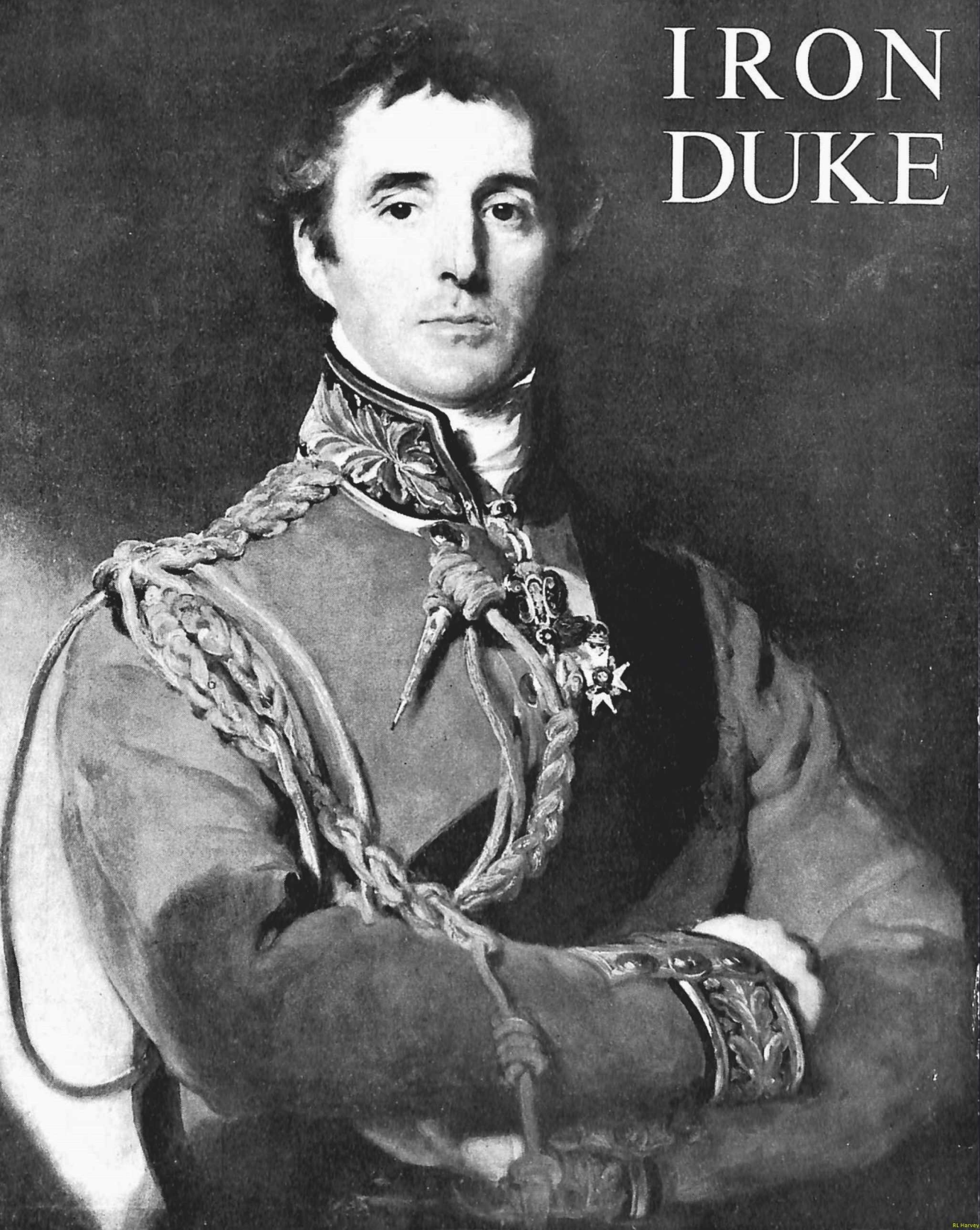


No.148 December 1968

THE IRON DUKE



THE IRON DUKE

The Regimental Journal of

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

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



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

Vol. XLIV

DECEMBER 1968

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BUSINESS NOTES

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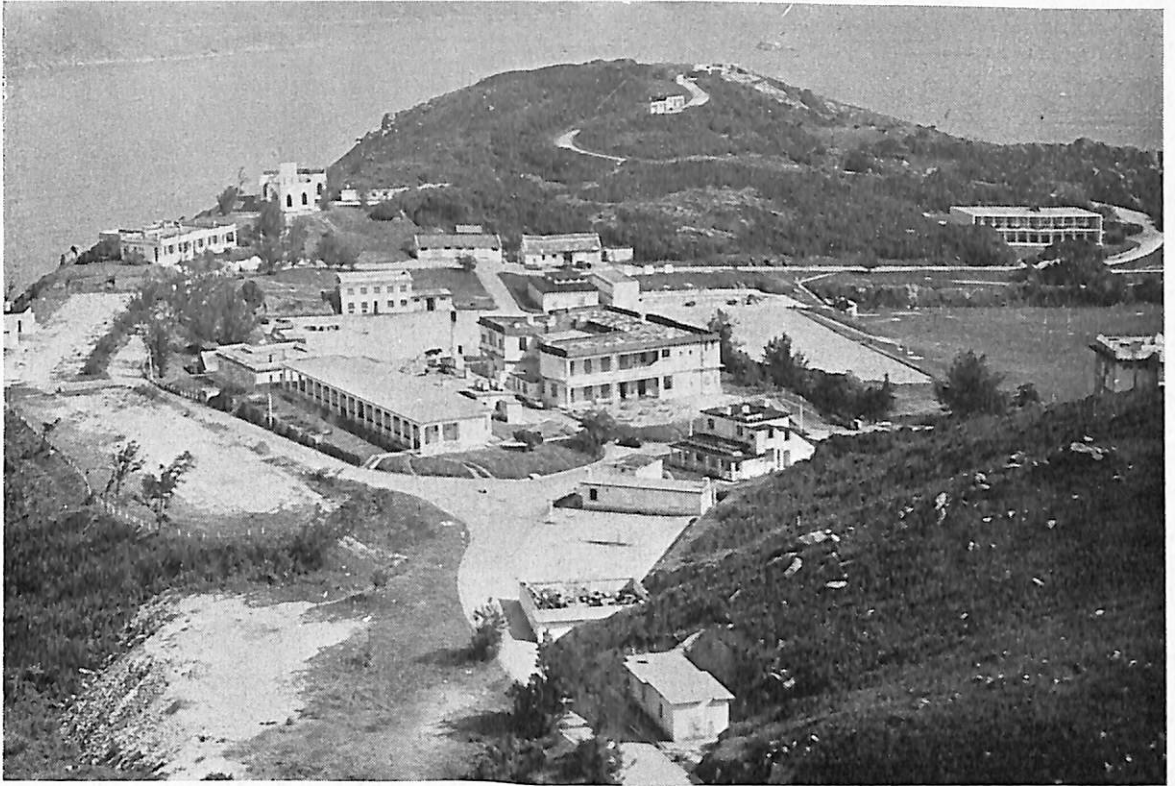
Acknowledgment

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

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STANLEY FORT



A VIEW OF THE 1ST BATTALION'S BARRACKS

The site must be one of the finest left to the British Army anywhere in the world. The fort is on a rocky headland with blue sea and green islands around.

In the photo can be seen: the "White Rose Club" and Church, top left; Sergeants' Mess, top right; with games field below it; Soldiers' Dining Room and NAAFI in foreground.

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

Our visitors have included Mrs. Boutflower, who was visiting friends in York and took a day off to visit RHQ and the Regimental Museum. It was a pleasure to see her looking so well and active. Also Major Claes Frost of The Danish Life Regiment who, as Liaison Officer, helped to make 1 DWR's visit to Denmark from BAOR in May 1966 such a resounding success.

Mr. Fitter, who retired in 1935 and still looks comparatively youthful, visited us and talked about "the war"; so did we, but it was some time before we realised we were on different wars.

Museum Acquisition

Sgt. Simonds, one of the "Dukes" in the Royal Hospital, died last June. His SA Medal with the Paardeberg Clasp has been given to the Museum collection.

Mrs. Jackson, widow of the late Sgt. F. Jackson, DCM, of 1st/7th DWR, has presented his medals to the Museum. This collection contains one which we had not seen before, the Rumanian Croix de Virtute Militara, 2nd Class. We would be grateful if anyone could tell us how Sgt. Jackson obtained this award.

York Minster

The following is a message from the High Steward (The Rt. Hon. The Earl of Scarbrough, K.G.):

"In May 1967 the greatest appeal ever made by an English cathedral was launched to meet a crisis which threatened York Minster's survival. A prompt and generous response, from Yorkshire, from the country as a whole, and from overseas, has enabled the work of saving the Minster to start without any delay. We have undertaken to keep the public informed about progress and I hope that this short report on the first year's work will be widely read.

Much has been achieved in this first year, but much more remains to be done. I therefore ask for continuing support and help in this great task of saving York Minster."

£550,000 is still needed to reach the target of £2,000,000 by May 1975.

Regimental Tie

The colour and design of the Regimental tie, a hardy annual, has had more than its usual attention this year and even became the main topic of discussion at the AGM of the OCA.

In 1954, General Christison, as Colonel, approved what was considered to be the nearest to what the Regiment had traditionally worn. A silk tie of this design was then produced by a Manchester manufacturer, James & Edwards, to be sold by Mrs. White of London, who had been appointed the official Regimental tie firm.

Over the years various firms produced approximations, both in silk and other materials, and the firm of Mrs. White closed.

The approved pattern tie can, however, be obtained from Sam Stocks in Halifax, who are supplied by James & Edwards with the design approved in 1954.

They can also be obtained from the three approved Regimental tailors in London, Dege, Gieves and Hawkes, who are supplied by a London firm of manufacturers who have now reproduced the 1954 sealed pattern.

Mr. S. E. Code, MBE

A fuller appreciation of Sidney's service to the Regiment is given elsewhere, but it is appropriate here to say what a pleasure the many years of working with Sidney have been and to recognise his contribution to making them run so smoothly and amicably.

We give him and his wife, Ann, our very best wishes for the future.

Mr. Arthur Wood

We welcome to RHQ Mr. Arthur Wood who takes up the appointment of Clerical Officer on Sidney's retirement. He joined the 2/7th DWR in June 1939 and was transferred to the 1/7th DWR in October 1939. Appointed Orderly Room Sergeant in 1940, he served in Iceland for two years and on return to UK was attached to the RAF on special duties for a further two years. Towards the end of the war he was employed at POW camps in the UK.

On the re-formation of the TA in 1947, he was appointed Chief Clerk of 7 DWR (TA), in which capacity he continued to serve throughout the many amalgamations, terminating with the West Riding Territorials in 1968.

DATES FOR 1969

Officers' Dinner Club

The annual luncheon and dinner will be held next year on **Friday, May 16.**

The Regimental Association

The annual reunion dinner of the London and Home Counties Branch of the OCA and Regimental Association will be on **Saturday, May 17.**

Regimental Sweepstake

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

1st Prize — Pte. Deaville, "S" Coy., 1DWR.

2nd Prize — T. Dawson, c/o Trust, Blackhall.

3rd Prize — C. G. Newton, Bromley, Kent.

Runners: Col. C. R. T. Cumberlege, York; G. R. Landells, Benwell, Newcastle; Mr. Crown, Brough, East Yorkshire; Pte. Robinson, "C" Company, 1DWR; W. R. Russell, Hull.

The sweepstake raised £160 for the Regimental Charitable Funds which again is less satisfactory than last year.

REGIMENTAL SERVICE IN YORK MINSTER

The annual special service in the Regimental Chapel was this year held on Saturday, November 2, being the Saturday nearest to All Saints' Day. The service was taken by the Rev. Canon Paul Burbridge, Succentor of York Minster, and the address was given by the Right Reverend Eric Treacy, MBE, Lord Bishop of Wakefield and Chaplain to the Regiment, who spoke on the subject of Leadership. The lesson was read by Colonel J. Davidson, Acting Colonel of the Regiment.

The service was well attended by past and present members of the Regiment and it was most pleasant to see an especially large party of about 90 Old Comrades with their wives and families. After the service they were entertained to luncheon in the Sergeants' Mess of the King's Division Depot at Strensall. After lunch a party went on a shopping and sightseeing trip to York, but on account of the torrential rain many remained to play bingo. In the evening there was a social and lively "sing-song" in the Mess.

The Regimental Museum

Mr. Ron Innes, the Director of Halifax Museums, is anxious to mount a display on Cyprus in our Regimental Museum. At present the Museum possesses absolutely nothing connected with the operations against EOKA.

Mr. Innes is writing personally to all the company commanders concerned, but if any other reader has relics of that period which he is prepared to give or lend Mr. Innes will be most grateful to receive them.

The King's Division

As the headquarters of the Yorkshire Brigade have been absorbed by the King's Division there are no Yorkshire Brigade Notes in this issue.

The King's Division intend to produce notes half-yearly. These should appear in our April and August issues.

BFPO 1

Readers are reminded that the postal address of the 1st Battalion is: Stanley Fort, BFPO 1.

"PICK 'EM UP . . . or always keep a tin in your haversack"

Field Service Regulations, Volume III, 1935, was notified in Army Orders for December, 1935. It dealt with "Operations—Higher Formations," came in a stiff red back and cost 6d. from His Majesty's Stationery Office. It is a gem of a book, a real military primer, and the copy I have is heavily side-lined and annotated by some officer either keen on his profession or working for Staff College.

Despite its antiquity it is a refreshing book to read. Unlike modern pamphlets its production cost is offset by the inclusion of advertising matter: Messrs. Alkit have Full Dress for hire or for sale and Humphreys & Crook of the Haymarket boast of nearly 100 years experience from 1850-1935 as military and civil tailors and, in addition, are specially appointed to the Sierra Leone Battalion; W. F. Stanley & Co. sell slide rules, pocket microscopes and thermometers while the ubiquitous Burberry even then supplied the World's Best Weatherproof. All this, and more, before any mention of strategy or tactics. Perhaps the aptest advertisement—as if to make sure the military student would not forget what soldiering was, and always has been about—is May & Baker's advice quoted as the heading to this note, advocating the use of Formadermine for general foot comfort on the line of march.

After all this advertising build-up the contents might be expected to come as a bit of an anti-climax or let-down. Not a bit of it—for what follows is powerful stuff and a delight to read.

Sadly, a comparison of its opening paragraphs with the preambles to recent Defence White Papers really does drive home the country's present parlous

predicament. For example: "The sea is the principal highway between the widely distributed portions of the British Empire which has interests in every quarter of the globe;" or again: "In an Empire with so many interests to protect and so many calls on its resources . . ." Somehow, however grandiose and redolent of Empire, training on Salisbury Plain can never really appeal after reading the premises and principles of 1935.

True, there are some quaint and charming paragraph headings—"Manoeuvre and Stratagem"; "Demolitions and Devastations"—and some oddly naive counsel—"The Commander who hesitates to put into execution a thorough plan of demolitions because of his intention to turn round and advance over the same ground at a later date should bear in mind that he has no guarantee that the enemy will display the same forbearance when he in his turn retires." Nevertheless, perhaps the best advice to the Commander in any age, be he mechanised or in the jungle, comes in the paragraphs devoted to operations at night. But this is not surprising, for the late Field-Marshal Lord Wavell wrote the whole of the volume when he was G.O.C. of the Second Division at Aldershot.

Knowing this, the excellence of the prose, as well as the advice, is well understood. The volume reads easily and just as a good military essay should—totally unlike some of our modern pamphlets which sometimes seem like mere exercises in SD.

Definitely recommended reading both for Staff College students and for those who need more proof that "things ain't what they used to be!"

D.E.I.

1st BATTALION

Sub Editorial

We travelled to Hong Kong from Gatwick, Heathrow or Brize Norton in a mixture of charter and RAF aircraft. Most of our families came with us, so there was plenty to be done on passports, inoculations, travel documents, baggage and so on before the move took place. However, all arrangements worked extremely well and when the rear party arrived from England in mid-July 1 DWR was complete in its new station on Hong Kong island.

Stanley Fort is our home for our tour here and this site must be the finest left to the British Army anywhere in the world. The Fort is on a rocky headland some 10 twisting miles from the bright lights of Victoria City, with blue sea and green islands around. It is a location which is magnificent and breath-taking, and difficult to describe adequately. The buildings are in good order, though we are a bit short of space for living-in soldiers, and one of our companies lives in another barracks at Lyemun, some 20 minutes away by vehicle. However, set against this disadvantage are the splendid Sergeants' Mess,

the unit swimming pool, air-conditioned cinema, an all-ranks sports social club, now called "The White Rose," soccer, rugby and cricket pitches, and the close proximity of two lovely beaches on one of which we have our "Enterprises," and powerboats for water ski-ing.

Our main task in the colony is responsibility, with the Police, for internal security on Hong Kong island. In addition, we send out goodwill or "hearts and minds" patrols to some of the remoter and more neglected rural parts. Our particular area is the island of Lantau which lies to the west of Hong Kong island and is about 15 miles long and five miles wide, sparsely populated and very rugged.

From time to time we man the border with Communist China. This is a very demanding task for a unit and it places a great responsibility on every single soldier.

We arrived in Hong Kong at the hottest time of the year, and so acclimatisation was our first preoccupation. Temperatures in June, July, August and early September are high (around 90°F), though not excessively so. It is the high humidity



Lt.-General Sir Basil Eugster, the Commander British Forces, Inspecting the Honour Guard.

accompanying the heat which makes life so trying during the summer season.

Our first four months have been spent in two phases. During the first two months of acclimatisation we concentrated on getting to know our policemen, finding our way around, learning our IS technique, and on full classification with our weapons, including the Armalite rifle which we carry instead of the Sterling. In September and October we have been preparing for our first tour of duty on the Border. Physical activity has increased and there has been more tactical training culminating in a week's battalion exercise on Lantau. Those who remember 432s in BAOR would hardly have recognised us. All on foot, with not a vehicle in sight, and soldiers carrying what they needed with re-supply by mule and helicopter. Already it is clear that Hong Kong offers the opportunity for two years of hard, basic infantry training. There is also jungle training on the programme next year and, starting in May, each company will have four weeks at the Jungle Warfare School in Malaya.

On October 1, Lt. Palmer and 16 soldiers went to Korea for three months duty with the United Nations Honour Guard. Major Newton went with the group and, during his four days stay, spent some time on the "Hook" looking at the Dukers' old positions from first our side and then the Chinese side.

We have been extremely fortunate to get so much high-class accommodation for our families. Already we have 22 officers and 229 soldiers living in quarters with their families. About half live inside the Fort area, whilst the other half have flats in various areas about Hong Kong island. In spite of the many attractions in the colony there are some problems. Arriving in mid-summer is one. Another is the adjustment needed to cope with living in very high blocks of flats with limited play areas for children. And, not least, are those monster cockroaches which are difficult to control and frightening on first acquaintance. With few exceptions our families have settled in well at their new station, aided, abetted, cajoled, persuaded, encouraged, and sometimes ordered to do so, by Major Cowell, our Unit Families Officer, and his staff.

The hot summer season is a quiet time for sport with swimming, sailing and water ski-ing the most popular of the activities. When the cooler season comes everything else starts. So, on adjacent areas there are soccer, rugby, hockey, tennis, cricket, basketball, etc., all being played at the same time. This poses problems for the cricketer who happens to play rugby or soccer and so on. It also poses difficulties for the commander for the cooler months are also the best for military training! We have already made our mark at rugby and bowling, and have aspirations at soccer, hockey, cricket and basket-ball.

Fortunately, Stanley Fort is such a splendid place that it is a pleasure to show visitors around. Already we have welcomed:

Commander 51 Brigade—Brigadier Illing (our Brigadier).

Deputy Commander British Forces HK—Brigadier Macwilliam.

Commander British Forces HK—General Sir Basil Eugster.

GOC-in-C FARELF—General Sir Michael Carver.

Vice-Chief of the General Staff—General Sir Fitzgeorge-Balfour.

Under Secretary of State for Defence (Army Department)—Mr. Boyden.

Huddersfield Examiner—Mr. Maurice Ford.

So far we have contacted the following former "Dukes" living in the colony:

Mr. Martin Curran—Managing Director of the Hong Kong and Shanghai Bank.

Mr. Michael Miles—Butterfield & Swire.

Mr. James Hayes—Hong Kong Government.

Mr. Brown (Sgt. "Topper" Brown with "A" Company in Korea)—Assistant Superintendent, Hong Kong Police.

There have been many changes in our organisation. Readers of THE IRON DUKE frequently say they like to see who is serving with the Battalion so, if the Editor can find space, our order of battle of senior ranks follows:

Battalion H.Q.

CO ...	...	Lt.Col D. Shuttleworth
21C ...	...	Maj. J. M. Newton
Adj. ...	...	Capt. C. R. Cumberlege
A/Adj. ...	...	Lt. A. R. Westcob
I.O. ...	...	Capt. W. F. Charlesworth
Ops Offr ...	...	Capt. P. A. Pettigrew
RSM ...	...	WO1 D. Battye
ORCS ...	...	S/Sgt. P. J. Walker
O.R.S. ...	...	Sgt. D. R. Milner
Prov. ...	...	Sgt. J. P. Collins

Hook Company

OC ...	...	Maj. P. B. L. Hoppe
QM ...	...	Capt. (QM) W. Robins
PRI ...	...	Capt. I. P. Reid
UFO ...	...	Maj. J. D. P. Cowell
MTO ...	...	Lt. (QM) W. Burke
Pay ...	...	Lt. A. Robb, RAPC
RSO ...	...	Capt. C. N. St. P. Bunbury
RMO ...	...	Capt. D. L. Corbett, RAMC
CQMS ...	...	WO2 C. Curling
CQMS I ...	...	C/Sgt. W. Morris
CQMS II ...	...	C/Sgt. T. J. E. Delaney
Bandmaster ...	...	WO1 C. C. Woods
Band ...	...	S/Sgt. B. Cooper, Sgts. F. Parkinson, A. Dean, A. Cook J. Cherry
ACC ...	...	SQMS A. Graham, ACC Sgt. V. J. Vinson, ACC
REME ...	...	S/Sgt. T. Topley, REME Sgt. J. Cagilaba, REME Sgt. K. Ellis, REME
PAY ...	...	SQMS K. A. Pullen, RAPC Sgt. A. Page, RAPC
QMs ...	...	RQMS R. G. Wilson, S/Sgt. R. Kelly, Sgts. N. Butler, T. H. Jackson

MT Sgt. P. I. Rawcliffe
 Sigs Sgt. D. Pearson
 S/Sgt. L. Wilson
 Sgt. J. Wilkinson
 Drum Major S/Sgt. J. M. Allerton
 Med. Sgt. G. Quayle
 Offrs Mess ... S/Sgt. B. Crawshaw
 Sgts. Mess ... Sgt. L. J. Atkinson
 APTC ... S/Sgt. G. Norwood, APTC
 Messing ... Sgt. R. Stanworth
 Families ... Sgt. G. Clarke
 WTWO ... WO2 J. E. Sargeant

Alma Company

OC Maj. T. D. Lupton
 2IC Capt. D. Marsay
 CSM WO2 J. J. Fee
 CQMS ... C/Sgt. G. Holliday
 1 Pl 2/Lt. J. N. Sharp
 Sgt. M. Reddy
 2 Pl 2/Lt. M. P. Bird
 Sgt. D. Hughes
 3 Pl 2/Lt. A. T. J. Stone
 Sgt. G. E. Dowdall

Burma Company

OC Maj. P. A. Mitchell
 2IC Lt. D. R. D. Newell
 CSM WO2 R. F. Chilvers
 CQMS ... C/Sgt. B. Hartley
 4 Pl 2/Lt. J. R. A. Ward
 Sgt. H. Brooks

5 Pl Lt. P. J. Bird
 Sgt. B. Coll
 6 Pl 2/Lt. A. D. Roberts
 Sgt. F. Kendrew
 Sgt. B. Nash

Corunna Company

OC Maj. J. E. Pell
 2IC Capt. D. M. Pugh
 CSM WO2 A. J. Welsh
 A/CQMS ... Sgt. N. Wright
 7 Pl Lt. C. J. W. Gilbert
 Sgt. M. J. Read
 8 Pl Lt. P. J. Mellor
 Sgt. K. Leachman
 9 Pl Lt. J. M. Thorn
 Sgt. G. K. Lawrence

Somme Company

OC Maj. M. J. Campbell-Lamerton
 2IC Capt. P. D. D. J. Andrews
 Att. Lt. N. N. Ashton, RMP
 CSM WO2 R. N. G. Middleton
 CQSM ... C/Sgt. T. Y. Hudson
 A/Tk Sgt. M. L. Hall
 Sgt. M. R. Hodkinson
 Mor Lt. C. C. Fitzgerald
 Sgt. P. Lindsay
 Sgt. M. Carter
 Recce Capt. S. H. Kirk
 Sgt. R. Glencross
 Aslt. Pnrs. ... Sgt. G. A. Butterfield

NEWS FROM THE MESSES

OFFICERS' MESS

For the third time running we start by saying that the Mess has packed up and moved again. S/Sgt. Crawshaw and his staff are now past-masters in this particular exercise, but now they can reckon on at least a reasonable amount of time in one place.

The new Mess is perched on the highest point of the southern spur of the island, and has an excellent view both of the island proper and the islands off-shore. It is also exposed to typhoons, notorious in the summer months in the area. Typhoon Shirley in August gave us a taste of what these things are like, and its contribution to the Mess was to soak it right through, and damage some of our pictures—which, incidentally, were locked up in a room. This gives you some idea how strong these things can be.

Functions in the Mess have come thick and fast since we arrived. Curry luncheons were held on July 28, August 11 and 25. The first one was a parochial affair and we re-introduced ourselves to the Fam Adv and Adv Parties. On August 11 we entertained the Hong Kong Police, and on August 25, 2 Para.

In September we held three cocktail parties, on the 6th, 13th and 27th which included a band display and buffet supper. This has proved very popular with people of the colony and given us an opportunity to meet a cross-section of military and civilian personages of Hong Kong. The CBF, Lt.-General Sir Basil Eugster, kindly attended on the 13th, and HE The Governor, Sir David Trench, on the 27th.

The Hong Kong Police invited the entire Mess to dinner on August 13. It was without question a remarkable night. An excellent dinner was followed by revelry which assumed great importance as it seemed to devolve into the first Police v. 1 DWR match of the season. The CO started the "Dukes" off well with a sound victory over the Commissioner of Police at various trials of strength and cunning. A particularly strong combination of Pettigrew and Thorn proved that in jousting they had no peers, dealing destruction and bruises to many other challengers.

The carnage far exceeded scenes of this kind in "Ivanhoe," etc., and many people came away with battle honours which did not include the normal sore heads. Anyway, honours were even after a truly memorable night.

Back to our own affairs once again, we extend a welcome back to the following: Peter and Di Mitchell, Mike Cambell-Lamerton, without Christine who arrives in December, and Alistair Roberts and John Sharp who have been on courses. We say *au revoir* to Nick Naughton, whom we left behind wrestling with hand-over problems with his opposite number in 4 Royal Anglians, and to Chuck Ivey and Robin Stevens, our "new intellectuals," who are off to Staff College. They were ceremoniously shoved on to an aircraft at Kai Tak, and we haven't heard from them since!

It's fun to meet old "Dukes," particularly thousands of miles away from home, and Charles Wiley, Messing Officer and MTO 1963-64, who is now QM Hong Kong Volunteers, was the first. Michael Miles and James Hayes, two ex-Dukes National Service Subalterns, are also in the colony and we are delighted to have all three as honorary members. We quickly make Dick Mundell pay for his drinks when he comes to the Mess, because we see him so often. But it is nice to see both Dick and Jilly, who are at present in 48 Bde in the New Territories, and we look forward to seeing them many times in the future.

We congratulate Dick and Jilly on the birth of their son, Timothy, a likely-looking lad of the future, we are assured. There was also great excitement in Nairobi, UK and Hong Kong on the announcement that Gel Westcob had just produced a daughter for Alan. Congratulations to them both, Gel, incidentally, we hear, by all accounts established the hospital record, and one which will be very hard to beat. If you don't understand this ask any of the wives! Robin and Jill Newell are also now proud possessors of a daughter, Jennifer, born in September.

Last but not least we would like to welcome our new Chaplain, Andrew Williams, and John Hawkins, the dentist, an old hand at Stanley Fort.

SERGEANTS' MESS

For longer than anyone cares to remember, The Duke's have been due for a posting to Hong Kong. At last, here we are, together with "Albert" and all!

The Mess in Stanley Fort is all that we had hoped for, very modern and spacious, and, after recent decoration, everyone is very pleased with its appearance and comfort.

We started our social activities with a house-warming party soon after arrival. Over 200 Mess members and their guests came along. John Fee did a first-class job organising a fine entertainment which included a Chinese family of acrobats. The Regimental Dance Band kept everyone dancing through until the early hours. Among our visits to other Messes was a really outstanding night with the Hong Kong Regiment which the RSM and Warrant Officers attended.

The darts season has begun. We have not had as good a start as we had hoped for, but there is still a lot of time to go and Tom Delaney and Joe Collins have promised to make sure the mat is nearer when it's our turn to throw.

On the last Sunday in September we had a mid-day concert and buffet luncheon. This was a great

success and once again everyone had a splendid time. The Regimental Band played our requests *ad lib*, and Bandmaster Colin Wood laid on a competition for very junior conductors among the children, they performed perfectly.

Departures

We had to say goodbye to many members before our departure for the East, notably: WO2 McManus, WO2 Arundel, S/Sgt. Wilkinson, S/Sgt. Bell, Sgt. Blacow and Sgt. Bailes. We are going to miss them all after all their loyal and devoted service to the Regiment. We can but say *au revoir*. All our best wishes go to them and their families and we ask them to come and see us all again on our return to Yorkshire. Due to the inevitable demand to fill ERE jobs, John Hemming and John Gay have left us, and a rather disgruntled "Jock" Glencross is due to follow them soon.

Arrivals

We give a big welcome to our new arrivals, namely: WO2 Sargeant, Sgts. Wally Batler and Harry Brooks. All are now settled in the "Pearl of the Orient" and seemingly enjoying life.

Promotions

Congratulations to the following on their recent promotions: Sgt. Hartley to Staff Sergeant, and Cpl. Joe Cagilaba (REME) to Sergeant. Well done lads; keep it up. Your gain, mein kampf!

CORPORALS' MESS

At last we find ourselves under the blazing sun—and occasional torrential rains—of Hong Kong. The months of speculation have now become reality and we have discovered just how many of the old soldiers' stories were based on virile imagination instead of actual facts.

Our new Mess in Stanley Fort was found to be in excellent condition although, due to our large membership, a little small. We have our own television set and juke box, the latter, I am told, being a genuine antique. Various suggestions have been put forward by the television "clique" as to its disposal but, as they are still unable to wrench their eyes from the "box," no decision has been reached.

We celebrated our arrival in Hong Kong with a dance and buffet supper, on July 26, at the White Rose Club in the Fort. Needless to say, the event was a great success, as the condition of several of our members confirmed on the following morning.

Hong Kong has been unanimously accepted as a wonderful posting. Our more enterprising members are busy seeing the many sights, while the rest appear to be still searching for a way out of Wanchai! Indeed, the lure of the city has captured many, and the tales told in the Mess about "the night before" rival anything that has yet been produced in entertainment value.

Finally, we must say goodbye to Cpls. Cronin, Whittaker, Skirrow, Cartridge, Gaukroger, Leaf and Nixon, whom we sadly left behind in the UK due to the proximity of their discharge dates. We all wish you the very best in civilian life and hope that you will visit us in the future when we are in a more convenient location.

From Honduras to Hong Kong

Recollections of visits to the Regiment by Maurice Ford of *The Huddersfield Examiner*

When it was suggested to me (in Hong Kong) that I should write an article for *THE IRON DUKE* on my association with the Regiment as a member of the Press it did not then occur to me that there was an aptness about the timing of the suggestion.

But contemplation of the office diaries—and my greying hairs—brings me to the fact that it is a matter of only months before I achieve my majority in years of visiting one or other unit within the Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

It began with the re-formation of the Territorial Army in 1947. Early in 1948 the first of the still-continuing "Forces Topics," by Redcoat, appeared once a week in the daily *'Examiner'*. Later in the same year I made the first of what were to become annual visits to battalions of the Regiment—a few days with the 7th Battalion at Cowden, near Hornsea, and a similar period with 578 HAA Regiment RA (5th DWR) at Tonfanau, North Wales.

I have been the onlooker for this period. But I have learned much of, and to appreciate, the history and traditions of, "The Dukes," a Regiment with which I had a tenuous war-time link through the 3085s, 3086s, 1483s and all other masses of bumf which orderly rooms so frequently queried with the office of the Northern Command Paymaster.

Some years ago I wrote in one article that the Duke of Wellington's Regiment could justifiably pinch the slogan of the Royal Navy and quote to the young would-be soldier "Join the Duke of Wellington's Regiment and see the world."

In my case, and my part-of-the-year office duty of reporting for mothers and fathers, relatives and friends on the affairs of units of the Regiment, this slogan has applied without actually joining.

In 1948 there were six TA formations based in Huddersfield. They were 578 HAA (5th DWR), the 7th Battalion DWR, The Queen's Own Yorkshire Dragoons, 538 (WR) LAA, RA, 270 Field Squadron RE and the REME. In that and the following year I spent the best part of a week with each at their annual fortnight's camp, sending daily articles to my paper. Reorganisations—and a gentle hint from my office that they would like to see me there sometime during the summer months—subsequently curtailed this visiting list.

Reports from the camps of the 5th and 7th Battalions (now one again) remained a must, however, and only one camp has been missed in 20 years, Tavistock, 1957. That was at the time of the newspaper strike.

With these two, and other TA units, I count myself fortunate to have spent some time, however short, on practically every area where the Army trains in Great Britain.

I have seen and respected that spirit which prompts a man to give, for no great material gain when all is considered, his time and energy in voluntary service for his country in a cause in which he believes. It is to be deplored that in



Mr. Maurice Ford talking to Lt.-General Eugster, C.B.F. Hong Kong.

recent times much of this spirit of service has been discounted and that further rejection is still under consideration.

Travelling further afield with the 1st Battalion has been an even greater experience. In recent times the Battalion have served in Kenya (twice), Gibraltar, Cyprus, N. Ireland, British Honduras, Norway and Germany, and are now in Hong Kong. How true it is that one can see the world with the Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

Memories of some of these places include:

British Honduras: The Garrison camp that was comparable to a holiday camp in an undeveloped country, which one could have spent years in exploring and understanding; Bamboo Club where the barman threw the empties over his shoulder to go "splosh" in the river; the "Sweet Canal" through the centre of capital city Belize, and the clothes peg one carried for use when traversing it; a day at the races at Orange Walk where the six horses appearing at the meeting all ran in every one of the seven races, each time under a different name; the bush fire, which nearly ravaged the camp and which earned me a rebuke from the Garrison Commander for extolling, in a report I put out through the Reuter agency, the efforts of the 250 men of the Regiment to extinguish it and not mentioning the 10 men of the Garrison staff; the sight of orchids growing at the roadside; the Nuffield launch and trips to one or other of the cays.

Nassau: The week's leave there for "B" Company after 10 months in Honduras; the experiment of using this company as an exercise in the staging of troops in the Caribbean and the commendation that was given to them by Joint Services staff and officials of Nassau on their behaviour and reception in this millionaires' paradise; the fabulous, repeat fabulous, way of life on this beautiful island.

Germany: The 1962 final of the Rugger Cup at Rheindalen and being shanghaied, along with some members of the DWR team, by the victorious Welsh Guards and taken to their celebration party in Dusseldorf; the 1964 exercise at Halten, where the mobile bath unit was a most welcome sight through the thick clouds of dust that were kicked up by the ugly and uncomfortable "PIGS" in which the troops went into battle.

Norway: The massing of thousands of men at Gutersloh for emplaning to Bardufosse; the grandeur of the Norway scene; the office wag who, as usual, said on my return, "Have you had a good holiday?" and my reflections on sleeping rough 200 miles north of the Arctic Circle, fortified, fortunately, by duty-free bottles of whisky I had taken with me from Germany; being taken prisoner by the American troops, who were "enemy," and being pointedly told what to do with my Press card when I claimed immunity; the rich sense of humour of the TA Major, RAMC, who had volunteered to do his fortnight's camp in Germany, had taken with him his penguin suit and could see the funny side of being whipped off to the Arctic

Circle, penguin suit and all, within hours of arriving in Germany.

Cyprus: The ideal climate; the isolation of spells of duty on one or other hilltop; peoples of two nationalities who are so friendly to others that it seems strange they cannot live happily together on an island that is idyllically set for peaceful co-existence; the fascination of the villages and of the shopping streets and wine cellars of Nicosia; the lacemakers of Lefkara; basking on the beach at Limassol.

Hong Kong: Skyscrapers by the score; millions of people; the beautiful view from Stanley Fort, high on a mountain on the southern tip of the island; the state of ever-readiness which is required of the Battalion; Hong Kong blisters; cockroaches; a stifling day on the ranges at Lo Wu, only a short distance from the China border; life for the families in the well-appointed skyscraper flats; a trip to units in the New Territories; the awesome night-landing in a VC10 on the jetty-like runway of Kai-Tak airport.

Throughout all of these visits and contacts with the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, and similarly with other army units, I would like to place it on record that all ranks at all times have extended to me great friendliness, courtesy and hospitality in my task of trying to give mums and dads at home something of a picture of the life their sons are leading and the conditions under which they are operating.

SPORT

RUGBY

After four years of the Army Cup it is going to be a change playing rugby football with less at stake. Make no mistake, though, there are competitions here which will tax our ability and our endurance. The season is very crowded and is played in quite varying conditions, i.e. hot and cold days, and hard grounds.

We have just started playing after what was an agonising training period. I say agonising because, to a man, players felt the difficult combination of heat and humidity. It has taken some getting over, but slowly we have done this.

The first game was against Sek Kong Select, run by Capt. Mundell, DWR, which we won 48—0. The second was against the Garrison side, won 39—0. On October 7 we took part in the Bill Riach Sevens Competition and won that. Judging from the papers, we are making our mark in no uncertain fashion.

A word about the Seconds and Colts: the former, for the first time, have a complete fixture list and, if enthusiasm is anything to go by, will do well. So far they have won one game and lost one, the latter to a side which involved opposition 1st XV players. The Colts team is made up of players under 22 and has yet to play a match.

If we manage to produce good players from the Seconds and Colts and stimulate an interest in the

soldiers, then the future of 1 DWR rugby is going to be in safe hands. Remember, we hope to be in the Army Cup in three years' time, and competitions like that do not get any easier.

SOCCER

At the time of writing these notes the season is just starting, and I feel we can look to the future with optimism. Trial games and matches have been played and a firm nucleus for the side has been formed. Our defence seems to be reasonably strong, Bdsm. Walker and Pte. Ijeh make an excellent pair of goalkeepers to choose from, while Ptes. Backhouse and Ingham are a pair of dependable, if somewhat adventurous, full-backs. The half-backs are good and solid but, as yet, no firm decision as to who should occupy these positions has been made. Cpl. Heron and Pte. Marr are certainly strong contenders, but there are at least three players fighting for the last position.

The front line certainly have potential, but here again the final selection is far from clear. The wingers are good workers and the insides fast and hard shooters. However, only Pte. Pennington and Bdsm. Sollitt can safely say they have a position in the side.

Our first league match of the season was won 3—0 against 2/7 Gurkha Rifles. As the score suggests, the defence was solid. But the forwards

were disappointing. They failed to move as a team, and all the goals were scrambled affairs. When these problems have been ironed out we should do very well and certainly make our presence felt in the Far East.

CRICKET

There is not a lot to report at present. The Battalion has entered the Inter-Unit Knock-Out and League competitions, but we are having some difficulty with dates as our best team includes five of the 1st XV. Another problem is that our concrete pitch is regarded as dangerous and no one will play on it. In any event, it occupies the gap between the rugby and soccer pitches which raises obvious difficulties, so we will play all our games away from home.

Lt.-Col. Shuttleworth, Major Mitchell, Capt. Cumberlege, Lt. Roberts and Lt. Thorn are playing for the Army XI in the civilian league, while, so far, Mitchell and Cumberlege have represented the Combined Services in a "Super League." We hope to get more players in each team in due course.

Potentially, we have an extremely strong team capable of giving any side in the Colony a good game; the major problem is to find four or five players to replace the rugby players when they are not available.

HOCKEY

The hockey season has only in the past month really got under way in Hong Kong. However, hockey is now in full swing so far as Battalion exercises, activities, rugby allow. Although hockey is, as usual, rather low priority, those who play for the Battalion reckon we can more than hold our own. We have so far played one league match which we won comfortably 9-1.

It is hoped that for the next IRON DUKE notes it can be said that hockey has once again been recognised as a major sport. We are certainly very fortunate in inheriting Cpl. Parrott from 1 Y & L.

The following have also played for the Battalion Capt. Cumberlege (captain), WO2 Pullen (RAPC & Sec.), Major Mitchell, Major Pell, Capt. Charlesworth, Lt. Westcob, WO2 Fee, Sgt. Ellis (REME), Sgt. Reddy, Cpls. Bebbington (RAPC), Howard, Walker, Richards (RAPC), Wallace and Pte. Wigglesworth.

Major Pell and Cpl. Bebbington (RAPC) have also represented the Brigade.

SWIMMING

Being stationed in our first tropical station for many years, it was decided that we should try our luck in the swimming world. The venture proved most successful and we should, by next year, be a team to contend with.

Unfortunately, our late arrival in Hong Kong meant very little time for practice and selection of our Battalion team. All the companies held galas of one sort or another to pick their teams for the Inter-Company Gala held on August 26 which was won by Hook Company. Our thanks to Capt.

Stevens and SSI Norwood for arranging an excellent and well-run event.

The Battalion team, under Lt. Westcob, put in some hard training prior to the Inter-Major-Units Gala. The team put up a creditable performance, coming 4th to three units who have had the opportunity of months of practice. The following represented the Battalion in the swimming team:

Lt. Westcob, Lt. Thorn, Sgt. Carter, Cpl. Manion, Ptes. Hutson, Brown 98, Hey, Peacock, Batt, Watson, Jagger, Cfn. Bamford.

SAILING AND WATER SKI-ING

Sailing and water ski-ing play an important part in the recreational and sporting life of Hong Kong. It is through the Stanley Military Boat Club that members of the Battalion and their families can take part in these two sports.

The Club's fleet of boats is at present two 40-hp water ski boats and eight Enterprise dinghies. There is also a larger motor cruiser called "Water Witch" which is at present out of commission.

The Hong Kong Government Marine Department have strict laws governing the handling of power boats in that the person in charge of the boat must have a local "Master and Engineer Certificate." 56 Squadron RCT kindly ran a two-week course for 12 members of the Battalion in August teaching the rules of the road at sea and also boat handling. So far, seven members of the Battalion have qualified, and they take turns at helming the Club's ski boats.

The water ski-ing is already a popular pastime and a good number of officers, families and men have tried their sea-legs on water skis. Cpl. Richards of the unit Pay Team is making tremendous progress as a water skier and there are several other keen tyros following his example. Unfortunately, the cooler weather and short winter evenings now beginning will tend to restrict the water ski-ing in the immediate future.

The sailing in Hong Kong offers tremendous opportunities for keen sport. The main sailing season runs from October till May, although there is sailing throughout the year. The summer months are less popular because of the heat and variable light winds. The typhoon season is from May to October and each time the warning signals are hoisted plans have to be made to get the boats under cover in Stanley Fort. By the end of November all eight dinghies will have been re-painted. The REME Maritime Workshops at Sham Shui Po have very kindly allowed our boats to be painted and varnished in their workshop. Pte. Oswin of the Battalion is doing a lot of the work and, at the same time, learning the skills for looking after the dinghies in the future.

So far this season the Club has sent boats to all the regattas and, although the Battalion team has generally been toward the end of the fleet, valuable experience has been gained. The regattas sailed in to date have been at Little Sai Wan (a team of three dinghies), Royal Hong Kong (one dinghy), the Land Forces Championships at Gordon Hard. The following represented the Battalion: Major Hoppe and L/Cpl. Lowth, Pte. Preece and Pte.

Hepworth, S/Sgt. Topley and Bds. McArthur. The team result in these championships were the best to date, the final order of teams being:

- 1st ... 18 Lt. Regt. RA "A" Team.
- 2nd ... 18 Lt. Regt. RA "B" Team.
- 3rd ... 1 DWR
- 4th ... 50 Comd. Workshop.

Individual placings of helmsmen were as follows:

S/Sgt. Topley 7th

Pte. Preece 10th.

Major Hoppe 12th.

The Club also entered three boats for the Gordon Hard Regatta which was held last weekend, October 19-20. The following represented the Battalion in the team sailing: L/Cpl. Lowth and Cpl. Gunn, Pte. Preece and Pte. Knight, Bds. McArthur and Cfn. McDonald.

For the future it is hoped that larger numbers of men will wish to take up sailing as a sport, and two sailing films from the AKC have been booked to show to the companies.

BATTALION ORDERLY ROOM

The re-formation is almost over, or so it seems, and at last faint traces of order are evident. Once again we have an "Orderly Room."

Since we first burst upon the Medway Towns much has happened, a muchness that has been tempered by events both joyful and others more doubtful in value!

While in Gillingham, L/Cpl. Hogg re-joined us after being buried at the Depot for two years. We now welcome him back officially and hope that he can enjoy a compatible relationship with the 21C, his new employer!

We also offer our congratulations to Cpls. Manion and Briggs, who have both recently attained the dizzy heights of corporal. The balance of power lies in their hands—may it not fall too heavily upon our unsuspecting heads! Cpl. Manion has recently divorced his typewriter to undertake the herculean task of Legal Clerk—beware, all ye doers of evil, or banishment will be yours in the form of a week or two on Stonecutters Island (place of incarceration).

Taking up the typewriter vice Cpl. Manion is L/Cpl. Mortimer, who now deals with routine orders and typing. Cpl. Craig has been "moving" people since we went to Gillingham in his capacity as Movements Clerk and continues to do so. Some of us are still wondering how we got here—how do we get back, Paddy?

Being in Hong Kong has made Mick Darcy sweat. He spends most of his time running for coffee, and a large part of the remainder trying to get the money for it. The greater part of his leisure he spends sailing the Battalion boats, but it has been remarked that he is as much "at sea" in the office as he is upon the ocean!

Our erstwhile Chief Clerk has settled in very well (in fact, he was on speaking terms with our civilian typist before anyone else!). Of course, he has been to Hong Kong before, "when they were needing 'em. etc." In between his shouts of "I'll peddle yer" and "Soup" we have seen how really humane and kind he is. His witticisms, good humour and shouts of "Daaarcy," "Kwaze" have endeared him to the staff.

In more respects than one we have discovered our Despatch Clerk to be a big guy! Humph Craze (so named for his gangster tendencies) handles his Gestettner Rotary Duplicator Mk III

(a) with the polished ease of a professional. In fact, he handles everything in a big way—including a knife and fork!

Ron Carr (better known for his financial exploits rather than his clerical ones) has also settled in quite well. However, he hides away in his office upstairs behind tinted lenses and we don't see very much of him, although we have gleaned that he is an international playboy, his conquests ranging from Tokyo to Cloppenberg (Germany).

Sgt. Milner (Orderly Room Sgt., i/c Admin. and i/c Extension 60) has taken over command of the upper office in the Battalion HQ Block. His "pep" talks are a constant source of joy to us all as he is our greatest authority on the Orders for the Duty Clerk. His fount of knowledge is unfailing in its tendency to amaze us, and we all consider his companionship to be invaluable.

Lt. Westcob was disappointed when he had to leave his wife behind in England. However, a few days ago he became the proud father of a baby girl, Lisa. Congratulations.

Capt. "The Cricketer" Cumberlege has had a very busy time since taking over as Adjutant in Gillingham. We would now like to welcome him officially, although a little belatedly. He earned the title of "Cricketer" by scoring 28 runs out of an Orderly Room total of 40 all out, when we played the Band a short while ago. We lost the match but, never the less, a valiant effort.

We now look forward (more with foreboding than anticipation) to the events ahead, such as classification, RSM's drill, and the next tropical storm. However, we feel that the worst is over now that the upheaval of two moves in six months has subsided and everyone has begun to develop a sun tan. Our initial reaction to Hong Kong is favourable, although the heat and the impractical situation of Battalion HQ at the top of a hill are sometimes a little trying. A plan is being formulated to have a rickshaw service to and from work, but until an accurate assessment of its acceptance can be made it will not be submitted!

Our absence from the literary world has been painfully apparent for some time now, so no doubt these notes will be received with some surprise. It was felt, though, that the presence of the Orderly Room should be brought into the public eye. It remains to be seen whether or not we will succeed!

1st BATTALION PERSONALITY

Drum Major J. M. Allerton

Drum Major Allerton joined the Army as a boy soldier at the Regimental Depot, Halifax, on December 28, 1954. After basic training he joined the 1st Battalion in Gibraltar in March 1955, as a bandsman.

He served with the Battalion for its period in Gibraltar and moved back with it to Chiseldon, Wiltshire, in 1956. His progress in the Band was excellent and, as a result, he was posted to the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall, in October 1956. His work there consisted of training on his primary instrument, the bassoon, elementary harmony, instrumentation and arranging. This was to provide him with an excellent background when he became Drum Major. He stayed on there for an extra period as Musical Librarian.

He rejoined the Battalion and served with it in Northern Ireland, Brentwood, Colchester and, in 1962, Barnard Castle.

In 1963 he relinquished his appointment as Band Sergeant and returned to duty in Catterick where the Battalion had moved to from Barnard Castle. He spent 12 months in Corunna Company as part of the Continuation Training Team.

Just prior to moving to BAOR, he returned to



the musical fold on his appointment as Drum Major. He served in this capacity right through our BAOR tour, except for the six months in Cyprus where he took over the duties of CSM HQ Company.

On his return to BAOR he went back to the Drums and has continued in this capacity ever since.

During his career Drum Major Allerton has shown himself to be a soldier first and foremost. His ability as a trainer of men and a disciplinarian is brought out by the high standard which the Drums have attained and retained during his period of office. At the same time his all-round ability is emphasised by the fact that he is also the Battalion Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Warfare expert. These two factors and the appointments he has held during the periods of duty outside of the Drums show that he is perfectly capable of doing any job asked of him, and doing it well.

His main contribution, however, is to the Drums, and even to the untrained ear he has shown, through his ability as an instructor and a musician, that the Drums can be interesting, stirring entertaining and, above all, musical.

Yes, the "Dukes" have been very lucky in having in its ranks a very fine soldier and fine man.

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Indian Troubles in British Honduras 1866-1872

By Lt.-Col. D. E. ISLES

Unlike many of the Central and South American countries British Honduras has long been free from any serious warlike action. In 1962 and 1963, when Burma and Alma Companies were there on detachment, there were only two or three mild excitements caused, ostensibly, by Guatemala's long-standing claim to the colony, but more probably due to faulty intelligence and even more faulty appreciations of the threat. On these occasions there was little for the men of the Battalion to do save man the Stanley Field Airport defences and establish a few OPs on the frontier. To be sure, the Royal Hampshires had, in 1961, mounted a platoon-sized operation to chase out some Guatemalan bandits who crossed the frontier at San Antonio in the Toledo district but—for real fighting in the colony—one has to go as far back as the Indian troubles of 1866-1872.

Full details of these troubles are not easy to find, and this despite the fact that in 1962 there were still natives up-country who had heard their grandfathers talk of Ascension Ek and Canul, the two main Indian Chiefs of the marauding tribes from the Yucatan and Guatemala. However, what I do now know may be of some small interest to those of the Battalion who either served in the colony or who took part in Exercise Drake's Drum in May 1963 when Alma Company relieved Burma.

The only two sources I have been able to trace—for in Belize I was told that hurricane and fire had effectively destroyed many of the records of the time—are a summary of extracts from the British Honduras Archives and a book on British Honduras, published in 1883 and written by a certain Mr. A. R. Gibbs. Paradoxically, finding only these two sources (both obtainable from the MOD (A) Library) adds to the interest of the story; for the former gives the official account, while Mr. Gibbs's book—tinged with venom and spite—gives an eyewitness "low-down" of one of the battles which, by any standards, was fairly obviously a pretty unsound bit of campaigning.

The regular garrison in British Honduras in the 19th century was always found by the West India Regiment from Jamaica, reinforced at times of trouble by the grandly-styled Prince Regent's Royal Honduras Militia (formed originally in 1817) and by locally-raised companies of Volunteers. These were the forerunners of the present-day Volunteer Guard to whose training both Alma and Burma devoted so many week-ends. Since 1841 detachments from the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th West India Regiment served in the colony where, because of their colourful French-Oriental type uniform, they were known as Zouaves. Sentiment up in the north-west of the colony was that the numbers of regulars, militia and volunteers afforded neither sufficient nor proper protection and, in 1866, the manager of the colony's most important mahogany company at Qualm Creek is on record as demanding more troops—failing which he humbly craves per-

mission of the Lieutenant-Governor to import some Texan Rangers! The manager was not alone in his doubts, for the Governor at that time, while remaining silent on the question of Texan Rangers, took the unusual course of commissioning a certain Herr Gustav von Ohlaffen, formerly of the Prussian Military Service, to reconnoitre the Rio Hondo and to report upon its most effective defence.

Sporadic raiding by Indians from Mexico started in 1857 and continued on a minor scale each year until 1866 when, unhappily, the worst fears of the mahogany company's manager were realised. No fewer than 50 of his men, 14 women and 8 children were captured by a large force of armed Indians under Chief Canul. On top of 42,510 dollars-worth of damage done to the camp and its machinery, Canul had the impertinence to ask \$12,000 ransom for the release of his captives. Official response was to mobilise the whole of the garrison at Belize and 3 officers and 143 men of the 4th West India Regiment, a volunteer officer, a civilian doctor and a commissariat officer (our Mr. Gibbs) were despatched to the interior as escort to, and as a means of enforcing the demands of, a Mr. Rhys—the civilian commissioner appointed by the Governor.

The expedition set off in December 1866 and, as there were no roads, proceeded up the Old (now Belize) River to Orange Walk (now Roaring Creek where Hugh Cartwright's Platoon put up a sterling defence on Drake's Drum) which took eight days to reach—a journey which now takes about an hour plus by road.

From here Major MacKay, the OC Troops, together with Mr. Rhys, Mr. Gibbs and 42 men, struck north for San Pedro¹ on the night of December 20, with the aim of finding Indians. The route was by an abandoned logging trail, crossed by enormous creeks and knee-deep in mud. After a toilsome and harassing night march the troops halted at dawn for breakfast when they were surprised and attacked by Indians.

Both the official and the eye-witness account of Mr. Gibbs agree up to this moment in time; they also agree as to the disastrous effect of the attack, but they differ in the account of the battle and in the description of Major MacKay's conduct. Major MacKay's written report to the Governor is dated December 24, 1866. In it he emphasises the difficulties of the night march; estimates the strength of the Indians as between 400-500; states that heavy fighting lasted for half an hour and that, as his casualties were heavy, he had no alternative but to withdraw to Orange Walk, losing 5 killed and 16 wounded, while the enemy suffered heavily. He also regrets to report that Mr. Rhys, the Commissioner, was lost, presumed killed,² and that

¹Not marked on present GSGS series—approximately 13 miles north of Roaring Creek. It could have been on the present site of the village of Never Delay.

²He was never seen again. Mr. Gibbs presumed he perished in the bush as he had no chance of keeping up with the hasty retreat.

"he could not be prevailed upon to move from the spot where he had stationed himself."

Mr. Gibbs's book gives what must be a truer account and is worth quoting. "For some reason best known to himself Major MacKay ordered the bugler to sound the retire about 20 minutes after the first shot was fired. The troops at first obeyed the order reluctantly, but as the three combatant officers, the gallant major at their head, nobly led the strategic movement to the rear, the retreat soon became a stampede during which the black troops threw away everything but their rifles and pouches. The path was strewn with waterproof sheets, haversacks, etc., etc.; the medical panniers, ammunition, and commissariat stores, including a rocket-gun (6-pounder), were abandoned, and mules and horses galloped home alone. The Indians had also taken to their heels. Arrived at Orange Walk, Major MacKay called a council of war to which he summoned, besides his two subaltern officers, the volunteer and commissariat officers, and the civilian doctor also gave his opinion. The men, it was found, were in a state of mutiny, openly cursing the major. They had fired off all the ammunition in their pouches save a few rounds; they were shoeless; the rest of the ammunition, and the commissariat and medical supplies were lost; there were no means of transport to resume the march with, and, worst of all, all confidence in the commanding officer was gone. A return to Belize was decided upon, and immediately carried out."

Major MacKay was subsequently the subject of a Court of Inquiry but he was leniently allowed to sell out, notwithstanding that at Tubabarcalong in Africa he had previously been reported for "tardiness" in meeting the enemy. This verdict did not please the Lieutenant-Governor who, as late as August 8, 1867, is found complaining to the Governor in Jamaica that if he had been able to compel witnesses to testify, the outcome would have been much more serious for MacKay.

Faced with this reverse the Lieutenant-Governor asked for reinforcements from Jamaica which arrived in January 1867. The British Honduras Field Force, under the command of Lt.-Col. Harley and consisting of 10 officers and 303 rank and file including 34 gunners with a 6-pounder Armstrong, took off into the interior in two columns. The first column followed MacKay's route and swept through San Pedro, then westwards to the

Guatemalan border. The second, under Capt. Delamere, came down the Rio Hondo via Blue Creek, Indian Church and Hill Bank and also swept west to the Border through present-day Gallon Jug. There were no pitched battles but the Indians were effectively dispersed and many of their village bases were razed to the ground. Capt. Delamere commends the Militia under Capt. Carmichael in an action at Naranjal on March 9 and also remarks upon the excellent practice of Bombardier McCulloch, RA, who brought his rocket tube into action against the retiring Indians.

It will be noticed that the cessation of hostilities still left Ek and Canul at large; nor can I find anywhere the ultimate fate of the hostages held by Canul from his raid on the mahogany company. An interesting fact about the Field Force is that one of the officers of the 4th West India Regiment was Lt. Carey who, some years later, was to gain unfortunate notoriety in connection with the death of the Prince Imperial in the Zulu War.

However, on April 6, 1867, the Belize and Northern Divisions of the Militia were stood down and on June 13 the reinforcements from Jamaica sailed back home. From that date until 1870 the Archives are concerned only to report the normal day-to-day business of the colony. There are some quaint recordings: "Troops withdrawn from Orange Walk to Belize on account of the deliberate refusal of the inhabitants to supply water at a reasonable rate; the costs of striking off 100 copies of the map of British Honduras by Chief Justice Corner amounts to £24 10s. 0d.; the Governor reports the absence of any Bankruptcy or Insolvency Law and that the Chief Justice was of the opinion that "this absence of a legalised system works better than any system of Bankruptcy or Insolvency he ever heard of." But, in 1870, '71 and '72 the Archives are again recording trouble with the Indians under the same Canul and another Chief by the name of Chan.

On April 18, 1870, Canul struck again when he occupied Corozal to the cry of "Mexico forever." Oddly enough, he withdrew when a band of Santa Cruz Indians appeared on the scene, and it was 1872 when he again attacked. This time it was Orange Walk³ that was attacked. Lt. Smith and his detachment of the 1st West India Regiment defended well and Canul himself was killed. A diversion was created by some American settlers and this probably turned the scales in Lt. Smith's favour, but not before he himself was seriously wounded. Mr. Oswald, one of the Americans, received the CMG for his part in the battle.

Since that time the colony has been free from Indian trouble but we still maintain a British garrison of a strong company. It is found by the Green Howards now and with the reduction in the number of infantry battalions it could soon be the Dukes' turn again. The Battalion could do worse for the colony is a fine training ground, and, even if Canul and Ascension Ek are no longer around, there is still excitement to be found—and the duck shooting must certainly be the best in the world!

³In the north, on the New River, not to be confused with Orange Walk previously mentioned.

ROYAL ARMY PAY CORPS MUSEUM

The RAPC Museum has now been established in its permanent home at Corps Headquarters, Worthy Down, Winchester, Hants.

There is an urgent need of suitable items to exhibit in order to do full justice to the Museum, and if anyone has any items of interest having a Corps flavour, which they may not require, it will be most gratefully accepted.

Please address your letters/exhibits to:

Captain J. L. James (Rtd.),
Corps Headquarters RAPC,
Worthy Down,
Winchester, Hants.

Tel. Winchester 5911, Ex. 328.

1st BATTALION COMPANY NOTES

HOOK COMPANY

The three months since the Battalion's arrival have sped away. In a talk he gave in August the Commanding Officer said that he had allowed Battalion training to go at an easy pace so that everyone could become accustomed to the heat. From the gasps that I heard I think few men believed this statement. The CO went on to outline his plans for a battalion exercise, and, from then on, all realised the training had been easy in comparison with the future plans.

Having settled in and become acclimatised, the main aim of the company training has been to teach each man his operational duties in case of an IS turnout. A number of exercises and demonstrations have taken place with the Hong Kong Police and other units. In fact, Hook Company finds two IS Platoons from the ranks of the employed men to act as the Battalion's final reserve. The training and drills have been a welcome change from office routine. Three periods have been spent on the ranges in the New Territories firing the classification course on both weapons. The results have, on the whole, been good. The Signal Platoon and Drums have also spent extra days on the ranges butt-marking for the Rifle Companies.

The local weather has also helped to keep up the pressure in that not a few weekends have brought a typhoon warning. After two false alarms Typhoon Shirley arrived over Stanley Fort and gave us all a good idea what a mild typhoon could do! The winds only reached 125 mph! Normally, winds of over 150 mph are recorded.

The main sporting season is now under way. In August and September swimming has taken pride of place. In a very successful company swimming gala on August 14 the Orderly Room team, led by Lt. Westcob, swept the board and won all the prizes. The Hook team then did well in the Battalion Gala a few days later and won nearly every event. The following represented the Company: Lt. Westcob (captain), Capt. Pettigrew, S/Sgt. Morris, Cpl. Manion, Cpl. Taylor and Ptes. Darcy, Brown, Staveley, Carr and Cfn. Bamford.

In the Inter-Platoon Soccer League the Band have been doing well and beating all their opponents. The Drums have also done well in the league. I think that lately the Drums have proved themselves by far the most versatile body of men in the Battalion. Besides their normal duties, they are battalion boat lifters in time of typhoons, harmonious singers at concert parties, church choir at the Harvest Festival and a pack of hound-noises during a band concert hunting scene.

The following families in the Company are congratulated on having additions to their number: L/Cpl. and Mrs. Parkinson, Cpl. and Mrs. Craig, Cpl. and Mrs. Ward, L/Cpl. and Mrs. Sykes and Pte. and Mrs. Moore.

MT PLATOON

At last the Island in the Sun! We arrived complete towards the middle of July and were quickly joined by 24 more drivers from Somme Company. The Title "MT Platoon" is a gross understatement as we really qualify for the title "MT Company," our strength being 70 and still rising (I hope).

We took over from 1 Welch some very tired vehicles, but with Sgt. Ellis and his team of mechanics we are just able to satisfy the customers.

Hong Kong is not the best place in the world for Army vehicles, the roads are hilly, twisty, narrow and, more often than enough, are blocked or narrowed even further with road repairs, etc.; these hazards, coupled with the heat of summer and the local population, demand a great deal from the drivers. The accident rate, I am pleased to report, is at the moment very low.

Battalion training, exercises, turn outs, stand to's come and go; so far we have satisfied all demands made upon us, between education, annual classification, a spot of leave, drill parades and PT; sort that out and the answer adds up to driving as well.

We are now busy preparing for our duty on the "Border." This involves a move by road and sea ferries from Hong Kong to the mainland; once there we hope to give most of the vehicles a rest and a new coat of paint. The annual inspection of vehicles commences early in December.

The MT is represented in most of the Battalion sports: Football, Ptes. Pennington, Backhouse, Lang; rugby, L/Cpl. Shadbolt, Pte. Williams; hockey, Sgt. Ellis; swimming, L/Cpl. Bamford, Pte. Peaken.

We also field a very steady soccer team ourselves. Results of our efforts so far in the Battalion Soccer League are as follows: v. Drums, 9-2 win; v. Mortars, 2-2 draw; v. A/Tank, 15-2 win; v. Band, 1-3 lost; v. 5 Platoon 9-1 win; v. Admin. "B" 4-4 draw.

We would like to welcome to the happy circle Messrs. Panks, Pennington, Laycock, Corcoran and Price, who have recently joined our station from UK. We hope their stay in Hong Kong will be a happy one.

"It's a Boy" for Pte. and Mrs. Kelly, and many congratulations from us all.

SIGNAL PLATOON

Wanchai, the Platoon dog, by his presence shows that we are firmly established in Hong Kong. There is something symbolic about him, an injured leg, always puffing and panting, and normally absent when wanted.

Joking apart, we certainly have been busy. IS duties, patrols, ranges, exercises and typhoons have ensured, in their own way, that our life, at best, is varied. Acclimatisation took a long time, but we

look fit now. Only Pte. Butcher has noticeably put on weight, but this is attributed to Mrs. Butcher's arrival in Hong Kong.

There are many "stand to's" in our life here. The Signals obviously have a sixth sense now, as half-an-hour before the order is given, taxis appear, and all living-in members are away! However, thanks to a broad-minded Platoon Sergeant, impervious to his surroundings, the Platoon are normally back in camp again swiftly. When will the lads realise that "Dilly's" bar is known to the hierarchy?

In August the Platoon had a social to which wives and a few guests were invited. It was a great success, and the wise forethought in asking the RSM and CSM of Hook Company paid dividends the next day on the Battalion square.

At the time of writing we are just about to depart on the first Battalion exercise with the temperature at 85°F and with 80 pounds weight on the back of each man. It will be interesting to see the "weightless wonders" return.

Congratulations to L/Cpl. Sykes on the birth of a daughter, and to L/Cpls. Barnett and Bowler on their promotion. A word, too, for Pte. Feetham, incarcerated in hospital for over three months. We wish you the best of luck when you are well enough to return to UK.

THE BAND

After a relatively quiet six months in England,

we arrived in Hong Kong hoping to recapture some of the excitement we left behind in BAOR.

Our tour has started very well indeed. Outside engagements have been coming in at a steady rate. Each weekend since our arrival the Band has been performing on the many beaches of the vast re-settlement housing estates in the colony.

The two dance bands have been extremely busy with military and civil engagements and, now that the dance season is upon us, we can expect both bands to be out twice a week.

Our families seldom have the chance to come with us on outside engagements; however, the opportunity arose when we were booked for a charity concert on one of the outlying islands. After a pleasant hour's voyage by a Government launch, we arrived at the island of Cheungchao. We played a programme of light music which was enthusiastically received by the local audience. Some light refreshments followed and, as the sun sank pretty quickly into the west, we said our farewells and sailed back to Hong Kong.

After losing seven members of the Band on the last redundancy, we welcome Bdsm. Irving, Fisher and Nesbitt to reinforce the side.

To. Cpl. Harrison, L/Cpl. Pickles, L/Cpl. Clifford, Bdsm. Carter, Blakemore, Dillon and Ross, we wish success in their new careers in Civvy Street.

The football team, under the management of Sgt. Arthur Cook, has been hitting the headlines.



The Bandmaster and Band with members of Cheungchao Island Committee after the Band performance on the Island.

We are currently league leaders in the Unit Platoon competition and are now negotiating for a place in the Minor Units League.

We congratulate S/Sgt. Bernard Cooper on his being awarded the LSGC Medal.

CORPS OF DRUMS

Having been in Hong Kong for nearly four months, we are well settled in, having a lot of new kit in the stores, boxes well stored away, and carrying out a full training and drums programme as usual. This also includes moving the boats to and from between the beach and Fort whenever a typhoon warning goes up, which at the time of writing seems to occur with remarkable regularity. We'll do it in our sleep the next time.

September really found us on our feet again. We held our first Drums social in Hong Kong; Chinese food being the laugh of the night with many members trying chopsticks instead of the other sort for the first time.

We continue to take an active part in Battalion training. Cpl. Wilkinson and his section had a most enjoyable two-day remote area patrol on Lantau during September. The remainder of the Platoon soon tasted the rugged island for themselves during the Battalion exercise Canter I in October.

Drums official engagements are difficult to find at present, but the situation is improving with a 15-minute high spot at the Hilton Hotel on New Year's Eve. We are actually being paid for it!

We would like to welcome Ptes. Attiwell, Gowing and Lister to the Corps of Drums and hope they will settle down in their new-found home.

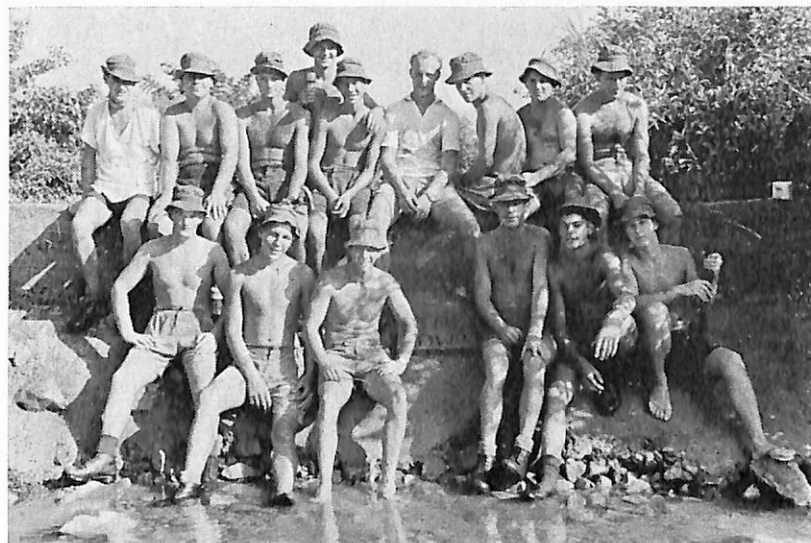
ALMA COMPANY

The last notes left us as we prepared for four weeks' block leave, broken down to two weeks embarkation and two weeks privilege leave. After the leave we had close to four weeks before departing for Hong Kong owing to the flight

departure date being put back. This period was spent on concentrated fitness training, revision of internal security duties and three "interest" periods. The first of these was a visit to the RMA Sandhurst by the whole Company. This was an outing enjoyed by everyone regardless of age or seniority. We saw the Academy inter-company drill competition and we were conducted around the National Army Museum and the Indian Army Room; a day of nostalgic memory for some and unforgettable drill, colour and tradition for most. This was followed up a week later by a conducted tour around Dungeness Power Station and an interesting visit to HM Dockyard, Chatham, including a cruise on the Medway.

In this way the departure date came almost unnoticed. There had been plenty of time for preparation; we were packed, documented, inoculated and raring to go. We took off, after the inevitable delay, from luxurious Gatwick in an equally luxurious Boeing 707. We touched down at Rome and Bombay en route, but thundered in at Hong Kong. Conservative estimates by ground spectators were that we bounced back up as high as the airport buildings after the initial touchdown. The pilot chose to stay down rather than overshoot, re-orbit and try again—to the eternal gratitude of the 170-odd souls on board. We were met by the CO and the Families Officer and taken away with the minimum of fuss to our various barrack rooms and quarters to recover from the journey. A word of praise, here, for the families who travelled with the minimum of fuss over a long and tiresome journey.

Then followed the now familiar routine of acclimatisation and settling in. Some of the routine had a strange sound about it: storm warning orders, for example. We were soon to put these orders to good use with the arrival of "Typhoon Shirley." The drill is simple: you lock yourself in with plenty of water and food and you "kip" until the storm passes—a veritable soldiers' paradise. When the storm abates you rush out to rescue people. On



No. 3 Platoon on site of their wall building project on Lantau Island

Front row left to right: L/Cpl. Noble 14, Pte. Hepworth, 2/Lt. Stone, Sgt. Dowdall, Pte. Welburn, Pte. Windle.

Top row left to right: Pte. Cooper, Pte. Crowley, Pte. Peacock, Pte. Unsworth, Pte. Hutchinson, L/Cpl. Timson, Pte. English, Pte. Broadbent, Pte. McGregor.

this occasion there was no need as little damage had been done and Hong Kong is well versed in the drills for typhoons and was prepared for trouble.

Since our arrival we have had a good spell of range work and classified the Company on rifle and GPMG. Extraordinary results were achieved during the first range days with "Bisley Bullets" failing the classification course. This was understandable when one takes into account the intense humidity and heat, the dazzle and bright light and, of course, the assorted technical reasons produced by the "Bullets" themselves for their failure. Acclimatisation and re-shoots soon improved the scores, and reasonable final classification scores were returned.

A good deal of time has been spent in improving the already well-tried internal security techniques. One of the best ways of doing this is by association with the Hong Kong Police in IS exercises, socially and in sport. We have done all three and find it enjoyable and rewarding.

The company is involved in many and varying activities. On the sports side there is an inter-platoon football league, a darts league and a bowling league; hockey (held together by CSM Fee), cricket and now rugby are much in evidence. At the same time platoon commanders take strong patrols to the remote areas of Lantau Island. When a suitable project to assist the local Chinese presents itself the platoon commander goes back with a working party. One such project is just being completed by 3 Platoon who are building, of all things, a wall for the Chinese, to reinforce a river bank which collapsed during the heavy rain brought by "Typhoon Shirley."

As these notes go to print we are preparing for a night exercise in conjunction with the Hong Kong Police followed 24 hours later by a company amphibious exercise onto Lantau Island for 2½ days. There should be much to report in the next edition of The Iron Duke.

ALMA COMPANY PERSONALIA

Courses.

The following NCOs and soldiers attended courses with good results: Cpl. Hewson, NCOs Tactics, "C" Grade; Cpl. Robinson, NCOs Tactics, "C" Grade; Pte Hutchinson, Water Duties, "B" Grade; Pte. Hey, B III Clerks, "A" Grade. Well done, Pte. Hey.

Promotions.

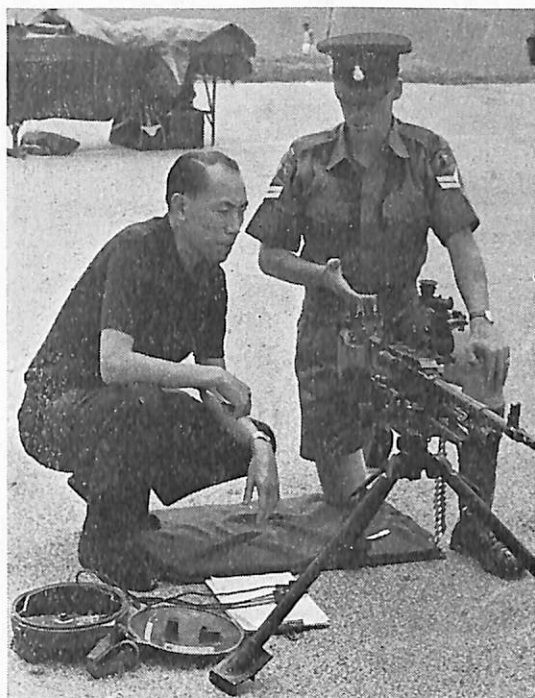
Ptes. Maynard and Noble 73 to Lance Corporal. Postings/Discharges.

CQMS Morris has moved to Hook Company and we welcome CQMS Holliday.

The following men have gone to KDDY: L/Cpl. Smith 74, Cpl. Young, Pte. Rutherford, Pte. Akeroyd. Three soldiers have left the Army and the company: Cpl. Smith, Cpl. Frith, L/Cpl. Barclay. We wish them luck in the civilian world.

Marriages/Births.

Five men have been married since the last notes. To all of them we wish happiness: L/Cpl. Thompson 06, Ptes. Bone, Ratledge, Ijeh, Johnston. Congratulations to Pte. Robinson 28 on the birth of



Cpl. Dooley instructing a Policeman on the GPMG.

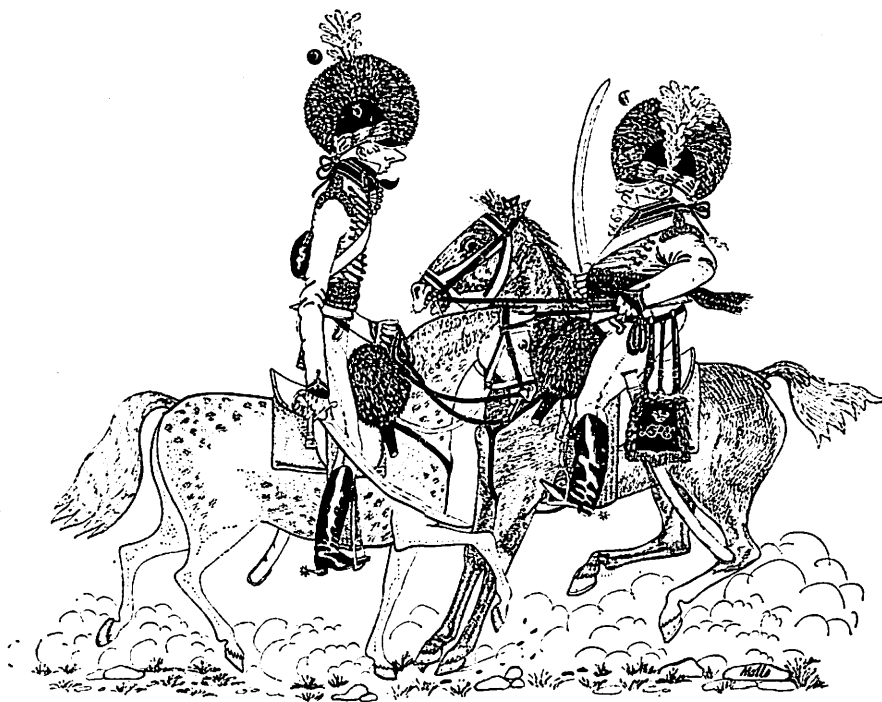
his daughter and to Pte. Thompson 49 on the birth of his son.

BURMA COMPANY

It has been a period of change since our last notes. The obvious one of location, plus many changes of personalities. Major P. A. Mitchell has taken over the Company from Capt. R. L. Stevens, who takes our best wishes with him for a successful year at Staff College. Unhappily, CQMS Delaney succumbed to an ulcer and had a long spell in hospital and has gone to HQ Company. In his place we welcome CQMS Hartley and, at the same time, we thank CQMS Delaney for his many years or loyal and excellent service to the Company, both as "Q" bloke and Platoon Sgt. Mr. Roberts has returned full of knowledge from his courses at Hythe and Warminster, while Mr. Ward has vanished to the jungles of Malaya to learn how to eat snakes and survive. He joins Sgt. Coll who is doing a longer version of the same course. They both rejoin us in October. Sgt. Nash has left for Corunna Company and we welcome Sgt. Brooks in his place. Others who have joined us are Cpls. Grey and Young from a Hythe course, while Sgt. Wright has gone on to better things.

We have shot on the ranges, exercised with tanks of 1953 vintage—the CSM swears he recognises one of them from his lone battles against the Chinese hordes—sent out remote area patrols on to Lantau, had a Company exercise with the Hong Kong Police, been winched into, and scrambled out of, helicopters. Life has not been uneventful.

We have built up a liaison with Eastern Division of the Police, this being our area. We hope this



Two Officers of the Light Horse Volunteers of
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REGIMENTAL JEWELLERS & SILVERSMITHS



Burma Company worthies helping to rebuild the sea wall at Lantau Island after Typhoon "Shirley"

liaison will prove fruitful in more ways than one, as the Division includes Wan Chai, which is the Suzy Wong area. Some know Wan Chai better than others, but it would be invidious to name them here. We have had two sports days with the Police and on balance had to give them best, but not without a struggle.

Cpl. Grey, L/Cpl. Wilson and Ptes. Huntley and Williams are going to Korea with the Honour Guard and have been mastering American drill. This again gave our SM an opening to warn them against the perils facing them.

Just at the moment Company sport is none too strong: The Band beat 4 Platoon 19—0 (or was it 20?) at soccer, but 6 Platoon are doing well. We had hopes in the Inter-Company Swimming which were sunk by two disqualifications. However, we are doing well at hockey and have been beaten only by HQ Company. Cpls. Howord and Walker have represented the Battalion at this sport.

CORUNNA COMPANY

We are at present living at Lyemun Barracks, some 25 minutes drive from Stanley Fort. There is no tactical significance in this, it is just that the Fort cannot accommodate the whole Battalion. Lyemun is on the north-east tip of Hong Kong

and is the spot the Japanese selected as their first objective when they swam from the mainland in December 1941. There are still signs of the battle in the bullet- and shell-marked defensive positions in our area. We are very well set up here with our own barrack block, cookhouse and NAAFI. There are many advantages in being at Lyemun, in fact the usual advantages of being slightly away from everyone else, plus the ease with which we can reach the bright lights. On present planning we expect to move to Stanley some time in November when another company will take our place.

As with the rest of the Battalion, we have spent our first three months in Hong Kong getting to know our way around the island, practising our IS role, sending our remote area patrols, and shooting on the ranges in the New Territories. It has been a very full life, and first impressions of Hong Kong (I wish I had a dollar for every time that little phrase will appear in this issue of THE IRON DUKE) make one feel that this is going to be a memorable posting.

Before leaving England we were told of the very close affiliation between the Army and the Hong Kong Police. Corunna is affiliated to Bay View Police Division, and we get on like a house on fire.



"C" Company Open Day for the Bay View Police Division. The GPMG being demonstrated by Pte. Senior.

Divisional Superintendent Frank Kong and Assistant Divisional Superintendent Ron Bayliss have done everything possible to make us feel at home and to help us settle in. Relations began with a magnificent night out at the Showboat Night Club when Frank Kong and his officers entertained our officers right royally. We followed up by holding an Open Day at Stanley for 80 all ranks of the Division. This consisted of a sports tournament (soccer, basketball and volleyball), swimming, a chance for the police to fire our weapons, an arms and equipment display and, finally, a short social in the White Rose Club. The stars of the social, apart from Messrs. San Miguel, the local beer, were very definitely the Regimental Band, under Mr. Wood, who gave us a spirited and enjoyable band concert. In spite of the language barrier this was a good mix-in that did a lot to cement the affiliation.

Our other great social event was the Company junk party in the middle of September. A Chinese junk, laden with 80 of the Company dressed in pirate gear, left Lyemun Jetty at 6 pm, was stopped by a police launch at 6.20 pm, lost a man overboard at 9 pm, lost another at 11.15 pm, and finally tied up at Lyemun Jetty at 11.20 pm. Fortunately, both our keen swimmers were picked up before the weight of Cpl. Bowyer's and L/Cpl. Moon's curry, and the odd San Miguel, dragged them under. It was a great night, but our next party will definitely be on dry land.

CQMS Gay has left to be a PSI at Leeds

University OCT, and his place will eventually be taken by Sgt. Wright, although Sgt. Nash is standing in at present. L/Cpls. O'Reilly and Wilson are our recent promotions, along with Cpl. Johnson.

It was with regret that the Company heard of the death of Pte. and Mrs. Watson's baby daughter, and we all extend to them our deepest sympathy.

SOMME COMPANY

The Company have settled down well into their Hong Kong dual-purpose role. Training is divided into IS as a rifle Company and normal support weapon familiarisation.

Unfortunately for the Company, we are split three ways due to the accommodation shortage at Stanley Fort. The Mortar Platoon is at Lyemun with Corunna Company, the Anti-Tank Platoon at Stanley Fort with Burma Company, and the Assault Pioneers and Recce Platoons at Stanley with Alma Company. This arrangement is working surprisingly well, but naturally does create minor administrative problems. We all are looking forward to moving to Lyemun as a complete company in the new year.

Since our last notes in Gillingham, we have said goodbye to Captain Chuck Ivey; we take this



Lt. Thorn loads up Inspector Chan Pok Sheung just to show him what the "Tommy" has to put up with.

2 DWR—SINGAPORE 1927 to 1929 (EVENTS IN A SUBALTERN'S LIFE)

By MAJOR-GENERAL R. K. EXHAM

I arrived in Singapore in April 1927 having sailed in H.T. *Neuralia* in company with Bobby Turner who was returning from a signal course at Catterick. This was my first visit to the Far East and the voyage was most enjoyable. We put in at the usual ports, Gibraltar, Malta, Port Said, Aden and Colombo and we went ashore at all of them. Bobby and I became firm friends and we served together for a long time.

The Battalion was occupying Tanglin Barracks on the island. On arrival, I was seen by Col. Pickering who told me that he had posted me to No. 1 Company, commanded by Capt. Gibson, always known as Gibbo. Bonzo Miles and Frith were the other subalterns in the Company. I had joined as the junior officer in the Battalion.

SOMME COMPANY (continued)

opportunity of wishing him every success at Staff College. In his place we welcome Major Mike Campbell-Lamerton who has just arrived from Germany. On arrival he posed a problem to the QM: How do you get size 13 boots quickly in Hong Kong? The QM grunted but put in a red star indent (nothing to do with Chairman Mao) and in three days got them from Singapore.

Since arrival in Hong Kong the Company activities have been varied and interesting. Top priority was acclimatisation (many a waist-line has been brought down to human proportions) and IS training which has been done well and efficiently despite caustic comments from the light blue beret boys, who consider everybody else as rookies.

In addition to these activities we have been on the classification range—the results for Somme Company were astounding (wait for it—we had a neutral butt party); the only conclusion one can make is that all of Somme Company fully understand the theory of the beaten zone!

Last week the Recce Platoon drew up four Ferrets and have been attending a Battalion cadre—we were extremely lucky to have had the services of two qualified instructors from the Life Guards. There is a strong rumour floating round the Company that the new name for the Recce Platoon is Cornet Syd Kirk's Own Lancers with Corporal of Horse Glencross in charge when Capt. Kirk is away on messing officer duties—already they are applying to wear shoes on the RSM's Saturday morning parades!

Socially we have been swimming, water ski-ing, playing football, volleyball and basketball; the biggest problem is to find time to fit them all in. The highlight of the social scene was the Company party in the White Rose Club. This was great fun and at times proved hilarious, especially when the cabaret, a dubious belly dancer, requested Sgt.

Our Officers' Mess was a wooden building which; because of the damp, was built off the ground, the officers slept in separate and adjoining rooms which were large and comfortable. The barracks were about three-quarters of a mile from the Mess, and between them were our church and most of the sports grounds. I might here explain that, as Orderly Officer, we had to wear a drill tunic, collar and tie and, having mounted the guard at 8 a.m. and walked back to the Mess, our tunics were black with sweat and everything had to be changed.

This was a wonderful Battalion and, naturally, I find myself thinking of the subalterns who were my close friends. They were a grand lot and,

George Butterfield to dance with her. The burning question was, who could do the dance better? By popular vote Sgt. Butterfield won.

Personalia

We welcome to the Company, from 1 Y & L, Cpl. Lyons. Our congratulations to Pte. and Mrs. Clarke on the birth of a son and to L/Cpl. and Mrs. Fielding on the birth of a daughter.

Mortar Platoon

Although the Mortar Platoon has done very little mortar training our initial three months in the colony have been far from inactive.

On arrival in Hong Kong the Platoon immediately set about practising their Internal Security Drills and getting themselves acclimatised to the trying climatic conditions of the colony in mid-summer.

The intricacies of IS drills and our various remote area patrol commitments seemed to pose no problem for the Mortars. The Platoon also played its part in assisting the Assault Pioneer Platoon with the construction of the Company's "Hearts and Minds" project in the Stanley Nullah. There is much speculation amongst the Mortars as to what form the opening ceremony of the Nullah will take.

At present the Platoon holds the record for Mount Parker climb. The climb was completed in 1½ hours.

We welcome to our ranks Sgt. Lindsay and L/Cpl. Lee. Sgt. Lindsay has recently completed the mortar course at Netheravon where he attained a "B" grading. L/Cpl. Lee has arrived from the Y & L and we hope he will enjoy his new status as a "Duke."

Finally, we would like to say farewell to Sgt. Hughes, who has recently departed from the Platoon. Sgt. Hughes has been a staunch member of the Mortar Platoon for many years and we wish him all the best for the future.

in spite of a gap of 40 years, I remember all of them—Robby Robertson, Fish Lennon, Boy Armitage, Brian Webb-Carter, Willie Woods, Basil Owen, Guy Hiddingh, John Frankis, Dick Cumberlege, Kenneth Exham, Bonzo Miles, Charles Harker Taylor, Bobby Turner, Jasper Frith and Ebby Jones.

In writing about Singapore I have described my life under the following headings—Work, Games and Recreation.

Work

Singapore is on the equator and, in those days, the sun was regarded as our worst enemy. We wore topees and, although I doubt if they were used, spine pads were issued to the men. Any soldier seen outside without his topee was on a serious charge; this may seem strange as to-day, even in the hottest climate, troops wear only soft hats. Anyhow, this affected our parades which, apart from the period before breakfast, were all held inside. I must say that our work was by no means arduous and, in fact, the only thing of real importance which I remember was the annual range course on which the men's pay depended.

During the second year in Singapore my Platoon went to Fort Dickson, about 200 miles up-country, to attend a series of weekly camps held for the local Volunteers. Here we drilled them, taught them the rifle and the Lewis gun, and put on demonstrations and cloth-model exercises. The Volunteers who attended the camps were mostly rubber planters and tin miners, altogether a wonderful crowd of people.

Games

Singapore was one of the best stations for sport which I have known. Of course, it was very hot throughout the year but, apart from cricket, we did not start any game until about 5 p.m. when it was cool enough.

Rugby

We always had a good side under the spirited leadership of Bonzo Miles. The big event of the season was the Malaya Cup open to the Straits Settlements and the various Federated Malay States. The Battalion was not eligible to enter but usually supplied about 12 members of the United Services XV which did compete and did fairly well though not winning the cup. The standard, particularly in Singapore, was very high; their teams mainly consisted of young men shortly down from the universities who had come out to join firms; some of them were rugger blues.

During the two years the team visited Siam, Indo China, Sarawak and many parts of Malaya playing local sides. Perhaps of greatest interest was our trip to Miri, an oil station in Sarawak. We crossed in a tiny boat, belonging to the oil company, and we took about 20 officers and men so as to be able to play the local sides in rugby, soccer, and cricket. When at sea we all paraded on deck, and besides doing PT, we amused ourselves scrumming down and handling a rugger ball; this often ended in the sea, when our charming captain would

always turn his ship and retrieve the ball. When in Miri, my brother and I stayed with a civilian. This was the only time when, on being called in the morning, I was offered the choice between the usual cup of tea and a champagne cocktail! We won all our matches apart from a golf match in which the officers were soundly beaten.

Cricket

Charles Harker Taylor ran the cricket having been a Sandhurst blue. Also, he played for the island against a full Australian Test XI which called in on their way back from a Test series in England. Charles made over 50 runs in this match, against the bowling of Grimmett and Ward, and was presented with a bat by the Australian team.

A competition was run each year between the Services and teams from the local banks, the brokers, and insurance firms and one or two other sides whose names I have forgotten. The Services won this competition, due entirely to Charles and a Marine named Congdon; they went in first and, in all our matches, were never separated for less than 200 runs.

John Frankis was also an outstanding cricketer and one of our best hockey and rugby players.

Soccer

I cannot say much about soccer as I did not play the game. But I do remember that our team visited Java and Sumatra besides touring parts of Malaya. They did exceptionally well in all the Singapore competitions.

Polo

A number of officers played polo on the very attractive boarded ground in Singapore. The position about mounts was much improved when Guy Hiddingh visited Australia, and returned having purchased a number of young ponies; Willie Woods was much the best of our players and the following was our team at that time:

Willie Woods	4
Guy Hiddingh	3
Brian Webb-Carter	2
Basil Owen	1

They won the KOR Cup which was the Open Championship of Malaya.

As many people will know, Guy, having transferred into the 14/20th Hussars, was later killed in the desert and that Basil was murdered in Burma. Both these deaths came as a terrible shock and we lost two of the gayest and most attractive personalities in the Regiment.

There was one polo tournament in which I played and in which we were soundly beaten by Johore. Later, our team watched the final of the tournament, played in Johore, when we all had lunch with the Sultan. Before the meal, we were given some very potent cocktail and, at lunch, there was only champagne to drink. Unfortunately, the main course was the hottest curry that I had ever eaten and, as I say, there was only champagne to quench our thirsts. I feel strongly that the youngest officer should not have been exposed to this ordeal!

Golf

A nine-hole course had been built round the Mess and a number of officers took up golf. Charles Harker Taylor and Dick Cumberlege were our leading exponents. I remember one night when, after a particularly wild guest night, Dick, Basil Owen and I played a round in our sarongs which we wore instead of pyjamas. There was a full moon and, considering everything, the standard of play was quite good!

The Platoon Flag

Finally, the Platoon Flag. This was an annual competition between all the Platoons of the Battalion, and was started in Cairo. We competed for: drill, shooting, barrack room inspection, rugby, cricket, soccer, swimming, diving and water polo.

I may have chosen to write about the Platoon Flag as No. 4 Platoon, which I commanded, won the competition for the two years in Singapore. Among the soldiers in the Platoon was a young and very efficient Corporal Code, who later became a Regimental Sergeant Major and who was until so recently the General Secretary of our Regimental Association; he, of course, knows more about the Platoon than I do.

Recreation

There are various things which I can say about parties in Singapore. First, I must recall the wonderful hospitality given by Bonzo and Ann Miles in their bungalow near the Mess; as Bonzo and I were in the same Company I was often there. His death two years ago was a terrible loss to his many friends.

The hotels in Singapore were excellent for dinner and dancing, if we could afford it, and their names were: the Europe where we ate the best food in the island, Raffles, where we danced, and the Adelphi. Following parties at the hotels we usually ended up

in the Chinese quarter where we had eggs and bacon on the pavement.

One of the big events in Singapore, from my point of view, was my brother's wedding. The marriage took place in our Tanglin church and Dick Cumberlege was best man. Kenneth and Joan were given a quarter in Alexandra Barracks and we all saw a lot of them.

Before closing this story I must say a word about the command of the Battalion. I have already mentioned Col. Pickering, and his Adjutant was Boy Armitage. Boy was a first-class officer who was always most helpful to young officers like me; I chiefly remember him, at that time, as being a fine horseman and a successful amateur rider both in Malaya and at the Singapore meetings. He had previously been a fine runner and won the mile in the Command Championships in Egypt for three years in succession. Major Jack Burnett was our Second-in-Command and he succeeded Col. Pickering shortly after we left Singapore. I am certain that the Regiment will never forget the debt it owes to these two outstanding commanding officers.

I am sorry that I have said nothing about Robby Robertson, Fish Lennon or Ebby Jones in my story. Robby, in spite of having lost an arm in the war, played in our Rugby XV and was one of the toughest forwards playing. We all greatly admired Fish Lennon who had been awarded both the DSO and the MC as a second lieutenant in the war, whilst Ebby Jones ran our athletics team and was also a keen cricketer. He later transferred to the RAOC and won the George Cross for bomb disposal in Malta during the Siege.

As I say, Singapore was a wonderful station, anyhow for a young officer. This is, perhaps, proved by the fact that, after 40 years, I can remember so much of all that happened.

SALISBURY PLAIN-1934

(continued from Iron Duke, No. 147, August 1968)

The march back

The schemes were over and we had to return to Aldershot to prepare for Malta and some for the next draft to India. We set off loaded down with our usual amount of kit but with a bit more experience behind us. The rain poured down all day and we found it hard going marching with our heavy rain sodden greatcoats on underneath our groundsheets. It was only a nine-mile march to Tidworth Pennines and our first stop. Tents were so short we had to double up with other platoons and that was where I met Sax Rowlands for the first time. Sax threw Kamptee, Ahmednagar and all his other Far-east service at my Halifax experience. He had served more years than my months. We had been issued with cocoa, laced with rum and Matty our C.S.M. told us of his rum rations on the Western front. At the same time someone having heard these stories before whispered, "Aye, that's why we get more cocoa than rum."

The rain was still coming down heavily next

morning as we got dressed in our soaking clothes and we set off with aching bones and damp spirits wondering what the next camp would be like. There was not to be another camp. We got to the field it should have been in and we were addressed by a General Officer who gave us the option of camping or marching the whole way to Aldershot in one day. Three days march in one day. That was the challenge and we accepted it. With a song on our lips and our shoulders pressed back we let the General see we, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, could take it. We sang a rollicking song about a German officer crossing the Rhine and he swore he would have a jolly fine time but the best of the song was the chorus. "She boo, she boo she bollardy boo she boo." "Oh landlord have you a daughter fine she boo?" and I will say no more but it kept us going. Through the morning and the afternoon doing more than the regulation pace and we never stopped for halts. Just on and on with our noses smelling the town of Aldershot, our Mecca and home. In the mean-

while the R.A.S.C. sent out trucks to pick up the troops starting at the rear of the column and as we saw other regiments getting on trucks and passing us we thought they were a lot of softies. It was only the Wilts or some other regiment but the "Dukes" were tough and could take it. It happened we were at the front and so were the last regiment to be truck borne. My Platoon was picked up about a mile past Crookham towards Aldershot and I consider we marched over 33 miles that day. Martin of my Squad was crying. Dickie Woods was limping badly but he was trying to console Martin and carrying his equipment at the same time. Geordie Gardner was in a bad way and I had got my first blister. Wressell

had been sent ahead ages before but we were soon in the trucks and speeding into Mandora Barracks where we were met by a smiling cheerful Matty who had our comfort at heart. We couldn't believe he was the same man. "Showers are laid on lads. Get yourselves down to the dining room and then get yourselves to bed if you want." It couldn't last and it didn't. Next morning I heard an awful voice screaming and I heard that well-known clarion call.

"Outside the draft for India. Outside the details for Malta, and be quick about it at the double."

But that is another story and will take up more space than the Editor will allow.

IMRAY.

A NIGHT OUT WITH THE BABOONS

By COLONEL H. HARVEY

I saw an advertisement in a paper, "Why not shoot a lion, we can sell you the skin?" Having just returned from a baboon shoot I thought, "Well, why not shoot a line?"

To comfort those who might say how cruel and what a shame I can inform you that, way up towards the Zambezi Valley, there are thousands of our so-called relations moving in troops of many hundreds. In the lambing season they frighten away the ewes and catching, easily, the lambs they rip them open for their kidneys and liver and leave them. In the cropping season, from dawn to dusk, they raid the fields in their hundreds and destroy acres and acres of crops—in spite of the many guards clapping their hands and banging tins. They are such a pest that the Government offers 2s. 6d. per tail.

Thus it was that I joined a hunting party organised by my son and set forth to our RV at 3 o'clock in the morning to the top of a plateau which stretched for some 40 or 50 miles. The locals gladly agreed to act as beaters. By arrangement we met the Headman at a certain *kraal* where he had gathered together the multitude of yokels. What a motley assortment of shivering men and boys, plus their kaffir dogs!

The Headman, with great confidence, informed us that he knew exactly where a certain troop rested during the night in the trees or on rocks at the head of a *dhonga* ravine—leopards are very partial to baboons. The beater plan was discussed and

explained to the mob who had never been out on such a "do" before. The plan was that they should extend in darkness down either side of the steep *dhonga* and in the valley below. We, "the killers," with an assortment of rifles and shot guns, were to move to our ready positions. As in all night ops silence was golden. At a given signal the line of beaters would advance with their dogs; the dogs, it was hoped, would keep the baboons up the trees.

At 3 a.m., after a "cuppa" with a bracer, we set forth by truck to the *kraal* where the locals had collected. What a sight! Off go the beaters and then on foot we went forth—for miles and miles across fields of stones. I think they must grow them! On and on we went, with no ten-minute halt to the hour. By the time we reached our SP I felt as if I was a pack-mule carrying an 18 pdr.

And now for the execution of the plan. All loaded we went in for the kill. Alas, there was no sound, no barking of baboons, not a baboon in sight—or a beater. Then someone realised that our guides had taken us to the wrong *dhonga*. It still being dark, we rapidly moved to the proper RV.

At last we were in some position, and "H" hour had arrived. Our dogs were now barking, and so were the baboons and beaters. Dawn was breaking and now it was the killers turn, everyone acting as targets came in sight. Now great excitement. The old, huge dog baboon leader, barking loudly, just tore through our line and away. Here, there and everywhere guns were going off—all around and some terribly near. They can certainly move—leaping and jumping. Cries from the beaters; barks from dogs and baboons.

As daylight arrived the last bangs were heard and the count of tails was gradually made. We expected more but had to be content with 30 tails at 2s. 6d. The yokels, who had never had such excitement before, jabbered their desire to have another drive. Strange to say, none of them had been hit.

If you have never had a night out with the baboons you have certainly missed a thrill. I look forward to the next shoot. Perhaps, next time, I'll wear my tin hat.

And so, back to the farm for a grand Rhodesian breakfast.

Don't despair—you're nearly there!



THE BLUE BALL

(Denis and Marie Siddall)

SOYLAND · RIPPONDEN
Near HALIFAX



Whitaker's Cock of the North Ales

CORRESPONDENCE

172 Willow Gardens,
Rochdale Road,
Halifax.
October 17, 1968.

Dear Sir,

May I, through the medium of our Regimental Magazine, express my gratitude to everyone, both serving and retired, who so generously contributed to the very handsome cheque and the lovely silver salver which were presented to me on their behalf by General Exham at the OCA Reunion Dinner on October 5, on the occasion of my retirement as the General Secretary and Treasurer of the OCA.

I should also like to convey my sincere thanks to the many Old Comrades and Officers who have written to me and my wife expressing their good

wishes for our future; also to the WOs and Sergeants of the 1st Battalion for the beautiful cigarette case which they sent to me from Hong Kong. I was most touched by their kindness and generosity, and the gift was much appreciated, not only by myself and Mrs. Code, but by all who saw it and heard about it.

Finally, I should like to say that, although now actively retired from Regimental affairs, if at any time in the future I am able to be of service, either to the Regiment or the OCA, I shall be only too pleased to help in any way I can.

With very best wishes to all Old Comrades, both serving and retired, wherever they may be.

Yours sincerely,

SIDNEY CODE.



The silver salver presented to Mr. S. E. Code, M.B.E.

AVR II

THE YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS

A certain amount of confusion and ignorance exists at present over what and where the Yorkshire Volunteers are. Confusion, because the disbandment of the T & AVR III Regiments has given the impression that the whole of the Reserve Army is to be disbanded. Ignorance, since the tempo of life and work of the Volunteers differs in degree from the old TA. I think that this note will help to clarify the position, put the Yorkshire Volunteers—your Reserve Army Regiment—on the map and possibly give a new lease of military life to those about to leave the Regular Army.

In the Regular Army today there is a constant flow of regular officers and soldiers finishing their time with the army and taking jobs as civilians. Before the disbandment of the TA, a fair number of these officers and men joined their Territorial Regiment or, at least, kept in touch with them. This can no longer happen. The opportunity to meet old friends and keep in touch with regimental affairs has been greatly reduced by this reduction.

The object of this note is to point out that this opportunity still exists, possibly in a wider form, in the Yorkshire Volunteers.

The Yorkshire Volunteers is the Reserve Army Regiment of the Yorkshire Infantry Regiments, namely the PWO, Green Howards, DWR and Y & L. A Volunteer Company of each of the above

(We regret that we have not received any notes for this issue from C Company (DWR)—Ed.)

Regiments exists in the "regimental area," the situation of the Companies being as follows:

"A" Company (PWO) ..	York.
"B" Company (Green Howards)	Middlesbrough.
"C" Company (DWR) ..	Halifax.
"D" Company (Y & L) ..	Sheffield.
HQ Company (All Regiments)	York.

By joining the Yorkshire Volunteers you are still able to perpetuate old friendships and keep very much in touch with what goes on in the Regiment.

You may ask, "What is my commitment if I join?"

The answer is this:

You are under no compulsion to remain in the Regiment any longer than you wish. If you want to leave you just say so, but, if you have not completed the training shown below within a "training year," you are required to forfeit your bounty.

The training commitment is this:

15 days annual camp.

12 days "out of camp" training.

The firing of a simple range course.

In return for the above you will receive:

£60 liability bounty.

£7-£10 training bounty.

Regular rates of pay for all training done.

There is also a thriving social life in each Company and always an outlet for the sportsman, particularly footballers and orienteers!

We hope to see something of you—even if it is purely a social call!

THE WEST RIDING TERRITORIALS (DWR)

The threat of disbandment still hangs over the Battalion, but even this seems by no means certain and a further reprieve to carry on in our present form until December 31 means that we are still operating, albeit on a voluntary unpaid basis.

Now that all our permanent staff, clerks and storemen have been withdrawn, day-to-day administration rests wholly on the capable shoulders of Major Bob Callaby and his stalwart supporters, Messrs. Batty and Perrin. In spite of difficulties, training still takes place on Thursday evenings, and on Tuesdays the Drill Hall resounds to the football team training under WO2 Perrin—the CO's offer of drinks all round seems safe at the moment, although it is rumoured that they will win a match any time now.

We showed the flag at Cleckheaton Gala when the Signal Platoon provided communications, set up over roof-tops in the pitch darkness, and the (unofficial) Band and Drums put on a very good performance. The Band and Drums have also

been carrying out engagements at local clubs with some measure of success.

According to figures just published, at long last the Battalion has reached the top of Yorkshire District Recruiting table. It would be pleasant to report that this is due to the high recruiting to the Battalion. Unfortunately, this is not so. We have, for some reason, managed to maintain our strength while that of other units has fallen. Possibly we are particularly fortunate in having such a faithful "hard core" of all ranks who are determined to carry on somehow, come what may. It will be to this element of 50 to 60 that we shall have to look for support of plans now being made to cover any eventuality in the future.

SERGEANTS' MESS

Thirteen has traditionally been considered an unlucky number and, for us, Saturday, July 13, bore this out as it was the day the Mess said "goodbye" to RSM J. Webb (Green Howards)

and Mrs. Webb, Vi. The occasion was marked by a Mess social and the presentation of a silver cocktail shaker and a table lighter inscribed "To a Matchless RSM," a sentiment endorsed by every member of the Mess. Mrs. Webb was presented with a bouquet of flowers and, on behalf of the Wives' Club, a leather purse suitably inscribed. We wish them both the very best of everything and success to RSM Webb in his appointment as RSM of the King's Division, Strensall; 'let us pray' that he doesn't "put them ALL in prison."

Our new RSM, WO1 H. Dillon, needs no introduction, having served with us now since the 5th/7th days. Nevertheless, may we wish him every success on his appointment as the first TA RSM we have had since the war. We also offer our congratulations to WO2 D. Taylor on his recent promotion.

During August we spent a very enjoyable evening in the Yorkshire Volunteers' Mess at Halifax, on this occasion bidding farewell to yet another "Duke," this time Sgt. T. Pratt, who is leaving for Civvy Street. Best wishes, Tom, and keep in touch.

September 14 saw St. Paul's Drill Hall in all its finery with the Annual Sergeants Ball in full swing. Over 200 WO's and Sergeants and friends spent a memorable evening together, being refreshed with a really outstanding buffet supper provided by Sgt. W. L. FitzGerald and staff. Bill, unruffled and calm, surpasses himself on every occasion.

The highlight of the evening, organised in some mysterious way between ex-Sgt. Tony Flood, now mine host of the Harewood Arms, Wakefield, and CSM D. Taylor, was the appearance of "Los

Rancheros," a Flamenco-type group appearing at the Batley Variety Club. They were stupendous. Behind their appearance lies a story of the tour in Gibraltar by the 1st Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, in 1953-55. A Gibraltar boy who spent all the time he possibly could in the gymnasium or football field with the Dukes made a great friend of Sgt. Tony Flood. They met again years later in Jamaica, where the boy was boxing for Gibraltar. Their next meeting was last week when the boy, now 13 years older, walked into the ex-Sergeant's public house in Wakefield to tell him he was appearing with the group at Batley Variety Club. Just another instance of the international relationship which our Regiment seems to foster.

During the course of the evening Col. J. B. Sugden, TD, DL, JP, Honorary Colonel of the West Riding Territorials, presented Lord-Lieutenant's Certificates to Sgt. J. Powell and W. L. FitzGerald and warrants to WO2 K. Ewart, J. Pilington and W. Parkes.

Plans are well ahead for the re-opening of our Mess, which was damaged by fire some months ago and had to close. During this period we thank the members of the canteen ("Terrier Tavern") for their forbearance.

Preparations are also being made for a dinner-dance but a date has not yet been fixed owing to our future being somewhat in the balance. It is hard to plan ahead, but if the spirit and feeling of the Mess is anything to go by the agenda for the next mess meeting should read: "Camp, 1960, annual ball, 1969," with many more "Iron Duke Notes" to come.

THE ARMY CADET FORCE

Since my last contribution to THE IRON DUKE there has been a great deal of activity within the Huddersfield area.

First, we are pleased to welcome as SMI an old TA friend, WO2 Gordon Simpson, ex-AVR III of Thongsbridge, Mossley, and lately of Huddersfield. Welcome, also, to John Clegg, old boy of Heckmondwyke Grammar School, who has now completed his college studies and returned to the fold in the role of second lieutenant.

Annual camp is once again behind us and, though the weather for the whole 10 days was worse than poor, we achieved a great deal thanks, mainly, to Army Youth Teams and Cadet Training Teams who organised a series of set exercises.

It is a terrible crime that the ACF do not see more of Capt. Moir and his team who, I am sure, are wasted on civilian clubs, but this, of course, is no fault of his.

Col. Mike Hardy has now met the cadets when he visited some units for the Annual Inspection and I hope that he was as pleased with us as we were with him; I think he probably was? We are particularly pleased that we shall be seeing more of him in the course of his tour as Volunteer CO.

Our latest series of area adult weekend cadres, organised by Area HQ and run by 10 CTT, are now completed and a great deal of new knowledge has been gained by the students; we now look forward to imparting the latest know-how to the cadets in our various detachments during the coming winter.

In the sporting field we again have a national champion in the one mile event. Cpl. Patrick Mounsey, of the Huddersfield Detachment, easily won the West Riding, Northern Command and the National events. This lad sure is a great runner.

Huddersfield Detachment Corps of Drums are once again in top form and this is due mainly to the unstinting efforts of Lt. Windle, for whom only the best is good enough. Our appeal for instruments and cash was a great big flop, so he and Mr. Buckingham, of the Parents Committee, spent a little cash and a great deal of time in refurbishing the drums (the age of which no living person can tell) in ACF colours and the net result is, in words of a certain Colonel, "A joy to behold and hear"; no doubt there are those who would disagree during practice. Nevertheless, they have now performed at quite a few public functions and

more are in the pipe-line. So once again I tell a story of success in spite of the indifference of all except RHQ who gave us two bugles on which we play "where does all the old gear go."

A little bird whispered to me last week that Skipton and Keighley Dukes Cadets are to become Royal Artillery. Surely, never!

Capt. D. H. Wilkinson has been appointed to the Area Staff in the role of Area Training Officer. Halifax Detachment is now to be commanded by Lt. J. K. Tyler, and we wish them both success in their new jobs.

To close these notes I am particularly proud to announce the award to RSM P. J. Ashton of the Certificate of Good Service, which is given only to carefully-selected ACF personnel, on the occasion

of Her Majesty the Queen's birthday, for long and devoted service. The certificate is awarded by the Director of Territorial and Cadet Services and I can think of no one more deserving of this award than our Jack Ashton who has been an exemplary tower of strength to the ACF for many years past. On Saturday, September 21, the Area Adults, along with their ladies, held a social evening and supper at Halifax to mark the occasion and our guest was Lt.-Col. Skelsey of RHQ. Major Howarth the Area Commander deputised at the presentation for Lt.-Col. Hutton who was unable to attend—due to faulty map-reading I believe.

The evening, nevertheless, was a great success and was equalled only by the RSM's consumption of alcohol which, I am told, only overcame him on his final consolidation of the bed.

MALTA PLUS CA CHANGE

By COLONEL F. R. ARMITAGE

Major-General Roy Exham has written a nostalgic article (*see page 125*) about the time that the 2nd Battalion was stationed in Singapore in 1927-29. I thought that a few notes on Malta, where the 1st Battalion was stationed in 1935-37, might provide a sort of sequel.

"*Plus ça change plus c'est la même chose*" is a cliché which has a lot of truth in it but can never be really accurate, and Malta is a case in point.

In June this year my wife and I spent a short holiday on the island and we took the opportunity to visit some of the familiar places to see how they were affected by change after 31 years.

The main things that are unchangeable are the cloudless skies and the sapphire-blue sea. The bathing is as perfect as ever and the sea pleasantly warm. Buildings are as yellow as ever and the streets remain perhaps less clean and tidy than they should be.

The main changes are in building and development. A population that is nearly 50% higher has necessitated this, and the towns and villages are larger. Most noticeable is the rash of hotels, including the Hilton and the Sheraton, which has erupted of recent years with the development of the tourist industry and the run-down of the dock-yard. Many of the hotels have excellent swimming pools where they have no immediate access to the sea, or to allow for those days when the sea is too rough and bathing is forbidden for fear of people being dashed against the rocks. There are also numerous high blocks of flats springing up. Bomb damage seems to have been almost entirely overcome with the exception of the Opera House which is still a ruin.

The Union Club in Sliema, now with a large Maltese membership, was undamaged, is now a very pleasant place and is being even further improved. I was permitted to use it, albeit for only nine days, by virtue of being a member of "The Rag" with which it has a reciprocal arrangement. The committee are rather sticky over temporary membership as they have a fear of being

overcrowded with tourists but, except on Saturday nights when there is a dance, there was always plenty of room. We felt, therefore, that the arrangement between the two clubs might have allowed us to use it for our full visit to the benefit of both parties, but they stick to their rules.

The old "Snake Pit" in Valetta has gone and is now a museum. The Sports Club at the Marsa continues but there were rumours that it might be taken over by the Government as a public recreation centre.

We toured the barrack area which seemed back to normal after its severe war damage. My old quarter together with those of the CO (Willie Ozanne) Will Woods and Bertie Beuttler, were still occupied although looking a bit "tattier" than in our day. St. George's Barracks was occupied by RE and REME but two infantry battalions filled the other barracks. The Royal Malta Artillery, rather a shadow of its former self, is in the barracks at Tigne.

We also saw our old camp at Ghain Tuffieha, now on a care-and-maintenance basis, and the fly-ridden hotel overlooking the bay nearby. This had been entirely, and very attractively, redesigned and even the flies were almost extinguished.

Dragonara, across St. George's Bay from our barracks, is now a casino and the Marchese Scicluna's camel no longer wanders in the grounds.

The Royal Navy is conspicuous by its almost complete absence although it keeps a "toe-hold." However, the American Mediterranean Fleet had started to arrive just before we left to concentrate for Independence Day. The Grand Harbour looked empty of shipping compared to what it was before, and even more recently, owing to the closing of the Suez Canal.

The shops were rather disappointing and, except for drinks and cigarettes, expensive. There is even a Marks and Spencer in Sliema but prices of clothes are some 50% higher than in England.

We visited Galea's shop in Valetta but the old man who has painted so many pictures of Malta

including, specially, the view from the verandah of my quarter, was not in. We had an interesting talk with his son, now middle-aged and also a painter.

The churches we visited, including St. John's Co-Cathedral and the historic one at M'dina were in wonderful condition, so unlike many in Spain. Both have two thrones, one for the Bishop of Malta and the other for the Sovereign. Is there any record of a Protestant Sovereign using a throne

in a Roman Catholic church? I could get no answer to this question.

Buses in Malta are numerous, greatly improved and amazingly cheap, but taxis are expensive. For longer distances the hiring of a self-drive car is the best solution. The *karrozzin* and, of course, the goats have disappeared.

Malta, therefore, remains as attractive and interesting as ever, but changes there are in profusion—some, but not all, for the better.

PERSONALIA

Marriages

Davis—Follows

On October 21, at Chelsea Register Office, Major J. H. Davis, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, to Mrs. M. I. Follows of Botany End, Arncliffe, Skipton-in-Craven.

Balmforth—Waller

On June 27, at the Church of the English Martyrs, York, by the Reverend Charles Waller, David, only son of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Barmforth of the Gables, Shepperton, to Gillian, daughter of Col. and Mrs. Waller of St. George's Place, York.

McNaught—Ince

On September 7, at All Saints' Church, Netheravon, Peter John, son of the late Dr. Trevor McNaught and Mrs. Beryl McNaught of Fish Hoek, Cape, South Africa, to Andrea Phayre, daughter of Major and Mrs. Richard Ince.

Change of address

We have received the following notifications of change of address:

Major W. Blakey: Temple Close, Banbury Road, Bloxham, nr. Banbury, Oxon.

Lt.-Col. Sir Nugent Everard, Bt: 23 Court Close, Liphook, Hants.

Lt.-Col. C. I. E. Haslock: Main Road, Welcome Bay, Tauranga 2 D 5, New Zealand.

Major J. Satterthwaite: 111 Wolseley Road, Rugely, Staffordshire.

Awards

We congratulate CSM W. Norman on his recent award of the Meritorious Service Medal. CSM Norman was born in the Regiment at Sheffield in 1920. His father was Drum-Major of the 2nd Battalion and his uncle became ORQMS of the 1st Battalion. CSM Norman enlisted into the Regiment as a boy in November 1934. After the Colonel he is the oldest-serving soldier in the Regiment. He is at present serving on the staff of the Army Careers Information Office, Huddersfield.

We also congratulate Major David Miller on his award of the Coronation Medal of His Highness the Sultan of Brunei. The medal is of solid gold. Major Miller commanded the 14 Royal Guards of

Honour which were mounted during the Coronation Ceremonies of His Highness. Major Miller has been selected for a second tour with the Royal Brunei Malay Regiment. He plans to visit the 1st Battalion in Hong Kong on his way home for his inter-tour leave.

We regret to report that Mr. Jimmy Hough, of Sheffield, has had a serious illness and has been in hospital for some time. He had, however, made a sufficient recovery to enable him to attend the Annual Reunion Dinner at Halifax on October 5. We wish him a speedy recovery to full health.

Lt.-Col. E. M. Liddell was 89 on November 5, 1968. He joined the Regiment in 1900 and served with the 1st Battalion throughout the South African War. Despite arthritis and increasing deafness, he remains remarkably alert and active. We offer him our congratulations and very best wishes. His father died at the age of 93 and we join with his family in hoping that he will be the first Liddell to reach a hundred.

We are very pleased to be able to report that Timothy Isles, eldest son of Col. Donald Isles, has passed his RCB. He goes to Mons on November 14; we wish him every success there.

Col. "Swazi" Waller's son, Digby, started at Liverpool University in October. He is reading History and Russian. With reference to the marriage of his daughter, Gillian, reported above, Col. Waller writes that the young couple met when they were both at Bristol University. Happily, the courtship didn't interfere sufficiently with their studies to prevent them both getting their degrees—indeed, perhaps, it served as an incentive, since David obtained a First in Civil Engineering. They will be living in Wakefield where he has obtained a job with the West Riding County Council.

Major Rudolf Austin has been promoted to the rank of Superintendent in the Special Constabulary of Dorset and Bournemouth. He is PA to the Chief Constable and has achieved the distinction of a silver-braided cap.

We were very pleased to receive a visit this summer from an old comrade who now lives in

Canada. Mr. J. W. Husher, DCM, was on a visit to his son. He paid a visit to the Depot at Strensall and attended the ceremony of the Beating of Retreat by the combined bands and drums of the Yorkshire Regiments.

Mr. Husher joined the 2nd Battalion in 1909. When war broke out he was a Regimental PT Instructor with the rank of corporal. He fought with the 2nd Battalion at Mons and was awarded the DCM. He was wounded in 1915. During the latter part of the war he was attached to the Canadian Army.

After the war he did a tour of duty as an instructor at the Royal Military College in Canada. In 1927 he took his discharge from the British Army and enlisted in the Royal Canadian Regiment, in which he served 20 years. He finished his service as RSM.

Mr. Husher has now returned to London, Ontario, equipped with a Regimental tie and a Regimental history. Since his return to Canada he has written to say how much he enjoyed making contact with his old Regiment again.

Field of Remembrance

Mr. R. H. Temple planted the Regiment's crosses in the Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey on Friday, November 8. On the Sunday a very small company of "Dukes" attended the service: Mr. Temple, Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Code, Major Savory, Mr. and Mrs. R. Smith and daughter, Mr. Hammond.

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.

Mr. F. J. S. Harte

Francis Joseph Sheard Harte died on October 1. He came from the famous Regimental families, the Harpers and Hartes, whose histories were published in THE IRON DUKE, No. 31 of June 1935.

Francis Harte was the eldest son of QMS Charles Harte of the 33rd and Sophia Harper, whose three brothers all served in the Regiment. He joined the 1st Battalion on October 21, 1893. He was posted to the 2nd Battalion in 1894 and served with them in India, Burma, Lichfield and Dublin. He served with the 2nd Battalion in France throughout the first war. He took his discharge in 1920 after almost 27 years in the Regiment.

Mrs. F. G. Johnson

Mrs. F. G. Johnson, wife of Lt.-Colonel J. E. Johnson, died at Ampthill on the 10th October 1968, after a long illness bravely borne.

The 5th Battalion, DWR Old Comrades Association, held its 50th reunion dinner in the Drill Hall, St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield, on Friday, November 1.

We received a characteristic postcard from Major Douglas Jones-Stamp in Cyprus: "14th Sunday after Trinity. Apart from a broken collar bone, acute arthritis of the knee, and periodic lumbago, I am well. Keo have produced a dry white wine of some quality but it is not yet on the market. I have had but a little."

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE

Regular Army

Lt. E. J. Walker to be Capt., Aug. 4, 1968.

Major K. W. Brown retired on retired pay, August 12, 1968.

NOTICE

The Illustrated County Magazine Group Ltd. are publishing a series of articles on "Histories of Yorkshire Regiments," which will appear in the *Leeds Graphic*, *Bradford Bystander*, *Sheffield Spectator* and the *Hull Chronicle*. The first in the series will be on The Duke of Wellington's Regiment. The authorship, as published, has been incorrectly credited to Lt. Colonel W. Skelsey. It was written by Brother Alberic (formerly Capt. A. J. Stacpole, MC). It is illustrated and will be on sale from local newsagents from about November 25.

Mrs. Johnson was with the married families with the 2nd Bn DWR in India, the Depot Halifax, and with the 1st Bn DWR at Malta and Bordon.

She was a life-long supporter of the Regiment and a keen Duke after leaving the Regiment.

Col. Sir Alfred Mowat, Bt, DSO, MC, DL

Sir Alfred Mowat died at his home, Oldfield Nook, Scholes, Cleckheaton, on October 20.

Sir Alfred, who succeeded to the baronetcy in 1935, had a distinguished military career. In 1914 he was mobilised with the 1/4th Battalion of the Regiment in the rank of lieutenant. He embarked with the Battalion for France in April 1915 as a company commander. He served throughout the war with the 1/4th and was awarded the DSO, the MC and bar, and was twice mentioned in despatches. He was appointed to command the Battalion in May 1918 in succession to Brigadier R. E. Sugden, who had assumed command of 151 Infantry Brigade, and in June 1919 he brought the cadre of 1/4th back to Halifax.

In 1939, as a lieutenant-colonel of the Territorial Army Reserve, he raised the 38 Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment RA. Later, with the rank of colonel, he

commanded the West Riding AA Home Guard Group.

In 1919 he founded the 4th Battalion Old Comrades' Association and acted as its honorary secretary until his death.

Sir Alfred is survived by his widow, Lady Mowat, and his daughter, who is the wife of Mr. Michael Shaw, MP.

A memorial service was held at the Central Wesleyan Chapel, Cleckheaton, on October 24. Lt.-Col. W. Skelsey represented the Colonel of the Regiment.

Captain C. B. Kaye, TD

Captain Bernard Kaye, with his wife and his son's fiancée, were drowned at Keynsham, near Bristol, during the fearful storm which hit the West Country. They stopped their car on a bridge to go to the help of some people in a stranded car and were swept away by a freak wave. Only his son survives.

Bernard Kaye joined the 5th Battalion in 1939 and was an officer in 370 Battery, which he later commanded. He was subsequently posted to 2nd S/L Regiment, RA, and served in Holland and Germany. After the war he became a leading figure in the wool textile industry and was a past President of the Huddersfield Chamber of Commerce.

A memorial service was held at Lindley Church on August 9 and many members of the 5th Battalion Dinner Club attended.

Mr. L. Watson

Luke Watson died peacefully in hospital at Plymouth on September 6. He was 64. He joined the Regiment in 1926. In 1942 he was transferred to the King's Own and, later, to the Military Provost Staff Corps. He took his discharge in 1945 in the rank of staff sergeant. He is survived by his widow, two sons and a daughter.

In-Pensioner G. Shaw

George Herrmann Shaw died in the Infirmary, Royal Hospital, Chelsea, on October 12. He was 77. He enlisted into the Regiment in 1911. He served for most of his service in the 1st Battalion. With them he took part in the Afghanistan Campaign in 1919. He took his discharge in 1932. He entered the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, in 1963.

Brigadier J. C. Burnett, DSO

An appreciation

Nostalgia! Pensiveness! Wistfulness!! All three of these I felt in turn as the news of the passing of Brigadier J. C. Burnett gradually had its effect upon me. No matter on what social or professional plane one treads it is in the nature of we humans to choose and have favourites. At times, because of those self-same different planes, we have, as it were, to view and admire our chosen favourites from afar. During the days of Brigadier Burnett's

command of the 2nd Battalion I was a member of the Regimental Band and—although my contemporaries at “duty” may rightly disagree—I have always felt that, because of our very varied duties, we were “nearer” to the regimental officers than the remainder of the rank and file. The weekly Wednesday night Mess Dinner, Guest Nights, The Ghymkhana Club functions, the race meetings and occasional polo and tennis tournaments at all of which the Regimental Band entertained. Instrument cleaning, etc., apart, we enjoyed ourselves but, as subsequent years have shown me, we learned something far more important: that officers were “human,” could “let their hair down,” “hold their liquor” and be just as “daft” as we, ourselves, could be.

It was at such functions that “J.C.B.”—if you will please excuse the familiarity—seemed to be “different,” more interested, yes, and more “fatherly.” He would watch in an enjoyable “I-wish-I-could-join-in” way the antics of the younger officers. He would introduce guests to the Bandmaster and to some of the Band. His firm “must” was “Crippen” Cowley; he never, so far as I can recall, missed the opportunity of saying “This is Cowley, my favourite bass player.” Of course, there were other bass players, but the other three did not mind, it was a “team” compliment.

Another was “Pop,” our vocalist. “Well, Sander-son, my boy, what have we tonight, ‘My Gal’s a Yorkshire Gal,’ or are we on the Missouri again?” Oh yes, we had some laughs and there would be the occasional “Give the Band a drink.”

But it was not only at functions that Col. Burnett was the complete CO. Early morning would see him riding around the far-stretched barracks astride his charger dressed in bush jacket and jodhpurs visiting, informally and unheralded, PT squads, PWT cadres, the “ration stand,” the “Flappers” Platoon or the Band and Drums rehearsing on the football pitch. To those he passed, individuals or groups, there was a cheery “Good morning” and some comment appropriate to the person or place. Of “Jud” Eastwood he would inquire “How is the weight-lifting coming along?—don’t do too much, it can be harmful you know.” Of “Peggy” Thornton or “Busty” Bailey, “Are we going to win the Deccan Cross-Country Championship again this year?” and, after being assured that “we were,” “That’s the spirit”; he would ride on and they would train harder than ever. Perhaps it was from his early-morning rides that he gained inspiration for his caricatures that often graced the pages of this journal.

Be it cricket, football or hockey, be it on the “ranges,” “in school” or on Battalion fatigues he was always apt to appear, or as one wag so aptly—if not quite so respectfully—put it, “Tha never knows where ‘e is except when ‘es in r’Orderly Room.” Far abler and more qualified pens than mine could write of his qualities as a soldier, officer and gentleman—to me, and all I have heard speak of him, he was the “father” of his “boys.”

“SAX”

(An obituary notice of Brigadier Burnett appeared in our last issue.)

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WATERLOO REVISITED

by Major G. C. Tedd

Re-visited is not strictly the correct word. I had not been to the field of Waterloo before. But I *had* been there in imagination, on paper, in maps, in books.

Like most of us, I have read much about Wellington and about Waterloo. As a result, many of the events and phases of the battle have become real. I was determined, therefore, that, one day, I would make a "pilgrimage" to the battlefield and see it, and walk about on it myself.

The opportunity came during June this year, 1968. My wife and I had planned to spend a few days in Brussels for my daughter's school speech day and half-term week-end. We decided to make our stay into a short holiday of just over a week, and to spend some of the time visiting Waterloo. This involved some family bargaining, and eventually I agreed that we would do exactly what the family wanted, provided that one day was allotted to me, for the visit! This was agreed.

We chose Sunday, June 2. It was a very hot, sunny, cloudless day.

We went by local bus. This allowed all of us to

"rubber neck" as much as we wished. There is a good and frequent bus service from the Place Rouppe, not far from the centre of Brussels.

We travelled along the Charleroi road which runs south from Brussels through Waterloo, Mont St. Jean, Genappe and Quatre Bras. This was the historic road along which part of the army had marched early on June 16 to their positions at Quatre Bras or near Mont St. Jean, and along which the hundreds of wounded struggled back or died on the way. It was the main communication and administrative artery of the allied army. It was also Napoleon's axis of advance. Along this road there still are some buildings as they were in 1815, but not many. The construction of the modern arterial road and other urban development has removed much of the old. From the village of Waterloo to the south, of course, much of the old still remains including the Ferme de Mont St. Jean which was our forward field hospital during the battle.

Like Major Savory on his visit in 1953 (ID No. 91, Jan. 1954) I had made an outline programme,



The Inn which was Wellington's Headquarters, before and after the battle, in the village of Waterloo.

and phase one was a visit to the village of Waterloo itself. We stepped down from the bus in the heart of the village immediately outside the Wellington Museum on one side and the parish church on the other.

The Museum building is the inn which was Wellington's HQ before and after the battle, where he slept on June 18, and where he wrote most of his Waterloo Despatch in the early hours of the 19th. The curator (or custodian) was a short, round, pleasant little Belgian with rather prominent light blue eyes. When I introduced myself he dropped everything he was doing, including some other visitors, and started off in very rapid French. He had no English, and my French is elementary. Fortunately, my daughter was able to translate, which she managed only when he paused to draw breath! Eventually, he stopped and with mutual expressions of *plaisir* we left him to explore the Museum.

The building and its fabric appears untouched from the condition it was in 1815. Lathe and plaster walls (if I remember rightly) and a mustiness that comes with age was apparent. As a historic building it has atmosphere, but as a museum I thought it was rather drab. The contents are, in the main, a rich collection of *bric-a-brac* of the battlefield and of the period: weapons, ammunition, relics, many pictures and prints, and some items used by Wellington himself—table, chair, bed and the like. An extension had been added at the back at ground floor level, I believe for the 1965 anniversary celebrations. This was better, and well portrayed the

events of June 16, 17 and 18, with uniforms and other items suitably displayed. All, that is, except for our Elphinstone Hoof which was labelled—"Hoof of Napoleon's charger"! I reported this to RHQ at Halifax and I understand it is being withdrawn. I took a photograph of the museum building from the bus stop—which appears (I hope) elsewhere in this issue.

We next went to the church over the road from the museum to see the memorial to the 33rd. The church is as described by Mr. Terrell in the IRON DUKE of January 1961 and in "The Waterloo Memorials" in the IRON DUKE of August 1965. There is still much scaffolding both inside and out, but our memorial looked clean in spite of the dust.

We caught another bus coming from Brussels, and set off for the battlefield. Some readers may not be aware that the area where the fighting took place is some 5 kilometres south of the village of Waterloo. It is immediately south of the farm area of Mont St. Jean, and the ridge which was the main allied line is referred to as the Mont St. Jean position. I understand that the name Waterloo was given to the battle by Wellington himself, partly because his HQ before and after the fighting was in the village, but mainly because he liked the name better than the names of other places closer to the fighting.

I had been warned about the commercialism on the battlefield and I confess I was disappointed when I saw it all. I agree with Major Savory that it is concentrated in the immediate area of the Lion Monument—but as this area is near the centre of the allied line, and a most important part of it, so much of what one might have seen or stood on was gone for ever. The word "desecration" was uppermost in my mind. The commercialism is completely French biased, even to the extent of having a man selling postcards, and chatting to tourists outside one of the museums, dressed in the uniform of the Imperial Guard!

Our programme here allowed for a visit to one of the small cinemas to see a film of the battle. This, again, was for French tourist consumption, and is really the story of the 100 days—from Napoleon's escape from Elba, culminating in the battle. Wellington appears momentarily and is portrayed rather like George Arliss in the old film "The Iron Duke." But it was worth seeing.

Next we toured the tourist area, bought postcards and wrote and posted them on the spot. Souvenirs of Napoleon, his Generals, French soldiers and Eagles abound. There is little of Wellington and the British, and I didn't see any souvenirs or reference to any of the other allies!

By this time it was very hot indeed. So, a drink and a light lunch in one of the many restaurants before tackling the Lion Monument.

This great cone of earth, surmounted by a massive lion, was erected by the Dutch after the battle to commemorate the part played by their troops, and particularly by the Prince of Orange. Major Savory called it an eyesore; I agree with him. Earlier I had mentioned the word "desecration." But all this is forgotten when one has climbed to the top.

There are 226 steps up the mound, and a breathless climb. But every puff is worth it. The view

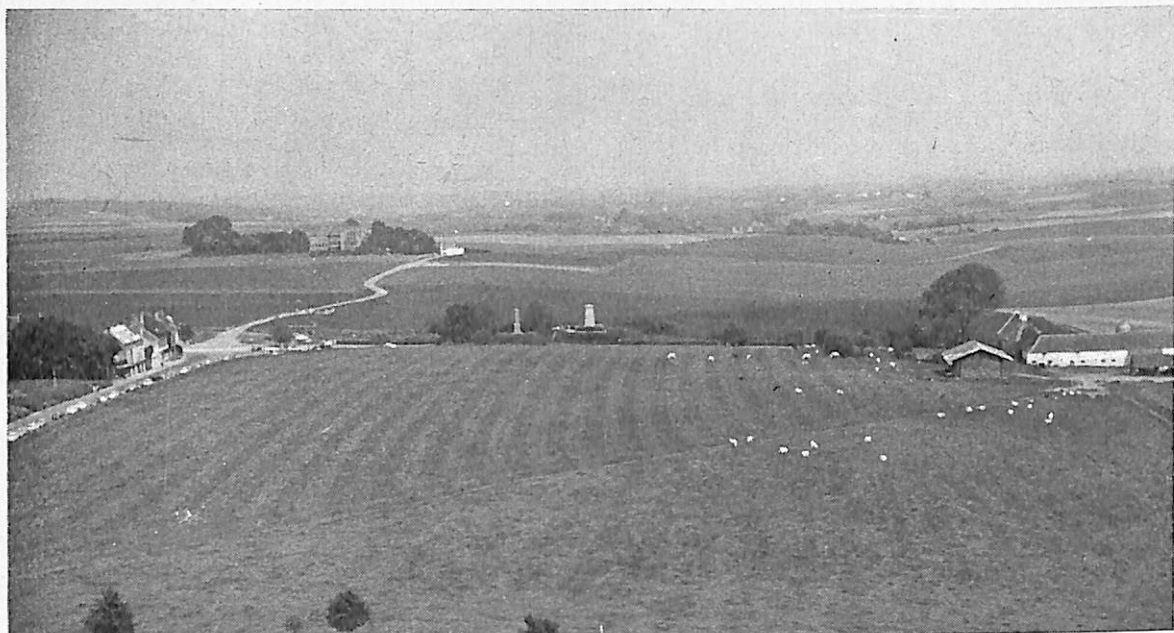


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From the top of the Lion: The allied left which extended to the farms of Papelotte and La Haye in the middle distance. Farm of La Haye Sainte right centre. The "Wellington Elm" was at the cross-roads, left centre. The buildings there are new. The ridge beyond the cross-roads was the weakest point in the line—our troops had to occupy the forward slopes. Being exposed, they took very heavy punishment.

from the top is quite magnificent. The mound is to the right of centre of the allied line and as a result one has a panoramic view of the whole area of the fighting and a birdseye view of the entire allied position, from Hougomont on the right to the farms of Papelotte and La Haye on the left.

In front of us and to the left, alongside the main road, and only about 300 yards away, was the farm of La Haye Sainte in and around which there was so much bloody fighting until it eventually fell to the French soon after 6 p.m. on the evening of the 18th. Straight ahead, to the south, and about a mile away, we could see the ridge along which the French assembled for their attacks, and on that ridge, also alongside the main road, we could see the farm of La Belle Alliance where Napoleon had his command post.

And above all I could see the complete extent of the ridge which was the allied position. In front of the ridge the ground fell away gently and rose again to the French line.

We came down from the Lion and walked along the track which was the original road along the top of the ridge towards Hougomont. The next part of the programme, was for me, the core of the visit—to go to the 33rd's position.

I think we have a reasonable idea where the 33rd were at the beginning of the battle. We know the 3rd Division (containing the 5th Bde. and the 33rd) occupied the ridge from the main road west towards Hougomont. We know that the 1st (Guards) Division extended from inclusive Hougomont eastwards. The 5th Bde. was the right hand Brigade of the Division and the 33rd were at the right rear of the Brigade. The Guards were on our right.

We know the distances and the number of troops involved. In my judgment, therefore (and here I stick my neck out!), the 33rd were about two to three hundred yards west of where the monument now stands, on the ridge, and probably slightly back from the old road.

I wanted to stand where the 33rd started, and probably formed square for the first time. And so I did. What were my feelings? It is difficult to say—I know I was rather excited. My wife tells me I didn't say much but just stood and looked.

We collected some soil from that area. The only container we had was an envelope—so we couldn't collect a large amount. However, there was enough to give some to Regimental Headquarters at Halifax when we came home.

Next on the programme was a walk to Hougomont—I suppose about 800 yards away. But this time, however, my daughter had wilted a bit, so my wife and I left her resting (and eventually sleeping) in the centre of the 33rd position! We didn't stay long at Hougomont but duly noted the area and its tactical position forward of the allied line; the remains of the chapel, and the original garden walls.

I next wanted to walk the fields in front of the ridge—and here my wife gave up, and rejoined my daughter, whilst I continued alone. I walked from Hougomont to La Haye Sainte, in the fields and along the low ground below the ridge—I suppose a distance of about 1,200 yards. I was intrigued to see how much of a ridge the Mont St. Jean position was—not very high, but certainly high enough to earn the description of tactical ground. And it must have appeared so to the French as they repeatedly

charged and swarmed up it and around the allied squares.

By the time I had had a look at La Haye Sainte and what was left of the original buildings it was nearly 6 o'clock. I didn't particularly want to go to the western part of the ridge and it was too late to go to Quatre Bras. My wife and daughter rejoined me, and we decided to call it a day. So we caught the bus and returned to Brussels—tired, hot but very content.

I cannot end without recording some of my main impressions.

The tourist area and the Lion Monument itself were the first to have an impact, and I gave my thoughts earlier. In that area I felt hemmed in by buildings and people. My next impression was a contradiction—if it weren't for the Lion Monument, or something similar, we would not have such a magnificent view of the battlefield.

Next, and another contradiction, the extent of the area where the fighting took place impressed me in two ways. The Mont St. Jean position, and the area fought over, was just under two miles wide. This seemed to me to be a pretty big area to be controlled directly by one man, which Wellington did. Conversely, for the number of troops involved (some 150,000 men and over 40,000 horses—and this does not include the Prussians) the area must have seemed small and congested.

For the tactics of the day, the ridge was an excellent defensive position. From my walking on the low ground below the ridge I could well imagine the supreme confidence of the columns of the Imperial Guard advancing up towards a ridge

seemingly bare of defenders, changing to surprise and then dismay by the appearance of the allied regiments, and then controlled volleys at almost point blank range.

Finally, when I was standing on the ridge, my immediate impression there was how frightening it must have been to the young soldiers of the 33rd and other regiments. The French cavalry attacks and, at the end of that day, the final massive advance by the Imperial Guard must have been pretty fearsome sights. Add to that the continuous battering they took from cavalry, infantry and cannon for some eight hours, and yet they still stood there. To my mind that spells endurance of a very high order. I think this was my strongest and most lasting impression.

Lastly, an added dimension to my understanding of Waterloo was provided by a new book which Regimental Headquarters kindly lent to me just before we left for Brussels. It is "Wellington at Waterloo" by Jac Weller, published in 1967. (His previous book, "Wellington in the Peninsula 1808-1814," was reviewed by Brigadier Webb-Carter in the January 1963 IRON DUKE.) I commend it to all who are interested.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS



Taken from the 33rd's position and looking towards the French. Beyond the fence the ground slopes down and then rises again. The French ridge in the background. The farm of La Belle Alliance, where Napoleon had his command post, is the left hand group of white buildings.

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

The Annual General Meeting and Reunion Dinner were held at Wellington Hall, Prescott Street, Halifax, on October 5.

The Acting Colonel of the Regiment, Col. J. Davidson, took the chair at the a.g.m., which was well attended. The report of the retiring general secretary and the minutes of the meeting are published elsewhere in this issue.

At dinner there were 180 members and their ladies. In the absence of the Colonel of the Regiment on duty overseas, Major-General K. G. Exham took the chair. By kind permission of Lt.-Col. C. Barnes, T.D., the Band of The West Riding Territorials, DWR, under the direction of their Bandmaster, Mr. D. Vallance, played during dinner.

The focal point of the evening was Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Code. After 46 years' loyal and devoted service to the Regiment, 23 years as a regular soldier and 23 years as secretary and treasurer of the Association, Sidney Code was making his last official appearance.

As was fitting, Mr. Code proposed the toast to "The Regiment." The text of his speech is printed below.

Major-General K. G. Exham replied to the toast to "The Regiment." He began by apologising for the absence of the Colonel of the Regiment, who, as Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe, was at present unable to leave his very important post. He then referred to the 1st Battalion's difficult role in Hong Kong and also to its success earlier in the year in winning the Army Rugby Cup for the ninth time. He also spoke of the crisis through which the Territorial element of the Regiment was passing. He said that the whole Regiment was behind them in their struggle for survival. He then thanked the Halifax Branch and their ladies for the hard work they had put in preparing the hall for the dinner.

General Exham then turned to pay a last tribute to Mr. Code. Speaking with a moving sincerity, he said that, throughout his 46 years' service in the Regiment, Sidney Code had displayed a high standard of honour, sympathy and integrity—a strict disciplinarian when it had been necessary, but one who had given untold service among less fortunate members of the Regiment. "The Regiment respects you as a man," he said, "and looks up to you as a soldier."

Finally, General Exham said that behind most successful men there was usually a wife to whom he owed much of his success. This was indeed so with Mr. and Mrs. Code. Through the years she had given unflinching support to Sidney, and her kindness and hospitality would never be forgotten by the Regiment. The Regiment owed them both a very great debt.

General Exham then presented to Mr. Code a silver salver and a cheque for £300 on behalf of

the Regiment, and a silver cigarette case on behalf of the Sergeants Mess of the 1st Battalion.

A photograph of the salver is published on Page 129 of this issue.

MR. CODE'S SPEECH

Mr. Chairman, Old Comrades and Friends,

Tonight it is my pleasant duty to propose the toast on what is rather a unique occasion, as I have today completed exactly 46 years service with The Duke of Wellington's Regiment—23 years as a serving soldier and 23 as OCA Secretary.

As a soldier I served with both Regular Battalions and also as a PSI with the 4th and 5th Battalions. During the 1939-45 war, after two years as RSM at the Depot, I was posted to the 2/7th Battalion, which was subsequently converted from Infantry to Armour and then disbanded as the 115 Regiment RAC. I was then posted to the 141 Regiment RAC (The Buffs), who were undergoing training to become the first Flame-Throwing Crocodile Tank Regiment, and with them I took part in the Normandy landings.

During my regular service, I served with many of you, both officers and soldiers, who are here tonight and will, no doubt, have many happy and nostalgic memories of those now far-off days.

Whilst I was on demobilisation leave, Colonel Pickering wrote and asked me to undertake the duties of OCA Secretary on a temporary basis. Now, 23 years later, as the retiring OCA Secretary, I should like to say a little about what is probably the least-known of our Regimental activities, namely, our benevolent and social work.

As you are probably aware, our OCA started in 1912 to assist Old Comrades and their families who were down on their luck. In addition, it was decided to hold an annual Reunion Dinner to keep alive the Regimental traditions and *esprit de corps* to which the serving soldier had become accustomed.

With these aims in view, all officers and soldiers, many of whom had already retired, volunteered an annual subscription to create a fund for this purpose. The first OCA balance sheet in 1913 showed a credit of £44. In 1945 the Regimental Association Fund was formed in addition to the old OCA (1st and 2nd Battalions). Their combined assets now exceed £44,000 and, to date, we have helped over 7,000 cases of hardship during the last 56 years. During my Secretaryship I have put before the Case Committee some 3,000 cases, and we have paid out many thousands of pounds to those we considered were in need, mostly through no fault of their own. Over the past five years we have helped 1,605 cases and paid out £6,356. In addition, we have our own pensions scheme, whereby we assist nine aged and infirm widows and one Old Comrade, who are no longer in a position to earn a living.

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Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Code pictured at the Reunion with members of their family
From left to right: Mrs. and Mr. R. Day (daughter and son-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. J. Hereford (son-in-law and daughter), Mr. and Mrs. Code, Mr. and Mrs. L. Bohen (son and daughter-in-law).

We pay them £1 per week and so far, during this period, we have disbursed to them a total of £2,073.

The following are a few typical examples of cases we have helped:

1. A 1914-18 war old soldier, who served with the 2nd Battalion and received shrapnel wounds in his leg. His only income is the State pension. During the last 18 months his wife has died, he has had a leg amputated and has spent periods in hospital. During this time, three grants of £10 each have been made to assist in the purchase of coal and clothing and for general maintenance.

2. A 1914-18 war 1/4th Battalion old soldier, who was wounded three times, one wound now requiring hospital treatment. A widower, with £4 17s. 0d. per week State income, three grants totalling £53 have been made over the past 18 months to re-house him, provide coal and clothing and ensure that he is adequately looked after. It is necessary, owing to the frailty of this old soldier, who suffers from a heart weakness, that he has a daily open fire. He is now living with his daughter and he has two sons in the Army serving abroad.

3. A National Serviceman, who served with the 1st Battalion, 1951-53, then four years with the TA. This ex-soldier contracted multiple sclerosis in 1956 and also suffered severe injuries in a motor

accident in 1961, in which his young son was killed. He will never work again and is unable to use his limbs. Weekly sickness benefit and supplementary benefit totalling £12 5s. 0d., with weekly outgoings of £3 8s. 9d. for rent and rates, are insufficient to cope with essential requirements in this case. Three grants, amounting to £45, have been made over the past two years towards the cost of new bedding, rent arrears and part payment of an outstanding electricity bill. The wife of this soldier is unable to work owing to her husband's incapacity and a child of school age.

4. A serving soldier (L/Cpl.), who has recently lost his wife and whose three young children have had to be placed in the care of relatives at a cost of £8 per week. After paying for the upkeep of his children, the expenses incurred on visits to see them leave him with little spare cash. A grant of £25 was made to this soldier to help reduce debts incurred on funeral expenses and arranging for the welfare of his children.

I hope I have not bored you with all these statistics, but I have a feeling that the activities of RHQ are something of a mystery to many of our members and I would like to feel that I have now lifted the veil a little.

On the social side we have branches of the

Association in several West Riding towns and in Lancashire and London. Although well-run by dedicated Old Comrades and their wives, they would benefit greatly from increased membership and I would like to make a special appeal to the very many "uncommitted" ex-members of this Regiment, whether Regular, TA or AVR II or III, to seriously give your local branch of the Association a try. You will be sure of a welcome and will not regret joining.

In conclusion, I would like to take this opportunity of offering my sincere thanks to all my friends of the OCA for their kindness and courtesy during the whole of my Secretaryship.

To the Commanding Officers, QMs, RSMs and staffs of the Halifax and Huddersfield Drill Halls, both past and present, for their ever-ready co-

operation and advice, without which the running of the Reunion Dinners would have presented many difficulties.

To the staff at RHQ for all they have done to make my job so much easier. Working with them over so many years has been a great pleasure and has been an example of team work at its best.

To the Press, especially for the great co-operation I have had from the *Halifax Courier* and *The Huddersfield Examiner*, as regards publicity, etc., for OCA events.

I should like to end by saying that my many years in a job that was only intended to be temporary have been extremely rewarding and worthwhile in every respect. I wish the OCA and all connected with it every success in the years ahead.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Minutes of the A.G.M.

In the absence of the Colonel of the Regiment on duty overseas, the chair was taken by Col. J. Davidson, Acting Colonel of the Regiment. He opened the meeting by referring to the retirement of Mr. S. E. Code, MBE, who was acting in his capacity as general secretary of the Association for the last time. The chairman paid tribute to the invaluable service which Mr. Code had rendered to the Association over the last 23 years.

The business of the meeting was as follows:—

1.—Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

2.—Points arising

There were no points arising.

3.—Secretary's Report

The retiring general secretary read his annual report (see below).

4.—Accounts

The audited accounts of the Regimental and Old Comrades Associations for the year ended March 31, 1968, were circulated. There being no observations, the accounts were adopted unanimously on a proposal by Mr. Rowlands, seconded by Mr. Horne.

5.—The Regimental Tie

The chairman informed the meeting that this item had been put on the agenda at the request of Mr. F. Kennedy, Halifax Branch. He called upon Mr. Kennedy to speak.

Mr. Kennedy made two main points:—

- (a) That there were several different ties being worn as Regimental ties, e.g. various TA ties, Sportsman's tie, etc. He said there were, doubtless, occasions for these ties, but he considered that only the official Regimental tie should be worn on official functions of the Association and other Regimental occasions.
- (b) He pointed out that there were considerable variations of shade, texture and price in the Regimental tie itself; it should be standardised. He suggested that the Manage-

ment Committee should examine the whole question of the Regimental tie.

The chairman then threw the subject open to general discussion.

Brigadier Webb-Carter said that he agreed with Mr. Kennedy that at functions of the Regimental Association only the Regimental tie should be worn.

Major-General K. G. Exham pointed out that the Management Committee could have no authority in the matter of the Regimental tie; they could only make recommendations to the Colonel of the Regiment. Further general discussion took place.

The chairman explained that the Regimental secretary had done a considerable amount of research on the subject. He invited Major Davis to speak.

Major Davis produced the sealed pattern, approved in 1954 by the then Colonel of the Regiment. He also displayed other pattern ties currently on sale as Regimental ties. He explained that the sealed pattern was available from Messrs. Sam Stocks in Halifax and three approved Regimental tailors in London. He explained that, for various technical difficulties, and as neither maroon nor french grey are pure colours, it was impossible to standardise exactly the colours of the tie. Unfortunately, there were other organisations, schools, colleges and police who wore similar, or almost identical, ties. As a single striped tie is impossible to copyright, this could not be avoided, nor could the sale of cheaper, incorrect ties be stopped.

Mr. Kennedy then proposed that the whole matter of the design of the Regimental tie should be examined by the Management Committee with a view to making it more distinctive and to facilitate standardisation and copyright.

Major Savory seconded the motion.

Col. Cumberlege said he had a counter-proposal to make. He pointed out that Mr. Kennedy's proposal envisaged the Management Committee making recommendations to abolish the Regimental tie, as we know it, and to substitute something new.

He said that he did not believe that this was the wish of the meeting. Variations existed for technical reasons explained by the Regimental secretary. Investigations should be undertaken to improve standardisation by restricting the number of authorised sources of supply and instituting a supply through RHQ.

Major-General K. G. Exham strongly supported Col. Cumberlege and said that the Regimental tie had been worn since the turn of the century and it was unthinkable that this meeting should wish it to be scrapped and something new substituted.

Col. Cumberlege then moved his counter-proposal that it was the wish of the meeting that the Regimental tie should not be changed.

Mr. J. Hough seconded and the counter-proposal was carried by 28 votes to three.

The chairman undertook to request the Management Committee to examine ways of reducing variations in the Regimental tie to a minimum.

6.—Other Business

It was proposed by Mr. Kennedy and seconded by Mr. Horne that a vote of thanks be passed to Mr. Code for the magnificent work he had done for the Association during his period of office as general secretary and also to Mrs. Code for her great kindness and hospitality to members of the Association and their wives. The motion was carried unanimously.

There being no other business, the chairman declared the meeting closed.

The General Secretary's Report

Mr. Chairman and Old Comrades,

I now present my report for the period April 1, 1967, to March 31, 1968.

Case work

During this period the Case Committee received 129 applications for financial assistance. Of these, 119 cases were considered to be in genuine need after investigation and were granted a total £1,412; an average grant of approximately £12 per person. The remaining 10 cases were, for varying reasons, not recommended by the investigating body, and were turned down.

The cases dealt with by the The McGuire Bate Fund Committee are not included in the above figures.

A summary of monies disbursed in grants and subscriptions during the year is as follows:

OCA fund	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
14 grants in aid ..	167	13	3			
Iron Duke subs ..	20	0	0			
Chelsea Pensioners ..	15	0	0			
Pensions list ..	468	0	0			
				670	13	3

Regimental Association funds

103 grants in aid ..	1,201	2	7			
Iron Duke ..	20	0	0			
Local charities ..	7	7	0			
				1,228	9	7

Mitchell Trust fund

2 grants in aid ..				28	0	0
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McGuire Bate bequest

3 grants in aid ..				131	11	7
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Pensions list

The Pensions list remains the same as last year with 9 recipients, all of whom are visited regularly and are reported to be in good health.

Accounts

The Accounts of the Old Comrades' and Regimental Association Funds, as at close of business on March 31, 1968, are being circulated round the meeting and I ask you to formally adopt these audited accounts as a true record of the financial affairs of the various Regimental Association Funds.

Investments

I mentioned in my last report that our new investment plan, put into operation last August, was expected to increase income by about £342 in a full year. This forecast, I believe, was fully justified as in the seven-month period covered by this report the investment income has already increased by £252. Although the sale of our holdings involved a paper loss we expect this will be offset by the future capital growth of the new investments.

Other Sources of Income

Income to the Regimental Association Fund from covenants, subscriptions and donations totalled £997, made up as follows:

Covenants	£	378
Subscriptions and donations	60	
Day's pay scheme	559	
		997

(The OCA Fund received £100 from the St. Leger Sweepstake profits.)

Day's pay scheme

The scheme is improving steadily; we now have 341 members who have subscribed to the total of £559 mentioned above. This represents about 60% of the possible membership. We hope that the next report is able to reflect a substantial increase in subscriptions from the serving soldier.

The Army Benevolent Fund

No applications have been made to the ABF this year for major rehabilitation grants under



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their Scheme "C." However, on behalf of two recently redundant NCOs, we have been able to negotiate with the ABF for two resettlement grants of £500 and £100, which we acknowledge with thanks.

Sweepstake

This year the St. Leger Sweepstake brought in a profit of £150 for our funds against £176 last year.

Branches

Halifax, Bradford, Huddersfield, Keighley and Mossley Branches are still going well and are active socially. Sheffield continue to meet, but with diminished numbers despite energetic and repeated efforts by their able Secretary to recruit new members.

I should like to offer our thanks to Messrs. Temple and Benson of the London Branch for the continued successful running of the annual London OCA Reunion Dinner on behalf of the Association.

I should also like to offer my sincere thanks to all our branch officials and the various Regimental representatives for their loyal support to me over the many years that I have been privileged to be their General Secretary.

Conclusion

As always, I would like to take this annual opportunity of thanking the representatives of SSAFA, The Forces Help Society and The British Legion, who so kindly undertake the investigation of cases on our behalf; also Mr. Quimby of The War Pensioners' Welfare Service, Leeds, for his invaluable help and advice in all matters connected with ex-servicemen's welfare problems, especially war pensions queries.

I would also like to thank our honorary auditors, Messrs. Whitham, Smith, Mitchell and Co., our honorary solicitor, Major J. E. Driver, and our honorary stockbroker, Major H. Coop, for their help and advice regarding our legal and financial affairs.

As this is my last appearance at the annual general meeting of the Regimental Association as your general secretary and treasurer, I wish to take this opportunity of thanking the members of the various committees I have had the pleasure of serving for so many years for their kindness and goodwill at all times.

Although actively retired from taking part in Regimental Benevolent matters, I shall nevertheless always be available to help if required.



In-Pensioner Jim Yaxley, of The Royal Hospital, Chelsea, pictured with two Halifax Old Comrades: Mr. Joe Annesley, M.B.E., (left) and Mr. Ben Taylor (right).

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