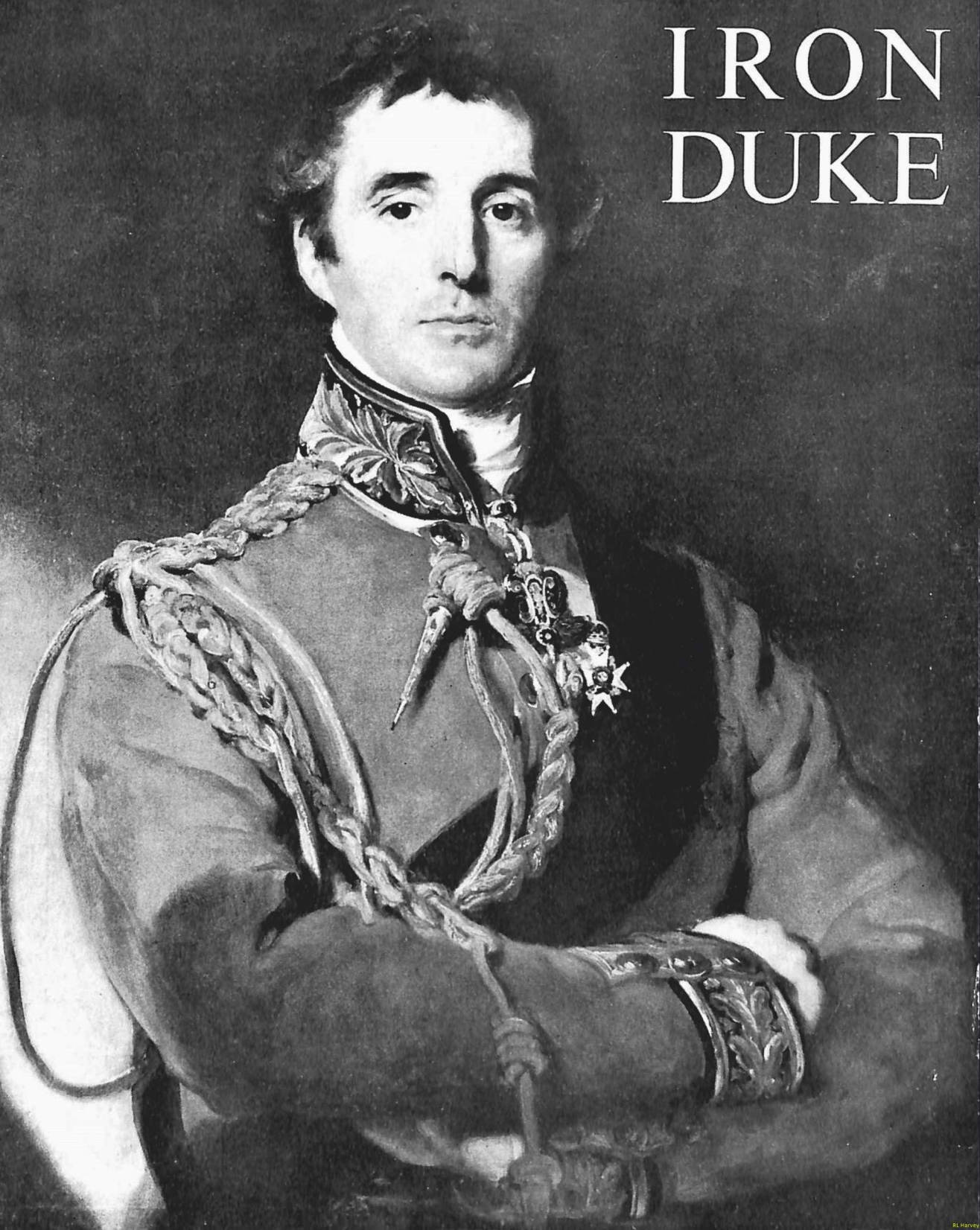


No.145 October 1967

THE
IRON
DUKE



THE IRON DUKE

The Regimental Journal of

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

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



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

Vol. XLIII

OCTOBER 1967

No. 145

BUSINESS NOTES

Published (w.e.f. 1968) three times a year — April, August, December.

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

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

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

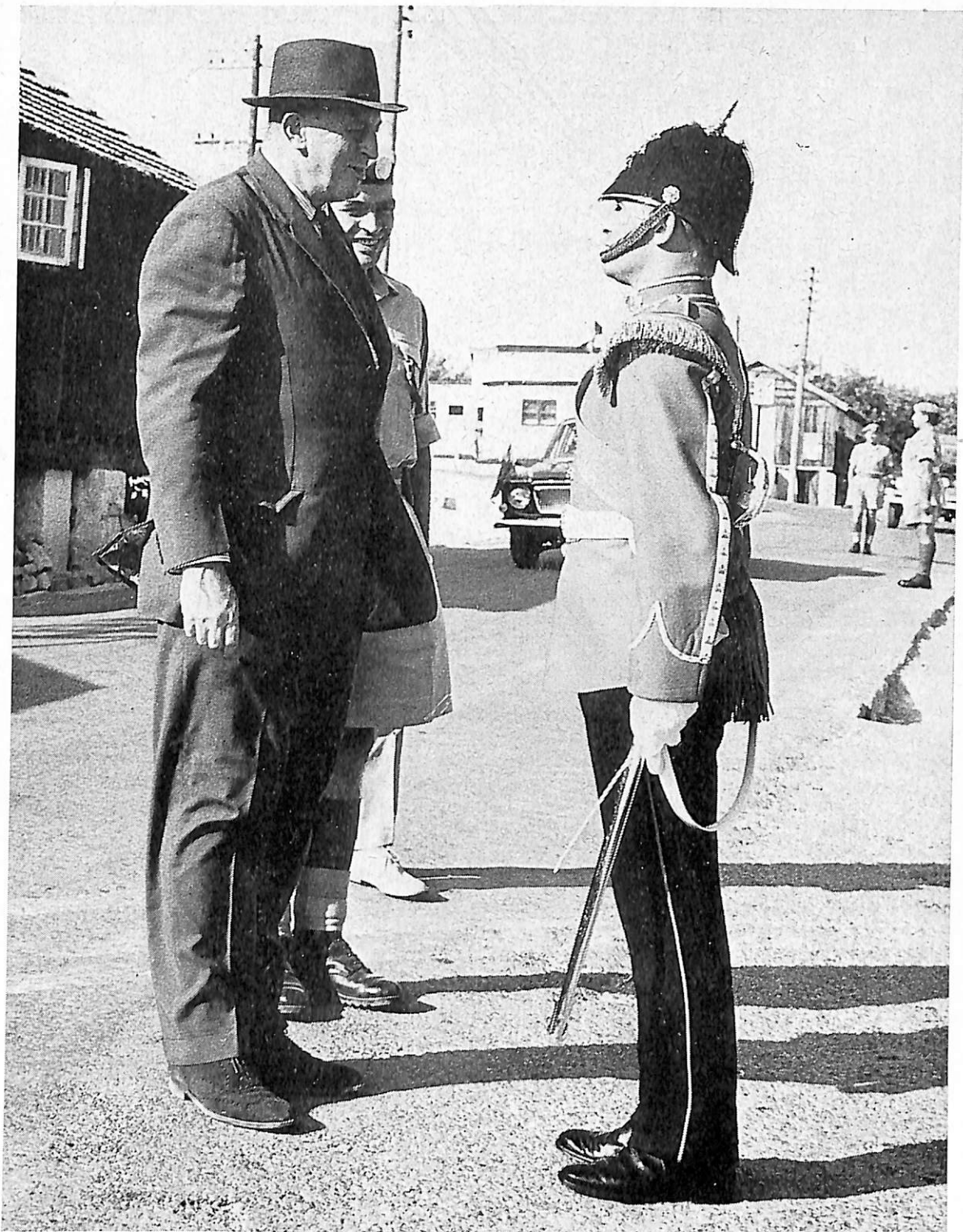
Copy for the April 1968 issue should reach the Editor by February 7, 1968.

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.

CONTENTS

| Notes and News | PAGE |
|---|------|
| <i>The Yorkshire Brigade</i> | 172 |
| <i>The Brigade Depot</i> | 173 |
| <i>Regimental Headquarters</i> | 142 |
| <i>The Regimental Association</i> | 143 |
| <i>1st Battalion</i> | 144 |
| <i>The West Riding Territorials</i> | 163 |
| <i>The Yorkshire Volunteers</i> | 161 |
| <i>Army Cadet Force</i> | 167 |
| Regular Features | |
| <i>Correspondence</i> | 179 |
| <i>From the London Gazette</i> | 179 |
| <i>Obituary</i> | 178 |
| <i>Personalia</i> | 175 |
| Special Features | |
| <i>The Freedom of Mossley</i> | 165 |
| <i>Cyprus 1967 — Verse</i> | 155 |
| <i>Is Rugger What It Was?</i> | 169 |
| <i>The Black Dukes</i> | 179 |



[Photo by courtesy of the Blue Beret

VISIT OF THE DIRECTOR OF INFANTRY
Major-General Peter Young talks to the Drum Major

EDITORIAL

More details are now available of the plan for the re-organisation of the Infantry which was outlined in the July "Iron Duke".

In The King's Division (Lancastrian, Yorkshire and Northern Irish Brigades) of which we will form part, the reduction in strength will be effected by:

(a) the amalgamation of The Lancaster Regiment and The Loyal Regiment,

(b) the formation of a large regiment from The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers and The Royal Ulster Rifles,

(c) the disbandment of The York and Lancaster Regiment and The Royal Irish Rifles.

The formation of the other divisions (The Queen's, Prince of Wales's, Scottish and Light Divisions) will similarly entail amalgamation and disbandment of regiments. Those to be disbanded include The Lancashire Fusiliers, The Cameronians and The Durham Light Infantry.

At the end of the last war there were 64 infantry regiments of the line. Each preserved with just pride its own distinctions of dress and of custom acquired through a long and glorious history of service. It is sad to reflect that of these only 11 regiments will remain in their original form. It is with particular regret and sympathy that we learn that we are to lose our old comrades The York and Lancaster Regiment.

By the time you read this number the 1st Battalion will be on the point of departure from Cyprus after their six months tour of duty as part of the United Nations peace-keeping force.

They go back to Osnabruck for two months and are due to return to England in January 1968, being now destined for Gordon Barracks, Gillingham, not Lingfield and Horsham as formerly planned.

They have had a tough and testing time in Cyprus. How hard they have been working may be judged by the fact that, for probably the first time since the war, they have nothing to report in this issue under the heading of Sport.

Your editor spent a fortnight's holiday on the island in August and was privileged to see a little of their daily life and work. A good picture of this can be got from the Battalion's notes, particularly, perhaps, from the sub-editorial and "C" Company's notes. I do not feel competent to enlarge on these on the basis of brief visits to Battalion Headquarters and two of the detachments, those at Ktima and Kophinou. It was abundantly evident that the Battalion was carrying out its often vexatious task with the greatest possible efficiency and enthusiasm.

It seemed to me a great pity that the British, alone among the United Nations contingents, are so stretched that they are unable to get a day, let alone longer, off duty without fear of recall. The hotel I stayed in had a weekly contingent of Canadian N.C.O.s on local leave—and good company they proved. In the mountain resorts one met parties of Swedish and Danish troops seeing the sights and

riding the local hacks. The most the British get is a few hours off to swim, with one ear cocked for a wireless summons of recall. As a result, few in the Battalion have seen anything of the island outside their own sector.

They are, at least, lucky to have had the summer months for their tour. As their tans fade in the damp and cold of Germany and Gillingham their memories of Aphrodite's birthplace will doubtless grow warmer.

It was a great pleasure for me to see the Battalion again and I was overwhelmed by their welcome and hospitality. It was more than good of the C.O., adjutant and other officers to spend so much time and trouble on my behalf when they had more than enough elsewhere, on their plates. This was particularly so when, towards the end of my stay, trouble flared up in Limassol itself. I remain deeply grateful.

Lt.-Colonel Donald Isles has been appointed Assistant Military Secretary (M.S.4) in the Ministry of Defence w.e.f. December 1967. He is to be succeeded in command of the Battalion in November

YORK MINSTER

Message from The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Scarborough, High Steward of York Minster.

York Minster is in real danger of collapse. Extensive works will have to be undertaken, and undertaken soon, if the Minster is to be saved.

These works will cost a great sum of money, but no responsible person can accept the alternative—to allow York Minster to fall into ruins.

York Minster is the Cathedral of the Diocese and the great symbol of Christianity in Yorkshire; and so it is fitting that I should look first to Yorkshire men and women for the largest covenants or gifts they can make.

But the Minster is more than a Diocesan Cathedral; it is the Metropolitan Church of the Northern Province of England. More still, it is one of the greatest buildings in England, magnificently expressing the long-enduring spirit of Britain. Each year more than a million visitors come to it, from all over Great Britain, and very many from other lands. I ask them, too, for their help in the immense effort which will now be needed.

We have this for our encouragement—that this crisis has come in the twentieth century when technical resources can save this great building. Let us then make the effort and the sacrifice to keep York Minster safe for the world for many centuries to come.

Scarborough.

Donations should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, York Minster Fund, Midland Bank Ltd., P.O. Box 26, Parliament Street, York. Covenant forms can be obtained from The Campaign Office, York Minster Fund, 18 High Petergate, York.

by Major Dennis Shuttleworth who will have to cut short his studies at the Joint Services Staff College. Major Mike Hardy is to take command of the West Riding Territorials in the spring of next year.

With the coming of autumn thoughts turn again to the Army Rugger Cup. If the Battalion don't win it again this year it will not be for want of forethought and planning. As long ago as June we received notification that, as they are not due to be back complete in Osnabruck until November 7, they have obtained approval to enter the 2 Div. Rugger Cup in the Semi-final round, to be played on November 18. And, should they win the BAOR final, for the Army Final to be played at Aldershot (it would normally be in Germany this season) as they will be back in England by then.

They will have very little time to train and settle down as a team before their first match on November 18. All readers will be wishing them the best of luck.

May we remind these same readers that in 1968 the number of issues of the Iron Duke is to be reduced to three, to be published in April, August and December, the scheduled publication date being the 15th of these months.

There will, therefore—we and, doubtless the sub-editors, are not all that sorry to say—be quite a long gap until the next issue in April. And so, please, don't write to complain that you have not received your January number. There won't be one. After that, we doubt if many readers will find any great hardship in the arrival of the journal at four monthly, instead of three monthly intervals.

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

In a life comparatively free from incident the unexploded missile was a break in routine.

Workers on a building site in Queensbury uncovered a shell. After the initial interest had worn off, thoughts of disposal arose. Someone soon had the happy thought that "the Army" would doubtless like it. It was accordingly loaded into a lorry and driven down into Halifax, on a busy Friday, through and up the other side to be delivered to the Assistant Regimental Secretary.

The latter, not keen on unidentified missiles, nevertheless thought it uncivil not to accept the gift, apart from the feeling that to decline might somehow tarnish the image of the local Army. He reluctantly accepted it and placed it on the R.H.Q. lawn where it looked vaguely menacing.

The police were unhelpful over relieving R.H.Q. of their new trophy, though three C.I.D. did come to look at it and decided to their satisfaction that it was no business of theirs.

CONWAY WILLIAMS

THE MAYFAIR TAILOR

48 BROOK STREET, MAYFAIR, LONDON, W.1.

(Opposite Claridge's Hotel)

AND

39 LONDON ROAD, CAMBERLEY

Morning and Evening Wear, Court and Military Dress for all occasions,

Hunting, Sports and Lounge Kits

All Cloths cut by expert West End Cutters and made exclusively by hand

in our Mayfair workshops by the Best English Tailors

Telephone :

Mayfair 0945—Camberley 4098

Telegrams :

" Militaila Wesdo, London "

The shell was then gingerly immersed in a bucket of water and consigned to the store furthest from the main building, where the bomb disposal expert from York decided it could remain until after his weekend leave.

Visitors

Our visitors included Mrs. Scott, who was paying her first visit to Halifax. Scotty himself was no stranger, having regularly over the years come north for the annual O.C.A. Reunion.

R.S.M. Nicholson and C.S.M. Sergeant paid a liaison visit from Yorkshire Brigade. Sgt. W. Simonds, on leave from Chelsea Hospital, also called in. He was shown a photograph of the Sergeants' Mess in Ambala, 1908, and proceeded rapidly to name the whole Mess, with only one exception. He and the Adjutant, (now Lt.-Col. E. M. Liddell, O.B.E.), are probably the only two survivors of this group.

Korea

The Commonwealth Division memorial plaque to which the Regiment subscribed was handed over to the Republic of Korea's Minister of National Defence on May 4, 1967.

Lt.-Gen. Worsley's presentation address was as follows:

"Minister Kim, on behalf of the British Commonwealth it is my honour to present to the Ministry of National Defence of the Republic of Korea this commemorative plaque in memory of those Commonwealth Forces and British Armed Services and Regiments who participated in the Korean War.

"The plaque bears the national emblems of the Armed Services of the countries concerned and regimental badges of British Regiments who played their part here in Korea in preserving the cause of freedom under the United Nations Command.

"Members of our forces who paid the supreme sacrifice now rest on your territory in the United Nations Cemetery in Pusan. This plaque may, I hope, one day rest in your National War Museum which I understand is to be built. It will be a permanent record of the British Commonwealth contribution to your fight to preserve those principles of freedom we all cherish. Those principles we shall continue to fight to retain.

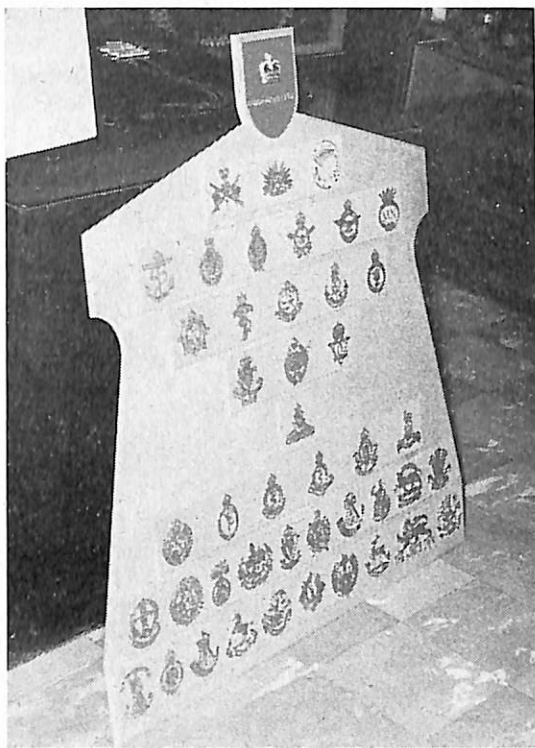
"May I wish your Country and the Armed Services of the Republic of Korea continuing success in the future."

THE REGIMENTAL SWEEP

The prize winners in the Regimental Sweep on the St. Leger were:

- 1st (£100) Ribocco—Clarke, "D" Company, 1 DWR;
- 2nd (£50) "The Field"—Mrs. Herbert, Halifax;
- 3rd (£25) Ruysdael—E. Samples, Halifax;
- 4th (£10) Dart Board—Lt.-Col. C. Barnes, Huddersfield.

Runners (£1): E. Pink, Gosport (Great Host), Sgt. Lawrence, 1 DWR (Dominion Day), J. Smith, Doncaster (Hipster), R. Farmer, Australian Police, Limassol (Bois Moss), F. Howitt, West Harrow (Haarwood).



The Commonwealth Plaque

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

The Annual General Meeting and Re-Union Dinner of the Regimental Association took place at the Drill Hall, Huddersfield, on Saturday, September 16.

In the absence of the Colonel of the Regiment on duty, Brigadier A. D. Firth, the Acting Colonel, presided.

C.S.M. W. (Jock) Norman of the A.C.I.O., Huddersfield, proposed the toast of the Regiment and spoke on the Regiment's efficiency during the past 200 years and in particular the good name it has received in B.A.O.R. and Cyprus.

The Acting Colonel responded and gave a brief resume of the Regiment's activities of recent date and also referred to the forthcoming Infantry Re-organisation.

Some 200 Old Comrades and their wives attended the dinner which was followed by a dance. The usual bar reminiscences, which are always a feature of this type of gathering, occupied the intervals.

A raffle held during the evening realised £15 10s. 8d. towards the dinner expenses.

1st BATTALION

Sub-Editorial

We are busy; we have been busy; and it is perfectly obvious that we are going to continue to be even busier still. The Battalion is extremely widely spread over the Limassol Zone and as we have few reserves this means that every man-jack of us is flat out most of the time. There is no leave and there is little time off. In fact this is a solid stint of six months hard work. But, make no mistake, it is a worthwhile and rewarding task. The Company notes deal in detail with some of our tasks; it is our job here to pick out the highlights and to give a résumé of our past four months work in UNFICYP.

On the peace-keeping side we have to report that, regrettably, Limassol Zone is in a far more unsettled and anxious state than when we took it over from the Black Watch. This is not our fault but indicative of the unhappy state of affairs on this beautiful island. We have had two serious "shoot-ups" in Ayios Theodoros: on July 20/21 when some 2-3,000 rounds, including medium mortars, were fired, and the following weekend when a further 500 to 1,000 rounds were exchanged between Greeks and Turks. Another serious shooting took place in Yialia (Polis) when the National Guard and Turks fired at each other. On all these occasions we were unhappily in the middle; shots come close—closer and closer as time goes by! But it is a fact that in the first affair at Ayios Theodoros both the CO and Major Huxtable were pinned down in the police station for the best part of the night while Mr. Bray and his platoon were "sprayed" off and on by bullets.

All this was hardly a *baptême du feu* but it did give

some of us an inkling that bullets can be dangerous!

In the West at Paphos District we have a very sad situation. Here there are murders; so many now that people are afraid to move out of their villages—some will not even move with the protection of a UN escort. Economically things have ground to a halt and we have much to do. Vengeance murders on the "eye-for-an-eye" principle take some handling.

In Limassol, too, we have our problems and just as the Editor is leaving Cyprus we can add as Stop Press that a big shoot-up occurred on August 25 when about 2,000 shots were exchanged between both sides. We managed to get a Cease Fire after five hours but it took some doing. All in all the Zone is in a continuing state of tension. We hope to get it in a better clip for our handover to the 1st Green Jackets in early November but we can make no promises.

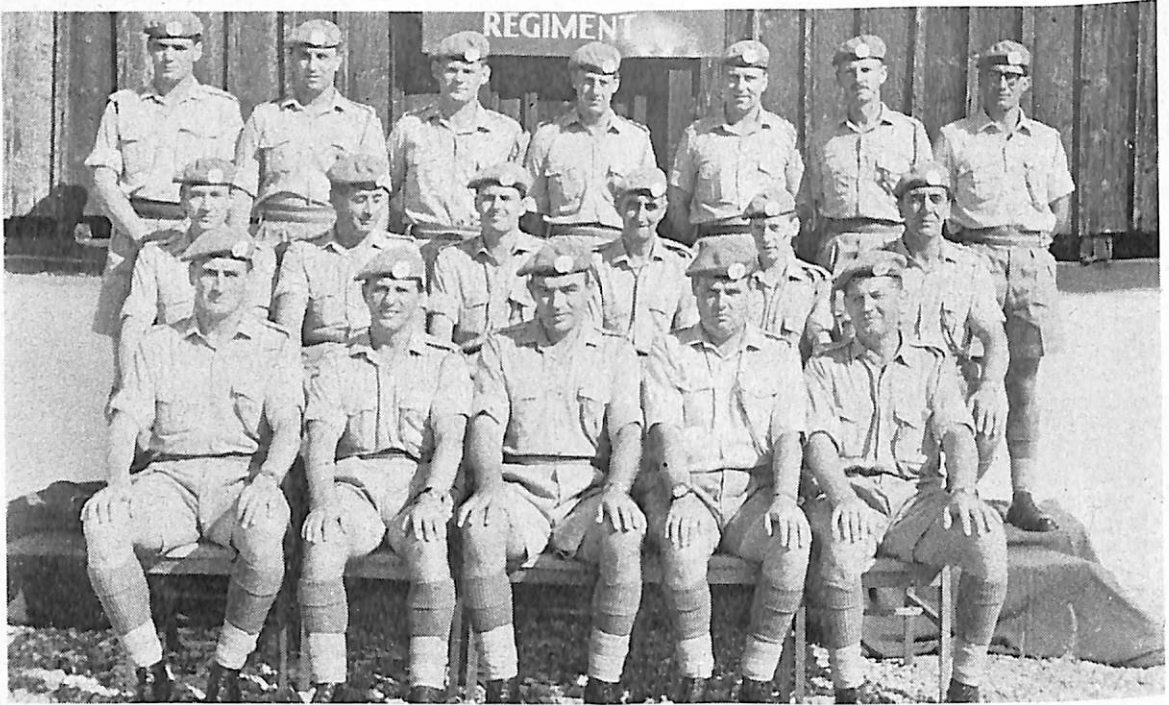
We have had changes in District Commanders. Major Harms now functions as Operations Officer at Bn HQ and thus Paphos District belongs to Major Newton with Major Hoppe at Limassol. Major Huxtable continues at Kophinou and a real barbary place that is. The CO still spends his time commuting by chopper (coming up to a hundred hours soon) and car—round his vast parish and aims at visiting every post at least once a week.

We have had many visitors: the GOC Cyprus, General David Lloyd Owen; The Chaplain General; Brigadier Mike Harbottle, our Chief of Staff at UNFICYP; General Peter Young, Director of Infantry; and finally our Editor, Colonel Bobby Turner. It was splendid to see him and he was able



CHANGING THE GUARD AT HQ UNFICYP

The Old Guard of the Swedish Contingent handing over to the New Guard of The Duke's



BLUE BERETS

The Officers of Zone HQ and Town Company, with RSM France, at Polemedhia Camp

Left to right. Back row: Lt. J. Crow, RE, Lt. A R. Westcob, Capt. D. R. D. Newell, Capt. P. D. D. J. Andrews, Lt. D. Strong, Lt. S. H. Kirk, 2/Lt. M. P. Bird. *Centre row:* Capt. R. J. G. Sharp, Capt. W. Robins, Capt. C. W. Ivey, Capt. G. Thompson, Capt. J. D. Moir, Capt. G. Long. *Front row:* Major R. M. Harms M.C., Major T. D. Lupton, Lt.-Colonel D. E. Isles, WO1 G. A. France, Major P. B. L. Hoppe

to see to it that, for once, our notes were on time! It was good to see all our visitors and to show them how we are coping.

In the realm of sport we have nothing to report for we are unable to enter anything competitive. A bit of tennis, some volley ball, some friendly soccer games by platoons and that is virtually the lot. But swimming and life saving have been taken by SSI Beaty and here we must congratulate Drummer Fry for being awarded a GOC's commendation for

saving the life of a young girl. A brave bit of work this.

Planning in a virtual vacuum goes on for our move to UK. We have no firm date, no firm barracks to go to, and—to be honest—no firm idea of *why* we have to go; Something to do with DM expenditure but what a crying waste of an APC-trained battalion! Still, at least we continue as a Regiment and that is all that matters. And so next notes from England.

NEWS FROM THE MESSES

OFFICERS' MESS

Since our last notes Adrian Stone has joined from Mons, and Charles Bunbury has returned to the Battalion. John Crow, of the Royal Engineers, is temporarily attached to us and is busy supervising the improvement of the tracks leading to the outposts.

John Power has left on posting to the Junior Infantryman's Battalion at Shorncliffe, and Toby Hirst has gone to the Yorkshire Brigade Depot. Very shortly Tony Redwood-Davies leaves for the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion at Oswestry and Robin Newall goes on a course with the SAS. In preparation for this Robin spends his spare time

walking up every hill in sight, weighed down with a huge rucksack.

Our congratulations to John Greenway on his marriage, and we look forward to meeting his wife. We also congratulate Hilda and Duncan Lupton on the birth of their daughter, also Carmel and John Power who also have a daughter.

Life in the Mess at Polemidhia is rather quiet as so many officers are on the outposts. However, with the rotations, most officers have spent a few days here at least.

By way of entertainment, there is plenty of swimming, and twice a week we have a film show. The entertainment value of some of the films has

been rather doubtful—notably “City under the Sea” from which the first reel was missing. The “Gas Council” film wasn’t really a hit either since, with the temperature up in the 80’s, we had to sit and watch how best to install central heating!

We have also hired a TV set which feeds us a constant supply of American films with Greek sub-titles. As always with Mess TV sets, we have found we have a large number of electronics experts. In consequence we have more adjusting than picture most evenings.

On two occasions Lieutenant-Colonel P. A. Winter and the Officers of the 1st Battalion The York and Lancaster Regiment have entertained us to lunch. It was very pleasant to meet old friends again.

We ourselves gave a cocktail party shortly after our arrival and, in August, a drinks and buffet supper party. Both were a great success, particularly the latter when we included a display by the Drums. Among those whom we entertained were Lieutenant-General I. A. E. Martola, the UN Force Commander, Brigadier M. N. Harbottle, the UN Force Chief of Staff, Major-General D. L. Lloyd-Owen, officers from the various UN contingents, officers from the units of the Sovereign Base Areas, and the local Turkish and Greek Cypriot leaders.

We no sooner seem to have arrived on the island than it is time to start thinking of the move back to BAOR. This has been a most interesting six months, but we all look forward to seeing our wives and families again.

W.O.S’ AND SERGEANTS’ MESS

Since arrival in Cyprus activities in the Mess have been very limited due mainly to two factors, firstly, the permanent state of readiness required in a peace-keeping force and secondly some sixty per cent of the Mess being in out-stations. However, it is not all work and no play. The twenty or so members in the HQ Mess entertained the Officer’s Mess to a games evening of darts, crib, dominoes and carpet bowls, with the honours going to us by the small margin of two points.

The Sunday Swimming Club which was started after arrival continues to flourish. Some ten to a dozen members are able to get a break from camp each Sunday (activities permitting) for a day on the beach. Places the club has visited to press are Famagusta, Dhekelia, Akrotiri Point and Aphrodite. On the way to Aphrodite a stop was made at the Temple of Apollo where Sgt. Hall (Int. Sec.) armed with cine-camera took some excellent shots of the historic ruins, the results of which were viewed recently.

Sport in the form of badminton is playing a big part in keeping members fit and our thanks go to SSI Beaty (who will be leaving us shortly on posting to the 15/19 Hussars) for the erecting and marking of an excellent court and to “Q” Vickers for installing the floodlights. A number of games have been played against the Marine Craft Unit of the Royal Air Force and the results have been very pleasing. Members who have represented the Mess are “Q” Vickers, S/Sgt. Walker, Sgt. Brooks, Sgt. Butler, Sgt. Rawcliffe, S/Sgt. Hunt, Sgt. Hall,

D/M Allerton, Sgt. Kelly and “Q” Goad whom we congratulate on his recent promotion.

Cinema shows are held each Monday and Thursday in the Mess and our thanks go to S/Sgt Delaney our efficient projectionist although we do hear the odd cry for help from him for the technicians.

Distinguished visitors to the Mess have been Major-General Lloyd-Owen, GOC Cyprus and Brigadier Harbottle, Chief of Staff, UNFICYP. We hope to have the pleasure of a visit from General Martola, Force Commander, UNFICYP, in the near future. On the last rotation of companies one of the last of the two big spenders had to leave Polemidhia Camp; however the owners of the Rex, Rivolli and Olympia Gardens have been assured that he will be returning shortly.

Footnote

Should the Directors of Halifax Town Football Club read these notes they may be interested to know that two members from Halifax are so elated at the results of the town team that they have started a supporters fund. Amounts to date are 120 mils (2s. 4½d.) and 5 Pfgs.

CORPORALS’ MESS

Due to the Battalion being scattered widely over the Limassol Zone, the Corporals’ Mess here at Polemidhia is very quiet indeed. However, we are happy to report that there have been some good times had by all members; like on the Queen’s Birthday—one minute, the Mess was as quiet as a tomb, next minute in trooped the Corporals’ Mess of the 1 Y & L and after that, well, use your imagination. Two weeks later we all attended a Social at their Mess and on both occasions everyone seemed to really enjoy themselves. Also to keep things lively there have been visits by Corporals of the Danish, Irish and Canadian contingents to the Mess, all of whom were made welcome and we are sure will return before the tour here ends.

Cpls. Wilkinson, Cottrell and Catchpole have taken a very special interest in the Battalion motor-boat and at every given opportunity are away to the sea; they all seem to be under the impression that they will be given permission to take the boat back to Kiel when they ask (Some people will try anything)—A word from the R.S.M. lads, “DON’T ASK”.

“Gone Fishing”—this is fast becoming a stock reply of the Provost Staff when you make an inquiry into the location of Cpl. Merrin. At first no one really minded, but now when “Alan” goes fishing so do Cpls. Pollard, Cottrell, L/Cpls. Parkinson, Todd and Soulsby; anyway the main thing is that they seem to enjoy themselves—one question from the Mess however—“When do we get to see your catch Alan?”

The NAAFI manager has complained once again about the rate at which his stock of brandy keeps going down—“Cut it out, Jim”. The MT Platoon opened their own canteen but do not sell beer, so Cpl. “Pete” continues to support the Mess. “Judd” calls into the Mess occasionally just to make sure “Georgie and Ken” are okay. Stop! the following message has just been received: “To all members from Wade, sorry, no more sandwiches”.

Cpl. Craig (after 3½ years) has now handed over

the duties of Hook Company Clerk to L/Cpl. Bower—"Good Luck, Tony". We are getting worried about "Paddy", first he started to go out with the "Scripture Reader" and now has given up his "Command" to work in the Battalion Orderly Room—looks very like the sun can affect us all.

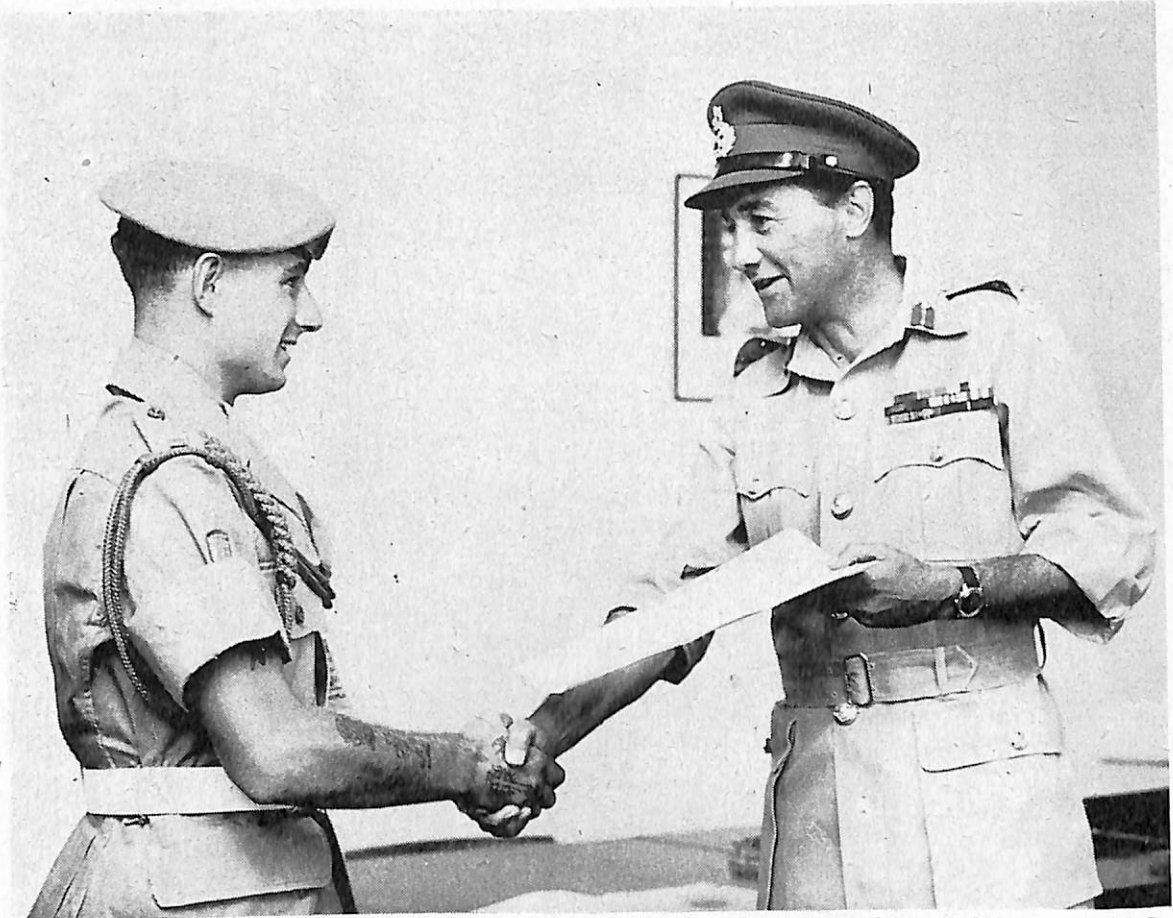
We would like to take this opportunity to welcome the following to the Mess:

L/Cpls. Loxam, Hollis, Lambton, Hartley, Barclay, Barker (again), Bell, Butterworth, Harston, Johnson (again), Parkin, Robson, Sellars, Thompson, Uttley, Willson, Haywood and Mortimer.

Also we would like to congratulate the u/m members of the Mess on gaining their Life Saving Awards successfully: Cpl. Claughton, L/Cpls. Millar, Earl and Booth.

BATTALION PERSONALITY

Drummer D. C. Fry



The General Officer Commanding Cyprus District, Major General D. L. Lloyd-Owen, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., presents an illuminated commendation to Drummer David Fry

A week after having been awarded his bronze medallion for Life Saving, Drummer David Fry, had cause to make practical use of his knowledge when he rescued a 14-year-old girl from drowning off Button's Bay, Akrotiri.

His praiseworthy conduct was officially recognised when he received an illuminated commendation from the General Officer Commanding MELF, Major-General D. L. Lloyd-Owen, at Episkopi.

The incident occurred on June 11 when David was bathing at Akrotiri.

Whilst sitting on a buoy after a long swim he saw a girl in difficulty.

He immediately swam to her aid, pulled her to the surface and dragged her towards the shore, an arduous haul of about half a mile. On reaching the shore the girl was unconscious and her rescuer straight away administered artificial respiration.

"There is no doubt that Drummer Fry's swift action and skilful application of First Aid saved the girl's life", says the commendation. "His behaviour throughout reflects the greatest credit on him."



FIRTE CARPETS

... a double investment

COMPANY NOTES

ALMA COMPANY

The Company is now firmly established in the "Town Company" lines in Polemidhia Camp. Our new task is to keep a watchful eye on the town and port of Limassol and surrounding district.

Everyone is enjoying the change for two reasons. Firstly because this is the first time Headquarters and three platoons have been together since leaving BAOR and secondly a new area and new faces keep everyone on their toes and from becoming stale.

The "Limassol Town Coy" occupies two posts. The first, and of prime importance, is called "Turk HQ" set in the heart of the Turkish Quarter of Limassol. The second is at Episkopi where the UN Section Post shares a village police station with the Greek Cypriot Police (CYPOL). One platoon mans both posts, allowing the other two platoons to be in reserve at Polemidhia.

The four months in Cyprus have passed very quickly with days rarely following a set pattern. Each section has experienced moments of excitement when the communal troubles, never far from the surface, have broken through causing some incident or other.

Whilst at Ayios Theodoros in the Kophinou District, Cpl. Rochester's section spent an uncomfortable three hours around the Bridge while Turks and Greeks exchanged fire. They returned to Kophinou Compound in the morning, wiser for the experience and with at least one newly confirmed smoker in the ranks.

Cpl. Rochester's Section again saw action in the North-east of the Zone near Polis where they spent nearly three weeks on detached duty. Here again at Yialia the Greeks and Turks exchanged fire when the Section was uncomfortably placed.

2 Platoon earned much praise for their smartness and alertness when they represented the Battalion while guarding the UN HQ at Nicosia. The guard mounting and handover from the Swedish Contingent was watched by a large crowd. The Battalion's Drums supported the Guard with martial music.

The reserve platoons in camp have been able to get in some very useful weapon training and shooting on the nearby range. In a keenly contested intersection competition of drill and weapon training Cpl. Robinson's section earned top marks.

There have been a few changes in the Company. Cpl. Hewson has rejoined the Company having completed a Small Arms Course at Hythe. Cpl. Adams has returned to the Pioneers.

Congratulations to L/Cpl. Hynes who has decided to sign on for further service.

In the next few days Lt. Hirst leaves the "Alma" for England and a tour of duty at the Brigade Depot. His steady hand guiding 1 Platoon will be missed and the Company wish him a successful and enjoyable stay at Strensall.

In his place the Company welcome 2/Lt. Stone newly arrived from England.

BURMA COMPANY

Since our last notes were written most of the soldiers in the Company have had the opportunity to see most of that part of Cyprus which is within Limassol Zone. Platoons have been to Kophinou, Limassol, Paphos and a fortunate few to Polis. It makes very little difference whether one is serving in town or country; the task remains the same, that of trying to maintain the uneasy peace which prevails throughout the island. We have had limited success in solving and mediating in some of the less serious matters but the overall problems remain and a solution to these problems seems as far away as ever.

The Company Headquarters have been fortunate in that, after serving the first three months in Limassol, it moved to Paphos and took over from "Alma" Company. One or two unfortunates had to stay behind to afford some form of continuity, notably S/Sgt. Delaney, Cpl. Waite, Cpl. Ryan and L/Cpl. Hinde. Limassol has more to offer than most places in Cyprus so they should have no cause for complaint! The Company is based in St. Patrick's Camp where Lt. Cartwright and C.S.M. Chilvers have their own little empire which they govern with a firm hand. The C.S.M. has his own house with a very flourishing garden, growing mainly grapes, peaches and pomegranates. He watches these with an eagle eye and as much concern almost as for the new growth between his nose and upper lip. The other sergeants, less those on outpost, live in a slightly less desirable residence nearby.

At the time of writing all "Burma" Company platoons are in Paphos District. 4 Platoon under its new Platoon Commander, C.S.M. Wilson, is spending a fortnight in reserve. This does not mean, as the word reserve might imply, that they do nothing but swim and sleep all day, they work hard doing the routine tasks around the camp and improving the amenities to make it more habitable.

5 Platoon under 2/Lt. Bird are in what used to be considered the rest camp of the Zone at Polis. With the recent spate of murders in the district and the repercussions which inevitably follow they are now as hard worked as elsewhere. Hard work never hurt anyone and out here any new incident arouses interest and helps the time to pass more quickly.

6 Platoon under 2/Lt. Roberts is split into section posts the most notable of which is in a Turkish village called Stavrokonno. Notable because in any negotiations the name of this village is bound to arise and cause heated discussion.

The Defence Platoon, commanded by 2/Lt. Thorn, is in Ktima where they have a very interesting time maintaining the status quo. At the time of writing this is not very easy to do but the platoon does its utmost to overcome the obstacles which are frequently put in its path.

So life goes on. The platoon and section cooks are doing excellent work; the vehicles are still running

thanks to the superhuman efforts of the LAD detachment and drivers; the radios still work, thanks to the Signals Platoon NCOs. Morale is high and the end is in sight. The briefs for our relieving unit have been written and re-written; the administrative genius, Lt. Cartwright, is beginning to knock boxes together for our sea freight and lists for this and that are being prepared.

As to our future, we should know more when the next notes are written but the first thing is for us all to get back to Germany in one piece and then we can think about England and the future.

We congratulate Cpl. O'Connor and his wife on the birth of a daughter on April 27, and welcome the many new arrivals to the Company since leaving Osnabrück and hope that they enjoy their stay in this Company.

CORUNNA COMPANY

These notes would be better called Kophinou District rather than Corunna Company Notes. Since we arrived in Cyprus the only part of "Corunna" Company permanently stationed in Kophinou District has been the headquarters of the Company. The outposts and sentries in the compound have been provided as much by men of "Alma", "Burma" and "Dettingen" Companies as by "Corunna", and from time to time even "Hook" Company have come to our aid.

In the main our life has continued much as described in the previous notes. The majority of our time is spent in routine tasks of observation and patrolling. The sun has got hotter, we have got browner, the outposts are more comfortable but

the routine is the same. However, as with any routine situation there have been sudden outbreaks of activity, and even violence, which have tested us and provided many of the force with that valuable experience of knowing what shots fired in anger sound like even if they are not specifically directed at us.

In the second half of July there had been a number of minor incidents in the District; minor provocations, accidents and matters which had increased the tension between the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities in the area. These incidents culminated in direct conflict on the night of July 20/21. It all started in Ayios Theodoros, on the bridge directly in front of the UN post. A number of young men of opposing factions gathered at opposite ends of the bridge. After shouting threats and insults at one another in a harmless fashion for some time it was seen that they were being joined by armed men. The soldiers from the bridge quickly deployed between the two groups to prevent them from firing at one another, and after some considerable discussion both sides were persuaded to return to their areas. Although tension remained high in both communities it did look as if the crisis was past; at least the immediate confrontation had been removed.

About an hour and a half later, without any apparent spark, three shots were fired, a deadly pause of about fifteen seconds and then everyone in the village who had any form of firearm discharged it! There was no question of aimed or controlled fire, people did not know and did not care what they were firing at. One young Greek armed with a Bren

Over a Century-old Partnership . . .



PARSONS
AND
PRINTING

Like the Services, we have a tradition to uphold, at the same time taking advantage of scientific progress in this age of mechanisation, yet maintaining, through a special department, a personal and helpful link with our customers, whom we are ever willing to advise and assist in the production of their journals.

F. J. PARSONS LTD

The Adelphi, John Adam St., London, W.C.2 · Trafalgar 7151
Works at Hastings, Folkestone, Bexhill, Lewes and Seaford

gun and faced by a number of UN and having a number of UN vehicles directly in front of him had no alternative but to fire in the air—which he did—the whole magazine—on automatic. When the initial firing was going on within the village the external forces on the hills around the village decided to join in too. This added to the confusion and the noise as the National Guard and Turkish fighters brought their machine guns, and at one stage mortars into use.

Firing was so indiscriminate that it was not until first light that the UN forces, who had been finding what cover they could during the night, were able to get out into the village. By this time a cease-fire had been arranged and reinforcements were moved in. These additional men were deployed along the areas dividing the two communities. By the evening of July 21 people were again moving about the village and within four days life seemed to be very much back to normal and the extra UN forces had returned whence they came. All was quiet until 9.35 p.m. on July 29. On this occasion the firing was mainly confined to the village itself, the exterior forces taking less part in it. The firing was nothing like as heavy as on the previous occasion although it did continue, in a very sporadic fashion, until the early evening of the 30th. Since then the village has been quiet and life is gradually returning to normal once again. What comes out of these incidents? In spite of the ammunition expended, an estimated 2-3,000 rounds on the first occasion and approximately 1,000 on the second occasion, both sides stated that they had not received any casualties on either occasion. This strengthens the opinion of those present in the village at the time that the majority of firing was unaimed and merely a form of morale raising. When there is direct confrontation between two sides, across a road or some similar flat area, the UN can interpose troops thus preventing the two sides from firing at one another. When the confrontation is in a general area, including the surrounding hillsides and houses, it is impossible to interpose UN soldiers unless they are capable of levitation! Once it is dark and the firing is being done by frightened youths there is nothing the UN can do about it until daylight: anything that moves is shot at—not accurately, but that tends to make it all the more dangerous.

Rather more recently, violence in the area has taken a more horrific turn. On the evening of August 12 the Headquarters was informed that an explosion had taken place just outside the mixed village of Alaminos. On investigation it was found that some form of bomb had exploded on a tractor on which a number of Turk Cypriots had been travelling. As a result of the explosion five people, three of them children, were killed and one seriously injured. As yet it is not known what caused the explosion but whatever it was it was a beastly and dreadful waste of human life without any apparent motive.

On August 15 at 2.50 a.m. we were all brought to life again by yet another explosion, once more in the Alaminos area. On this occasion a car carrying two Turk Cypriots had blown up on a mine. Both men in the car were injured, one of them seriously. Once

again UN reinforcements were moved into the area and deployed to prevent inter-communal strife. At first light Major Phil Easterby, RAOC, an ammunition and explosives expert from the Sovereign Base, arrived. Whilst he and the UN were inspecting the scene a similar explosion occurred about 100 yards from them. This had evidently been set off on a time device but luckily no one was injured. Early in the morning of August 20 a Turk Cypriot farmer going to start his water pump set off a booby trap; again, luckily, he escaped without injury. Major Easterby is waiting to clear the area of explosives but the reluctance of the Turkish Cypriots to co-operate with him makes his task harder.

These events have brought home to all of us that the presence of the United Nations in the Island is a major factor in preventing bloodshed on a large scale. There can be no doubt but that without a United Nations presence there would very quickly be a major conflict between the two communities on the Island. It has also brought home to us the impossibility of guarding and protecting every point within the area. However many men are available it is impossible to guard against every eventuality. We can only react to events as they occur, however much we may wish to anticipate them. Needless to say, in spite of the shooting and tragedy around there is still good humour to be found. The children in the villages are still cheerful, they still shout and wave and ask interminably for chocolate. The older people in the villages are as hospitable as ever. One can but gain the impression that it is not the simple people of the Island who are unable to live together in harmony but the leaders of the people who are unable to reconcile their pride with the needs of the people in the towns and villages.

Within Kophinou compound, where approximately eighty members of the Company still live, the work of improvement has gone steadily ahead under the direction of the C.S.M., with some small assistance from the Pioneers. All observation posts are now equipped with new sentry boxes, the tents have new floor boards, showers have been built and the interior of the police station has been repainted. On outposts similar work has been going on. As section succeeds section on the various hills each has vied with the other to produce improvements. Funnily enough every outpost, and there are twelve in the district, has its champion who swears it is the best spot of the lot. One wonders sometimes whether it would not be easier to let each section make its choice and stay there for the remainder of our stay in Cyprus. It would certainly solve the "rotation" problem which was difficult enough to baffle a visiting computer programmer!

Our next notes will be written after our return from Cyprus and so perhaps we should wait until then before trying to decide how much we have enjoyed our stay. The only thing that is certain is that many of those who are bemoaning the heat and the dust will miss the sunshine when they are back in Osnabruck in the cold and damp of a winter in N.W. Europe!

We congratulate the following: L/Cpl. Poole on his marriage; Ptes. Robson, Sellars, Ormerod, Johnson on promotion to Lance-Corporal.

DETTINGEN COMPANY

To refresh your memory, "Dettingen" Company consists of the Mortar Platoon and Anti-Tank Platoon, but since it is stationed in Polis, a company headquarters and one platoon post, and since all platoons rotate, we have only seen the mortar platoon (renamed "Cement"—see their notes) here during the period these notes cover.

Polis, the haven of peace, prosperity and Pepsi Cola . . . or so it was until July 25 when the Greeks and Turks at Yialia had an argument which they tried to settle with machine guns and rifles, setting the hillside on fire. Capt. Stevens, who exchanged command of "Hook" Company with Capt. Ivey for a peaceful mid-tour rotation, sorted that out and tucked both sides back into bed. The next day Capt. Bunbury, with his section of fighters, arrived and became "Yialia Force"—a small command which was to grow. The next day and night was peaceful, but on Thursday night they were off again with two sessions of sustained firing regardless that they were firing over a UN Post. Capt. Bunbury earned his commentator's diploma that night, lying very flat with the radio, sending an excellent description of the battle to the Company Commander who was trying to get in between again to stop it. After that Yialia Force grew to two sections and six Canadian scout cars of the Royal Canadian Dragoons.

But Yialia has proved (up to press) a UN success story, for now all is quiet and all troops have withdrawn. This is rare in UN history since most spots UN move into tend to become permanent.

Since then Limni Copper Mines, on our doorstep, has become a problem. Three murders in the area, the last in the mine itself, have persuaded the Turk workers to go on strike, but the Greeks work on, in spite of a sabotage attempt (a pair of plastic charges, one of which failed) and an exchange of shots with the police now guarding the mine. So UN are going in again, and tonight a section is moving in, again under Capt. Bunbury, to spread peace and light.

Amid our headaches of guarding 300 square miles of Cyprus with 48 men, Pte. Boyes and Fielding have both become fathers! Many congratulations to them. (And to their wives who had some hand in the matter. They will never know with what eagerness the good news was awaited by the 18 men of this Headquarters!)

Mortar Platoon

Since our initiation into the life of UN in Cyprus, when we spent six weeks attached to "A" Company in the Ktima Paphos district, the platoon has travelled the length and breadth of the Duker's "half" of the Island. To do this our numbers were increased by the arrival of Ptes. Knapton, Graham, Cooper and Bradley, fresh from the depot, all of whom have made their presence felt one way or another! Perhaps the most popular of our outposts has been Anadhiou and the Polis Guard Room and Hill OP, where everyone learnt that there is far more to "keeping the peace" in Cyprus than watching Turk and Greek communities. To do this properly one needs a firm base from which to operate. So quite by chance we were provided with the necessary kit to produce it—sand and cement—and almost overnight—or was it longer?—we had concrete

floors to walk on. In fact the seven weeks spent in the Polis area will be our only experience of working in "D" Company on whose strength the Platoon really is.

From Polis we departed for the flesh pots of Kophinou about which we had heard so much, and spent short periods in Skarinou Bridge and Tango Hill.

We are still in Kophinou district and hope to get out of it alive after another fortnight in the area. At present we are slap in the middle of an area which has had its peace destroyed by the terrible effects of mines and booby traps being found by unsuspecting persons. We are glad that UN awarded us our medals a few days ago. Here I should mention Pte. Whatmore who has cleared out for good before it is too late—too quickly for some (Lounds) having been a stalwart member of the mortars for nearly three years. We wish him good luck and his future wife our sympathy.

When we finish our time with "C" Company we move to Limassol for a few weeks where we hope to do some mortar training, and then to Ktima Paphos for the last leg, by which time we hope that Pte. Kelly has grown a tan, and Pte. Hall will have treated us to a chicken dinner.

Anti-Tank Platoon

Much has happened since the last notes were published, and looking back, we must all agree that "Tempus Fugit". We moved from the Polis District, and spent three hectic days in "St. Pats" camp, Ktima. Quite obviously someone had heard what good engineers and grass cutters we were and sent for us. We spent the next three days working overtime, a fact that did not go unnoticed by "Big Ben Dunbar" and his union.

However, we finally made it to the OP's at Xeros Bridge. Cpl. Baker's section took the hill (he really is beginning to look like a Hermit.) Cpl. Hodgkinson's section went to Mandria Caves (instantly to become known as the Beach Boys section), and Cpl. Lamont took Stavrokono, some say they could still hear him muttering from Xeros Bridge.

After a time on the OP's we returned to "St. Pats" to the normal routine, but with the thought of our "farewell" party for the "Guv'nr". He went out in very fine style, to the strains of "Haul them down you Zulu warrior" (He did too).

Next we spent two days on the town OP's which proved to be a life of pure luxury, apart from the smell of Junction House. Of course someone had to spoil it all and whisper the dreaded word, "Kophinou". So up to the front line we went, full of thoughts of muck and bullets.

We immediately went to Black Bridge and settled in with one section on the water tower, two sections on the house, and "Baker's Dozen" back on a hill, which he promptly re-named "Boot Hill", complete with an authentic grave yard.

Rumour has it that there is a tin of Chicken Supreme buried in each grave. During the first weekend, the locals put on the most magnificent display of shooting which continued until Sunday lunchtime. This of course did not disrupt the usual game of Risk, with Cpl. Ineson still cheating merrily and Cpl. Hodgkinson blaming Pte. George (alias

“Acorn”) Deaville. However, no one was hurt on either side, but the shooting did give cause to argue who carried out the most heroic action, or who saw most of the contest. One thing was plain, and that was, an extra trench was needed on Boot Hill to accommodate their Sunray, who had difficulty squeezing in with Pte. Kitson.

Our Platoon Commander, after much finger crossing, praying, etc., finally got his wish and saw some shooting, and in fact, he left us with a gay wave of his hand, amidst a burst of fire from the Turks. Well done sir, you finally earned your medal (just).

At the time of writing, we are all down at Mari, prior to our last two weeks in the compound at Kophinou. We leave for Limassol on September 11-13. This is much in evidence by the amount of people withdrawing “all credits, please sir”.

The Platoon always has a dinky soldier, this time Pte. Dunbar has taken over from Rodney Kench, and his remarks of Dinky Doo, etc. can be heard as he wanders round the Compound muttering to himself. Rod Kench is now established in civvy street driving an ambulance and we wish him well.

We welcome Deaville, Whitely, and Warner to the Platoon, and we must congratulate L/Cpls. Barclay and Butterworth on their recent promotion. L/Cpl. Barclay is still trying to find someone who will listen while he plays a lament on his pipes for £2. He must be thinking of Limassol. Pte. Whitely and his wife Denise are to be congratulated on the birth of a baby boy, Dean.

Finally, we all join together in congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Power on the birth of their daughter, Victoria, and wish them both the best of luck in the future. Thank you Mr. Power for your unfailing support and hard work. We have fixed it so that you are going to receive 25 hairy chested visitors for Sunday lunch, then we can all reminisce over days at Putlos.

HOOK COMPANY

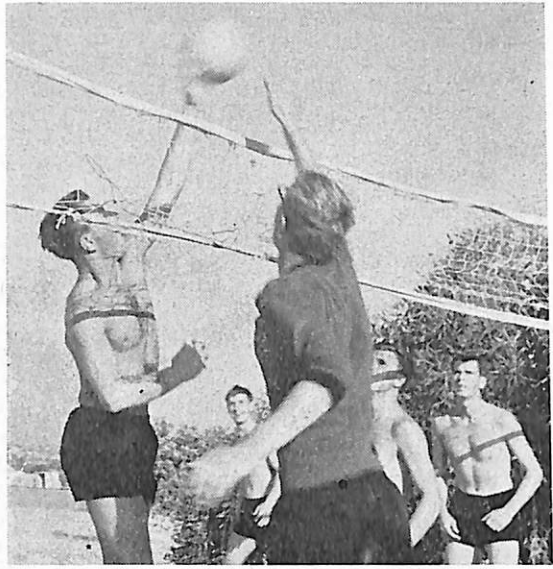
The Company is spread out throughout the Battalion. Of its 250 members in Cyprus there are always 100 out on detachment. In addition to our normal role we also provide two standby platoons. Both platoons have had the odd call out and have had the opportunity to assist the rifle companies to deal with some of our local problems. Most members of the platoons found this a welcome change and enjoyed it.

One cannot write about Cyprus without a mention about the weather, temperature 100 degrees Fahrenheit is normal at this time of the year and, needless to say, a swim in the sea is most welcome.

SIGNAL PLATOON

Now we have all got our knees brown, and settled into our new tasks, after the mid-tour rotation of personnel. One advantage of the rotation was that it allowed members of the Platoon to meet up again, after a break of nearly three months.

Since the telephone service in Cyprus is not all that it might be, UNFICYP relies to a great extent on radio for its communications. This means that the platoon operators, as well as the Signal Platoon,



Cpl. George Coles beating his opposite number to a high ball

are kept very much on their toes, as all links are manned 24 hours per day. It is not uncommon for at least three of the four sets and the teleprinter in the radio room to be clamouring for attention at the same time. These occasions must give our HQ operators the impression that OA and OB at Soltau were nice quiet places after all.

The Telephone Exchange, where our operators do a 12-hour stint in every 48 hours, is also a busy place. It handles an average of 3,500 calls per week. Similar scenes of activity can also be seen at Paphos HQ, Kophinou HQ, and at Polis, which has been very much in the news recently.

At the moment every one is very busy preparing for the Unit Equipment Inspection—all vehicles, weapons, and radios being thoroughly overhauled, painted, etc.

Despite this hive of activity, we still find time to go swimming—some members of the Platoon being able to get away each afternoon. The Platoon is also taking part in a volley ball competition against the signal platoons of the other contingents on the Island. At the moment we are about half-way up the League and are determined to reach the finals, to be played off between the four highest teams. However, no one is claiming international fame yet, as some of our opponents play this game as a national sport. It is very pleasant to be able to travel round the island and to meet soldiers from other countries.

MT PLATOON

If anyone had told us before coming to Cyprus that, within two months, the unit transport would have covered over a quarter of a million miles, he would have been “laughed out of the hall”. However, this prophesy would have been all too true, and now, nearing the end of our fourth month, we are already beyond the half million mark. This colossal mileage

does obviously leave its mark on the vehicles and, coupled with the appalling condition of some of the roads, has all the makings of a first class MT nightmare. Despite all this the vehicles, with few exceptions, are still on the road and this is ample testimony to the hard work put in by all drivers and MT NCOs throughout the Battalion, not forgetting our hard working LAD personnel.

The lengths to which some of us will go to ensure that a vehicle is kept on the road is borne out by the now infamous Humber "Pig" which saw "action" at both Kophinou and Polis. All was well until Captain Charles Bunbury, in the midst of a rather heated "exchange" between the locals, took shelter behind the front nearside wing which he then discovered was made of well camouflaged cardboard. Full marks to Cpl. Ernie Waite for a most lifelike "mock up"; as he afterwards explained, "At least it looked the part", and this statement was perfectly true. The experience nevertheless must have been a disconcerting one for Charles.

Another well-known and often tried method of keeping the vehicles going is by that delicate art known as "canibalisation". Funny thing, there are so many different ways of spelling "pinching". (*But, really, only one way of spelling cannibalise.*—Ed.) So much canibalisation is going on at the moment that it is now developing into a dirty word around here. The moment that a vehicle is in any danger of being declared BLR/BER the word gets round, bits and pieces disappear as if by magic. It matters not whether the vehicle is in Workshops Episkopi, Nicosia or at Dhekelia, none is inviolate. One of these days I have the feeling that we are going to drop a monumental clanger and canibalise a vehicle belonging to someone else. That reminds me, UNMILPOL have stopped leaving their vehicles outside the MT Office lately. How "Q" Vickers manages to keep a check of all these to-ings and fro-ings with spares is beyond our comprehension as is, for that matter, how he always manages to put the dud bits back in time.

Traffic accidents still happen despite all our efforts; needless to say eight cases out of ten so far have not been the fault of the service driver, but unfortunately still count as a reportable traffic accident. The mere mention of a traffic accident these days is enough to make our MT clerk, L/Cpl. Mann, go into a frenzy and the driver in question to hang up his keys and reach for his "boots that are made for walking".

The handover vehicle inspection is hard upon us and we are now working in the evenings despite frequent reminders from Pte. Maynard that there are matches to be played in the basket ball and volley ball competition. Their concern is appreciated, however, as we are at the moment out in front and intend to stay there.

S/Sgt. Bell and Cpl. Pickles are rarely seen outside the Tech. Store these days, three thousand FAMTO indents is one of the reasons why. What we would do without them I cannot contemplate.

One good thing has emerged from all this effort, none of us are getting any fatter and quite a number are getting appreciably thinner. Pte. Lennon is now

gradually returning to his original more sylphlike proportions.

Sgt. Rawcliffe, Cpls. Pickles, Cottrell, Hollis, Willson and Mann still retain, despite huge libations of "pop" and ice cream, what they choose to call their "racy" proportions.

All in all I have never seen the Platoon looking so bronzed and fit.

We welcome to the Platoon Pte. Larnder—from "Alma" Company, Ptes. Peaker, Wilde and Smith—from "Dettingen", and Pte. Winterburn from the Drums.

RECCE PLATOON

The Recce Platoon as such has existed only in spirit since the Battalion landed on the island. After a certain amount of initial reshuffle, the Platoon has found itself committed in four separate little groups. The Platoon Commander has located himself away in the deep fastness of Paphos District HQ, where he is ably administered by his batman/signaller and driver, except when they decide to paint the town a "lighter shade of pale". Fortunately for all concerned, this is not a regular occurrence.

Two complete sections are always stationed at St. Patrick's Camp, Ktima, where, living physically with, but metaphorically slightly apart from, the resident rifle company, they are always on call to Paphos HQ for the jobs for which their training makes them admirably suitable. Anti-malaria escorts are at present taking up much of the normal working hours and wearing out a good deal of shoe leather, but it is hoped to get back to the village visiting programme in the near future. Probably the most out of the ordinary job accomplished by these sections was when they successfully aided the Australian Police to locate two lightly buried bodies on the bed of the Xeros River. Sporting pastimes are few on the island, but the Recce volley ball team is practically unbeatable, and swimming parties generally scatter when the Recce take to the water.

A further section is now permanently attached to the Platoon HQ at Xeros Bridge, and their effect has been very much noticed on the District Radio Net. This section is also available to the Platoon Commander on post to help with village visiting.

Finally, two sections are always located at the Kophinou compound, one section helping to man the control station, while the other does village visiting and other necessary jobs within the district. Here, too, the "jungle bashers", as the combined Recce/Signal Platoon team is known, are a force to be reckoned with in the volley ball world.

Thus the only District in the Zone which does not benefit from the presence of the Recce Platoon is Limassol, as this district is only used when passing from Kophinou to Ktima. Every two weeks, sections rotate Kophinou/St. Pat's/Xeros Bridge so, as usual, the Recce Platoon have a wide knowledge of the complete area of operations. Large mileages have been run up on the vehicles, and one or two vehicles haven't quite stood the pace, regardless of the unlimited care and attention they have received. To remain operational has been an achievement in itself, as much of the radio and vehicle equipment was well worn on takeover. The REME and Signal technicians are in no small part responsible for this,

and they have the Recce Platoon's thanks for their efforts.

Going home is now looming in the minds of most, and certainly for Cpl. Hunter, Pte. Sharp, Pte. Parkinson and L/Cpl. Coates, all of whom have new offspring to view on return. The Platoon have been producing boys fast, and we now calculate that we have bred almost half a new platoon for twenty

years hence.

What shall we remember of Cyprus? Bumpy, dusty, sinuous tracks, Keo beer, Turkish coffee, sunshine, the blue Mediterranean, and hot lonely nights? Who knows, only time can tell. One thing is certain, and that is that we have all broadened our experience by dealing with the difficult people who inhabit this island.



A SPLASH OF COLOUR
The Corps of Drums on Nicosia Guard Mounting Parade

Cyprus 1967

Calmness, loss, and an air change,
Familiarity, love for a time gone,
And the world is rock, dust, and sea,
Green becomes brown, and dies.
From warmth grows heat and a callous people,
Death and laughter ride together under a hot sun.

Strange problems between childish adults,
Tempers, threats, and the empty gesture,
Ruined buildings, fear, and the wary look,
Thrown stones, jeers, and the insolent glare,
Shots fired with no aim or purpose.
And so we watch and wait, and talk and think.

Among the rocks the tents grow,
White skin becomes brown, boredom sleep,
And tired eyes scan for hours nothing
Save the hot flush of unsaluted brass.
Shovels unseen on rock or stones by night,
Futile excuses from the morning dissembler.

There is no privilege nor praise,
For tedium 'neath heat that beats
Down on the waves rising from parched earth.
Sweat in a man's eyes, salt on his face,
He knows what's right and does it—mostly,
Or, if he fails, compulsion ousts his will.

The places vary; tasks are simple, dull,
Until the unwary moment when the watching ends
And Turk or Greek, bored by a quiet life,
Invites arrest or injury or death,
To teach a pointless lesson
To an unwilling audience.

Attentive, quiet, smart, with a ready laugh,
Scattered like sparse corn on a baked field,
Men from a black industrial world,
Or greenest meadows under a soft grey sky,
Watch patiently for Mediterranean tempers,
With brasses shining under a blue flag.

SCENES IN CYPRUS



A. CULTIVATION IN PROGRESS
Tying up the grape vines at Company HQ Polis.
Left to right: L/Cpl. George Minto, Cpl. Colin Ward, Pte. John Cook and Pte. Stephen Blagborough

B. "PLAYING IT COOL"
L/Cpl. Walt Omerod has a cold shower at an outpost near Polis

C. "PETS CORNER"
Cpl. Melvin Hodgkinson with "Duke" the PI watchdog and Pte Allan McAloon with "Thumper" the rabbit, at Anadhiou

D. Duty operator at Polis, Pte. Michael Shaw sending a message

E. "CHOW TIME"
Pte. Ed Bicknell digs into the mash

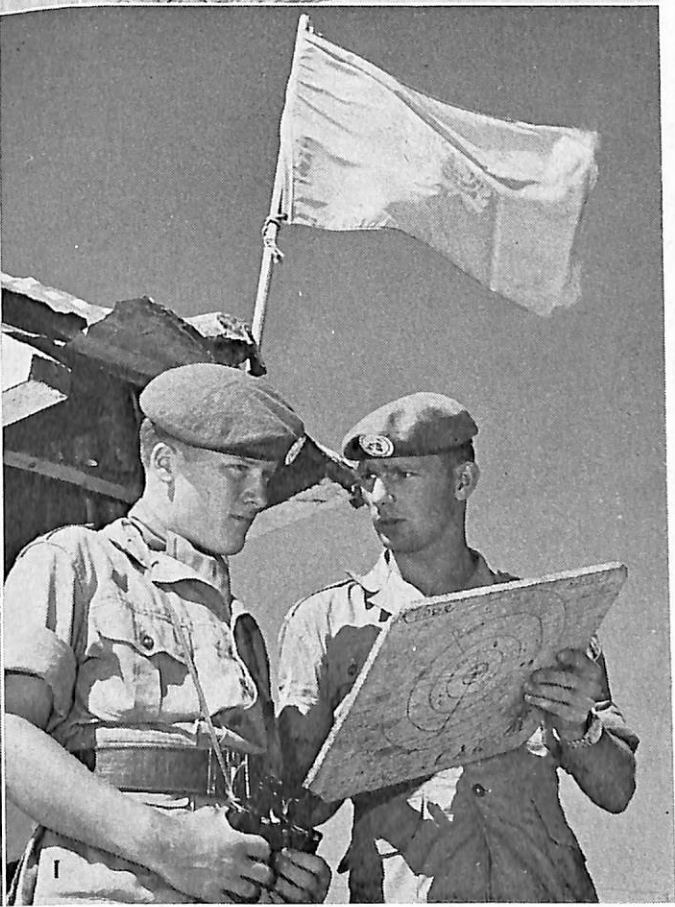
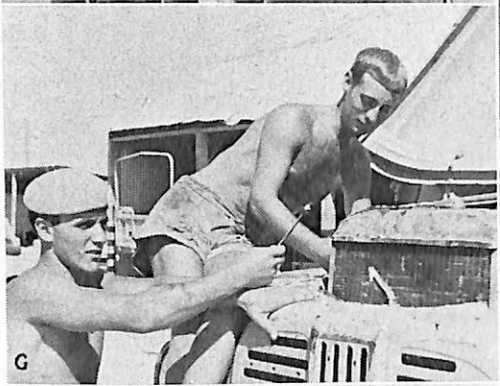
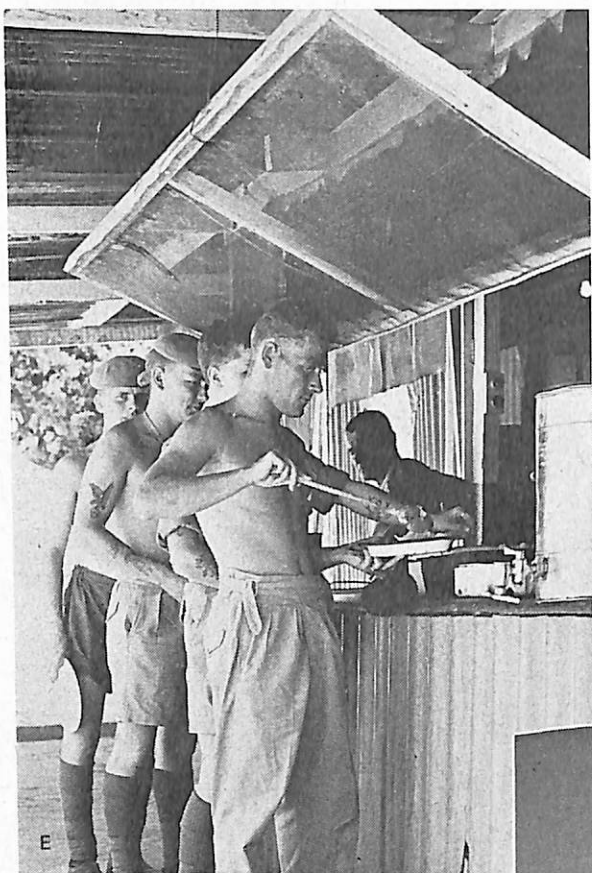
F. THE RP ON DUTY
L/Cpl. Stewart books out L/Cpl. Parkinson at the guard room, Polmidhia, whilst L/Cpl. McClean looks on

G. MEN AT WORK
A helping hand being given to L/Cpl. Craig, REME, by Pte. Sutton

H. "THIS IS WHERE THE NEW ELASTIC GOES"
Sgt. Rawcliffe briefing the MO, Capt. Thompson, on the workings of the internal combustion engine, whilst Pte. Wooley looks on

I. "ON WATCH"
Pte. Ian Verral being briefed by L/Cpl. Peter Ineson at Mavroli





1st Battalion Rear Details

During the past three months Quebec Barracks have attracted more visitors than one would expect when the Battalion is not in residence. A forceful demand by the Divisional Commander for an improved heating system to be installed before another battalion moves in is the reason for these visits. They began with a party of three or so "Q" staff officers from Division and Corps supported by MPBW representatives. These were followed quickly by a flying one by the Chief of Staff Rhine Army, Major General Harry Tuzo, to have a look for himself. Next came no less than the QMG himself, General Sir Alan Jolly. Interspersed between these important visitors we had many minor ones all interested in the same project. What will the outcome of all this be? The answer lies in the hands of the Treasury. Provided they will release the money required, our successors in Quebec Barracks, the 1st Bn, The Devon and Dorset Regiment, will enjoy a little more comfort than we have during the last three winters.

Anyone who has the impression that life with Rear Details is dull and uneventful has got hold of the wrong end of the stick. The casual observer does not see a great deal of activity as he passes through the Barracks but we have our moments. A team was entered for the Nijmegen marches; we took part in the Brigade Skill-at-Arms meeting—both are reported on below—and we have held two successful gatherings of families on the sports field for which it is difficult to find a suitable generic term; let us call them sports days! The announcement of our early return to UK at the New Year has posed problems which we did not anticipate back in April when Rear Details received their terms of reference. Planning the move is progressing but whenever it comes off it will involve a great deal of work in a short space of time.

Our Families

Our families have grouped themselves into two divisions—those who are still in Germany and those who have gone to the United Kingdom—of course, there is a lot of movement from one division to the other and back again. The pattern of life of those in Germany is broken every other Wednesday by a pay day which is conducted in the cafeteria of the NAAFI Families Shop. On alternate Wednesdays a trip is run to a local swimming pool or place of interest depending on the weather. One pay day coincided with the visit of Miss Helen Mason of the *Sunday Telegraph* who was collecting material for an article which appeared in that newspaper the following Sunday on the reactions of people to the news of the withdrawal of a Brigade from BAOR. She is believed to have collected plenty of material from "Dukes" wives!

The first of our sports days was held on June 17 and consisted of side shows, races, rides in a 432, and concluded with tea in the dining hall. The

weather was perfect and the event was well attended. In the evening a social was held in the WRVS Room. The Company was entertained by a "cabaret" whose sketches were written, directed and produced by S/Sgt. Darbyshire and supporting cast from the sergeant's mess. The climax of the evening was a personal appearance of "Sandie Shaw" to sing "Puppet on a String". The following day, Waterloo day, was marked by Rear Details sponsoring the morning service in St. Martin's Church, Roberts Barracks. The second sports day was held on Saturday August 2 and was similar to the first except that we had a buffet lunch followed by the usual events in the afternoon. It is appropriate at this point to mention the excellent food that has been produced for all our social events. Sgt. Stagg, the cook sergeant of 12 Brigade Headquarters and Signal Squadron, has done us proud on every occasion and has presided with his beaming smile.

Brigade Skill-at-Arms Meeting

The aim of this meeting was to have the maximum number of people shooting, therefore no one could shoot in more than one match. This meant that we had to find thirty competitors. Since our "on parade" figures were just under forty, team selection was not difficult. All teams taking part were from minor or sub-units. There were seven matches, the first four of which counted towards the minor units championship and the other three matches were of the knock-out variety. The results of this meeting demonstrated that it is easier to shoot accurately with the LMG than with the GPMG, especially at a one foot square plate at 200 metres. Three of the matches depended on the gun and the results of teams armed with the LMG showed an advantage over the others. The meeting was extremely well run and proved very enjoyable. Even our being defeated in the final of the falling plates by a very good Brigade Headquarters team did not spoil the day.

Results were as follows:

Match I: SMG, 7th Place (15 teams entered).

Match II: Rifle/GPMG, 3rd Place (14 teams entered).

Match III: GPMG, 10th Place (14 teams entered).

Match IV: Rifle/GPMG, 2nd Place (14 teams entered).

Minor Units Championship (Aggregate Matches I-IV):

1st: 16 Fd Sqn RE.

2nd: 43 Fd Pk Sqn RE.

3rd: Sp Coy 1 RS.

4th: 1 DWR (Rear).

Match V: Eliminated by eventual Winners.

Match VI: Runners-up.

Match VII: Eliminated by eventual Winners.

Teams

Match II—3rd: Major Naughton, Sgt. Milner, Cpl. Dawson, L/Cpl. McCree, Pte. Wigglesworth,

Cpl. MacFarlane, and Cpl. Whittaker and Pte. Murphy, GPMG.

Match IV—2nd: Sgt. Coll, Cpl. Soper, Cpl. Kelsey, Pte. Robinson 32, Pte. Cobe, Pte. Kelly 99, and Pte. Schofield and Pte. Dransfield, GPMG.

This quarter our social score is also high and we have much pleasure in congratulating Cpl. Jagger and L/Cpl. Shillabeer on their marriages and also the following on increases to the family establishment: Bdsm. Rochelle (daughter) and Cpl. Kelsey (son). We welcome in Sgt. Clarke, Cpl. Martin, Cpl. Hayes, L/Cpl. Yates, and bid farewell to Ptes. Dillon and MacCormack who have left us on regular release. We have also lost C.S.M. Wilson to Cyprus, Sgt. Wappett to North Midland District and Sgt. Stewart to Shorncliffe. Congratulations to Bdsm. Foster on his promotion to lance-corporal.

THE BAND

The word "*Schutzfest*" has appeared many times in our notes over the past four years and some of our readers would like to know more about this festival which is particular to North Germany. During the thirteenth century, craftsmen of a city or town were responsible for the safety of the general public. However, many ordinary citizens who did not belong to a craft or guild, formed their own "private army" to defend their city in times of trouble and strife. Today this tradition is carried on in the form of a festival whereby the club members shoot with small bore weapons at an Eagle made of wood which is placed at the top of a pole some 30 feet in the air. Basically, the one who shoots the bird off the pole becomes "King", an office which he

holds for a year or more, generally not more than three.

We played again at a *Schutzfest* in Oldenburg in North Germany in June; however, this club has a slightly different history from the ones we have just mentioned. This *Schutzfest* could be classified as an Insurance Company. The oldest club in Germany, it was formed in 1192 to provide its members with a Christian burial and to give the family some financial support when the breadwinner died. Again the tradition is still carried on, the coffin being carried by six members of the committee, the club band leading the procession and the family receiving approximately £25 to cover expenses. Here in Oldenburg, top hat, bow tie and tails are worn as opposed to a semi-military uniform which other clubs wear, this formal dress being more fitting for a funeral than the traditional green uniform which is normal.

After three hectic days of march processions, concerts and dances we returned home for a well-earned rest, or so we thought, but for some reason we decided to have a social, our guests this time were the 33 Panzer Bde from Lingen. Obviously with such a connection the evening could only be a roaring success. The following morning saw the band on its way once again, this time to Gelsenkirchen in the heart of the Ruhr for another three-day *Schutzfest*. Our contact with the city of Gelsenkirchen has been very strong since 1964. This year instead of living in German barracks we were invited to stay with the families, which helped to promote a deeper understanding between our two countries. During the festivities the Lord Mayor of



Bad Godesburg, June 1967

[Photo: PR, HQ BAOR]

Gelsenkirchen referred to the Bridge of Friendship which we had built, not only with our music, but also through the even closer contact with our hosts.

This *Schutzfest* was acclaimed to be the best ever seen in the Ruhr for many years. One highlight was the arrival of Col. Bartholomew and Capt. Day of the Canadian Army by helicopter and the salute at our marching display was taken by Consul-General Fisher from the British Embassy, Dusseldorf. We were all presented with various medals for our activities but, unfortunately, Dress Regulations don't cover *Schutzfest* decorations. After three days of very hard work we took part in the British Week festivities in Bad Godesburg. We were accommodated, much to our surprise, in a Youth Hostel. More surprises were to come: not only had we to be in bed at 10.30 p.m. but we had to take it in turn to wash-up. A very nice letter was sent from the Embassy to the C.O. complimenting us on our very creditable performances.

The Band engagement which we had all been looking forward to was the ten-day tour of Denmark. Our first port of call was Herning Agricultural Show, the largest in Scandinavia. We stayed for three days with the R.D.A.F. and were very well looked after with typical Danish hospitality. We travelled all over Denmark giving concerts, marching displays and dances. We did have a couple of evenings free which we put to good use. In Copenhagen, it was noticed that the bookstalls were doing a brisk trade! The highspot of our tour was the Gasten *Tiltingfest*. Gasten is the summer residence of the Danish Royal Family and, as the Band marched past the Royal Palace, the Queen and Princess came out to take the salute. So successful was our tour, that subject to the exigencies of the Service, we have a chance of a three-month tour of Sweden, Norway and Denmark next year.

We renewed acquaintance with the Band of the 10th Hussars when we played together for an Anglo-German concert just outside Osnabruck. Bandmaster Mick Lane of the "Shiny 10th" and Bandmaster

Colin Wood were as usual in top form for a social which was held.

We said farewell to S/Sgt. Derbyshire. He is not leaving until October but, as we are involved in the Berlin Tattoo and Brussels British week, it was our last chance to give him a send-off. Tom has always been a keen supporter of the Band and we are sorry to see him leave. We shall miss his cheery face in our club and we should like to wish him and Hilda all the very best for the future.

Our congratulations go to L/Cpl. Clifford on his marriage to Miss Ursula Helmdorfer and wish them many years of happiness.

THE NIJMEGEN MARCHES

The LAD this year organized a team from the Rear Party 1 DWR to take part in the Nijmegen Marches which were held in the last week of July. To the uninformed this march involves marching 25 miles per day for 4 days, carrying 22 lb. of equipment, including a rifle.

Training started early in May and out of 23 volunteers a team of 13 was eventually picked. The training started at a slow pace but by the time July came round the team were marching 75 miles a week. This hard training paid dividends as the team selected was one of the few to have no casualties, and all the team members completed the 100 miles of Nijmegen marching.

The hard work of training and competing in the march was adequately made up for by the reception given on the last day, when the roads were lined with cheering crowds who hung flowers round our necks, and beautiful girls who sprayed us with eau-de-cologne.

All members of the rear party who entered well deserved the medal they received on the completion of this exciting march. The team consisted of: Sgt. Sands, Cfmn. Swadling, Slaven, Salmons, O'Meara, McDonald, L/Cpls. McCree, Thilwind, Chant, Cpls. Sage, Dunienville, Kelsey, Pte. Robinson 32.



NIJMEGEN MARCHES 1967 1 DWR TEAM

Left to right: Cpl. Kelsey, L/Cpl. Thilwind, Cpl. Sage, Cpl. Dunienville, L/Cpl. McCree, L/Cpl. Chant (hidden), Cfn. McDonald (hidden), Cfn. O'Meara, Cfn. Swadling, Pte. Robinson 32, Cfn. Salmon, Cfn. Slaven, Sgt. Sands (team leader)

AVR II

"C" COY. (DWR) THE YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS

OFF TO CAMP

"C" Company embussing
at Prescott Street Drill Hall:

Cpl. Simpson, L/Cpl. Price,
Pte. Smith, B.R., Pte. Dawson



"C" Coy. (DWR) has been to its first camp since the last notes were written. Only one training weekend was held in June before camp. This was taken up with concentrated support weapon training and watermanship. Of course, both these subjects were chosen with an eye to camp, for it was expected that support weapon handling and "messing about with boats" would be on the curriculum.

Thus, in blazing sunshine, some 90 members of the Company set forth for the delightful stretch of river at Bishop Monkton near Ripon. Lt. Keith Marsh of "D" Company came along to help Capt. John Cook instruct in the gentle art of paddling. It is pleasing to relate that the safety boat was superfluous and that the best time across the river was recorded by L/Cpl. Bush and his crew. Apart from this, training in tactics and platoon weapons were ably dispensed by our PSIs and it was with welcome relief that virtually the whole company went in for a dip to cool off. (Not deterred by the Girl Guide camp down the river.) Cpl. Hirst excelled himself with a first class meal which prompted one nameless man to prophesy that "the food at camp won't be as good". However, he was wrong.

Two rather hectic weeks followed before July 1, when some 91 persons paraded at Halifax to motor down to camp. An uneventful journey followed and we all arrived in bright sunshine which was to be typical for the next 14 days. Numerous men were syphoned off for various cadres but nevertheless the majority of the Company took part in field firing, house clearing, helicopter training, night patrolling and so on. Rather depleted on Duty Company days we were pleased to have "B" Company train with us. It will be sufficient here to record our regrets for the

accident on the 94 grenade range. W.O.2 Sullivan and the "B" Company soldier were fortunately not seriously injured and due mainly to the excellent spirit of "Con" Sullivan, the incident did not mar the rest of the camp.

Night exercises provided plenty of activity. In week one, a simple bivouac exercise turned into a night full of surprises. All was quiet and the Company 2 i/c well asleep when Lt. Peter Wrightson led his "Yorkshire Ghurkas" into the camp at about 03.30 hrs on a very dark night. Shots, blows, equipment and prisoners were exchanged and there was talk of success on both sides. Frank Ogden was rounded up and put back to bed, vehicles recovered, tents re-erected and calm descended once more. A lesson here for sleepy sentries!

Adjutants have nasty minds when it comes to inventing schemes. Women and psychological warfare were used when parties of men set off to capture the "Feelthy Bandit Byrnski" one night. The psychological touch may not have had much effect on the troops but at least one hardened resident of Stanford P.T.A. was moved to comment about strange noises in the night. No one really found the actual lair so a very high-powered patrol of one major, one captain and one lieutenant "had a go" later on. On finding all bandits asleep they had some quiet fun. The Adjutant is still looking for his breakfast!

Not much needs writing about the Battalion exercise—all the bump came out beforehand. However, it provided fast moving, hard hitting training of great value. Too fast for the enemy, again perhaps the WRAC in the enemy camp provided some incentive. Everyone learnt a lot, not



RAMSDEN

STONE TROUGH ALES



one of
WEBSTER'S
 perfect beers

Fountain Head Brewery,
 Ovenden Wood, Halifax, Yorkshire

least the company commanders and the umpires.

A great highlight of camp was the helicopter training, even for Pte. Gillespie, our Scots mascot. It was a touch which everyone enjoyed and an experience not to be missed, quite apart from the training aspect.

It was a good camp. The social side was well looked after by trips to London and Great Yarmouth and, of course, the company social. "Mabel" at the Ram Inn, Brandon, once again did us proud and we can well recommend this tavern to any of our Regular friends in that area.

One notable point about this first Volunteer camp was that everyone worked together as one unit. We are all very proud of our Regimental traditions but these are providing no more than friendly rivalry between companies. It is quite evident that the Yorkshire Volunteers will work well as a unit. It is already building a reputation and more is the pity that in future the companies will train separately. Everyone is working hard for success and if the integration in the officers' and sergeants' messes is repeated throughout we should have few real problems.

At the moment of writing, two of our three PSIs are having a rest, leaving the fort in charge of S/Sgt. Wakefield and Mr. Westerman. Times are slack however as we are having a month off from training except for a bit of shooting team practice. The new classification course seems to be showing up more better shots and we should be firing a few new names at the District Skill-at-Arms meeting at Strensall in September. L/Cpl. Fred Burnside who "volunteered" himself into the Support Platoon will be sorry to leave his S.L.R. as he looks like being our new champion shot. However, we hope to have our own company shoot in September so he can show off there in front of the ladies.

It is appropriate here to mention the hard work put in by all our permanent staff. Many have questioned the need for three PSIs, a clerk and a vehicle fitter in a company, but they may be assured that there is plenty to do; particularly when O.C. Company produces training programmes and admin instructions at the same time as some major inspection. Anyway we, the volunteers, appreciate the work done by the regulars. In our team we have knowledgeable, experienced hard workers who seem to understand the curious "volunteer" mind.

Training during the next few months includes a trip to Warcop, adventure training and we hope an MT rally including some signals work. There will be the Northco orienteering competition to test the skill and endurance of 2/Lt. Steele's trainees. Our new allocation of training days is due in November so we should be able to see those off in quick time. O.C. Company and S/Sgt. Wakefield have some interesting times trying to work out the days allocation but in the end leave it to the old crystal ball. Filling in between the training will be the shooting club, the basketball team and other activities of a pleasurable nature. A company dinner dance is to be held on January 6, and this year we are determined to have a children's party.

Note writers are always well detailed to include

(Continued at foot of page 163)

THE WEST RIDING TERRITORIALS

Sub-Editorial

Our main pre-camp activity—apart from a training weekend in May—lay in intensive recruiting. Thirty new men were taken on strength and ready to join us at camp. There were, of course, the usual administrative chores to do before camp, but these seemed remarkably trouble-free.

Camp, this year, was at Beckingham, Lincolnshire, and was already “home from home” for many of us—especially the Battalion Shooting Team who have spent countless weekends there practising and competing. This fact might have made camp seem a little flat and take some of the intensiveness out of training. In fact, it did just the opposite; everyone got down to his or her job immediately, and we accomplished more in the first few hours than anyone had known us to accomplish before. Our thanks for this must go largely to the advance party, and particularly to “Bob” Callaby, for the excellent pre-camp organisation. The administration in camp was first class and was made even smoother by the smaller numbers than we had been used to—about 120 in all.

The weather was superb; some rain fell on Tuesday (we think) but the weather was so hot it evaporated almost before it reached us.

Another factor contributing to the success of this, our first AVR III Camp, was the food. It was excellent. Part of the credit must go to the Regular ACC W.O.1 (W.O.1 Anderson) who supervised the men's cookhouses, but our own cooks did the cooking and deserve all praise for a fine week's feeding.

“C” COY—Continued from page 162

lots of names. On scanning through these paragraphs few names are to be seen, so here goes: Congratulations to L/Cpl. Burnside (M. we think, but his wife ought to know) on his wedding; all good health and happiness to them. Likewise to Captain John Cook who took the plunge about two months ago and has now settled down in one of the most out-of-the-way parts of Yorkshire. Congratulations to Sgt. Carey on his first class A/Tk cadre report at camp. Congratulations to Sgt. Fossard on winning the weight losing contest at camp. (O.C. Company was the loser). Best wishes to L/Cpl. Leeming, who has decided to emigrate to Australia, for a bright and happy future.

There has been some changes in the Company Orbat and one or two other changes which have reduced the Company strength slightly. However, we are left with those who are really interested in Volunteer training and not just what they can make out of it. With this spirit there is a great future and we look forward to providing many more notes for *The Iron Duke*.

Finally may we say that there is a very warm welcome for any “Dukes” who care to call in at Wellington Hall for social or “business” visits.

W.O.2 Haigh, now wearing “Dukes” flashes, was his usual competent self in the Pay Office, assisted by WRAC L/Cpl. Deimel.

The WRAC personnel, for whom it was their first camp, although small in numbers, seemed to make their presence felt everywhere; in the Signals, Orderly Room—even joining in as rioters, looters, terrorists and so-on when required. A special word of praise is due to them.

Training this year has, of course, undergone a radical change to equip us for our new role—that of “keeping the peace”; and this led to some very interesting training at camp in which many lessons were learnt on both sides. For the purpose of training the Battalion was divided into a Trained Soldier's Cadre, commanded by Capt. Keith McDonald, and a Recruits Cadre under Major “Pat” Haws, in addition to the usual “specialists”. The cadres combined for the Battalion Exercise under the command of Major Haws. The exercise started on Tuesday at 14.00 hours and ended on Thursday at 12.00 hours, and involved everything for which we had been training, such as road blocks, crowd dispersal, cordon and search, and so on. On the whole, the exercise went very smoothly—especially the timings. The only hitches (if one may call them that) were because about all the CO's “bangs” and “funnies”, laid on to happen at awkward intervals during the night, were discovered and put “out-of-action” by the platoon under the command of Lt. Hilton. The sweep which ended the exercise, after a false start, happened as it was supposed to, though map reading, once again, had its vital contribution to make here.

A special commendation goes to our WRAC signallers on the exercise who insisted on doing a man's job and staying “on net” all night in spite of the availability of transport back to camp.

As well as normal training at camp there was an hour's drill each morning under R.S.M. Webb (and a half-hour's sword drill for officers in the evenings!), in preparation for the “Freedom of Mossley” parade on the last day of camp. (A separate report of this appears elsewhere in this issue—we hope!)

Since camp we have not been idle; the Shooting Club is continuing its training for future competitions; a weekend exercise has taken place in the Dales, in which the standard of map-reading was very good indeed—well, everyone got to the RV (pub) on schedule.

The interesting and heartening point to close on is this: since most of our training weekends have become unpaid, we have had more keenness than ever before and, although we have fewer “names on the books”, those that are on attend regularly. Men have also even offered to pay for the food on weekend exercises—unnecessary, of course, but it illustrates the upward trend of the Battalion. We are now embarking on an intensive publicity campaign to recruit “new blood” to augment this initial enthusiasm.

OFFICERS' MESS NOTES

The Mess Notes usually include some "good-byes" either to Regular Staff or Territorials going on to the Reserve. This time, however, we are in the happy position of being able to welcome Captains John Iredale and Desmond Tetlow. Both were at camp with us and apart from a slight grimace at the cost of "jumbos", whistle cord, cap badge, stable belt etc. they both agree that every penny was well spent in re-badging as a "Duke". The only other complaint from Desmond Tetlow at camp was that he had great difficulty in getting near the bar to buy a round—and that isn't funny when one is a barrister.

Other newcomers to the Mess just before camp were Officer Cadets Charles Henson and Mark Buckley, the latter carrying on a family tie with St Paul's Street Drill Hall where his father, Capt. Paul Buckley, served with the 5th Battalion in the early days of the war. Since camp two more Officer Cadets have joined us—Adrian Wilson and Jeremy Sykes—welcome to all.

The lack of numbers in Mess at camp by no means prevented us from having one of the best camps for some years and we even managed "to get everything in". The Sergeants Mess entertained us one evening in their usual grand manner, filling us up to the ears with liquid and solid refreshments, not to mention the countless anecdotes of camp in general and R.S.M. Webb in particular. We repaid their hospitality with the annual lunch-time session and in spite of fewer numbers, pints consumed were only seven less than the previous year! Did C.S.M. Fitton maintain his record of being the last out? As we held this party on the half-day we were able to recoup some sleep and energy before our Guest Night when we entertained the Honorary Colonel and Lt.-Col. Walter Skelsey.

A word of thanks here to the Mess Sergeant, Sgt. Bill Bacon and his two sons Cpl. and Pte. Bacon, for without their hard work the PMC's lot would be a sorry one.

After such a successful camp our morale was high for the ceremonial of the Mossley Freedom Parade, an account of which appears elsewhere in this issue.

The Mess will be going all out to win the Falling Plate Competition at the Battalion Rifle Meeting in September and there will no doubt be "deadly" (well—we hope not!) rivalry in the Officers' Pistol Shoot. The PMC may (sorry—WILL!) find time to arrange a Mess Party in addition to our usual Christmas Party. One thing is certain, we shall all be kept busy both training and socially in the next few months—we shall have to be, otherwise there will be nothing to report in the next issue.

ANZIO COMPANY

Although we were a little "thin on the ground" as regards numbers the specialist platoons of the Company managed to carry out realistic and enjoyable training at camp. The new role suits us fine. C.S.M. Simpson and his merry men thoroughly enjoyed their "Receeing" and the splendid weather enabled them to swan about the countryside in open Land-Rovers and collect sea-side sun-tans. Captain Fillan's gang, the signallers, on the other hand spent much of the time in the camp area where they also developed tans. The Signals Platoon has never

been the smartest platoon in the unit but this year the standard improved tremendously; some say it was due to Corporal Frank Binns rejoining the platoon but others attribute it to the fact that four members of WRAC have been posted in.

The new role for the Assault Pioneers still allows the liberal use of explosives and C.S.M. Pilkington delighted in showing the new lads in the platoon how easy it is to change the face of the training area. Captain Desmond Tetlow, a new officer in the Company, took great interest in the Pioneers and also enjoyed setting off a charge.

In view of the Freedom Parade at the end of camp the Band and Drums worked extra hard; the former were rather thin to start with but, by the end of the week, had thickened fairly well with late arrivals. Their efforts were well worth while and we were proud of them on the day. Due to being in hospital Sergeant Stott missed both camp and the parade but we are pleased that he is now out and about again.

The fact that everyone enjoyed camp this year was helped considerably by two factors—the weather was marvellous and the food nearly as good. Sergeant Fitzgerald will probably say that the rations were good, the kitchens excellent and there was some guidance from the ACC. Nevertheless he and his part-timers produced some wonderful meals and can justly claim that they played a big part in making our first camp in the new role a great success.

The splendid spirit which prevailed at camp has continued at the Drill Hall. This was proved recently when many of the company turned up for a voluntary unpaid weekend training in the Dales.

BURMA COMPANY

Camp was one of the best we have had for many years. If this is the AVR III, give us more of it. A new feature at this year's camp was the presence of the WRAC. They made their presence felt by such comments as: "It's nearly tea time, the man is going to blow the horn."

The Company attended, with the rest of the Battalion, the "Freedom" ceremony at Mossley. The parade required a considerable amount of preparation but the success of the day made all our efforts worth while.

Since camp we have had a "voluntary" week-end training up in the Yorkshire Dales. The Burma team was led by Lt. David Cole. He did not capture the escaped prisoners but we did cross the hills without incident and without getting too wet.

We are pleased to welcome to the Company since camp several new recruits: Allott, T. G., brother of Allott, C., together with five others. We hope they will be happy with "Burma" Company. The Company is also pleased to boast of four officer cadets: O/Cdts. Buckley, Henson, Wilson and Sykes.

Shortly after annual camp we held a company party at a local hostelry. The evening was enjoyed by all who attended and we feel the Company can look forward to a good future.

(We regret that notes from the Sergeants' Mess and Chindits Company arrived too late for inclusion. Shooting Club Notes have been fitted in on p. 166.—Ed.)

The Freedom of Mossley



Colonel J. B. Sugden, T.D., D.L.,
Honorary Colonel of the West
Riding Territorials D.W.R.,
accompanies the Mayor of Moss-
ley, Alderman Miss Hannah
Bentley, on an inspection of the
parade.

As well as the highly intensive training in our "Keeping the Peace" role, we had another vital aim at camp: to get the standard of drill to as near perfection as possible by the end of the week. This was for a unique occasion—the granting of the Freedom of Mossley to the Battalion on Saturday, July 8, 1967.

It was an historic occasion, because it is unusual for a Freedom to be given to a battalion of a regiment; and it was certainly unique as being the first occasion the Freedom of a Lancashire town had been accorded to a battalion of a Yorkshire regiment.

Before coming to camp all men had been fitted out with borrowed No. 2's and the Drums with scarlet; we had also borrowed SLRs for the occasion (no RSMs headache about slopes, anyway!) and all officers and men had spent many evenings with an eye on the "Shss-you-know-what" and one on bulling their kit. In fact, a semi-official consultative committee on "bulling" appeared to emerge from nowhere, on which members were forced to reveal jealously-guarded secrets such as the fact that "Woodbine" spit, though more proletarian

than "Benson & Hedges", was certainly more efficacious in bulling circles (and you may get what "double entendre" you can out of that!).

Everyone was determined to do his utmost in the time we had available—well almost everyone. I mean—there *was* the R.S.M.'s dog. R.S.M. Webb was delivering his commands on the first drill parade with, we thought, more than his accustomed bite, when we discovered that his dog was repeating every syllable the R.S.M. was uttering—and almost as intelligibly." Now we know what would happen to a man in these circumstances—but a dog? One could feel the tension on the parade ground. Without even deigning to look at the offending animal, R.S.M. Webb roared "Drum Major! Double this dog to the guardroom and put it in the cells on bread and water for the rest of the week". Drum Major Pickles doubled up to the recalcitrant pup with the traditional "Caps and belts off", realised his error, took the hound's collar off, by way of compensation, and chased it ignominiously to the guardroom. The funny thing was that the dog seemed to know exactly where to go. On another occasion, the Bandmaster was ordered to "get rid"



of a low-flying jet which drowned even R.S.M. Webb's voice.

All the senior NCOs and warrant officers did, in fact, lose their voices in the first two days:

"Good morning, Mr. Dillon, what's the matter?"

"Lost my voice, sir!"

"Well, what're you whispering for—it's no secret, is it?"

Naturally, from the moment Mr. Webb doubled his dog off, the men were with him and the standard of drill on the actual parade was miraculous when one considers that many of the men had done no drill before coming to camp—in fact, it was miraculous anyway.

We marched, with Colours cased etc., to the square in Mossley, where the Mayor of Mossley gave a speech for the occasion, which traced the history of the Regiment and its association with the town, which was nothing short of a glowing testimonial to the men on parade that day. Standing on a slightly sloping parade ground, with a rather stiff breeze blowing, making one or two of us worry about our hats, more than one or two of us felt proud to be taking part in a never-to-be-repeated parade. After our Honorary Colonel, Colonel J. B. Sugden, had accepted the Freedom Scroll on the Battalion's behalf and had replied to the Mayor's speech, he presented to the town a piece of Regi-

mental silver as a memento of the occasion.

The climax of the proceedings had arrived: Lt.-Col. Barnes ordered the fixing of bayonets and the drawing of swords. Then came the order for the uncasing of Colours. Those of us standing in the front of the Colour Party did not know the drama that was being enacted behind us. All we could see and hear was the ripple of sympathetic amusement from the crowd watching. We found out later that the case of the Regimental Colour had caught in its Crown. However, a final determined pull on the ensign's part did the trick, but it seemed like an eternity to us before we heard the reassuring flurry and flutter of both Colours free in the sharp cross-wind. Speaking personally, I felt this to be the most moving part of the ceremony. I could see nothing but the crowd of good-natured onlookers, most of whom were unknown to me, with our wives and friends in the foreground, but I sensed the whole parade stiffen up when the Colours began their fluttering challenge.

From the parade ground, together with the proud and stalwart members of the Mossley Old Comrades, their flashing medals and firm steps adding further glory to the parade, and led by that grand CO of the 7th Battalion, our ex-Hon. Colonel, G. B. Howcroft, the whole parade, Colours flying, Drums beating and Band playing, marched through the streets of the town with what must have been the entire population lining the route—a fitting end to what many felt to be their best camp ever.

SHOOTING CLUB NOTES

This new venture seems to be thriving in its object of getting shooters together and, in spite of often inclement weather at Deer Hill, the Sunday morning sessions, both on the range and later in the "Tavern", are proving very popular.

Not all the shooting has been done by the men of the unit as the WRAC members prove to be very keen and the wives seem to be holding their own.

Sunday, August 27, proved to be a working day on the range; rifles had to be put on one side and, along with members of the Lydgate and Diggle rifle clubs, shovels were prepared and a spot of digging had to be done to repair the mantlet, damaged in the storms.

The pistol section has not yet started although we now have a certain amount of ammunition and cartridge re-loading tools and only the technical details have still to be worked out.

THE ARMY CADET FORCE

Once again our annual camp has come and gone but this year, contrary to popular belief, we all feel much better for having been away. The whole week went very well indeed and the highlight, so far as the boys were concerned, was the visit which they paid to Captain Danny Marsay and his 10 Army Youth Team. Danny set himself and his team up at Flamborough Head with ropes, toggles, picks, cow bells and goodness knows what else required to make a climber.

This constituted the adventure training for the boys of the Huddersfield area, some 70 cadets in all. Each cadet paid at least one visit to the site of the climb, and to prove the popularity of this sport, some boys went back again and again. Thanks a lot for your efforts, Danny.

L/Cpl. Mounsey of Huddersfield Detachment did us proud at the ACF National Athletics in Scotland by gaining third place in the junior 880 yards. This helped other achievements to gain for the area the Sir Donald Horsfall Trophy for sport. Well done lads.

This month we welcome a new officer in the area. He is 2/Lt. Johnny Evans who will serve the area through Huddersfield Detachment. We also welcome Lt. Keith Wilson who has come to us from the Tanks in Liverpool. But this fellow is no Beatle; he is, in fact, an old "Dukes" cadet from Heckmond-

wike Detachment, one of Captain Field's old lads.

The area is now struggling very hard to re-form the drum and bugle band which has been on the go for the last twenty-five years at least. Our big problem, as ever, is a lack of cash with which to buy new gear. (The rich please take note.) Any help in our efforts will be most welcome. Will anyone who knows of any spare instruments please contact Major Howarth at St. Paul's Street Drill Hall.

The detachment at Huddersfield is at the moment suffering from a condition known as "armyitis" which, as most will realise, takes the best of our NCOs and plants them in the ranks of the regular army. Two of ours, in particular, we shall miss a great deal: Cpls. D. J. Moon and Metcalf. Both these lads have served the ACF well and we wish them the best of good fortune in their chosen careers. Some regiment is to be very lucky. Halifax and Huddersfield Detachments are to be congratulated on their "Above Standard" grading for the annual inspections this year. Thongsbridge continue to make good progress under the expert guidance of Captain Gordon Field.

R.S.M. Jack Ashton has at last decided to take things easy, so he has accepted an administrative post at Area HQ, St. Paul's Street, along with the Area Commander and the Area Padre, the Rev. G. L. Lawrence of Newsome.

THE NUFFIELD CLUB

The following letter has been received from the Ministry of Defence regarding the Nuffield Club, 93 Eaton Square, London.

"I think you will know of the existence of the Nuffield Club in Eaton Square which offers officers of all three Services of the rank of lieutenant-colonel or equivalent and below accommodation and meals at very reasonable prices.

"The Club is not self-supporting nor could it ever be with the present scale of charges; in fact, it is heavily subsidised by the Nuffield Trust.

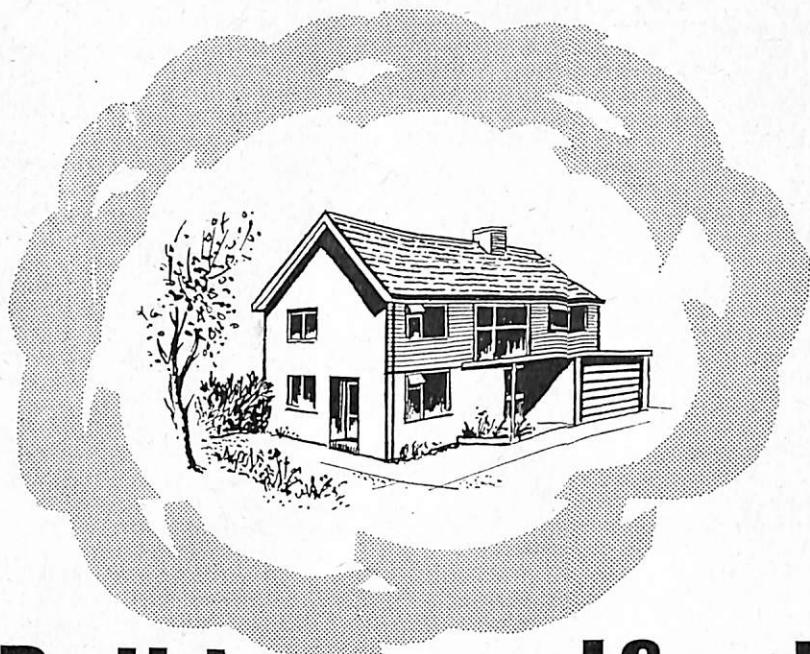
"The Club Committee has recently been exploring ways and means of making fuller use of the Club's facilities and it has been decided to offer Honorary Daily Membership to the wives of members enabling them to avail themselves of the excellent facilities any day they should happen to be in London. Also, it is hoped to encourage Wives' Associations to arrange their meetings or parties at the Club.

"The Club has several large rooms ideally suited to cocktail and dinner parties and the staff is well accustomed to catering for large numbers. It is hoped, therefore, that perhaps not only Wives' Associations but also some of the smaller Officers' Associations will find the Club an ideal and inexpensive venue for their annual reunion and so forth.

"I should much appreciate anything you can do to publicise this new departure in the Club's affairs."

183 Clarets

and the choice of Hocks, Burgundies and other wines is almost as dazzling! Saccone and Speed make a point of offering you a truly magnificent variety of wines, spirits and cigars. The range and quantity may surprise you—the superb quality will not—that's something you can always expect from Saccone & Speed. May we send you our price list? **SACCONI & SPEED LTD**
32 Sackville St, London W1. Tel. REGent 2061
Wine Merchants to H.M. Services since 1839



Build yourself a BOUNTY

Allot part of your pay through the "Save While You Serve" scheme, arranged between the War Office and the Building Societies Association.

An explanatory leaflet, together with a simple form, giving full details of the scheme can be obtained from your Unit Pay Office; your Paymaster will gladly give you any further help and advice you need. The "Save While You Serve" scheme enables you to build a handsome nest-egg for the time when you leave the services. A nest-egg which can be earning a fine rate of interest . . .



in the
HUDDERSFIELD
BUILDING SOCIETY

Britannia Buildings, St. Georges Square, Huddersfield

Is Rugger what it was?



2 DWR XV NATAL, 1897

Back row: Cobb, Wilman, Roberts, White, Perkins, Watson, Powell, Blakey, Nourse, *Seated:* Finnigan, Lt. B. J. Barton, Lt. P. A. Turner (Captain), Lt. T. S. Smith, Seaton, Sanderson, Brennan, Atkinson. Nourse (*top right*) later settled in South Africa. His son, Dudley, captained South Africa at cricket for several years. The two cups are left "Y & L" and right "Murray." They are our oldest rugger trophies and are now in the Officers' Mess of the 1st Battalion

I. Regimental Rugger in the Nineteenth Century

by W.S.

The excellent series of articles by Lieutenant-Colonel Jack Dalrymple, which appeared in *The Iron Duke* a few years ago, covered fully the great days of 1st Battalion rugger between the wars. The earlier history of the game in the Regiment is, however, less widely known. Most people are aware that the 2nd Battalion won the Army Cup in 1907, the first year of the competition. It may come as a surprise to some, however, that we gained our first Army Cup in 1878 when Lieutenant J. R. Wrench played in the first Army-Navy Match.

The origins go back to the formation of the Depot at Halifax in 1877. In those days, before the split of Union and League, Rugby was the main game in the West Riding. Most young soldiers had played it before joining and it was rare, in the early days, to find more than two or three officers in the Battalion 1st XV.

In 1888 the 2nd Battalion was stationed in Halifax, Nova Scotia. It was here that rugger was seriously started. In 1893 the 2nd Battalion moved to South Africa and fought in the Matabele Campaign. After the campaign the Battalion was stationed in Natal for three years. In those years the Battalion XV was supreme throughout Natal, winning the two open challenge cups, the Murray and the York and Lancaster, three years in succession. In 1897 the Battalion goal line was never crossed, although a goal was dropped against them in the final of the Murray Cup. By now the rugger tradition was firmly established and it has been proudly maintained ever since.

The photograph shows the team in 1897. One is immediately struck by their kit. They look a very tough side, but how on earth did they manage to run in those shorts and those boots?

One wonders what the game was like in those days. We can, perhaps, get some idea of this from the views of their captain. He was Lieutenant P. A.

Turner, later to become Brigadier-General, Colonel of the Regiment, and father of Colonel Bobby Turner. In 1926, forty years afterwards, he took a cool hard look at the rigger of the day. This was at a time when some of our greatest players were at their best; the days of Horsey Browne, Bull Faithfull and Jack Dalrymple. His comments were published in the November 1926 number of *The Iron Duke* under the nom de plume of "Old Stager". Extracts from his article are reproduced below. An evaluation of his views in relation to the game today is given in a joint effort by two of our great players of recent years, Mike Hardy and Dennis Shuttleworth.

II. Thoughts on Sport. 1926 by "OLD STAGER"

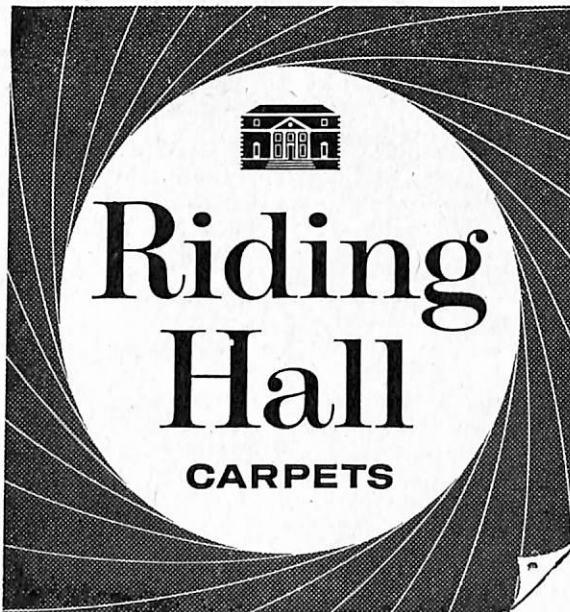
Last season I was present at a lot of first-class Rugby, and what struck me very much, in spite of the many good things I saw, was what I may term the "lost arts", in which I include place kicking, the hand-off, and, to a certain extent, that whole-hearted low collaring so dear to the rigger player of thirty or forty years ago, and, most conspicuous of these was the almost invariably poor place kicking. One part of this art that seems to have almost entirely disappeared is that of kicking the ball so that it travels on its longer axis like a bullet, and not like a boy turning cartwheels; naturally the rotation of the ball means loss of strength and is a frequent cause of failure when the kicker has managed to propel the ball in the right direction. This end-on kicking used to be accomplished, because I have a very distinct memory of the captain of my college XV, who used to take the touch line place kicks,

doing it systematically and with great success. He used to kick a very low ball which at the right point telescoped upwards like a good brasseley shot. The ball used to be placed very low, not with its point sticking in the air like a howitzer.

The poor standard of kicking is not confined to international, university, and county football, but, if rumour is not false, extends to regimental rigger also; this same rumour has it that both our 1st and 2nd Battalions might be at this moment possessors of challenge cups which now repose in other regimental messes. I would not call attention to this if it were not that I have a cure to recommend.

Given that place kicking is nowadays not what it was—why is this? I am of the opinion that it is so purely because it is not taken as seriously as it used to be. To my mind a place kicker is as important in a rigger team as a wicket keeper is in the summer game, and what XI of any standing would think of going on the field without a wicket keeper! At the school where I learnt my football there was a compulsory system of kicking practice which took the form of a competition: a certain number of times a week each member of the team and those playing for places had to kick at goal from the centre and from near each touch line; in this way practice at place kicking was ensured, and the fact that the players were competing for a prize was all in favour of the popularity of the practice. Drop kicking practice was carried out on the same lines. This system I should like to see in vogue in the Regiment.

The second of my "lost arts" is handing-off, a thing rarely done nowadays in an effective fashion, but as telling as ever, when it is well done. The



**Riding
Hall**
CARPETS

RIDING HALL MILLS · HALIFAX



Maintain your
service to
Queen and Country
in civilian life
Join the British Legion



*The Legion co-operates with your regi-
mental association and speaks for all
ex-service men and women*

BRITISH LEGION, 49 PALL MALL, S.W.1

reason for this is also plain and, in a way, understandable: the increased importance rightly attached to combination or, in other words, to passing or selling the dummy, has caused handing-off to drop into disuse. But surely there is room in the game for both, especially when the passing bout has reached the point where a break through the opposing three-quarter line is necessary for the success of the movement or, when this has been done and the man with the ball has only the back between him and the goal line, then the hand-off would be a most useful and paying accomplishment. And yet how rarely does one see a determined individual effort to get past the back; most players seem to think that the back is only passable by an overhead kick or a pass, whereas, given sufficient room, the man with the ball has always a good chance of getting by the back provided he has some idea of a swerve and a hand-off.

The decline of the old low collar may also be traced to the influence of the passing game. Many players have the idea that in going high they will smother man and ball or else, if they fail in that, can emulate the slogan of the bayonet fighting enthusiast of the Great War—"In—out—on to the next". But, although high collaring may at times upset the passing movements of the other side, going straight for the man with the ball, going quick and going low, is the surest way of defeating the attacks of the opponents.

It must not be thought that I am in any way trying to belittle the present-day player by comparison with the giants of old, or to preach with the text of "Football is not what it used to be". I have only tried to point out how, from my point of view, their play may be improved by keeping in mind and practising some of the "lost arts" which their predecessors utilised with considerable success.

III. Then and Now

by E.M.P.H. and D.W.S.

We are considering briefly in this section two main points; whether it is possible from the photograph and General Turner's article to get some idea of what the game was like in 1897 and, secondly, to assess whether General Turner's criticisms are valid in the modern game.

Some time ago Vivian Jenkins, the *Sunday Times* rugby correspondent, read an article to an Army coaching course. The gist of it was that forwards "today" should not be plodders. It continued that they must in this modern game be able to run like three-quarters, take and give passes at great speed, kick with both feet, dummy and swerve, "read" a game and anticipate where to go on the field, etc., etc., etc. Vivian Jenkins then showed that the book from which he was reading had been published in 1904. Which goes to prove that some of our modern thoughts on the game may not be as new as we would like to think.

Colonel Skelsey has drawn attention to the kit worn by those in the photograph. It is also interesting to note, quite apart from moustaches, how very much alike they all are in shape and size. This would be an obvious advantage when there was no specialisation among forwards and they played

"first there, first down" in both loose and tight scrums.

A photograph of one of Otley's Yorkshire Cup winning teams from the early years of this century also shows the physical statistics of the players. It is amazing how much smaller and lighter the players were only 60 years ago. One has noted the same thing in museums when examining old military tunics and suits of armour. Clearly if they had been playing then the present contributors would have been forwards not half-backs.

From General Turner's article we feel that it is difficult to appreciate what the game was really like when it was first played in the Regiment. The General is, of course, only discussing a few of the basic skills and not the general pattern of the game. However, it seems clear from the points he makes that some of the basic principles remain unaltered and valid today. The General's comments on tackling, and a brief glance at the photograph, show that it must have been a hard uncompromising game though perhaps played at a rather slower pace. Even so one does not relish the thought of falling on the ball in front of those boots! It is also difficult to understand how players managed to be successful kickers of the ball, as apparently they were, when they were wearing such footwear and playing with a near round ball. Surely long low swinging torpedo punts could not be achieved.

In 1926 General Turner commented on certain "lost" skills. We do not believe that place-kicking, tackling and handing-off have in any way declined. In recent years we have seen the great Don Clark kicking prodigious goals for New Zealand, and Hosen selected for England simply on account of his ability to kick long match-winning goals. At a lower level we may have witnessed some unfortunate attempts in the 1967 Army Cup Final but to balance this we saw the splendid kicking of Lt. John Macdonald, KOSB, when his unit twice beat The Duke's in the Army Cup finals of 1960 and 1961. A recent development in the technique of kicking goals is the round the corner soccer-style kicks. The hand-off, too, is still considered to be a powerful weapon and one can think of great exponents in recent years at all levels; Peter Thompson for England, Graham Jackson for Scotland and Corporal Brian Field for the Dukes. Good low tackling is also still in vogue and we need look no further than Gilbert-Smith to find one of the finest exponents of this aspect of the game.

Having shown that those skills which General Turner feared were becoming lost are still with us, we must add that we believe the game is being more efficiently played than at any time in the past, and that the whole tempo and speed of it is accelerating. This is due to the higher physical standards and fitness of players, the concentration on coaching, particularly team tactics, the competition inherent in the greater numbers now playing, and the influence of the new methods from countries such as France, New Zealand, Australia and South Africa.

So the game develops. Even though it may now be played more efficiently than in the past the degree of enjoyment for those who participate remains a constant unchanging factor.

THE YORKSHIRE BRIGADE NEWS

THE REORGANISATION OF THE INFANTRY

It was well known that the Minister of Defence was to announce cuts in infantry regiments in July 1967, along with other cuts in the Armed Forces. Even so it still came as a shock to hear the news that the 1st Bn. The York and Lancaster Regiment was to be disbanded. Great sympathy for past and present members of the Regiment is obviously felt by the Army as a whole, but by none more than the members of the other regiments of the Yorkshire Brigade, many of whom have served with The York and Lancaster Regiment. It is a sad and distressing blow.

Timing of Disbandment

We believe that on present planning, Y & L is to be one of the last battalions to disband in the present series of cuts, probably some time between April 1970 and April 1971. This would mean the Battalion still having some three years of existence and we can only hope that, on return to UK from Cyprus early in 1968, the Battalion will be given some really worthwhile task.

Redundancy

The cuts in battalions will mean that, by April 1971, of the eleven battalions which will form the new King's Division only eight will remain. We know nothing yet of the planned redundancy except that it will be spread across all regiments in the King's Division as, on the formation of the Division in 1968, there will be common seniority rolls for all ranks. If, as we expect, the first of the battalions to disband in the King's Division will do so in 1968/69 we will feel the first effects of redundancy then.

Any redundancy will be spread over a number of years and, if one considers the normal run out and retirements which will take place during that time, the impact should not be as severe as straightforward arithmetic would seem to show.

FORMATION OF KING'S DIVISION

Colonel Commandant

Very shortly we should hear which General Officer is to be appointed as the first Colonel Commandant of the King's Division; we know that he is unlikely to be from one of the Yorkshire Brigade Regiments.

Divisional Headquarters and Depots

The location and composition of the Headquarters is still under consideration, as is the location of the main adult recruit training depot. In our last notes we said that recruit training would continue in Northern Ireland for some time to come, so the choice for the main depot lies between Yorkshire and Lancashire. We believe that Strensall has a great deal to offer with its good accommodation, classification ranges, and its local training area and

other easily accessible training areas such as Catterick and Warcop. We are optimistic that Strensall will, in fact, be chosen.

Being Yorkshiremen, we hope that the Divisional Headquarters will also be in the York area, and there are many good reasons to have it there, but obviously a Lancastrian can think of as many good reasons for having it on the other side of the Pennines. We shall just have to wait and see.

In the meantime, it is planned that the Brigadier, who will fulfil a similar function for the Division as the present Brigade Colonel does for the Brigade, and a part of his staff will assemble early in 1968. By mid 1968, the whole headquarters staff should have assembled and in the following months take over responsibility from the three brigade headquarters.

BATTALION MOVES

1 PWO will be back in Colchester from Aden by the end of October 1967.

1 DWR return to BAOR from Cyprus in early November 1967, and almost immediately their advance party returns to UK. The Battalion moves to Gordon Barracks, Chatham in January 1968. They were previously destined to move to barracks in Lingfield and Horsham.

1 Y & L are returning from Cyprus in February 1968 and will be stationed at Northweald, Essex. Although the barracks was previously an RAF Station, the Commanding Officer was impressed with the accommodation on a recent visit.

SPORT

Not surprisingly in view of the training and operational activities of battalions in recent months, we have little sport news. 1 Y & L won the major unit cricket competition and a company won the minor unit competition in Cyprus this summer. The Depot have done well in summer sports. The Junior Soldiers were the minor unit winners in the Midland and Northern Zone Army Junior Swimming Championships. The Depot Cricket XI were runners-up in the Northern Command Cricket Knockout Competition. This was a good effort for a minor unit competing against major units.

APPOINTMENTS

Major D. W. Shuttleworth, DWR, has been selected for promotion to Lieutenant-Colonel and will succeed Lt.-Col. D. E. Isles, DWR, in command of 1 DWR in November 1967.

Major E. M. P. Hardy, DWR, has been selected for promotion to Lieutenant-Colonel and will succeed Lt.-Col. G. T. M. Scrope, Green Howards, in command of Yorkshire Volunteers early in 1968.

Brigadier J. B. Oldfield (late Green Howards) was appointed Deputy Commander Aldershot District, August 1967.

Lt.-Col. P. E. Taylor, PWO, appointed GSO 1 (DI 1) MOD January, 1968.

Lt.-Col. R. W. Nicholson, DWR, to be TSO 1 Inspectorate of Armaments, November 1967.

Major J. V. B. Pearson, Green Howards, to succeed Major K. G. Wesley, Green Howards, as 2 i/c 1 Green Howards, November 1967.

Major T. F. Hammond, Y & L, selected as 2 i/c 1 PWO and posted from 1 Y & L to succeed Major H. M. Tillotson, M.B.E., PWO, November 1967.

W.O.2 C. Helm, M.M., Green Howards, promoted W.O.1 and appointed R.S.M. 1 Green Howards, August 1967.

POSTINGS

Major M. A. N. Dugmore, PWO, from HQ NORTHCO to 1 Y & L, September 1967.

Major H. M. Tillotson, M.B.E., PWO, from 2 i/c 1 PWO to GSO 2 MOD (DI 3), December 1967.

Major J. H. Marchant-Smith, Green Howards, from 1 Green Howards to DAQMG Mov HQ, FARELF, January 1968.

Major C. B. Gorton, Y & L, from HS Yorkshire Brigade Depot to 1 Y & L, December 1967.

Major J. E. F. Sevenoaks, Green Howards, from Sultan of Muscat's Armed Forces to 1 Green Howards, August 1967.

Major D. N. Lowe, Green Howards, from DAQMG (C & GS) MOD to OC Trg Coy, Brigade Depot, November 1967.

Major D. S. D. Jones-Stamp, DWR, from PPCM Aden to PPCM Cyprus, January 1968.

Major R. H. Ince, DWR, from HS Yorkshire Brigade Depot to be attached to School of Infantry (SWW), September 1967.

Major F. A. M. Thierry, Y & L, from HS Yorkshire Brigade Depot to MA to Comdt NATO Defence College, November 1967.

Capt. D. J. Rothery, PWO, from HQ Northumbrian District to 1 PWO, April 1968.

Capt. J. R. Chapman, Green Howards, from RMAS to 1 Green Howards, July 1968.

Capt. P. J. Willis, Y & L, from 1 Y & L to HS Yorkshire Brigade Depot, August 1967.

Capt. J. D. Moir, DWR, from 1 DWR to 10 AYT, January 1968.

Capt. D. W. Hargreaves, Green Howards, from Adj. Brixmis to Adm. Offr. 206 Sig. Sqn (6 Bde), February 1968, and not AAC Harrogate as previously notified.

Lt. A. C. Jowett, DWR, from 1 DWR to Brigade Depot, March 1968.

Lt. K. F. Robbin, Y & L, from 1 Y & L to HS Yorkshire Brigade Depot, September 1967, pending transfer to Intelligence Corps.

Lt. P. E. Woolley, PWO, from AAC Wallop to 5 Flt AAC, September 1967, and to 1 PWO Flt in May 1968.

Joint Services Staff College

Major C. R. Huxtable, DWR, has been selected to attend Course No. 35 at JSSC assembling January 1968.

New Officers

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

From Warrant Officer

Lt. M. G. Orum, PWO.

From Mons OCS—August 1967

2/Lt. J. H. B. Crosskill, PWO.

2/Lt. A. T. J. Stone, DWR.

From Sandhurst—July 1967

2/Lt. A. C. L. Potter, PWO.

2/Lt. D. B. St. J. Lyburn, PWO.

2/Lt. P. R. Jarratt, Green Howards.

2/Lt. J. R. A. Ward, DWR.

2/Lt. M. J. Steel, Y & L.

THE BRIGADE DEPOT

Like a puppet on a string we've danced a lively tune as one activity after another has taken place here at Strensall during the last three months.

Our highlight, Cricket Week, took place early in July. Five matches were played, details of which were as follows:

v. Yorkshire Gentlemen, lost by five wickets.

v. North Riding Constabulary, draw.

v. Free Foresters, won by three wickets.

v. Harrogate Druids, won by sixty-six runs.

v. Saints (two-day match), lost by seven wickets.

Our team was captained by Captain Martin Summers who, to quote him, "has kept wicket throughout the year and has been a fairly consistent scorer with two fifties to his credit." Lt. Chris Fitzgerald was also a regular member of the home team.

The Saints were captained by Mr. Desmond Bailey of Aldborough Hall and John Raybold and Graham Allen were among his team. All brought to Strensall that robust geniality which we have known in the past.

The Summer Ball took place on the Friday even-

ing in the Officers' Mess. Apart from the Saints team and their wives, Colonel Jimmy and Dorothy Davidson with Celia were among our guests; Captain Dick Mundell with his wife, and Robert Campbell-Lamerton and John Golding came in various parties. Carriages ordered for 2 a.m. departed somewhat later than the appointed hour!

We are proud of ourselves for reaching the Northern Command Cricket Final in which we were beaten by 8 Signal Regiment. However, en route, we successfully eliminated 26 Signal Regiment by 57 runs, 222 Signal Squadron by 40 runs and the 1st Battalion the Irish Fusiliers by 60 runs.

The Depot Rifle Meeting took place in glorious sunshine on June 29 and 30. Everybody took part, with Cpl. Nash, DWR, of Training Company claiming the accolade of Champion Shot. Shortly afterwards Cpl. Nash went to Bisley in the Depot team.

We took part in the Northern Command Athletics Meeting at Catterick on July 6 where we were unlucky to not win the Minor Units Competition due, regrettably, to an unfortunate dis-

two-piece suits from Gieves

All-wool worsted, single-breasted 2-piece suits, from £29 10s. Illustrated—a dark grey worsted, with neat chalk stripe.



Gieves
LIMITED

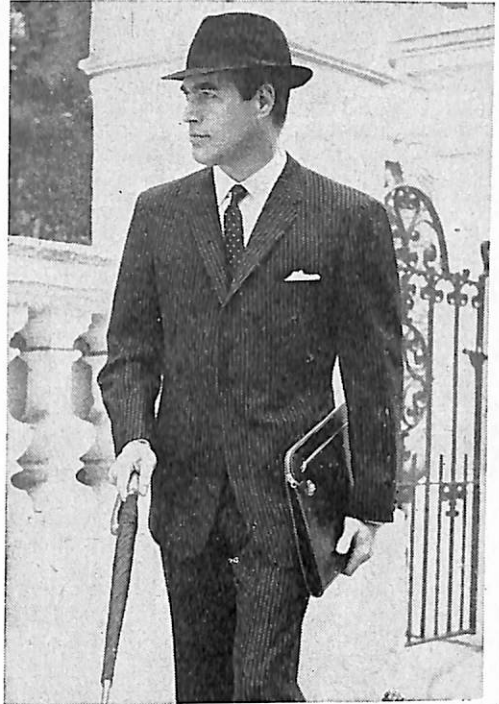


Regimental Tailors and Outfitters to the Yorkshire Brigade

1 HIGH STREET, CAMBERLEY
Tel. 3659

27 OLD BOND STREET, LONDON, W.1
Tel: 01-493 2276/9

Edinburgh Plymouth Chatham Weymouth Chester Southampton
Bath Harrow Dartmouth Cranwell Winchester Brockenhurst
Cambridge (A. G. Almond) Londonderry Gibraltar Malta



By Appointment to  Her Majesty The Queen
Hatters

Tradition in the modern manner

H. J. are well known to all regiments as makers of fine Service caps, but not everyone may know that we also offer a range of quality soft felt hats. In fact, we are very proud of our "softs", and for many years they have been the choice of discerning gentlemen who like to feel as correctly—yet comfortably—dressed off parade as on. We supply hats to suit every occasion and taste. Why not call and see the full range? Or write for an illustrated brochure.

H. J. OFF PARADE



Dual-purpose hat, in brown, green or grey. Style 6153

**REGIMENTAL CAPMAKERS
TO:**

**The Duke of
Wellington's Regiment**

Herbert Johnson
(BOND STREET) LTD.



Civil and Military Hatters

40a LONDON RD., CAMBERLEY (Wednesday afternoons only)

38 NEW BOND ST., LONDON, W.1. Tel: MAYfair 7177

qualification in the 220 yards relay. Cpl. Walker, DWR, of PT fame, was a member of the team.

On July 25, we entertained forty members of the national and local Press and Television. It was the Commanding Officer's intention that our guests should come to Queen Elizabeth Barracks and spend "a day in the army". To this end they gamely competed on the confidence area and the open range. Although nursing a number of bruises, and in certain cases some damp clothing, all professed at the end of the afternoon that it had been a good day; particularly the buffet lunch for which they accrued a healthy appetite.

In Training Company Lt. Peter Mellor has begun training Waterloo (XIII) Platoon after a sojourn in London, ostensibly attending a military law course. Pte. Peacock is a member of this platoon and is looking forward to joining his brother and The Duke's in Osnabruck before Christmas. Lt. Chris Fitzgerald, who has just returned from two months leave in South Africa, claims to have had fleeting glances of relations of his fellow countryman, Allen Westcob, in the bush.

Junior Sgt. Baines and Junior Cpl. Craze have

recently left the Depot for 1 DWR. As Junior Bandmaster and Drum Major respectively they are much missed in Junior Soldiers' Company, and especially by Bandmaster Bowyer under whose guidance they have performed at various parades very creditably and with much finesse.

At a Brigade Guest Night held on July 27 we entertained Colonel C. W. Croker, M.B.E., M.C., Brigade Colonel of the Lancastrian Brigade, and Lt.-Col. D. N. C. O'Marchoe, Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion the Royal Irish Fusiliers.

In the W.O.s and Sergeants' Mess a DWR Dinner Night was held on June 1. W.O.2 Sullivan and S/Sgts. Pratt and Wakefield attended. On June 24 the Formation Ball took place and all "Dukes" who were there commented on the splendid buffet provided by S/Sgt. Martin, ACC. August 6 was the Mess Annual Rifle Meeting attended by all TAVR II and III units. Sgt. Quale was the runner-up to the best Individual Shot and C.S.M. (Chuff-Chuff) Sergeant was a member of the winning Falling Plates team. Visitors to the Mess have included "ex" C.S.M. Rex Webb who is now working as a coast-guard at Whitby.

PERSONALIA

We congratulate Captain David Webb-Carter, Irish Guards, on his award of the Military Cross for extreme gallantry in Aden. He is the elder son of Brigadier Webb-Carter.

We also congratulate Drummer D. C. Fry, 1 DWR, on being commended by the G.O.C. Cyprus District for praiseworthy conduct in saving a girl from drowning (see page 147)

Lieutenant-Colonel Le Messurier has relinquished his appointment as Military Attaché, Belgrade, and is at present on leave. He and Mrs. Le Messurier are staying at 11, Alexandra Road, Strensall.

Major Ince has been appointed Administrative Officer of The School of Infantry (Support Weapons Wing), Netheravon.

Major Bernard Kilner is going to Sheffield University in February next year as C.O. and Training Major.

Philip Heaton, son of Major Stanley Heaton, late of the 7th Battalion, has recently passed into Sandhurst.

We have heard from the Reverend A. J. Pearson, M.C. He was Chaplain to the 2nd Battalion in India before and during the last war. He now lives at Alresford Rectory, Hampshire. He would be very glad to see any old "Dukes" who pass that way.

Colonel and Mrs. Wathen have returned from their tour round the world and are back at Church House, Haxby.

Mrs. E. Partridge, widow of the late Colour Sergeant J. Partridge, recently celebrated her 90th birthday. She now resides at: The Villa, The Park, Rooley Lane, Bradford.

Engagement

The engagement is announced between Patrick Taylor Hirst, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, only son of Major and Mrs. Patrick E. Hirst, The Riding Knook, nr. Warminster, Wilts., and Susan Mary, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James C. Waterhouse, Bridge House, Marsden, nr. Huddersfield.

Marriage

The marriage took place on Saturday, August 12, at St. John Baptist, Itchen Abbas, of Major John Bernard Kelynge Greenway, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, elder son of the Rev. J. W. H. K. and Mrs. Greenway of Itchen Abbas, Winchester, and Mrs. Judith Parkinson, widow of Christopher Parkinson and elder daughter of Dr. and Mrs. R. L. Cheverton of Villa Aida, Balzan, Malta.

The bridegroom's father officiated, assisted by the Rt. Rev. Douglas Wilson, Assistant Bishop of Bath and Wells.

The bride was given away by her father. Captain Michael Bray was best man. Captain and Mrs. Jeremy Cumberlege and Mrs. Michael Bray were among the guests.

Major Douglas Jones-Stamp is due home from Aden in November and in April '68 goes to Cyprus, again as Permanent President of Courts Martial.

Major J. T. Bairstow, formerly of the 6th Battalion, and his wife are retiring from farming.

They have given their land and property at Stanbury, near Keighley, to their elder daughter, Sue, and her husband and are building a house in Malta. Their address will be: "Stanbury", Il Kortin, Melleiha, Malta, G.C., and they write that they will always be pleased to welcome any "Old Dukes" there.



At the May 1967 Mayor-Making Ceremony in Batley, Councillor Harold Hall, J.P., of 33 Oaks Road, Soothill Road, Batley, was elected Mayor.

Harold, or "Gary" as he was more generally known, served with the 1st Battalion from 1932 until posted to the Regimental Depot Staff on the Battalion's return to the U.K. from Malta in 1938. Promoted sergeant in 1939, he remained with the Depot until posted to the newly-formed 9th Battalion in Glasgow in 1940. He stayed with that unit until it became the 146 Regiment RAC (DWR), becoming a squadron sergeant-major. Demobbed in 1945, Gary joined British Railways with whom he served for 21 years before taking up a post as a supply officer at Leeds Infirmary last year.

Gary's other public activities include many years as British Legion Poppy Day organiser, member of Dewsbury and Batley War Pensions Committee and Batley Town Representative on the West Riding Territorial and Auxiliary Forces Association. He has served on Batley Town Council since 1958.

We wish Councillor Hall a happy and successful year as his town's Senior Citizen.

Robert Cartwright, son of Major and Mrs. Robin Cartwright, who is at Wellington, has been granted an Army Scholarship. This produces a useful contribution towards his remaining school fees and exempts him from having to appear before the Regular Commissions board before entry to Sandhurst.

Charles Grieve, at Ampleforth, has been granted a Reserve Army Scholarship, having we understand, failed by the narrowest possible margin to gain an Army Scholarship. The Reserve Scholarship gives him exemption from the R.C.B. but no help with the school fees.

Congratulations to both.

We have heard from Major Jeffrey Reynolds that he has moved to Cape Town where he is now managing New Fairmead Hotel, College Road, Rondebosch. He is glad to be back in what he finds the most agreeable part of South Africa. He hopes to come home on leave next year.

The 7th Battalion Officers' Dinner Club announce that their next dinner will be held in the autumn of 1968.

The Business Manager is short of copies of Iron Dukes No. 137 (Waterloo Number) and 142 (Jan. 1967) and would be grateful for any which readers can spare.

BOOK REVIEW

Wellington at Waterloo by Jac Weller (Longman, 63s.)

It might be thought that there could be no room for yet another book on Waterloo but the author of *Wellington in the Peninsula* has succeeded in producing an admirable work which presents the famous battle from a fresh angle.

At every stage of the campaign the reader is placed in the position of the Great Duke, with the information available to him at that moment—no more and no less.

Mr. Weller clearly brings out the enormous personal influence of Wellington throughout. It is emphasised how accurate was the Duke's remark after the battle: "My God, it would not have done if I had not been there!"

The author has taken great pains with the topography of the battle areas and has chapters on the tactics and warfare of the period. It is surprising, therefore, to find some blatant, if minor, inaccuracies. He states that the officers and sergeants of the British Army were armed with spontoons and halberds respectively. The spontoon, in fact, ceased to be carried in 1786 and pikes replaced halberds in 1792. Then, Mr. Weller writes that, at Quatre Bras, the 33rd were rallied in the Bois de Bossu by the Duke in person. A glance at Siborne's *Waterloo Letters*—which the author refers to frequently—would have shown that it was the Brigadier, Sir Colin Halkett, who performed this action.

These, however, are minor blemishes. The book is not great literature but it is one of the clearest and most interesting accounts of this great campaign.

B. W. W.-C.

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.

Captain H. Farrar, M.C., M.A., LL.B.

Captain Harry Farrar died on June 23 in his 78th year.

Enlisting on December 15, 1915, Farrar was posted to the 15th London Civil Service Rifles and saw service in France until January 1917 when he came home to an officers' training school.

He was commissioned into The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, joining the 8th Battalion in August 1917. He was with this Battalion at Ypres and Loos and served with it until the Battalion was disbanded in February 1918.

He was transferred to the 1/6th Battalion, then billeted at Hondeghen, and was posted to "A" Company. After periods in the line at Polygon Wood and other famous places the Battalion went into the line in front of Ypres. It was here that a successful raid was carried out under Lt. C. Louthier and Lt. H. Farrar.

In October 1918 Capt. Farrar became O.C. "A" Company and led his company in successful attacks in the area of R. Selle and, in November, across R. Rhonelle. For his leadership in these two battles he was awarded the Military Cross.

Since the end of the war Captain Farrar, who was a barrister-at-law (Lincoln's Inn), has been a regular attender at Old Comrades' dinners and will be missed by many old friends.

He leaves a widow, three sons and one daughter, and several grandchildren. The Battalion was represented at the funeral service by Brigadier C. H. E. Louthier, C.B.E., M.C.

Mr. G. R. Goodchild

George Goodchild, who served with the 10th Battalion of the Regiment in the 1914-18 war, died in hospital at Bradford on March 28, 1967, aged 76. He leaves a widow and a married daughter who lives in Australia.

Owing to defective eyesight he was not accepted for the Army when the 10th Battalion was formed in September 1914, but enlisted as soon as the physical requirements for recruits were relaxed and joined the 10th in France late in 1916.

Having been a journalist, he was soon posted to the Battalion orderly room. There he reached sergeant's rank when the Battalion was sent to Italy in November 1917 and, during the last year of the war, his ability and efficiency gained for him both a mention in despatches and the Meritorious Service Medal.

However, it was not until twelve years after the Battalion had been demobilised that even those who had served with him came to realise his remarkable qualities. He developed the idea of forming a

Battalion OCA and holding a reunion. Without the aid of any nominal roll he collected a list of names of more than 400 ex-members of the 10th Battalion and, still more remarkably, he traced their addresses and circularised them, and the first reunion took place in 1932.

Except during the 1939-45 war it became an annual event until Mr. Goodchild lost his sight completely in 1963. A measure of his success and of the appreciation with which his efforts were received is shown by the fact that the number attending the reunion dinners amounted to about two hundred for several years before age began to take its toll.

Mrs. G. B. Howcroft

Mrs. Howcroft, who died in August, had a long association with the Regiment during her husband's service with the 7th Battalion and as Honorary Colonel of the 5th/7th Battalion. She was also active in other spheres in Huddersfield and in 1966 was awarded the British Empire Medal for her work with the W.V.S. She will be sadly missed by many friends.

Major Davis represented the Colonel of the Regiment at her funeral which was held at Greenfield on August 17.

Major-General G. C. H. Wortham, O.B.E.

General Geoffrey Wortham, R.A.O.C., formerly D.W.R., died in Milbank Hospital on October 10. An obituary notice will appear in the next issue.

The following obituary notices were received from 1 D.W.R. Rear Details:

Private Malcolm Crossland

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Private Malcolm Crossland who passed away in his sleep in the early hours of Thursday, August 17. Private Crossland joined the 1st Battalion last December. He enlisted into the Army in July 1966 having previously served with the West Riding Regiment (TA). Private Crossland had made many friends in the Battalion since his arrival and his untimely death was a sad shock to us all.

Shaun Alan Coverdale

All members of the 1st Battalion and their families extend their deepest sympathy to Corporal and Mrs. Coverdale on the death of their son Shaun Alan on May 29, 1967, aged one month.

Mark Anthony Garlick

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Mark Anthony Garlick on August 3, 1967, aged six weeks. All ranks of the 1st Battalion and their families extend their deepest sympathy to Bandsman and Mrs. Garlick on their loss.



Two Officers of the Light Horse Volunteers of
London and Westminster
Circa 1805
Manoeuvring

LONGMAN & STRONGI'TH'ARM

ESTABLISHED IN THE REIGN OF GEORGE III

13 Dover Street, Piccadilly, W.1
Hyde Park 4677

REGIMENTAL JEWELLERS & SILVERSMITHS

CORRESPONDENCE

The Black Dukes

From: Major R. E. Austin, M.C.,
Woolcombe Farm, Toller Porcorum,
Dorchester.

5th August, 1967

Dear Sir,

Ere Memory fades and History gets lost

It was with considerable nostalgia that I read the Editorial in the latest *Iron Duke* of July 1967. I imagine that I am the "then sub-editor" to whom you refer, and I feel it incumbent upon me to record what I remember, but my notes of those days are not immediately available.

In early April 1953, the 1st Bn. The Black Watch was in the reorganised Hook Battalion position of 29 Bde front and thus had to man four forward company features, viz. Pt. 121, Hook, Sausage and Pt. 146. David Rose, commanding the Black Watch, decided that any counter-attack company must be one of his own, and 1 DWR being in brigade reserve was called upon to provide the forward company for Pt. 146, detached from 1 DWR and under command of 1 BW. The first company to be so detached and placed under command of 1 BW was "C" Company (Major A. B. M. Kavanagh, M.C.) for a period of about ten days. The second company was "A" Company commanded by myself. The Black Watch rifle components were designated "W", "X", "Y" and "Z" and thus the fifth or "Victor Company, The Black Dukes" was born, prospered and lived for approximately 4½ weeks, before the front was again reorganised, and The Dukes took over the smaller Hook position (minus Pt. 146) about 14 days before the big battle. I believe the conception of the name, most importunately at the very time of birth, emanated from the fertile brain of Barry Kavanagh.

Pt. 146 was a feature with two conical hills rising above the Samichon valley, joined by a crescent-shaped spur of land rising steeply from the valley floor. Looking north it faced a Chinese-held feature called Pheasant about 800 yards across a valley (at right angles to the Samichon) down which ambled a little stream called the Ko-dong which was a tributary to the Samichon. This stream was the "front" between the Chinese and ourselves. At the time about which I am writing 1 Commonwealth Div. had been in Corps Reserve for some weeks and the Chinese rather dominated No-man's land, and had started digging caves at the base of Warsaw—a high plateau running northwards forward from Hook. These caves were intended to be shelter for assault troops for the future attack on Hook. This much was known, but not a great deal more. Colonel David Rose, therefore, frequently ordered Victor Company to send out a strong night reconnaissance patrol to find out what was going on. One such patrol duly set off and, on its return, reported to the Black Watch I.O. that the Chinese were digging into the base of the Warsaw feature in four places, on the eastern side. Ten minutes later David Rose telephoned to ask if this report was absolutely certain. Victor Company commander vouched for the fact that it was authentic as he had seen it for

himself. An ugly silence ensued and then David said that the company commander would be in front of the Brigadier the following morning for taking a patrol out himself. He was. But a Kendrew rocket (mildly delivered) was softened by a large gin and tonic at Bde HQ, and an admonition in the Mess "not to be a naughty boy again". Ramsay Bunbury looked after his officers, bless him, but my fellow company commanders (spokesman Tony Firth) deprived me of my "union card for ten days".

For further information about the Chinese caves round Warsaw, you ought, Sir, to get Major Simon Berry to write his account of the patrol he did with Cpl. Taylor investigating them, before *his* memory fades. I was in wireless contact with him throughout and still have the transcript of my conversations with him during what must have been for him (it was for me!) the most harrowing and hair-raising four hours of his then young life.

I think the following serving "Dukes" officers had the distinction of being "Black Dukes": David Cowell, Peter Mitchell, Simon Berry, Mike Campbell-Lamberton and Bob Callaby. Retired regular officers were: Barry Kavanagh, Derek Harris, Derek Wood and

Yours sincerely,

RUDOLF E. AUSTIN.

From the London Gazette

INFANTRY

D.W.R.

REGULAR ARMY

The following 2nd Lts. to be Lt.: A. D. Palmer and P. T. Hirst, June 17 1967; M. P. C. Bray, July 18 1967.

Capt. M. J. Campbell-Lamerton to be Major, June 30, 1967.

Lt. P. D. D. J. Andrews to be Capt., July 29 1967.

Capt. (Q.M.) Callaby, M.B.E., M.M., to be Maj. (Q.M.), July 29, 1967.

REGULAR ARMY RESERVE OF OFFICERS

Capt. (Hon. Maj.) W. H. C. Cobb, having attained the age limit, relinquishes his comm., June 30, 1967, retaining the hon. rank of Major.

Arthur Sunley

LADIES AND GENTS CIVIL AND
MILITARY TAILORS

(Tailored on the premises)

Silk Ties and Blazer Badges in stock for the
Dukes and all other Regiments and Corps

44, TRINITY STREET, HUDDERSFIELD

Telephone: Huddersfield 20958

Digitised by The Regimental Archives

