented a problem in recruit training but concentration of effort by our PSIs and senior NCOs has soon made an impression.

One very interesting point is that the new organisation has shown up the need for specialist training. Support weapons are very much to the fore, and Sgt. Barry is having his work cut out to train a large number of signallers in the new procedure. This procedure has obviously been designed to include all those phrases which have been taboo for so many years.

S/Sgt. Wakefield is brushing up his forgotten BAT knowledge and, with such keen N.C.O.s as L/Cpl. Andrews and Widdop, is making some useful headway.

As always, we are over-run with potential drivers but Captain John Cook has organised driving instruction, and we hope before camp to have all the drivers we need.

The sun shone brilliantly on our first weekend at Ripon where we showed the recruits over an assault course. This was built by the Sappers and every brick was beautifully laid, quite differently from the brick dropped by OC Company in waking up the local residents on Sunday afternoon. Testing our own company administration for the first time it can be said that the "A" and "Q" Departments did their tasks well and all personnel went home with the feeling of a job well done. Here it will be appropriate to mention the hard work put in by our PSIs in preparing training and administration so thoroughly. Without their assistance it would be impossible for their Volunteer counterparts to do their jobs properly.

Classification at Strensall was however a rather wet weather job. This did not prevent us getting 80% of the Company through the complete new course with all passes in LMG and only four failures in SLR. Scoring was so good, with marksmen and 1st class shots in profusion, that OC Company asked his counterpart in "A" Company if they had achieved equal success. It seems therefore that the quick shooting of the new course appeals to the shooting eye of the average soldier, as distinct from the Bisley bullet.

For the future, we are looking forward to another full weekend before camp and then Annual Camp at Stanford PTA. Here is the opportunity we are all waiting for to bring our weapon and tactical training to a combined climax. Recruits will be integrated into platoons for training and we are sure they will show us how well they can fit in with those who have longer service. We hope that the weather

will be kinder than the last time when "Dukes" volunteers were at Stanford. However, camp will be the subject of a report in the next "Iron Duke".

Congratulations are due to L/Cpl. Widdop on his promotion and to Cpl. Kaye of the RAMC. When Records so permit us we hope to announce certain promotions to substantive rank providing the NCOs concerned have passed their map reading test!

On the social side the Sergeants have already got themselves well organised, and they are very ably supported by their "Dukes" friends. However, much has still to be done in the soldiers' club or "Volunteer Tavern" where only a hard core of supporters exists. However a mess committee has got to work with the problem and some action is expected.

Here it will be appropriate to mention the hard work put in by Sgt. Dave Peckett and his merry men in organising the last social event of the former Territorial "A" Company at Halifax, the "Easter Draw". This was a very great success, and we hope, the forerunner of more.

For those who don't know it the Company Orbat at Platoon level is as follows:—

9 Platoon :2/Lt. Butterfield, Sgt. Peckett.

10 Platoon: 2/Lt. Steele, Sgt. Fossard.

Sp Platoon: Lt. Widdop, Sgt. Carey (BAT) Sgt. Dolan (Mor).

Company HQ: W.O.2. Dodgson, S/Sgt. Howell, Sgt. Hurst (MT), Sgt. Barry (Sigs), Mr. Westerman (Ex W.O.2 W. Riding Battalion) as our very popular civilian company clerk.

There is still a certain state of flux below this level but it is expected this will harden by camp.

Well, in conclusion, we think we have got off to a reasonable start. Recruiting is good. Attendance first class. Spirits are high and we look forward to many years of happy "volunteering". It is a tragedy that the volunteer forces have been divided in this way but now there is no doubt that both Volunteers and Territorials are doing their best to carry on the best traditions they hold and to create new reputations for service and efficiency. We wish well to all "Territorials", particularly those in the W. Riding Battalion and look forward to years of happy liaison. From our point of view we welcome the opportunity to serve alongside troops from a wider area of Yorkshire and with the regular units.

The writer, happily on holiday, apologises for any omissions of importance due to his temporary absence and fervently hopes that the newly appointed Company scribe will make a better job for the next "Iron Duke".

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# THE WEST RIDING TERRITORIALS

## SUB-EDITORIAL

April 1, 1967, which will surely be one of the notable dates in the history of the Territorial Army, came and went in the West Riding Territorials almost unnoticed. So much preparation had gone into the change-over from West Riding Battalion to TAVRII and III that it only required the signing of Pt. II Orders to make it official.

The credit for the smoothness with which the change-over was made must go to Captain Charles Cumberlege and Captain (QM) Bob Callaby who both worked so hard to ensure that the new AVRIII Battalion and AVRII Company got off to the best possible start. Captain Cumberlege has now returned to "proper soldiering" with the 1 DWR. He left with our thanks and best wishes for the future.

We are most fortunate in retaining the services of Capt. Bob Callaby as Administration Officer of the West Riding Territorials. We hope that his vast experience and good humour will be with us for many years to come.

W.O.2. Batty and C/Sgt. Perrin, both well known "Dukes" characters, have joined as TIs.

With such a drastic reduction in training commitments for the new Battalion much thought has had to be given to the way in which our meagre training time can be best used. In addition to an eight day camp we have only four out-of-camp training days at our disposal and these cannot be "pooled". We also have 27 drills per year, 12 of which are obligatory with the balance being at the CO's disposal.

Paid drill nights have now been reduced to one per week on Thursdays when normal cadre training is carried out, the emphasis being on thorough preparation to make the best use of the limited time available. Tuesdays are now unpaid and are sports/social evenings. The Badminton Club is flourishing and the Shooting Club is well subscribed. A small group of weight lifters under Cpl. Bacon throw enormous chunks of metal about and The Terrier Tavern (mine host ex-Sgt. Binns) does roaring trade.

The Shooting Club deserve special mention in that they spend every other Sunday morning on the open range at Deer Hill and those that know Deer Hill will know that this requires not only keenness but considerable hardiness as well!

So far we have expended only one of our valuable out-of-camp days and this was turned into a week-end by holding a voluntary shooting day on the Saturday. Both Saturday (unpaid) and Sunday (paid) were very well attended and useful training carried out.

It was with mixed feelings that we received the news that the West Riding Territorials could recruit up to 13 WRAC, but any doubts as to the advantages of having girls in the unit have now been dispelled. Our WRAC detachment is about up to establishment and the girls, who will be employed on clerical duties, are a credit to the Battalion, both in turnout and keenness. They take part in all unit activities and are producing some good shots on both the indoor and open ranges.

On the subject of recruiting, we are forging steadily ahead. Our strength on April 1, after postings to AVRII, was 100. On May 31 we have reached 140 which is 50% of our peace-time establishment. Although these figures are encouraging, it is realised that there is still a long way to go before we become "viable".

On July 1, we attend our first annual camp in the new role. This will be for 8 days only at Beckingham, Lincolnshire, and on July 8, the Battalion is to receive the Freedom of Mossley, as successors to the 7th, 5/7th and West Riding Battalions. Training at camp will be largely on IS duties, and although these will be new to most of us they should prove interesting.

Before April 1, it was being said that the AVRIII "wouldn't work". It is now being found that AVRIII is working and that the spirit of voluntary service is by no means dead. The West Riding Territorials, with only two months of existence behind them, can look forward to the future with confidence.

## NEWS FROM THE MESSES

### OFFICERS' MESS

"He takes (the P.M.C.) over with a formidable social calendar, but more about this next time"—so ended the last notes from the Mess and how true a statement.

The ladies started it (could it be otherwise!) and on Friday February 24, we entertained our ladies to dinner which, as always, was up to the standard we have become accustomed to from our cooks and mess staff. In fact, a most enjoyable night—or, for the usual hard core, should it be morning? The following evening mess members were guests of

Colonel Jimmy and Betty at a cocktail party and it could go on record that even the "hard core" hadn't to be thrown out.

After this hectic week-end we were given time to recuperate but the last week-end in March was another "double".

On Friday March 31, we held our last guest night as the West Riding Battalion, entertaining representatives from all four Territorial Battalions, in the persons of ex-commanding officers, and Lt.-Colonel Skelsey and Major Davis from RHQ. We also took the opportunity on this night to dine

out Colonel Jimmy who, after nearly five years in the chair, has moved into a "throne" lined with red tabs (or so rumour has it). Major Philip Knowles has gone onto the Reserve; he too was dined out. Captain Charlie Cumberlege, after his very successful tour as adjutant, rejoined the 1st Battalion and we wish both Charles and Jo the best of luck in resuming life in the "cruel outside world" and hope they will visit us when they come north again.

Padre Roy Matthews, "Doc" Turner and Charles Curry have left the Mess—the Padre to look after the spiritual welfare of AVR II units and Charles Curry to command the "Dukes" Company of the Yorkshire Volunteers—good luck to them and thanks for the table lighter they presented to the Mess. "Doc" Turner is still our MO but in a civilian capacity and, as he is kept very busy with our volunteers, he still pops in for a pint every week.

Saturday April 1, and the West Riding Territorials came into being and, in spite of the very late night or early morning, the Mess turned up in force at the All Ranks Ball held to mark his occasion.

Although much smaller in numbers, there is no doubt that the "spirit" in the Mess will maintain its "proof" and camp, on us all too soon, will be the usual combination of hard work and play.

#### SERGEANTS' MESS

On April 1, the Battalion swung into life with a Reorganisation Ball which was very well attended and full justice was done to the bars and buffet. (Sgt. FitzGerald, we are pleased to report, stays with AVR III).

The hue and cry having died down we set about

the task of getting new recruits. In this field S/Sgt. Perrin (TI) can be seen every Tuesday and Thursday evening amongst a host of military forms and certainly surrounded by many new faces. "Burma" Company were given the recruiting task around Huddersfield and C.S.M. Bycroft's efforts have produced over twenty new recruits.

S/Sgt. Leatham, our NCO i/c WRAC, is equally busy and has enlisted some ten girls. Staff Leatham is now hard at work kitting them out and carrying out basic military training. (Stop press: we must add here that, since these notes were started, "Our Edna" (Miss Fairclough) has decided to return to the fold as a member of the WRAC and Staff Leatham's burden is being lightened). Miss Fairclough, our civilian clerk with the TA, was declared redundant on the reorganisation and now works with the Social Services in Bradford. We welcome her return as a member of the WRAC and her vast knowledge of Army routine, together with her previous WRAC service, will be a god-send to our hard-pressed administration staff. W.O.2. Fitton is teaching the girls foot drill, map reading, etc. (It must be hard at times adapting oneself to teaching the fairer sex lessons that for years have been taught masculinewise!)

W.O.2 Simpson has organised a Battalion Shooting Club and, rain, hail, snow or blow, can be seen at Deer Hill surrounded by about thirty keen shots.

W.O.2 Wood, A. has now re-occupied the Chief Clerk's chair and the many and varied problems are met with the usual curse, smile or mixed comment but, somehow or other, dealt with.

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We regret that we have now handed over the Halifax Sergeants' Mess to "C" Company Yorkshire Volunteers (AVR II). Our loss is their gain, but once all the little "teething troubles" of our respective "armies" are sorted out there will be many times when the order will be "as you were".

The Order of March for the Sergeants' Mess now is—

*Battalion HQ:* RSM: W.O.1. J. W. Webb; TIs: W.O.2 R. Batty, S/Sgt. N. Perrin. ORQMS: W.O.2 A. Wood; Int: Sgt. D. Milnes; Officers

Mess: Sgt. W. H. Bacon.

*Anzio:* CSM: W.O.2 J. Fitton, M.M.; CQMS: S/Sgt. K. Ewart; Aslt. Pnrs: W.O.2 J. Pilkington; Recce: W.O.2 G. Simpson; Sgt. P. G. Field.

*Burma:* CSM: W.O.2 F. A. Bycroft.; CQMS: S/Sgt. W. Parkes. Pl. Sgts.: Sgt. D. N. Roberts, Sgt. L. Newton.

*Chindit:* CSM: W.O.2 H. Dillon; CQMS: Sgt. D. Taylor; Pl. Sgts.: Sgt. H. Samson, Sgt. D. Mounsey.

## The Companies

### ANZIO COMPANY

"What's happened to HQ Company; where are their notes?" some of you will wonder. Well, there isn't an HQ Company any more but in its place we have Anzio Company—the specialist company. Its composition is as follows: Recce Platoon, Signals Platoon, Assault Pioneers and a Rifle Platoon. We no longer have the Admin Platoon, the MT Platoon or the Band and Drums. However, if you look carefully at the nominal roll of the Rifle Platoon, you will see such names as Bandmaster Allan Pollard, Drum Major "Drummi" Pickles, Sgt. Bill Fitzgerald (ex ACC), Cpl. Albert Rowe (ex ACC) and many others who have remustered to carry on in the new role.

Our order of battle is as follows: Company Commander, Major P. H. Haws, Company 2i/c Captain A. Hutchinson, C.S.M. J. Fitton, C.Q.M.S. K. Ewart. Signals Platoon Captain I. Fillan, Recce Platoon C.S.M. G. Simpson, Assault Pioneers C.S.M. J. Pilkinton.

On the training side, apart from a slight shortage of men, we have very few problems but now that we do not have a PSI of our own the admin side tends to bog down a little. The Company Commander's desk is always knee deep in paper work and the C.S.M., doubling up as Company clerk, does his best to keep it that way. However, all our problems should soon be solved as we have been promised one of the sweet young ladies of the WRAC (mentioned elsewhere in the issue) to assist in the office. Although April 1, is not long past we can safely say that our "tails are up" (that's not original) and all looking forward to annual camp.

### BURMA COMPANY

Since the last issue of the "Iron Duke" in April we have all been working hard to fit Burma Company for the new Territorial role. Training days are now severely restricted and thus emphasis for training is placed solely on Thursday evenings. Attendance on these training nights has been very good, showing a promising future for the company.

Considerable emphasis has been placed on recruiting and; under the guidance of C.S.M. Bycroft, some 20 new men have been recruited. We also welcome a new officer, Captain J. A. Iredale, who joined us on the reorganisation from RAOC Sheffield. The reorganisation has seen many changes and two of our keener company members, Ptes. Pickstone and

Molloy, travel each training evening from Oldham—a most creditable effort!

To date we have only had one full training day—with a very good attendance—and, considering that we were training at Deer Hill, good weather.

Tuesday evening is now a voluntary training evening and Burma Company has arranged a driving cadre for the Battalion. Instructors are S/Sgt. Parkes, Sgt. Roberts and Cpl. Rutherford (Anzio Company). To date the cadre is going well, possible helped on by the "learners" from the WRAC detachment.

The future looks bright and the company Commander, together with the rest of the Company, are looking forward to a successful camp at Beckingham during the first week of July.

### CHINDIT COMPANY

Since these are the first set of notes to be published after the fateful, and rather appropriate, day of April 1, it would seem right to give readers a little background to "Chindit" Company.

We have been formed at both Halifax and Keighley Drill Halls in the hopes that, being at both towns, we will attract those people who are unable to fulfil the more demanding training commitment of the Volunteers, or those who are over the prescribed age limit.

Halifax has been largely neglected for the past eight weeks to enable our Volunteer Company, which is No. 1. priority, to firmly establish itself, and to also allow the glitter of money attractions etc., to pall!

We are now launching a recruiting campaign designed to attract particularly all former members of the TA who may have found the old training commitments too expensive in broken time, or lost overtime.

Recruiting in Keighley has been frankly disappointing. This can possibly be explained by the uncertainty as to whether we were to continue in the Keighley area. However, this has now been established and, thanks to posters etc., recruits are, at last, beginning to trickle in.

Looking at the problem objectively we should be able to raise a splendid company from Keighley and Halifax.

If, by any chance, there are some eligible people reading these notes, come down, have a natter, and sign on the dotted line. You are certain to enjoy yourselves.



## A Good Year For Our Army Cadets

The Huddersfield detachment of the Area Army Cadet Force, DWR, have had a really good year in various types of competition and now have a creditable display of trophies at St. Paul's Street Drill Hall.

One of their teams, consisting of S/Sgt. P. R. Cole, Sgt. P. J. Duffy, Cpl. G. Garside, Cpl. D. J. Moon, Cpl. R. Metcalfe, and Cadet P. J. Mounsey, won the Cumberledge-Nesbit trophy; Sgt. Duffy has attended a P.T.I., course at Aldershot, won the 220yds. at the West Riding athletics meeting, and was in the Soccer team that won the Crowther Cup; Cadet Mounsey gained five medals and a shield for his wins at 880 yds. in the West Riding, Northern Command and national athletics meetings, and Cadet R. Haigh was awarded the trophy for the most up-and-coming shot.

In addition S/Sgt. Cole, Sgt. Duffy and Cpl. Garside have qualified as marksmen at .22 shooting,

Cadets D. Cole, M. Mothersdale, P. Malik and R. Haigh as 1st class shots, and Cadets A. Goult and M. Exley as 2nd class shots.

Last year S/Sgt. Cole won the award of the Royal Society of St. George.

The Huddersfield Detachment also won the A.Y.T. W/E competition, this year.

Major J. Howarth has now become area commander of the Huddersfield Area Army Cadet Force. Changes of command within his area are: Lt. T. A. Windle, detachment commander at Huddersfield; Lt. D. H. Wilkinson, detachment commander at Halifax; Lt. B. W. Fox, detachment commander at Heckmondwike GS; Captain J. G. H. Field, detachment commander at Thongsbridge; R.S.M. P. J. Ashton as area liaison officer to Major Howarth. Lt. I. S. Smith and Lt. J. Connor remain as detachment commanders at Mirfield and Dobroyd Castle School respectively.

The busy period ahead of the Cadets includes preparation for outdoor shooting, lightweight camping, spring examinations and annual camp which this year is at Burnistone Barracks, Scarborough. Obviously the boys will be pleased with this choice of site, as the camp is close to the seafront and the main entertainment centres.



*Block by courtesy of 'The Huddersfield Examiner'*

### WITH THEIR TROPHIES

*At back:* Cdt. R. Haigh, Cpl. R. Metcalfe, Cdt. P. Armitage. *Front row:* S/Sgt. P. Cole, Sgt. P. J. Duffy, Cdt. D. Cole, Cdt. P. J. Mounsey, Cdt. M. Exley, Cpl. D. J. Moon, Cdt. M. Mothersdale, P. Milk, A. Goult.

# THE YORKSHIRE BRIGADE NEWS

## THE REORGANISATION OF THE INFANTRY

The National Press have already given reasonable publicity to the recent announcement of the reorganisation of the Infantry. The following paragraphs summarise the reasons that have led to this reorganisation and describe how the new organisation will work.

*(The earlier paragraphs of this Brigade Summary have already been set out on page 98—ED.)*

### Headquarters

In each Division a headquarters will be formed which will supersede existing headquarters of brigades and large regiments. Its functions in relation to the Division as a whole will be similar to those of existing brigade headquarters in relation to the brigade. Officers will be gazetted, and soldiers enlisted, into the Division although, whenever possible, officers and soldiers will be posed initially to the regiment of their choice. As officers and soldiers will be on respective common rolls there can be free movement when necessary between regiments within the Division. Basic training will be carried out on a divisional basis. Each division will have a Colonel Commandant who will be a senior serving officer and who will undertake this responsibility in addition to his other duties. He will be assisted by a Deputy Colonel Commandant—a full-time brigadier who will replace brigade colonels.

Regiments will, within the Division, retain their identities, their territorial affiliations, their titles and, initially, their uniforms and cap badges. Colonels of Regiments will remain, and so will RHQs.

### Timing of Implementation

The new system will be implemented in phases over the next three years. The Colonel Commandant and the Divisional Brigadier will be appointed early in 1968 and the Divisional headquarters will commence forming about mid 1968.

### The King's Divison

It has been decided that the Irish Brigade will retain their depot in Northern Ireland. The Yorkshire Brigade Depot at Strensall and the Lancastrian Brigade Depot at Preston will also be retained for basic training and depot functions. The Divisional Headquarters will co-ordinate and control the functions of the three depots. Later the Division may have two depots, one in Northern Ireland and one in the remainder of the Divisional area.

### Conclusion

The aim of this reorganisation is to provide a system which will last despite contraction in the

size of the Infantry. No system or organisation can avoid the pain of disbandment, or the disturbance of amalgamation, for those regiments that are so selected by the Army Board. For the remainder, all the present names and traditions will remain. It is not foreseen that the movement of individuals should be any greater than it is today. An officer or soldier should be able to join the regiment of his choice and remain with it for the greater part of his regimental service. As already happens within the Yorkshire Brigade it will be in the interests of some to move across to another regiment in the Division to fill promotion vacancies. Even then individuals may return later to their own regiment.

This reorganisation has been designed to ensure that the Infantry will not have to suffer further reorganisation in the future. It will now be for us to see that it works to our advantage and that we retain all that is best in our regimental system.

## SPORT

### Rugby

1 Y & L finished their rugby season in Cyprus unbeaten. Their success was crowned by beating the full RAF Cyprus XV by 13pts to 6 after the RAF had beaten the Army Cyprus, mainly due to there only being eight York and Lancasters in the team. 1 Y & L then went on to win the Inter-Service Seven-a-Side Competition.

1DWR reached the final of the BAOR Infantry Soccer knock Out Cup where they were beaten by 1 RHF. This competition was introduced for the first time for the 1966/67 season. It was 1 Green Howards who presented the cup for competition. Our congratulations to 1 DWR for so nearly keeping the cup in the family.

### Shooting

The Brigade Depot again has been very successful in the Northern Command Rifle Meeting held on May 12, 1967.

Results were as follows:—

*Minor Units Championship:* 1st—Yorkshire Bde Depot.

*Team Rifle Match:* 1st—Yorkshire Bde. Depot.

*Team LMG Match:* 1st—Yorkshire Bde. Depot.

*Team SMG Match:* 1st—Yorkshire Bde. Depot.

*Individual Rifle Match:* 2nd—QMSI A. Stephens 4th—Cpl. M. D. Matthews.

*Pairs LMG Match:* 1st—QMSI A Stephens and Cpl. J. B. Nash. 2nd—Sgt. P. Michael and Cpl. M. D. Matthews.

*Individual SMG:* 3rd—L/Cpl. J. Evans.

## BATTALION MOVES

### Arms Plot

1 DWR, now serving with United Nations Forces in Cyprus, are due to return to BAOR in November, 1967. In 1968 they will return to UK and be

stationed in Hobbs Barracks, Lingfield, and at Broadbridge Heath, Horsham.

1 Y & L return from Cyprus after three years in Cyprus. They are not now moving to BAOR and will be stationed in North Weald, Essex.

### Training

1 PWO are scheduled to train in Libya in September and October 1967.

1 Green Howards are training in Canada and commence to fly out in mid July and return at the end of August 1967.

### HONOURS AND AWARDS

Major W. C. A. Battey, PWO, Mention in Despatches for services in Borneo Territories.

### APPOINTMENTS

Lt.-Colonel W. A. E. Todd, PWO, has succeeded Lt.-Colonel T. R. Birkett, PWO, in command of 1 PWO.

Lt.-Colonel M. A. Atherton, PWO, has succeeded Lt.-Colonel D. J. Bottomley, Green Howards, in command of 1 Green Howards.

Lt.-Colonel D. J. Bottomley appointed AAG (MP) at HQ BAOR.

Major R. M. HARMS, DWR, has been appointed 2IC I DWR and succeeded Major E. M. P. Hardy in March 1967.

Captain C. B. K. Smeeton, Y & L, has succeeded Major S. J. Nash as Adjutant 1 Y & L.

Captain C. J. Marchant-Smith, Green Howards, has been selected to succeed Captain M. W. Summers, DWR, as Adjutant of the Brigade Depot in October 1967.

W.O.2. G. Nicholson, DWR, promoted W.O.1. and appointed RSM of the Brigade Depot vice W.O.1. Riordan.

W.O.2. R. C. Fenn, DWR appointed RQMS 1 DWR vice W.O.2. G. Nicholson.

### PROMOTION TO MAJORS

The following officers have been selected for promotion to substantive major on the dates shown:

May 21, '67: Captain S. A. Berry, DWR.

June 30, '67 Captain M. J. Campbell-Lamerton, DWR, A/Major S. J. Burnip, PWO. Captain R. T. Rockett, Green Howards.

### POSTINGS

Major R. M. Johnson, PWO from 1 PWO to Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion Oswestry in September 1967.

Major M. A. N. Dugmore, PWO from HQ Northco to 1 PWO in August 1967.

Major J. Halmshaw, from Fortress HQ, Gibraltar to 1 PWO in August 1967.

Major J. V. B. Pearson, Green Howards from HQ AFNE to 1 Green Howards in October 1967.

Major T. J. Johnson, Green Howards from HQ 48 Division to 1 Green Howards.

Major D. Goulds, Green Howards from Army School of PT, to DOPT HQ Northern Command.

Major W. G. Norman, Green Howards from 1 Green Howards to Staff Staff Capt, MOD AG(SP) in August 1967.

Major J. E. Pell, DWR, from Staff in Cyprus to 1 DWR in December 1967.

Major P. A. Mitchell, DWR from AMA, The Hague to 1 DWR in April 1968.

Major R. D. Ashforth, Y & L from 1 Y & L to GSO2 HQ School of Infantry in December 1967.

Major J. C. Herkes, PWO from Depot HS to DADPR HQ 4 Division.

Major (QM) G. S. Hutchinson, Y & L for Regimental duties.

Captain D. W. Hargreaves, Green Howards from BRIXMIS to AAC Harrogate in November 1967.

Captain I. H. S. Homersham, Green Howards from Army School of Physical Training to 1 Green Howards.

Captain M. G. L. M. Stacpoole, DWR from 3 Para to 1 PWO.

Capt. W. F. C. Charlsworth, DWR, from 22 SAS to 1 DWR in December 1967.

Captain D. Marsay, DWR, from 10 AYT to 1 DWR in January 1968.

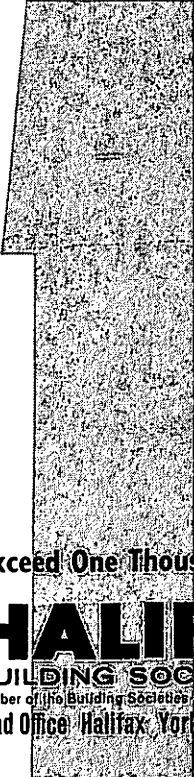
Captain (QM) E. Mottram, PWO, to Gurkha Recruit Depot, Nepal, as Quartermaster.

Lt. B. A. Burgess, PWO, from Brigade Depot to 1 PWO in September 1967.


Lt. C. D. Parr, Int Corps, from Intelligence Centre to 1 PWO.

Lt. J. P. J. Oliver, Green Howards, from IJLB Oswestry to 1 Green Howards in December 1967.

Continued at foot of next page



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# THE BRIGADE DEPOT

Our masters the "Weather Makers" don't seem to be on the Army Distribution List. The Army decreed that Summer would start on May 1, but the message did not reach higher circles, and we had an inch of snow. However, the trees are now in full foliage, the cricket pitch is looking green, and the barracks are looking very pleasant. The serene surroundings conceal the usual hive of activity, which includes a lot of outside commitments. We have been helping schools, ACF units, TA units and, recently and most successfully, the British Limbless Ex-Servicemen's Association Sports Day.

Training Company reached a very low numerical ebb in the winter months, but is now climbing its way back and we have six platoons under training. There is no doubt that the recent uncertainties about the future of the Armed Forces has had a considerable effect on recruiting. The recruit training syllabus has been altered slightly to allow for a mid-course break and to give more emphasis to "Education". It has been a particular bone of contention with "The Dukes", that the recruits are not sufficiently well qualified academically. It is to be hoped, with the new system, that this will be improved.

On February 9, Quebec X Platoon passed out, and "The Dukes" showed up well in the prize list. Pte. A. Thompson of Bradford was the Best Recruit and winner of the Cross Country; Pte. G. Hallam of Huddersfield was Best Shot SLR (Regimental

Bisley Bullets please note) and Pte A. Thackeray of Hull won the PT prize.

At the beginning of March, Lt. Peter Mellor's platoon, Imphal XI, passed out but, despite the Regimental bias, we were only able to produce the Best Shot GPMG in Pte. A. Whittaker of Sheffield.

Finally in Training Company we congratulate Sgt. B. Stansfield on his elevation to the Sergeants' Mess. We hope he will have a good grounding before he returns to the Battalion.

The Junior Soldiers Company started in the bitter cold on January 9, and ended on one of our few pleasant days on Friday April 14. In the middle of these times, the Company moved all over the country side and succeeded in greatly reducing the waistline of their Company Commander, Major Michael Fife.

Lt. Chris Fitzgerald, who is now sojourning in Rhodesia on Domcol, took the Continuation and Drums Platoon to Fort William in Scotland, where they scaled the heights of Ben Nevis. The last thousand feet of the mountain were covered in snow, and murmurings of certain parts of the anatomy of brass monkeys were heard echoing over the glens!

The Band had a very successful trip to Oswestry where they played for a passing out parade of the Junior Leaders. Considering that our charter is to train bandsmen and not to have our own band, a great deal of credit must go to Bandmaster Bowyer for their excellent efforts.

On Friday April 14, the Company had their Passing Out Parade and Parents Day and a very successful day it was. J/Sgt. Hogg (DWR) commanded the parade with considerable skill, and will obviously be a great asset to the Battalion.

Also worthy of note is that the Junior Soldiers Company cross country team, led by J/Sgt. Sollitt (DWR), came third in the Army Junior Cross Country at Aldershot. A useful runner for Battalion Headquarters!

We have recently welcomed W.O.1. (R.S.M.) G. Nicholson and his wife to the Depot and we wish them both a very happy tour. We also wish the departing R.S.M., Mr. J. C. Riordan, Green Howards, the very best of luck in his future career as a commissioned officer. He has had a very successful tour and both he and his wife will be greatly missed.

"*Plus ça change plus c'est la même chose*". Brigade, Large Regiment or Division—"to be or not to be", it would seem that the decision has now been taken from us, and that soon we will be eating Lancashire hot pot with a shamrock in our berets! This is not really the time or place for your correspondent to attempt comment. Let us merely hope that "The Duke's" succeed in avoiding the guillotine.

Finally as a postscript, our congratulations to Simon Berry on his elevation to majority. He now comes into the redundancy bracket!

## YORKSHIRE BRIGADE NEWS

*Continued from previous page*

Lt. M. J. Pethybridge, Y & L., from 1 Y & L to AAC Harrogate.

Lt. C. G. Fitzgerald, DWR, from Brigade Depot to 1 DWR in September 1967.

Lt. E. B. Wilkins, Y & L., from IJLB Oswestry to 1 PWO in August 1967.

Lt. M. Lacy, Green Howards, from Brigade Depot to Army Aviation Centre, Middle Wallop to attend Light Aircraft Course.

Lt. (QM) L. Bools, Y & L, to Detention Centre Aden as Administrative Officer (9 month tour).

W.O.1. J. C. Riordan, Green Howards, has been granted a Short Service Commission in the rank of Lt. and has been posted to 1 Green Howards.

### Staff College

Captain N. A. Hallidie, Green Howards has been selected to attend the Division III Army Staff Course assembling at RMCS Shrivenham October 1967 and at Staff College Camberley in January 1969.

The following officers have been selected to attend the Division III Army Staff Course assembling at RMCS in October 1968 and and at Staff College Camberley in January 1969.: Captain F. J. W. Filor, PWO. Captain R. L. Stevens, DWR. Captain L. G. James, Y & L.

## PERSONALIA

Lt.-Colonel Donald Isles has had his tour of command of the 1st Battalion extended until May 1, 1968, making its total length three years. This, he says, "suits me fine". He writes: "Two officers of the Danish Life Regiment are here in Cyprus with the Danish Contingent. It was very nice to meet them again. We last saw them in Denmark when we trained with them in May '66. IY & L are about six miles away from us at Episkopi.

We hear from Brigadier Firth that he and Brigadier Pip Moran have been working very hard on their course at Greenwich. Brigadier Pip has also been playing a lot of tennis in the evenings. Writing in May, he says: "Just got back from a tour of Berlin, Paris and, finally, Brussels where Pip and I saw our Colonel (three ancient members of the 33rd gathered at a new Allied HQ near the scene of a former *Grand Alliance*.)

In another letter Brigadier Firth wrote: "John Williams, a pillar of the 76th in the Burma retreat, and then company commander in 33 Column in the Chindit ops was dining here last week. He went to the Colonial Service after the war and has just retired. Several people, in writing to your "columns", have referred to meeting him in Singapore and Brunel.

On Sunday we went to drinks with the Milligans

in Colchester and met June Milligan's sister Beryl who was married to Lt.-Colonel Sam Hoyle, M.C. who commanded 33 Column, Chindits. They came over to our house in the evening for a return drink and the children played in the garden. Jack and Pat Dalrymple were also present.

We are very glad to be able to report that the operation which Major Tony Savory recently underwent has been successful. He is now hearing very well.

Major Graham Tedd has been appointed GSOII (Trg), HQ Western Command, Chester.

Major Robertson, at present serving in Malawi, hopes to bring a Malawi Rifles team to Bisley next year.

Our Regimental Chaplain, The Bishop of Pontefract, recently contracted pneumonia, but is making a very good recovery.

Charles Grieve, now at Ampleforth, is showing signs of following in his father's footsteps. Now 17, he has played scrum half for the school first XV for the last two years.

## The Regimental Lunch and Dinner

The Officers' Regimental Dinner Club held their annual dinner at the Hyde Park Hotel on Friday May 12. The Colonel of the Regiment presided and the guests were His Grace The Duke of Wellington, K.G. and Colonel J. B. Scott, O.B.E., The Yorkshire Brigade Colonel.

Unfortunately the date chosen clashed with that of the 1st Battalion 1939-45 dinner so that a number of distinguished faces were missing though some of them appeared after dinner. Arrangements have been made to avoid any such clash next year. Considering this clash, and the fact that no-one serving with the 1st Battalion in Cyprus could be present, the dinner was well attended, 59 officers being present.

The luncheon, also held at the Hyde Park Hotel, was less well attended than last year.

Those present at the two functions were:

### REGIMENTAL DINNER

General Sir Robert Bray. General Sir Philip Christison, BT. Lieutenant-General Sir Reginald Savory. Major-Generals: K. G. Exham, R. K. Exham, G. F. Upjohn, G. C. H. Wortham. Brigadiers: F. R. St. P. Bunbury, A. D. Firth, G. Laing, P. P. de la H. Moran, and E. W. Rogers. Colonels: F. R. Armitage, N. T. Bentley, C. R. T. Cumberlege, J. Davidson, H. Harvey, G. B.

Howcroft, J. C. Moncrieff, and R. G. Turner. Lieutenant-Colonels: J. H. Dalrymple, A. B. M. Kavanagh, A. E. H. Sayers, and W. Skelsey. Majors: R. R. St. J. Barkshire, R. H. Burton, R. V. Cartwright, J. H. Davis, C. F. Grieve, J. B. K. Greenway, E. M. P. Hardy, J. P. Huffam, R. H. Ince, C. C. Kenchington, L. F. Kershaw, J. H. S. Lane, J. A. Lennon, J. G. Lepper, C. J. Maclaren, P. A. Mitchell, A. C. S. Savory, D. W. Shuttleworth, G. C. Tedd, and D. H. Wood. Captains: S. A. Berry, M. R. N. Bray, C. N. St. P. Bunbury, J. R. P. Cumberlege, A. H. P. Laurence, W. R. Mundell, P. Naylor, and E. J. W. Walker. Lieutenants: S. R. Arnold, S. F. Bruce-Lowe, R. D. Campbell-Lamerton, J. H. Gladwin, P. J. Mellor, T. L. Mesquita, and J. A. Shenton.

### Regimental Luncheon

General Sir Robert and Lady Bray, Colonel and Mrs. Armitage, Mrs. Boufflower, Major and Mrs. Cartwright, Mrs. Chatterton, Colonel and Mrs. Cumberlege, Major Davis, Major-General and Mrs. K. G. Exham, Brigadier Firth, Mrs. Grimley, Major and Mrs. J. P. Huffam, Mrs. Ince, Major R. H. Ince, Lady Landon, Major Maclaren, Mrs. Paton, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Sayers, Major and Mrs. Savory, Mrs. Scott, Lieutenant-Colonel Skelsey, Colonel Sugden, Colonel Turner, Brigadier Webb-Carter.

Captain Martin Summers is retiring from the Army this autumn. He is to be articulated to a solicitor in Marske in the North Riding. His address will be 36 Marlborough Road, Skelton, Saltburn, Yorkshire.

### Engagement

#### Mr. H. M. P. Miles and Miss C. J. Berg

The engagement is announced in Hongkong between Michael, eldest son of the late Brigadier H. G. P. Miles and of Mrs. Miles, of 71 Palace Court, London, W.2. and Carol, second daughter of the late Mr. H. G. Berg and of Mrs. Milholland, and stepdaughter of Mr. P. Milholland, of Erroll House, Highbury Road, Wimbledon.

Old Comrades who fought with the 2nd Battalion in France in the first war will be interested to learn that we have had news of Captain V. F. de W. Vredenburg, M.C. He is now a permanent resident at The Chaseley Home, Eastbourne.

Major Claes Frost of The Danish Life Regiment paid a very welcome visit to Regiment Headquarters recently. He will be well remembered by the 1st Battalion for his kindness and assistance during their visit to Denmark.

Major and Mrs. H. R. Kavanagh are moving to Yorkshire shortly. They are going to live at 31 Castle Howard Road, Malton, not far from Hovingham where their son, Lieutenant-Colonel Barry Kavanagh, now lives.

The following letter comes from John Stacpoole at Ampleforth Abbey:

DEAR EDITOR,

A coincidental and quite unpremeditated gathering of "Dukes" in a strange place might be of interest to you. The College Fourth of June garden

party this year on the lawns of Ampleforth gathered up Colonel and Mrs. Cumberlege, who brought General Kenneth Exham with them, Major Denis Simonds and his wife, Major Charlie Grieve and his wife (both families with boys at the school) and myself. Though Colonel and Mrs. Kavanagh at Hovingham nearby did not come to the garden party, they were giving lunch to boys in the school. That adds up to ten "Dukes" by pure chance.

Yours sincerely

A. J. S. STACPOOLE, O.S.B.

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## LONDON O.C.A. DINNER

The Annual Re-Union Dinner of the London Branch, presided over by the Colonel of the Regiment, General Sir Robert Bray, was held at the Carisbrooke Hall, Victory Ex-Services Club, Seymour Street, London.

The change of dining halls was considered by everyone a great success, as the lounge gave us far more room and comfort for the "get together" before and after the dinner.

I cannot promise to get the same hall for next year but I'll do my best.

91 sat down to dinner, the highest for some years.

During the "get together" in the lounge and also after dinner it was grand to hear the loud hum of conversation as old friends met, the greetings shouted across the room as familiar faces were recognised when the owners hadn't seen one another for years, the re-telling of incidents, which in all probability will go on being repeated whenever "Old Dukes" meet for re-union dinners.

At the commencement of the dinner Grace was given by our Chairman, Dave Benson, who also

later proposed the toast to H.M. The Queen. The toast of the Regiment was well proposed by Bud Hammond.

The Colonel of the Regiment was then called upon for the speech of the evening. His first words were, in a telegram from the Private Secretary to H.M. The Queen, "Please convey to the members of The London Branch The Duke of Wellingtons Regimental Associated dining together this evening, the sincere thanks of The Queen for their kind and loyal greetings which Her Majesty greatly appreciates".

He then went on to give an excellent account of the Regiment's activities, sport and training; also what they are now doing in Cyprus.

The Secretary's report came last and in it Bob Temple stated how pleased we all were to have the Colonel of the Regiment with us also the Acting Colonel of the Regiment. He thanked the Yorkshire branches for turning up with such good numbers, also to Mr. and Mrs. Reed and Mr. and Mrs. Watson for coming all the way from Plymouth.



In conclusion it is hoped that everybody had an enjoyable evening and all will be "On Parade" next year.

Among those present were: General Sir Robert Bray, Brigadier Firth. Colonels Harvey, Turner. Lt.-Colonels Dalrymple, Skelsey, Johnson, Majors Lennon, Savory, Mr. and Mrs. Ambler, Mr. and Mrs. Barker, Mr. Benson, Mr. Crouch, Mr. and Mrs. Code, Mr. and Mrs. Gill, Mr. Guy, Mr. and Mrs. Hartwell, Mr. Higginson, Mr. and Mrs. J. Kennedy and daughter, Mr. Martin, Mr. McGovern, Mr. and Mrs. Reed, Mr. Richardson, Mr. and Mrs. Owers, Mr. Temple, Mr. and Mrs. Webster, Mr. Walker, Mr. Storan, Mr. Imray, Mr. Lockwood, Mr. Hammond, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Dennett and daughter and G. Shaw (Chelsea Pensioner).

From the Yorkshire branches: Mrs. T.

McMahon, Mr. and Mrs. D. McMahon, Mr. and Mrs. F. Kennedy, Mr. Rowlands, Mr. and Mrs. Stringer, Mr. and Mrs. Samples, Mr. and Mrs. Carter, Mr. and Mrs. Jagger, Mr. and Mrs. Pells, Mr. and Mrs. Dearnley, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Rusby, Mr. and Mrs. Horne, Mr. and Mrs. Eaves, Mr. and Mrs. Mellor, Mr. Whitehead, Mr. and Mrs. Copley, Mr. and Mrs. Owen, Mr. and Mrs. Sharman, Mr. and Mrs. Myers.

Apologies for non-attendance were received from the following: Major-General R. K. Exham, Major-General K. G. Exham, Brigadier Webb-Carter, Brigadier Laing, Colonel Armitage, Colonel F. P. A. Woods, Colonel W. A. Woods, Major Davis, Major Sills, Major Huffam, Major Kershaw, Major Randall, Major Kavanagh, Major Bruce-Lowe, Captain Barber, W. E. Smith, A. E. Burton, H. Tandy.

## Obituary

We deeply regret to record the following deaths and, on behalf of the Regiment, offer our sincere sympathy to the relatives of the deceased.

### Lt.-Colonel R. C. Laurence

Lt.-Colonel Laurence died on December 11, 1966, in a Harrogate nursing home, after a short illness, two days after his 64th birthday.

Bob Laurence was commissioned to the 5th Battalion on his eighteenth birthday, December 9, 1920, and was posted to "D" Company, Mirfield. From joining the Battalion he took the greatest interest in all its activities. As a captain he commanded "C" Company, Kirkburton but, on the conversion to searchlights in December 1936, he returned to Mirfield, being promoted to major, to command 373 Searchlight Company, RE, and he embodied the company in 1939.

Shortly after the outbreak of war he was appointed 2nd in Command of 43 Searchlight Battalion, under Lt.-Colonel J. M. Haigh. In 1942 he was promoted lieutenant colonel and took over command of 83rd Searchlight Regiment R.A., a cadre regiment, which he commanded with great success. His Regiment was specially selected to reinforce the A.A. defences of the Dover-Folkestone area against "doodlebugs".

In 1947 he was asked to re-form the 5th Battalion as 578 HAA Regiment (DWR) TA and he took on this difficult task of once again changing the role of the battalion from searchlights to HAA. Ten officers who had previously served with him came back to support him. He retired from command in 1949, thus completing almost 29 years' continuous service. He was awarded the T.D. in 1940 and the O.B.E. in 1950 on his retirement.

For many years he served on the Finance Committee of the W.R.T. and A.F.A.; he was a vice-president of the 5th Battalion OCA. He was also President of Ilkley Golf Club. He will be

greatly missed by the officers and men who served with him and respected him for his kindness and fairness.

His funeral was private but Colonel J. B. Sugden represented the 5th Battalion, Lt.-Colonel D. H. Hirst, the 5th Battalion Dinner Club and Lt.-Colonel S. J. E. Huxley, the Mirfield Company. Lt.-Colonel Laurence leaves a widow and two married daughters.

### Mr. S. Robins

On Easter Sunday, at his home in Buxton, Derbyshire, aged 67 years.

Sidney Robins enlisted into the Regiment in October, 1919, and served with the 1st Battalion in Egypt, Palestine and Gibraltar before taking his discharge with the rank of corporal at Gosport in 1926.

Mr. Robins leaves a wife, three sons and a daughter. His second eldest son is Captain W. Robins, the present Quartermaster of the 1st Battalion; his youngest son also served with the 1st Battalion as a National Service corporal in Cyprus and Northern Ireland.

### Mr. C. E. Pollard

On Monday, April 17, 1967, suddenly, at Bramley, Nr. Rotherham, Yorkshire, aged 61 years.

Christopher Edward Pollard enlisted into The York & Lancaster Regiment at Sheffield on June 17, 1924, and served with them at home and abroad until 1932, when he went on to Army Reserve. He was recalled to the Colours in 1939 and was transferred to DWR in 1942, serving with the 1st Battalion as a CSM in North Africa and the Middle East. Discharged in November, 1945, he went into business as a constructional engineer and later

branched out into other business activities, all of which were successful.

"Ted", as he was usually known, was a very keen "Duke" and supported the Regiment in every way, in addition to being our Rotherham area representative. He also took a great interest in local youth activities. Ted earned the respect of all with whom he came into contact.

The funeral was attended by many local business associates and friends. Mr. S. E. Code represented the Regimental Association and Old Comrades of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

Mr. Pollard leaves a widow and a granddaughter, Miss Depledge.

#### Mr. J. E. Thomas.

At his home, 303 Market Street, Whitworth, Nr. Rochdale, Lancs, on April 28, 1967, aged 72 years.

Mr. Thomas enlisted into the Regiment in November, 1911 and, after a period at home with the 2nd Battalion, he joined the 1st and served with them in India, Egypt, Palestine and Gibraltar. Following a tour of duty as a PSI with the 4th Battalion at Sowerby Bridge he returned to the 1st Battalion, taking his discharge to pension in 1933 with the rank of sergeant.

He held the following medals: British War (1914/18) Indian General Service (1919) and the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

Mr. Thomas, who leaves a widow, was buried at

Luddenden Cemetery, Nr. Halifax. The Regiment was represented by Mr. S. E. Code.

#### Mrs. P. A. Turner

Mrs. Isabella Gibson Turner, widow of Brigadier General P. A. Turner, C.M.G., formerly Colonel of the Regiment, and mother of your editor and of your former business manager, Mrs. K. J. Cameron, died in a nursing home on June 11, as a result of a fall in her home, 66 Storey's Way, Cambridge. She was in her 97th year.

Mrs. Turner was the youngest daughter of John Binning, Esq., of Glasgow. She met and married the then Captain Turner in Rangoon in 1901. Immediately after the wedding they embarked for the Andaman Islands where the 2nd Battalion had a company detachment. She often recalled their stay there among the convicts with great affection. Thereafter she spent the years until 1914 with her husband in both Regular Battalions, mostly in India.

She was a talented miniaturist and exhibited in the Royal Academy, the last occasion she was successful being when she was over eighty.

The cremation in Cambridge was private but it would have given her great pleasure to know that the Regiment was represented at it by Major Davis and by Colonel and Mrs. Bishop and that wreaths were sent by the Regiment and by the Retired Officers.

## GEORDIE SQUAD

We arrived at Halifax at about 4.30 p.m. and were shown into the black hut. Seven men from the city of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Seven strangers in a strange land. There were three others in the black hut who spoke with a strange accent. They said they were from Sheffield and asked us why we had joined the Army. Geordie Gardner was our spokesman.

"It is better than hinging a boot".

Perkins, one of the men from Sheffield, could not understand.

"What for hing a boot? Din't wear boots where thee comes from?"

Geordie meant he did not like hanging about the streets of his mining village of High Spen in County Durham.

That was just one of the minor difficulties of getting to know one's comrades of later years. We served with men from the broad acres and from other parts of the country and in time became not Geordies but members of a fine fighting force, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment. Origins were not forgotten but even speech loses its tone after a time and not even our own kind would have recognised our accents after years serving with men from other parts.

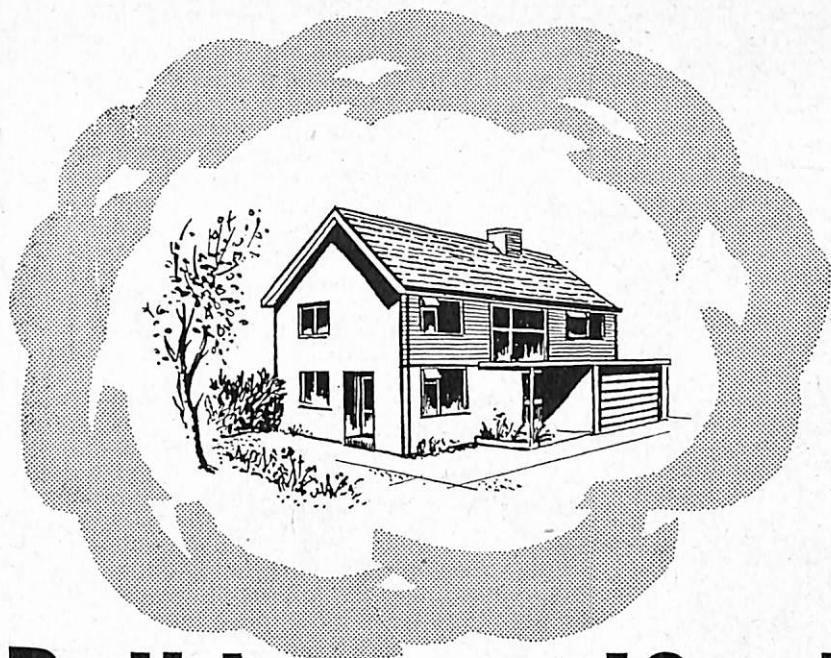
We sat in the barrack room called "Paardeberg" and listened to the man in authority. He was an awe inspiring figure as he ranted and raved over our shortcomings. He had lost a fine body of men to shortcomings. He had lost a fine body of men to form this squad and by the living god he would make us pay for it or else. The else had still to come. The Sergeant had formed a squad but it had been taken

from him so that two squads could be formed; one Geordie and the other Yorkshire. We knew little of the military mind but now I know the reason.

Let me take you around that barrack room and study the men who comprised that Geordie Squad of February 11, 1934.

In the corner sat a small dark man who spoke with a strange accent. It was an accent born in the Army, of days soldiering in India with The Sherwood Foresters. It belonged to John Hogg who had left that regiment two months before as Pte. John Mansell. An old soldier and now a reservist. But times were hard and Mansell found Civvy Street was not kind. He used another name at the recruiting offices and as Hogg he became one of us. Fate had a cruel joke to play upon him when the draft which included most of us left the 1st Battalion in Malta in 1937. He had left Multan, India, vowing never to return. He re-enlisted and found himself back in Multan with the 2nd Battalion and the first Indian to spot him said: "Ah, Mansell Sahib". It was the unit char wallah. All the Sergeants and others who could place old soldiers could not get him to divulge his secret but the old Indian servant told it. He was involved in a mule cart accident and at Multan Hogg met his death. He lies in the cemetery with old soldiers of the Indian Mutiny. A soldier with a Sherwood Forester number and name but his regiment, The 2nd Battalion The Duke of Wellington's.

Taffy Peach was a tramp who got tired at Beverley in the East Riding. He enlisted and was placed in



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our squad because he had not enlisted in the West Riding. He was a brilliant soldier and liked the life but his lack of education let him down. He sat for his Army Third Class Certificate of Education and wrote about "The Ducks Crest". He was the only man in the squad to do defaulters but then no one believed him when he said he could not spell. In spite of that lack he proved to be a good NCO and was awarded the M.M. in France for his leadership when his NCOs were put out of action. He ended his days in the Army as a sergeant and is settled in Halifax.

Dicky Woods is well known to most old and young soldiers. He served with the 1st and the 7th Battalions right up to modern days. He was a young eighteen-year-old boy when I saw him that day in Halifax. Dark crew-cut hair and eager to succeed in his chosen profession. He was L/Cpl Gresham's right hand man and many a chore he did to relieve the NCO. Dicky was RSM of the 2nd Battalion for a long time and then went on to serve with the 7th at Huddersfield. Now he has lost that fine head of hair but not his love for his regiment. He attends the regimental dinner every year.

We had two fine singers from Newcastle: Craggs and Hunter. Craggs was easily the best. He sang the Peter Dawson type of song and in India he became famous for his songs over All India Radio every Sunday morning. The last time I saw him was in Singapore. He was a Conductor in the RAOC and had come to meet his wife. She died there and Craggs left the Army to look after his family.

Bill Hunter was a crooner and sang all of Bing's songs for our enjoyment. Bill lost part of his right hand in Burma and the last time I saw him he was a bus conductor, still getting his money mixed up with the firm's as he told us when he enlisted.

Two small dark men sat in the far corner. They had been sent to Coventry by Sgt. Ashmore. It was through these two he had lost his Yorkshiremen. So he said.

Swinney was from Morpeth in Northumberland. His father owned an iron works. Swinney of Morpeth is a well known name and Robert of that ilk had been put in the Army by his mother to toughen him. He had been to an agricultural college and failed. The Army was the family's last hope. Bob was a small dark man with a very dark jowl. He never looked clean shaven and Sgt. Ashmore allowed him to have a cup of hot water from his bunk. Swinney had to pay for it. He had to sing a song every night during "Shining parade". He sang the same song every time, "If I could plant the seed of love in your heart".

This caused bursts of laughter from us and we paid for it with extra duties—Bumping the floor wearing gas masks. Life was full of fun and good humour as long as men were willing to accept that, with the long hours of spit and polish and fatigues.

Matthews, called "Ticki", was as small but came from a different background. A tough lad from Middlesbrough who could take all the punishment going and smile and take more. His fame rests with his father. Ticki was one hour absent after Whit leave. He feared the wrath of Sgt. Phipps and in a fit of inspiration he blurted out, "My father's dead".

Unfortunately for him, Fitzgerald of March 11 Squad came from the same area and he was four hours late. In the meanwhile Matthews had been taken to the PRI and given £2 and sent home to bury his father. Sgt. Ashmore had also wasted a lot of kind sympathy. When Fitzgerald said he had been boozing with Matthews senior before he left, that let the cat out of the bag and Ticki was in trouble. He went absent and then went sick but fate caught up with him and he paid for it.

Tommy Hardwick and "Norma" Shearer were farmers boys who wanted to enlist for the Cavalry and joined The West Riding Regiment. Tommy came from Beverley and Norma from Chopwell in County Durham. The latter could not have been 16 when he enlisted and any harsh words from NCOs caused him to cry. During his weeping he was asked his age but no one ever found out. He finished his service as a colour sergeant and emigrated to Australia. He was on the same ship, paying full fare, as Field Marshal Bill Slim who was going out there to take up his post as Governor General. The Field Marshal sent for Shearer and congratulated him on his spirit and hoped he would do well. He has done. Tommy Hardwick served for a long time in the officers' mess in India and then volunteered to go back to regimental duties. As a corporal he met his death in action in Burma.

Joe Wilson and Charley Dickinson were also from Durham. The former was from Burnopfield and came from a family of professional footballers. He was small with a very large head. He took 7½ in head size and had the brains to go with it. He was in the Signal Section and also met his death in Burma as a Signals corporal.

Dickinson was from Stockton-on-Tees. He was tall and smart and was to make a very keen NCO and later a WO but he never liked the Army and as soon as the war was ended he took his discharge. Only Dickie Woods knows of him now.

Tom Murphy came from Birtley and had wheeled a wheelbarrow in the local brickworks. His balancing act showed in his marching and not even the Army could cure it. The last I saw of Tom was in "C" Company where he was the platoon chess champion, yet he could not get his Army 2nd Class Certificate of Education. There was very little else to do in Multan during the heat of the day.

There was a home for delinquent boys in Durham called Axwell Park. These boys had done something wrong and were sent away from home for training. They were taught trades and how to sew and knit and darn and, in lots of cases, how to play a musical instrument. From this home we recruited Thomson and Furnell who hailed from Middlesbrough and Dick Young, from Benwell, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. They missed the draft to India and returned to Bordon with the 1st Battalion. Missed it because they were tradesmen or musicians and I don't know what happened to them.

Martin came from Guisborough in the North Riding and had the distinction in India of getting accelerated promotion to corporal over 27 senior lance corporals. It caused a lot of heart burning among some of the seniors who had spent years in India while Martin had spent only months but the Commanding Officer would not alter things.



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Bill Ure and Charley Henry were from Byker. Bill was a corporal in "D" (S) Company in Multan and Charley went to one of the duty companies. The former came home to Byker but Charley was killed as a sergeant during the retreat from Burma.

Walter Wressell came from Coxhoe in County Durham. Bow legs made for playing football. He was in the 1st and 2nd Battalion soccer teams but was not consistent enough to retain a permanent position. A wide grin and a good football brain and a likeable ex-miner who married a German girl after the war.

Johnnie Ayre came from Wingate in the same county. He had been a grocer's assistant and was "D" Company storeman in Malta. He was a gay lad for the girls and married a Maltese girl and settled in Malta. He was working in the Wembley Stores in Strada Stretta, Valletta, when the 1st Battalion left Malta.

Chalky White was from West Hartlepoons and a monumental mason by trade. He had been a lieutenant in The Boys Brigade and unfortunately for him told Sgt. Ashmore about it. Needless to say our lieutenant never lived it down and when his soldiering left much to be desired the sergeant's sarcasm came to the fore. Chalky got dysentery and was transferred to Lahore where I and ten other "Dukes" were on a Nursing Orderly Course. He vowed he would never return to Multan and we buried him one Sunday in the Military Cemetery there in Lahore. He was to have been invalided home but his strength gave out too soon.

Dinga Bell from Middlesbrough said he could not straighten his fingers and seemed sure he would be medically discharged but somehow the medical officers never agreed with Dinga and he was still soldiering on when I left New Delhi in 1940. I remember him for two incidents. The first was on the long march from Aldershot to Salisbury Plain. We shared a bivouac made of our two groundsheets. Another Dinga Bell (Sgt. Leatherneck) called the roll that night. This is how it went:

Sgt. Bell. "Who have we in here?"

Imray. "Imray, Sergeant".

Bell. "Bell".

The sergeant was furious.

"What do you mean? Bell What?"

The answer came back, "Bell. H."

The other incident happened in Malta. We were on guard at the Palace. Next door was a library often used by our officers. We were instructed to look out for officers in mufti. Especially our own. A civilian came up to Bell as he stood at ease on his beat, "Do you know who I am?" Bell had no idea but he made a guess. "I suppose you are a blank civvy". It was the CO. He got 14 days C.B. and didn't know why.

We were discussing prison records one day and Hunter admitted he had done 14 days for pinching snadders (turnips) when he was a tramp in Lincoln but Gill, our Australian, could beat that. He said he had been wanted for murder before he left Australia. Whether he was joking I don't know but he was a tough lad and could shoot with the best. He tried his toughness on Sgt. Gill in Malta but Stanley had him frog-marched into the cells and he was on the next draft to India. He became another

Conductor in the IAOC during the war.

We had two redheads in the squad. Bill Lythe came from Stanley in County Durham. Numerous jobs and then the Army. Ginger was smart and clean and very intelligent. He had one scrap with authority in Malta. He went out with old soldier Hogg but after that kept good company and eventually became a CSM in the Green Howards.

The other redhead was Cyril Darbyshire. He was from Hartlepoons, another one who had never settled to steady employment until he joined the Army. Fleshy and inclined to walk too fast, he was always the only one in step. He came home from India after the Retreat from Burma and met his death in an accident during an armoured car exercise. I am sure he had been transferred to one of the new hussar regiments.

Geordie Gardner transferred to the RAMC after Burma and was a shunter on British Railways when I last saw him. He was a father of three children and lived in Shepherds Bush.

The last man to join the squad was 4612986, Pte. J. Maddison, from Blyth in Northumberland. Jack had been a miner and, as is the custom among miners of Northumberland, he never washed his back (Miners believed it weakened the back muscles) Jack stripped off for medical inspection and did his best to convince the MO of this superstition but he was in the Army and the dirt had to come off. A likeable lad and a good sportsman he left the Army after the war but re-enlisted and that's the last I heard about him.

Those were the men. Not all Geordies but we worked under the instructions of Sgt. Ashmore and Philips and L/C. Gresham and proved for their satisfaction that the Geordie is a good and willing soldier. We were chosen to be the "Demonstration Platoon" for the Territorial Battalions and proceeded to Redcar to join them at camp.

I have forgotten one man. Jimmy McGurrell from South Shields. Jimmy was so quiet it's no wonder I forgot him. He was tall and seemed to amble as he walked. One day he entered the boxing ring and from that moment he was known to us as "Ambling Alp" after the World's heavyweight champion, Primo Carnera. Give Mac a Western book and he was oblivious to all around him. I have seen our squad NCOs get right up to him and shout at the man, "McGurrell!!" but Mac would be somewhere out on the range when he was wanted on the rifle range.

We went to Redcar to join the TA in camp. From there we returned to Halifax to be informed we had been granted seven days special leave for our good work with the TA.

With March 11 Squad, another Geordie Squad, we entrained for Aldershot to join the 1st Battalion in Mandora Barracks. Captain J. P. Huffam vc. was our Company Commander and the notorious Matty our CSM. Salisbury Plain was on the agenda and, like good Geordies, we marched and sang and let the natives of the south know that the Geordies had come amongst them, but now no longer a Geordie squad but members of a good Yorkshire Regiment. Fortune favours the Brave.

That is our story. I hope you liked it?

IMRAY.



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