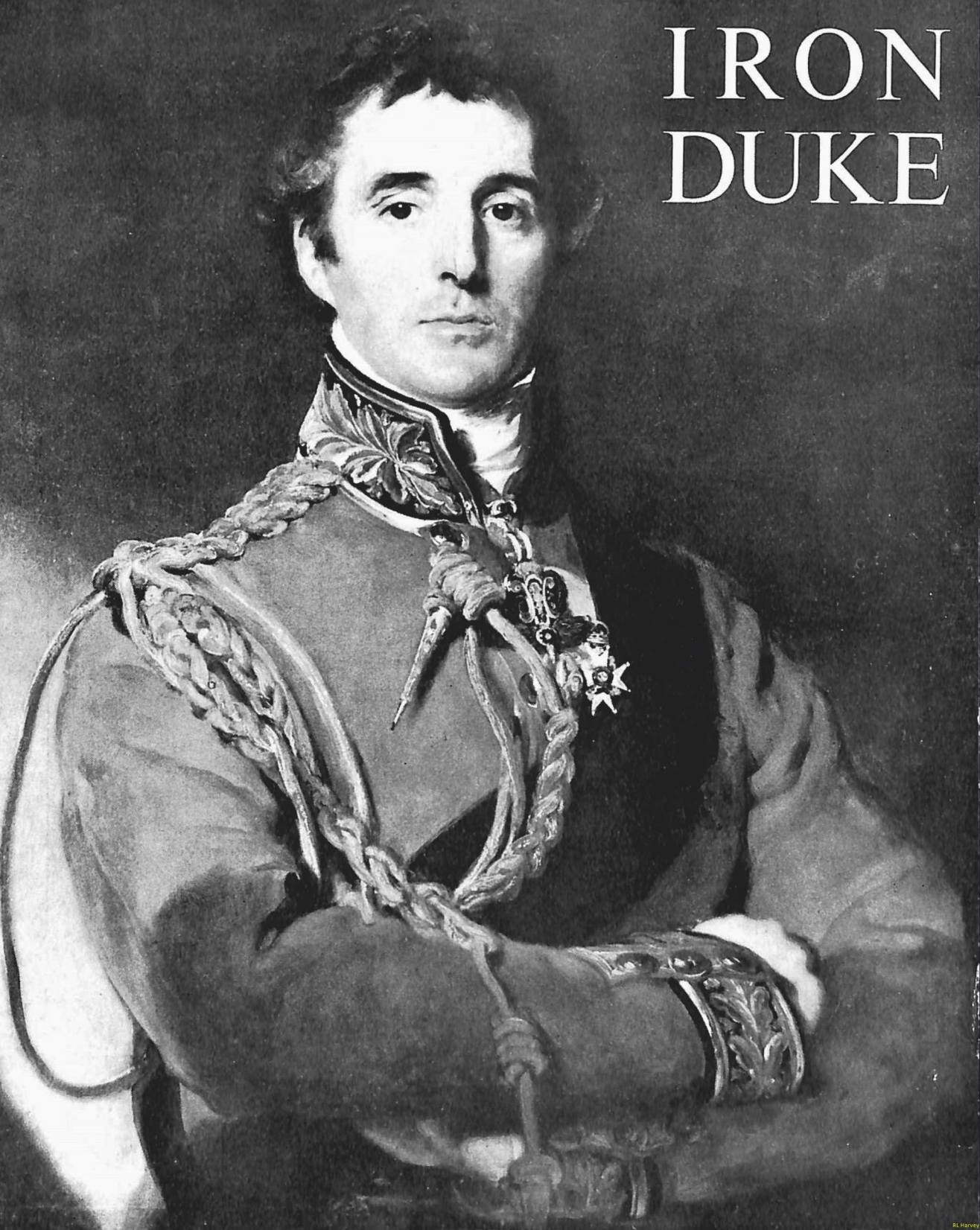


No.155 April 1971

THE
IRON
DUKE



THE IRON DUKE

The Regimental Journal of

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

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



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

Vol. XLVII

APRIL 1971

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BUSINESS NOTES

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Editor: COLONEL R. G. TURNER,
13 AMHURST COURT,
GRANGE ROAD, CAMBRIDGE.
TEL.: 0223-50923

Business Manager: MAJOR C. F. GRIEVE,
WELLESLEY PARK, HALIFAX.
TEL.: 0422-61671

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

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THE REGIMENT

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GENERAL SIR ROBERT BRAY, G.B.E., K.C.B., D.S.O., *Larkrise, Walkers Ridge, Camberley (Tel. 21062)*

Acting Colonel of the Regiment

COLONEL J. DAVIDSON, *Mount House, Terrington, York.*

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Regimental Secretary: Major J. H. Davis

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Somme Lines, Catterick

C.O.: Lt.-Col. C. R. Huxtable, M.B.E. Adjutant: Captain P. J. Mellor

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Farewell Parade at SHAPE

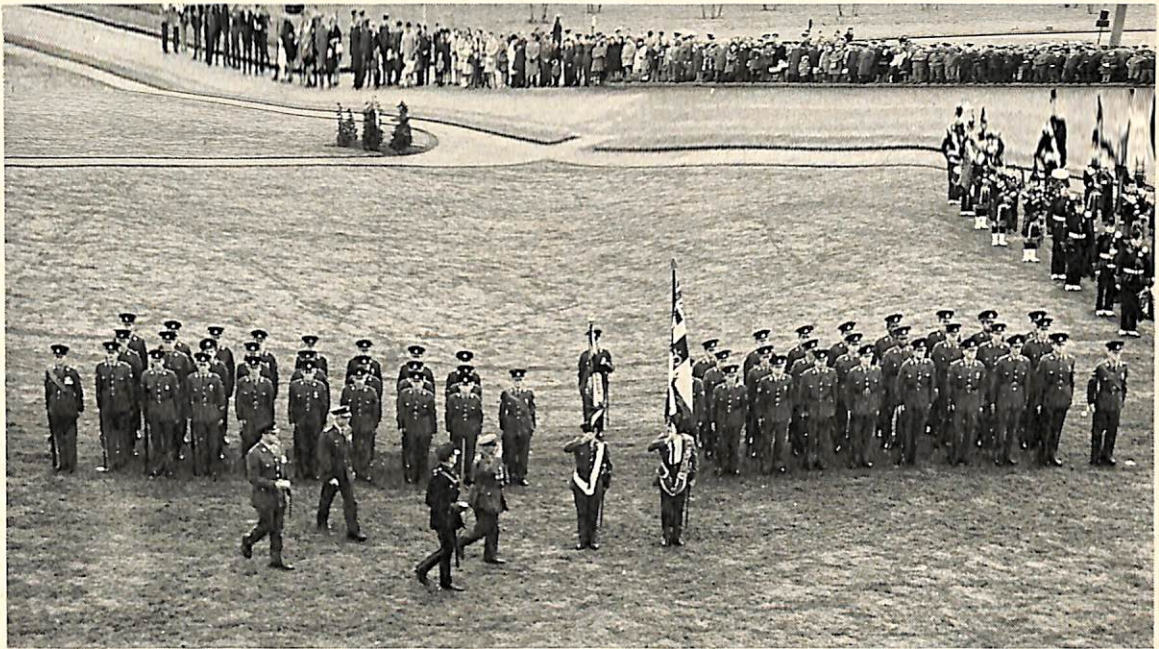


Photo by courtesy SHAPE Photo Facility

General Sir Robert inspects the "Dukes" contingent

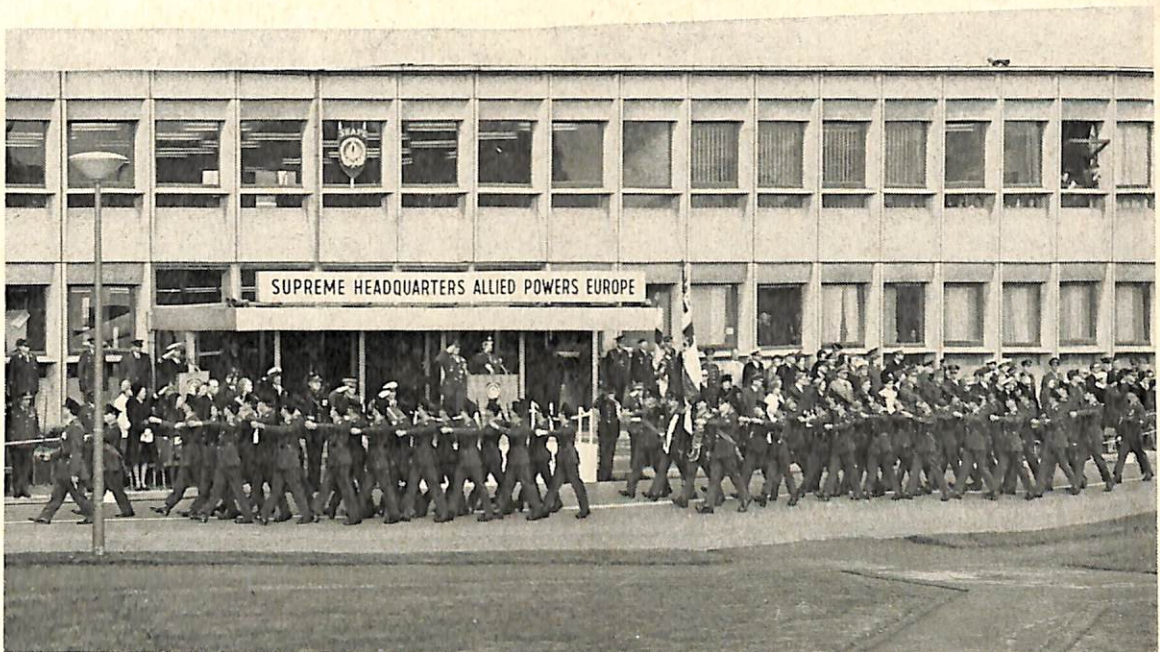


Photo by courtesy SHAPE Photo Facility

The March Past

The Colonel of the Regiment

In March our Colonel, General Sir Robert Bray, retired from the Army after more than 43 years' service, 25 of which were passed in the ranks of brigadier and above.

In November General Bray relinquished his appointment as Deputy Supreme Commander Allied Powers Europe. A colour party and guard from the 1st Battalion took part in the farewell ceremony held for him in Belgium. Accounts of what was clearly a most impressive occasion appear below and on page 8.

General Bray was born at Dacca, India, in 1908 and followed his father into 'The Duke's', being

commissioned on February 2, 1928. This is not the time or place to list the steps which took him to higher rank and more responsible position than any officer of the Regiment since the great Duke himself but we are sure all "Dukes" would wish us to express their recognition of his great service and of the distinction which he has brought to the Regiment as well as to himself.

We wish him and Lady Bray many years of health and happiness in retirement. One should say, rather, comparative retirement since he continues as our Colonel with all the work on our behalf which that entails.

HIS FAREWELL PARADE

The evening before their farewell to international soldiering General and Lady Bray gave a dinner party at their residence in Belgium. It was a small strictly family occasion attended by the "Duke's" officers, and their wives, who were at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe for the farewell ceremony in honour of the General. Present were Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Shuttleworth from Rheindahlen, Capt. and Mrs. Fitzgerald, and three officers with the 1st Battalion Colour Party, Major Campbell-Lamerton, Capt. Westcob and 2/Lt. Isles.

The following morning, November 27, 1970, was clear and sunny and a large number of international guests and spectators gathered in front of the impressive headquarters building of the Supreme Allied Commander Europe to pay their respects to the retiring Deputy Supreme Commander.

The parading units provided a colourful spectacle as they marched on to the music of the Band of the 1st Battalion The King's Own Scottish Borderers and the Musique de la Force Aérienne from Belgium. There was a detachment from the 2e Chasseurs à Pied de Charleroi, SACEUR's International Police Honour Guard, the SHAPE International Platoon, and colour bearers and guards from the national forces represented at SHAPE. In addition, there was an extremely smart guard from our own 1st Battalion with the two Regimental Colours.

General and Lady Bray were very happy that for this special ceremony and important moment a Regimental guard and our Colours were at SHAPE with them on this day.

General Bray carefully inspected the parade and said goodbye to many of the soldiers in the various national detachments. An onlooker was heard to say "That's how it should be done".

General Goodpaster, the Supreme Allied Commander, spoke movingly, and obviously sincerely, of the contribution General Bray, and Lady Bray, had made during their service with NATO. It is not possible to reproduce his words, but they followed the general lines of his remarks in the programme of events and these are appended below.

At the conclusion of the parade invited guests attended a reception following which General and Lady Bray said goodbye to General Goodpaster and

NATO colleagues and friends.

The final act in their departure took place outside the reception hall, where the Guard and Colours of the 1st Battalion were waiting. It was an emotional moment for spectators when General Bray saluted the Colours of his Regiment and the Guard parading in his honour. It was fitting at the conclusion of his distinguished national and international career, and as he and Lady Bray were leaving, that Major Campbell-Lamerton should lead his Guard in "three cheers for our General".

A Tribute

by

The Supreme Allied Commander Europe

Since March 1967, General Sir Robert Bray has served Allied Command Europe as Deputy Supreme Allied Commander with great distinction and dedication. His brilliant example, unstinting devotion to the principles of the Atlantic Alliance, and wise counsel have been an inspiration to all of SHAPE.

The broad experience gained by General Bray during forty-two years of service as a British Army Officer in varied assignments around the world has given him a perceptiveness and sagacity which were of immense value in the decision-making processes of which he was a vital part at SHAPE. He brought to SHAPE the knowledge acquired as Commander-in-Chief of Allied Forces Northern Europe for three years, as well as the experience of many previous years as a gallant combat leader on battlefields in Europe and Asia. General Bray's military knowledge, professionalism and depth of understanding of complex Allied problems strengthened SHAPE during his tenure as Deputy Supreme Allied Commander. He epitomised the finest qualities of the soldier-statesman.

With full appreciation for the magnitude of his past services to us all, we wish General and Lady Bray good health, happiness and good sailing in his retirement.

A. J. GOODPASTER,
General, United States Army.

1st Battalion

Sub-Editorial

In spite of many and varied delays to aircraft the hand-over in Hong Kong between ourselves and 1st Bn. Irish Guards was completed on schedule and we were all safely home in Yorkshire in time for Christmas. One flight, moving in stately fashion from staging post to staging post, and being overtaken by succeeding flights in the process, looked unlikely to be home for the New Year at one time; however, in the end all was well. Catterick we found to be very changed from 1963. The very considerable rebuilding programme has altered the face of the Camp. Somme Lines is largely a new camp with modern offices, stores, garages and messes. It is well laid out with wide grassy areas and plenty of scope for grass cutting. As far as families are concerned we are well placed, with all those who wanted quarters getting them. We should, therefore, be well settled to start our journeyings around the world.

Immediately upon our return from leave we started three weeks' intensive preparation for our spell of Public Duties in London and, early in February, Battalion Headquarters and the Rifle Com-

panies moved to Chelsea Barracks, where these notes are being written. Support and Command Companies have remained in Catterick to run a series of cadres. Our duties in London require us to provide The Queen's Guard, consisting of the St. James's Palace and Buckingham Palace Detachments, The Tower of London Guard and the Bank of England Piquet, on about three days per week. Each team, based on a rifle company, will provide the guards five or six times during our stay in London. The Band and Drums, the Adjutant, the RSM and CSM Welsh, who is acting as Drill Sergeant, are of course, on parade whenever we are either mounting or dismounting; this means that the Band and Drums will, in fact, do 29 parades.

It has become evident very quickly that the soldiers on guard are intensely proud to be there, the effort they are putting into their individual drill and appearance has been enormous and most gratifying. It is clear that everyone is enjoying this short spell in London although we are all quite sure that we should not like to be faced with the prospect of a two-year tour here.



Photo: "Huddersfield Examiner"

St. James's Palace Detachment (Corunna Company) march on. 2/Lt. Isles is the Ensign and WOII Welsh the Drill Sergeant

WOII Clarke changing sentries at St. James's Palace.

Pte. Mackintosh and Pte. Thomson are the sentries



Photo: "Huddersfield Examiner"

Although it is the Queen's Guard which attracts the most publicity it is perhaps the Tower of London which brings home to one most closely the sense of history associated with our duties. In particular, the Ceremony of the Keys, which takes place in the Tower each night at 10 p.m. when The Chief Warder accompanied by an escort locks the Tower for the night, is a moving and impressive occasion. No doubt our stay here will produce a fund of stories which will grow more splendid as the years go by—but one thing is certain: none of us will forget the thrill of pride we feel as the Band and Drums lead one of our guards into the forecourt to the strains of the Regimental Quick March.

After London our priorities will change again. We shall be concentrating on tactical training as a lead-up to an amphibious exercise in Scotland in May—"sentries" and "patrolling" will take on a fresh significance. From the second half of May onwards we shall be concentrating once again on internal security duties in preparation for a projected four-month tour in Northern Ireland. This will be a tour of duty which none of us will look forward to in the conventional sense. However, events of the last few weeks have brought home to us all how necessary it is for soldiers to be there and we shall certainly know that the job we are doing needs doing.

In the notes on the Advance Party there is an account of the Guard of Honour for the Colonel of the Regiment on his departure from Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers, Europe. All of us in the Battalion were very sensible of the honour in being allowed to send a guard home from the Far East, ahead of the main body, for this ceremony in Brussels. All of those on the guard were very proud to be on parade on such an occasion—and thoroughly enjoyed it, too.

Finally, we said in the last edition of THE IRON DUKE that we hoped that, whilst we were in Yorkshire, our friends would take the opportunity of coming in to see us, and this they have been doing. In case anyone has not yet visited us in Somme Lines we are happy to repeat the invitation.

The Advance Party in Catterick

The pre-advance party arrived at Catterick Camp in early October, to prepare for the reception of the advance party later on in the month. They set up their base in the housing management office and were extremely well accommodated and offered every possible assistance.

One of the first problems that had to be dealt with was which regiment in the British Army called themselves "The Dukes". Prior to our arrival 1 DERR, also stationed at Catterick Camp, were calling themselves "The Dukes". We politely educated the Garrison and the Headquarters to the fact that only one regiment could call themselves "The Dukes" and history alone excluded 1 DERR!

The most difficult thing for a pre-advance party to work out was where does one begin? Our new barracks, called Somme Lines, had been standing empty for six months and the information a handing-over unit could give was not available. Also, communication with the Battalion on the other side of the world would naturally be slow. Fortunately, Lt.-Col. Le Messurier was AA & QMG at Northumbrian District Headquarters. Major Campbell-Lamerton, OC Advance Party, took advantage of this and got a lot of valuable assistance from Col. Hugh and his staff.

Whilst OC Advance Party was working out the arrangements for taking over the barracks and for the reception of the advance party, Capt. Power, Unit Families Officer, organised the married quarters. By the time the Battalion arrived over

180 quarters had been taken over and NAAFI food parcels had been put in each quarter, ready for the occupants on their arrival from Hong Kong. They did a good job and everybody entitled to a quarter got one in the Catterick Camp area.

The Royal Signal Training Squadron assisted in providing accommodation and messing for the advance party whilst we took over the barracks. They were helpful and looked after us well. Before the advance party arrived, many people in Catterick made caustic comments to OC Advance Party about planning for a 100% reception of the advance party; they said we would have about 25% absentees. We had a 100% roll call three hours before leave passes terminated. OC Advance Party felt very proud reporting this to all those concerned.

The next day we went straight into action taking over Somme Lines. A modern barracks with a good lay-out similar to the one we occupied in Colchester.

Whilst the barracks was being taken over Capt. Burke and OC Advance Party were trying to put together the jigsaw of collecting stores, vehicles and G1098. A genius had devised that we must collect kit from Caterham, Honiton, Blackpool, Bicester and Scotland! After numerous phone calls and changes of plan because of the weather, we finally formulated a plan of action and put it to use. Our drivers were magnificent and we collected all our kit; it required drivers going to these various places by train and then driving back the next day, and so on for eight days.

FAREWELL PARADE AT SHAPE

The advance party was in full swing, and was preparing to receive the Guard of Honour for General Sir Robert Bray's farewell parade at SHAPE, when a signal arrived from the CO stating that an additional ensign, honorary colours' pike, spearhead and accoutrements were required; the Colour itself was being sent with the Guard of Honour, the other items were regrettably already packed in MFO, "FIX". You can imagine the advance party's immediate thought to this!

The first problem was, what were the correct dimensions of the pike and spearhead? We all had some idea but didn't know exactly. Lt. Roberts, advance party adjutant, got on the phone to RHQ, who gave us their views. We then decided to get a third opinion and phoned up Major Tedd who expertly worked out the dimensions from a photograph. We took the mean average of the three answers and used that as our guide.

The fun then started: phone calls were made around the countryside ranging from the Durham Miners' Union, British Legion Detachment, RHQ and Major Harms, the Depot and Ron Innes. The response was magnificent, we had a vast collection of pikes and spearheads of every conceivable shape and size imaginable, but none fitted the bill. We then asked Capt. Westcob to check York Minster. Reports circulated back to us that a "Dukes" captain had been seen swinging from pike to pike in the Minster, and yelling down to an accomplice measurements in a strange colonial-type language!

To cut a long story short, we succeeded in our task and got a pike from Messrs Turtle and Pearce who kindly loaned it to us while a spearhead was made by 31 Command Workshops.

When the guard arrived from Hong Kong, we had everything ready for rehearsals prior to going over to Belgium. The guard was to be commanded by Major Campbell-Lamerton with the Honorary Colour carried by Capt. Westcob and the Regimental Colour by 2/Lt. Isles.

The arrangements for going to Belgium were excellent. We had our own RAF Hercules from RAF Leeming (12 miles from Catterick) and Capt. Fitzgerald had everything jacked up at the other end. This gave us two clear days in Belgium before the parade.

Most of our time at SHAPE was spent doing two rehearsals a day for the farewell parade. These parades had their amusing moments, as you can imagine. Each nation tried to sort out their various drill movements to coincide with one another. Being visitors we were the left of the line and had on our right the SHAPE international guard, consisting of two soldiers from each member nation, commanded by a German lieutenant. This poor chap was nearly going mad; each time his guard marched off for the march past they all had a different step! RSM Battye was coughing and spluttering.

The parade itself was a very simple but effective one. It consisted of forming up in line in front of SHAPE HQ, with a contingent of every member nation, an inspection by General Bray accompanied by General Goodpaster, speeches by both generals and a march past.

Everybody on parade was tremendous, even the German lieutenant with his international guard was happy as his guard marched off on the correct foot. The speeches were excellent and brought a lump to the throat of the most hard-bitten soldier on parade. General Bray spoke in English and French to the delight of a large French-speaking audience. General Goodpaster in a very moving speech paid tribute to General Bray as a soldier and as Deputy Supreme Allied Commander. One only wished afterwards that a transcript could have been obtained to print in THE IRON DUKE. It was one of those speeches that all "Dukes" would have been proud to have heard.

After the main parade the "Dukes" guard of honour had a quick lunch, ready to do a private surprise farewell parade of our own for the General, as he left the official reception at the SHAPE Officers Club. The General was surprised to see us on parade again and, as he got back into his car, we gave him three cheers, which was a wonderful climax to a moving and historic day in which all of us on the guard of honour were proud to have played a small part.

Packing up after the parade was a mad rush as we all dashed to the liquor store to get our duty-free drink. A considerable number of NATO troops were there to offer ration cards and any assistance.

It brought home to most of us unfamiliar with SHAPE the true meaning of joint co-operation and, certainly at our level, genuine comradeship, and that soldiers the world over have a common bond of friendship.

News from the Messes

OFFICERS MESS

Entertainment during our last weeks in Hong Kong was mostly in the nature of farewells. August 4 saw an enjoyable yet sad occasion, when we dined-out Peter Hoppe. Peter is going to a staff appointment in Chester and we wish him and Audrey the very best of good fortune in the future.

A regimental guest night was held on August 14 to say goodbye to the Brigade Commander, Brigadier Harry Illing, who was leaving to take up a new appointment in Rheindalen.

On the last Sunday of our final visit to the Border we gave a lunch party in the Fan Gardens Mess to say farewell to our opposite numbers in the Police Frontier Division. Certain members turned this into a marathon when they nearly ended up having breakfast in the Police Officers Mess.

Two days later, when we finally left the Border, we were all invited to lunch by the officers of HQ 48 Brigade. We had an excellent curry and it was most kind of them to say farewell to us in this manner.

On September 11 we held a regimental guest night to say goodbye to H.E. The Governor, Sir David Trench. This was a most enjoyable evening during which we also took the opportunity to welcome Major-General Horsford to the Mess.

A luncheon party was held on September 21 to entertain 10 members of both Houses of Parliament who were passing through Hong Kong on a private fact-finding mission to the Far East. Although time was short it was a most interesting and enjoyable occasion.

The next day our Annual Golf Meeting was held at the Shek O Country Club by kind permission of the Club Committee. As usual, the preceding weeks were full of argument on the competition rules and the merits of competitors. It was finally agreed that 12 of us (those possessing their own golf clubs) would play 36 holes stroke play for the Silver Putter and the remainder would play 18 holes for the Wooden Spoon. It is believed that the rules of golf were to be observed. However, a number of interpretations were put out by John Thorn—never to last more than 10 minutes on the Mess notice board. The setting for the occasion could not have been better at this most attractive seaside course, and we were most fortunate in having a perfect day to play the event. After the first rounds in the morning, and whilst the majority of the Wooden Spoonists were still struggling round the course, we were joined by our families for drinks and an excellent lunch on the club veranda. At this stage Alistair Roberts was leading the field in the Silver Putter. However, after the final round in the afternoon, Keith Best came out clear winner, with Jeremy Cumberlege and Johnny Walker taking 2nd and 3rd places. We would not only like to congratulate Keith Best on winning the Silver Putter at the first attempt but also to take this

opportunity to welcome him to the Regiment. Tim Nicholson is to be congratulated on winning the Wooden Spoon and Nicky Newell for coming a very close second.

Our last regimental guest night in Hong Kong was on October 16 when we said farewell to the Commander British Forces, Lt.-General Sir Basil Eugster. This was a most enjoyable evening, and at the same time, we took the opportunity of welcoming our new Brigade Commander, Brigadier Peter Prescott. These notes should not pass without mentioning how grateful we all were to Sir Basil and Lady Eugster for their kindness in inviting us all with our families to a final goodbye at their home a few days before we left the Colony.

On Friday, November 13, we held our official farewell cocktail party. Another enjoyable and yet sad occasion when we said goodbye to a great many of the friends we had made in Hong Kong.

Catterick

Our next party was held very shortly after our return from leave in January and in our new Mess in Catterick Camp. It gave us great pleasure to meet Major-General and Mrs. Armitage along with many other guests at a cocktail party held on January 29. This was a great "Dukes" reunion with many past members of the Regiment and their families making a long journey to Catterick from all over the North. In particular we were very happy to see Col. Jimmy Davidson, our Deputy Colonel, and Dorothy once again in the Mess.

There were many departures and arrivals at the time of our move to Catterick. Peter and Diana Mitchell and Sid and Joan Kirk left us for Warminster and BAOR where we wish them the best of good fortune. Mike and Christine Campbell-Lamerton leave us when he goes to Yarm in North Yorkshire but, as they will be living in Catterick, we hope to see plenty of them both.

Dick Mundell and Chris Fitzgerald are now back with us and we look forward to seeing Jilly and Mitch with us once again. We are very pleased to welcome Derrick Battye to the Mess and congratulate him on his commission. Major Dick Glazebrook and his wife, Carol, and Major Eddie Buckingham and his wife, Kate, have all joined us for the first time and we are particularly pleased to see and welcome them to The Duke's.

SERGEANTS MESS

Once again we are back in UK and settling in at Somme Lines Catterick Camp—that is if you can call leave and preparation for Public Duties in London settling in!

The Mess is quite a comfortable building. Although it does not lend itself to the holding of our major functions, it is just about adequate for normal dinners and socials.

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The social life started with a swing with a house-warming on Friday, January 22, to which we welcomed guests from all Messes in Catterick District. Also on the guest list were RSM "Reg" Todd, RQMS "John Edward" Sargeant and his wife Sheila, Pat Wilson (wife of "Tug" Wilson), and our ex-cook Sgt. "Frew" McGill and his wife who now live in Catterick. "Frew" is now employed at Catterick BMH. On Wednesday the 27th we held a dinner night with guests Capts. (QM) W. Robins and W. Burke and ex-CSM "Al" Arundel. At the dinner we said "farewell and thanks" to drill Sgt. "Jim" Torkington, Coldstream, and Sgts. Wilkie and Brighton, Scots Guards, who have been assisting in the preparations for Public Duties.

We would like to pass on our congratulations to Lt. Derrick Battye on his commission and move to MTO, and to RSM "Bob" Chilvers on attaining his ambition with the 1st Battalion.

Welcome to RQMS "Alan" Ashby and his wife, from 1 PWO, who relieves (old) "Tug" Wilson who is moving to Shorncliffe Junior Leaders Battalion as RQMS. Welcome also to S/Sgt. "Sam" Hall and Sgt. "Tommy" Martin on rejoining the Battalion. Our congratulations on promotion to Sgts. Manion, Ineson, Eastwood, Hunter and Almond.

Finally, a word on our inimitable chef Vinson; he has had a bend in the Richmond Road named after him.

May we extend to all Mess members and friends of the Battalion a cordial invitation to call in and visit us at any time.

CORPORALS MESS

In late October we held a farewell dance at the China Fleet Club; we invited the NCOs of The Irish Guards as a welcome to Hong Kong. It turned out quite a successful evening.

During November the Mess held no socials owing to our departure to UK and six weeks leave. I am sure the majority of the NCOs do not miss their San Miguel beer now they are back in UK.

On returning from our well-earned leave we found that the Mess had been taken over by the NAAFI shop. However, this was soon rectified and, by the time we return from Public Duties in London which has taken up all our work hours and spare time preparing for, we will have once again a Corporals Mess. We are going rather rash and purchasing a colour television.

The Mess members would like to congratulate all those who attained promotion into the Mess, within the Mess or from the Mess for the higher rank of Sergeant. To mention all the people concerned would take too long but we would like to join in the congratulations to (Ex) RSM Battye on his commission; also to WO2 Chilvers on his promotion to RSM.

BATTALION PERSONALITY



CPL. J. WAITE

Jock Waite joined the Army in November 1951, being called up for National Service. He was posted to his County Regiment, The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers. Seven days later he signed on for a regular engagement and, after only six months' service, he was re-badged a "Duke" and joined the Battalion in Minden, where he was posted to the MT section. He remained with the MT for 16 years. For the last four years Jock has been a pillar of strength in the Regimental Police.

Since joining the Regiment he has served in every theatre the Battalion has been posted to, including active service in Korea, where he will be remembered by many as the Signal Platoon carrier driver, and Cyprus. He has served in Kenya, Gibraltar, Hong Kong, and that horror of all stations, BH! Appointed lance-corporal in March 1956 he only carried this appointment for six weeks when he was promoted to full corporal to take over the carrier section. He has therefore been a full corporal for almost 15 years; surely this must make him one of the senior corporals in the King's Division if not in the Army.

A very keen games player, Jock was in the Battalion first soccer eleven for 14 years. Although a strong and robust player he was never in all that time sent off or even cautioned.

In November 1970 he was awarded his LSGC medal, a fitting reward for a loyal and first-class NCO.

THE IRON DUKE

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR ANNUAL SUB? IF NOT DO IT NOW—DO IT NOW

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The Companies

ALMA COMPANY

Our time in Hong Kong ended with a wide range of activities; these included a successful company social (with one or two very "fancy" dresses), and the handing over to the Saukeiwan Kaiphong of the 1 Platoon (nearly all their own handiwork) Nissen Hut which was accompanied by suitable pomp, ceremony and Lion Dance and which was followed by a very enjoyable Chinese lunch.

Lt. Sharp organised an afternoon out for the handicapped children of the Duchess of Kent's Orthopaedic Hospital during which the children enjoyed a brief band concert, smallbore shooting, demonstrations of weapons and the opportunity to ride on a scout car and use a radio. In addition, the children were provided with refreshments before they went home and it should here be recorded that, as official funds suddenly ran out, all costs were met by voluntary contributions made by members of the Company, who can be sure that their generosity was much appreciated.

2 Platoon did well to win the Inter-Platoon Small Bore Competition defeating the Mortar Platoon in the final, while 3 Platoon carried away the trophy at the Company Swimming Gala.

The annual internal security exercise took the

Company into a cordon no further than 300yd from its own lines, but resulted in the influx of, literally, hundreds of Police through the barracks to search the cordoned area.

November came upon us very swiftly and suddenly we were bidding farewell to the Royal Hong Kong Police and other friends and greeting the advance party of the Irish Guards. We were particularly glad to see the Guards, as they not only allowed us to depart for home, Christmas and leave, but they also passed on to us a great deal of information about Public Duties in London, a task which we had only recently heard was to be ours in February.

The Alma emplaned on the first two flights out of Hong Kong and arrived home out of sequence but happy; Flight 2 had overtaken Flight 1 in the middle of the Indian Ocean, which naturally caused some amusement to half of the Company.

Leave, spent-up if not well-spent, behind us, we now greet the dawn each day with measured pace but muffled tread, with heads held high while strange incantations float past:

"Stand fast Her Majesty's Tower of London Guard". (In Yorkshire?)

"The Queen's Guard will . . ."



Ptes Flynn, Pemberton, Smith, Hattersley and Cpl. Hey with some of the handicapped children from the Duchess of Kent's Hospital

The Captains of the Queen's Guard were flattered to find that they might invite up to 70 guests to both pre-luncheon and pre-dinner drinks in St. James's Palace, but they then read in the small print "at their own expense" and stopped wondering whether they actually had 140 friends to invite.

We enjoyed our time in Hong Kong and the wide variety of activities it offered, but we look forward to a busy year in the Strategic Reserve with an equally great variety of activities ranging between Public Duties in London and Peace Keeping in Ulster.

It would be wrong to end these brief notes without expressing a debt of gratitude to S/Sgt. Holliday who has now left us for the rigours of soldiering in Halifax having played a valuable part in the management of the Company. We are grateful to him and we wish him and his family well.

BURMA COMPANY

There was little opportunity for practical field training during the last remaining weeks in Hong Kong. However, we did take the opportunity to reassess everyone's grade. In the past we had found this very difficult without having the whole Company together at any one time, but in October and November we were able to get down to some serious training at individual skills.

A visit to the San Miguel Brewery was organised in late October. The visit consisted of being shown the various processes of brewing during which time Pte. Small 89 did a fine job acting as interpreter between us and the guide. This is a job which Pte. Small did on many occasions during our stay in Hong Kong. After seeing the brewing side of San Miguel we were all offered free samples, although some of us had lost our thirst by that time due to seeing the fermenting baths which looked very much like dirty dish-water and smelled even worse! Visits to the shipping department of Butterfield and Swire were organised for Platoon groups. Each visit started with a short talk by Mr. Michael Miles (ex-5 Platoon) at the shipping office of the firm on the layout of moorings and warehouses of the harbour in particular and many other aspects of shipping. This was followed by a look at the harbour itself from a company launch, from which all the wharves, moorings and godowns were pointed out. Many took the opportunity of taking some excellent photographs of the harbour. We would all like to thank Mr. Miles and Messrs. Butterfield and Swire for making the visits possible.

With the arrival of the Irish Guards' advance party in late October the Company began intensive drilling under the watchful eye of Drill Sgt. Meredith in preparation for Public Duties in London. Everyone took some time before they began to remember what they had been taught in basic training. Burma Company also took part in the Remembrance Sunday Parade on November 10 at the Cenotaph in Hong Kong.

We organised an inter-section competition for our last week in Stanley Fort. The competition consisted mostly of sporting activities but included a 12-mile speed march and initiative tests. Every

section tried extremely hard during the week and it was pleasing to see that not one man dropped out of the very hard speed march. Congratulations to L/Cpls. Huntley and Foyle and Ptes. Waller, Brown, Leskiewicz and Moore, all of 4 Platoon, on winning the competition and it is hoped that they enjoyed their meal in the China Fleet Club as part of their prize.

We were all due to fly back from Hong Kong on November 23, but unfortunately the RAF VC 10 suffered damage to its nose wheel in Singapore on its outward journey. We awaited its arrival based in the Shamrock and Park Hotels in Kowloon and it was a very relieved Company Commander when everybody boarded the aircraft four days later. All then appeared to go well until we heard during the Cyprus stop-over that the UK was completely fog-bound. Three hours later we were going to bed in the Transit Hotel in "Malta". The next day we flew on to fog-bound England, but for the first hour we were bound for Prestwick due to the weather. However, the pilot spotted a hole in the fog around the North Yorkshire Moors and landed us safely at Tees-side. On arrival at the airport an amusing incident happened. CSM Hartley was charged by the Customs for 400 extra cigarettes that he had brought into the country. He had been informed by the RAF that he was allowed the extra cigarettes. He became very noisy and upset after boarding the coach for Catterick as he found he was the only one charged for the extra 400. However, we are glad to say that after mildly complaining the money was refunded to him.

We came back from our very welcome six weeks' leave on January 11 to find that Catterick was not the end of the world. We have been extremely busy drilling and getting ourselves fit again. The drill has been under the eagle eye of Drill Sgt. Torkington of the Grenadier Guards.

Achievements

Grade 1

The following have been upgraded to Grade 1: L/Cpls. Foyle, Howorth, Mullen, Newton, Smith, Ptes. Atkinson, Brown, McGrath.

Marriages

Pte. Brian Jackson is to be congratulated on his marriage to Miss Elizabeth Gyneth Hoare on December 12 and we wish them both every happiness in the future.

Postings In

We welcome in 11 soldiers including Cpls. Thornton and Arnott and L/Cpl. Cole.

Postings Out

Thirteen soldiers have left the Company since the last notes and while wishing good fortune to all of them we would like to mention:

Sgt. Waller	to Int. Section
Cpl. (Local Sgt.) Howard	to 10 Army Youth Team	in Halifax
Pte. Kent	to MI Room
Pte. Stukalo	to Sigs Cadre

CORUNNA COMPANY

The period under review divides itself neatly into three; farewell to Hong Kong, six weeks' leave in England and assembly at Catterick Camp. A period of great change, not only in location but also in the personalities in the Company.

Instead of spending our last months in Hong Kong acquiring a tan on the beaches, or in Wanchai, the Honour Guard for General Bray and Public Duties in London took over so that drill became predominant—much to the CSM's delight. The advance party of the Irish Guards must have felt quite at home.

Despite the drill and the hand-over to the Guards, the sporting side of life was not entirely forgotten. L/Cpl. Anderson took 7 Platoon to the final of the inter-platoon soccer competition only to be beaten by those professionals from the MT. 8 Platoon proved our all-round ability by getting to the semi-final of the small bore competition. Nor was the social side forgotten. It is not known how many farewell parties there were in Wanchai, but one at least (if we are to go by the Company fund) must have been a great success.

2/Lt. Isles plus 12 from the Company were selected for General Bray's parade. They left Hong Kong two weeks before the main body, acclimatised and practised in Catterick Camp before moving



Photo: "Huddersfield Examiner"

Captain Mundell, Captain of the Queen's Guard, with the outgoing guard commander

over to Belgium for the parade on November 27.

After six weeks much-needed leave, in England the Company reported to Catterick Camp, slightly more married and distinctly heavier. With only three weeks before Public Duties in London, the emphasis was again on drill—in greatcoats this time, not KD.

With London, Strategic Command and our tour in Ulster, 1971 should prove to be an interesting and exacting year far removed from our time in Hong Kong.

Personalia

After nearly one-and-a-half years at our helm Major Nash has moved on to Administrative Company. Other departures have been:

Cpl. Bowden to Alma.

Cpl. Thornton to Burma.

Pte. Tidswell to Training Wing.

Pte. Smith to Recce Pl.

We also expect to lose several more to the Signal and Vigilant Platoons, before the end of London Duties.

Postings-in include;

Major Mundell from Camberley.

Capt. Tighe from the Families Office (much to his relief!).

Sgt. Martin from the Army Youth Team.

Cpl. Dare from the Cameron Highlanders in Malaya.

L/Cpl. Burns from PWO.

Pte. Graham from PWO.

and 13 from Strensall.

Oh, we mustn't forget that Holmes has returned to the fold from the QMs, into the Company Stores.

Congratulations to Sgt. Hunter, Cpl. Arrow-smith, L/Cpls. Butterworth, Franks, and Morton on their promotion. Also congratulations to Ptes. Hanley, Kennedy, McDonnell, Taylor 44 and Wolstenholme 31 (he made it) on their recent marriages.

SOMME COMPANY

So hectic has been the last few months that we have been caught napping over our IRON DUKE notes. This is being written a week after the deadline. However, in true Somme Company style we hope that what is lacking here in subject matter is compensated by its literary merit.

The Company returned (most of it) from Christmas leave to find itself under new management. Major Buckingham is now commanding and

There is a new fellow called Clarke,

Whose bite is as hard as his bark.

He wears horn-rimmed glasses

To see where your kit (?) is

We're sure that he'll make quite a mark.

MORTAR PLATOON

The Mortar Platoon representatives of the last "Dukes" Honour Guard commitment in Korea, arrived back in Hong Kong with the same glazed looks which had come to be associated with the rigours of Korean life. Those who dabbled with the "Great American Way of Life" in Korea and survived to tell the tale were: Lt. McGlynn, S/Sgt.

Lindsay, Cpl. Dyson, L/Cpl. Nuttall and Pte. Whitworth (only the ranks have been changed in order to protect the innocent). They arrived in Hong Kong to rejoin the rest of the Platoon and assist in the usual tasks of preparing for a unit hand-over. A word at this stage, before boarding flight No. 2778 for Tees-side, on the Mortar Platoon training in Hong Kong. Not by any stretch of the imagination could our work be called conventional, mainly due to the many Battalion commitments, lack of time, ranges and good mortar training areas. However, opportunities exist in Hong Kong for the type of mortar training which is perhaps not so common elsewhere, e.g. airborne MFCs and radar assisted shoots. Full use was made of these opportunities and the MFCs, in particular, benefited accordingly.

We arrived safely at Tees-side and after six weeks leave, we got into gear again in Catterick on January 12 to find that, due to various excesses over the Christmas period, several members of the Platoon had great difficulty in getting into service dress jackets—greatcoats saved the day.

A mortar numbers cadre started on February 1 which will bring the Platoon up to strength numerically and we congratulate the following whose recent promotions have gone a little way towards bringing the Platoon up to correct establishment of ranks: Capt. McGlynn, Sgt. Eastwood, Cpl. Nuttall, Cpl. Frear.

ANTI-TANK PLATOON

The Platoon ended up in Hong Kong commanded by Cpl. (now Sgt.) Ineson to defend the Colony against the onrush of Fantasia. Lt. Wonsen went away to Scotland to join the Fleet Air Arm for a while, learning about Forward Air Control, and Sgt. Kendrew had the immense task of handling the Company Nuts (and Bolts) and whipping people into a frenzy of cleaning kit for hand-over. At one time it was said that he disappeared below a mountainous pile of kit schedules and MFO docs. The Platoon formed again with the Battalion in January, and began the huge task of losing weight, starting with the OC and working down, literally and metaphorically. Not being involved on London Duties, the Platoon is running a cadre to convert to the Wombat. Welcome into the Platoon to Ptes. Birks, Walker, Hepworth, and Dvrs. Collins, Best, Rogers and Baker. Baker we have already lost, he has gone away to get married; congratulations. Congratulations on promotions to Sgt. Ineson and Cpl. Cuss.

ASSAULT PIONEER PLATOON

We were sorry to leave our beloved volleyball court behind but, alas, all good things must come to an end. We are now finally settled in Catterick but still waiting the return of our Platoon Commander, WO2 Wright. We found no suitable place for a volleyball court so the Platoon, after one or two tries at hockey and the like, turned to football and we hope to challenge the Battalion team as soon as we have sacked our first manager.

We welcome back to the Platoon Dad (wheels) Clarke from the MT and Cpl. Parkinson who has been doing his best to get the boxes through. We

also say farewell to Pte. Nee who has left to provide the Officers Mess with beer.

Finally, anyone who walks round the side of Somme Company accommodation after 5 p.m. is in real danger as half the married men have acquired bicycles as a form of transport and it is like the start of the *Tour de France* in the evening.

COMMAND COMPANY

After six weeks leave Command Company took on a "New Look" in Somme Lines. With almost 50 new faces, and now nine departments, documentation, unit orders and circulars become a problem. So much so that L/Cpl. Suddaby, the clerk, has managed to contract flu and sits with a "I told you so" smile on his face looking out of the accommodation block windows.

We did have a runner for a day but he ran away. Being so short of admin staff tempts one to do away with a filing system and have a more simple "dust-bin system".

The Company is to take to the field shortly in the form of shakedown exercises to practise living in the field, setting up mobile tactical headquarters, etc. . . . This should be interesting, there are 140 of us.

The Corps of Drums plus reps from the Signal Platoon, Provost Staff and PT Staff will take part in London Duties whilst Recce, Signal and Training depts will be running cadres. WO2 Kelly has a damaged knee-cap which prevented him from appearing in the "drill teams". He has been grounded for a year. This is probably a good thing as the Training Wing now has a bigger staff than a divisional headquarters and WO2 Kelly should be kept busy supervising his many instructors.

SIGNAL PLATOON

With the return to Catterick a new era for the Platoon has begun, though some still in the Platoon will remember their early days in the Battalion during the last tour in Catterick in 1962-64. Although it is good to be home our thoughts sometimes return to Hong Kong.

On leaving Stanley we were very sorry to lose Sgt. Jo Cagilaba, our REME technician, who had done so much for The Dukes, especially on the sports field. He was indeed a fine "Duke" during his stay with us, and our good wishes go with him and his wife. In his place we welcome Cpl. Taylor and L/Cpl. Wicks and hope that they both enjoy their stay with us.

Sgt. Shaw, having returned to the Platoon in the summer of 1969, is once more on his way, this time to Coronna Company, where a one-time "pronto" will surely keep an eye upon him. His signalling talents, we feel sure, will not go to waste. To replace Sgt. Shaw we welcome S/Sgt. Conley into the Platoon, whilst the Assistant RSO continues to maintain divided loyalties.

Perhaps the most interesting event prior to the departure from Hong Kong was the Inter-Platoon Soccer. In fine style we managed to flash through two rounds, only to contribute three own goals in a close defeat by the MT Platoon—there are times when we are not so proud of our Commonwealth members in the Platoon!

In Catterick we now have a near ideal organisation. Good classrooms, excellent stores, plenty of radio and some good country, and with a full programme ahead there is much to which we can look forward. And with a former "pronto minor" now looking after the MT we know that transport will present few problems.

We are even playing our part in London Duties, with Cpl. Shadbolt and nine others helping to guard the Bank of England. Squire's role is that of being "in-waiting", though for what we are still unsure.

Attendance at the Signal Wing Courses continues, Cpl. Barnett and L/Cpl. Waqabaca being latest members of the Platoon to produce some good results on the RSI and Standard I courses respectively. Cpl. Bowler is about to attend the RSI course which will undoubtedly affect the performance of the beat group, and Pte. Knowles is now trying to qualify at Standard I. By the time we go to Ulster we will have sent a good number of the Platoon through the Signal Wing.

But for the present the priority is on another cadre, this time for the Recce Platoon and some new members of the Signal Platoon; with the pride of Fiji playing a major role in the cadre it can hardly fail!

RECCE PLATOON

Now that we are in England, the Platoon will be expanded considerably, and our role will be of much greater importance than it was in Hong Kong. Sgt. Stansfield, who was on the advance party, has taken over as Platoon Sergeant, and had everything highly organised for our return. Capt. Fitzgerald, at present on one of those inevitable Warminster courses, is the new Platoon Commander.

Leave, naturally enough, was great fun and English girls and beer were just as attractive as ever. We say goodbye to L/Cpl. Sharp, to the QMs, and L/Cpl. Parkinson, to MT, and welcome L/Cpl. Price after many months in hospital.

New members—Sgt. Stansfield, Sgt. Wilkinson, Cpl. McLachlan, Cpl. Clifton, Ptes. Brown, Smith, Owen, Nichols and Irwin.

Congratulations to Cpl. Bell on his marriage in December 1970.

BORNEWS

Anyone who has ever wondered what it must be like to work in the Siberian salt mines should have visited the Orderly Room after the move. To an onlooker the furniture arrangement could have been described as more utilitarian than scenic and the numbers of bodies present (on one pretext or another) could have been used as extras for the next Cinemascope version of Exodus.

However, things settle down and work resumes its more measured routine. The atmosphere is now more cordial, the only discordant note being an occasional angry voice raised against the idiot who comes to the Orderly Room because he is frightened of his CSM!

There has once again been movement of personnel within BOR. We welcome a new 2IC, Major Glazebrook, and also Cpl. Mortimer who is

back with us after only six months with KDD(Y). Cpl. M. should also be complimented (or otherwise) on his marriage in October. Sgt. Craig has left us for KDD and L/Cpl. Wishart has been seconded to the QMs Dept. Let us also mention Sgt. Manion—need we say more?

All in all, then, the period under review has been one of hurried movement and hard work and can, perhaps, best be summed up in the words of the immortal Bard:

Goodbye Hong Kong, goodbye the sun,
Now we'll relax and have our rests,
Time to recount strange tales of old—
But first before we have our fun
We'll wash the mozzies from string vests
In preparation for the cold.

And after leave, prepare to move
Into a new home, there to find
An office to make span and spick;
Time once again to find work's groove,
To re-encounter daily grind
In freezing, windswept Catterick.

Now under piles of manuscript
The desktops creak; typewriters pound;
The carbon becomes creased and curled.
Entombed within a paper crypt
The clerics work through daily round—
Officials in a red-tape world.

INTELLIGENCE SECTION

The Indians are the same, but the Chiefs have changed. As the Battalion moved to England, so Capt. Nicholson and Sgt. Wilkinson left and Lt. Roberts and Sgt. Waller took over. Sgt. Waller has just done his course, but Lt. Roberts leaves us from February 22 until March 26 to do his.

At present the section is concentrating on three main tasks. Firstly, to try and educate the soldiers about "what's on" in Catterick, and where we fit in the command structure in England. Secondly, we are trying to educate ourselves in the running of a CP in England and, thirdly, we are furiously collecting information on Northern Ireland. If anybody visits the section first thing in the morning, what they will see is one chap listening to the radio, the news of course, and three others reading the newspapers.

At times like that the section may not look busy, but L/Cpl. Harston has produced a very informative "What's On" chart in the cookhouse; L/Cpl. Jagger is producing a comprehensive press cuttings file on Northern Ireland; Roberts is typing furiously and Wilson collects the coffee as soon as the IO disappears back to the Orderly Room. Sgt. Waller has his time cut out defending our stocks of chinagraphs, maps and all the other attractive items. Nobody is quite sure what the IO does, except suddenly appear, open all the windows, hand out work and then disappear back to his other office.

The programme for the future is extremely full, and by the end of the year we will have a very experienced section.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMPANY

The period under review has been one of great activity. The final weeks in Hong Kong were spent in cleaning and polishing, in readiness for a smooth hand-over. This was achieved and everyone flew home at the end of November and proceeded on six weeks' well-earned leave.

On January 12 everyone was back and eager to get cracking. Company Commanders changed yet again and we welcomed Major Jimmy Nash, who has taken over from Capt. Sid Kirk, who is shortly being posted to 1 Green Howards. Our loss is their gain.

Capt. John Power, who had looked after all the families' interests so well on the advance party, now moves to Command Company and we welcome Major David Millar as our Families Officer.

I am sure that all families will wish me to convey our grateful thanks to Capt. Bob Tighe for the tremendous amount of time and patience he spent sorting out our problems in Hong Kong. Good luck to him in Corunna Company.

Capt. Puttock has taken over the PRI from Capt. Bunbury much to the latter's relief. It is rumoured that Capt. Bunbury, now 2IC Alma Company, had to be shown how to put on his boots!

Lt. Derek Battye is back from the MT Course bursting with knowledge and must be congratulated on his promotion.

CSM Harris is now firmly in the chair having taken over from CSM Curling, who has departed for civvy street and appears occasionally in civvies just to see if we are managing without him!

Departures

The Company say farewell to the following and wish them all the best in the future:

Capt. Kirk, to 1 Green Howards

Capt. Power to Comd Coy

Capt. Bunbury to Alma Coy

WO2 Curling to Civvy Street

WO2 Kelly (not officially posted as CSM, but thanks)

Cpl. Murray to Civvy Street (thanks for all your hard work within the Coy Office).

Arrivals

The Company welcome the following on being posted in to the Coy:

Major Nash as OC from Corunna Coy

Major Millar as families officer from Brunei

Capt. Puttock from Comd to the PRI

RQMS Ashby to the QMs from 1 PWO

WO2 Wilson from CSM Somme to Accn WO2

Lt. Battye on his commission to MTO

S/Sgt. Burrows (REME—Armourer)

L/Cpl Morrison (REME—Armourer)

Cpl. Collett and L/Cpl. Rhodes to the Pay Office

Cpl. Gibson to the Officers Mess from 1 Green Howards

L/Cpl. Catton from Gen. Bray's Staff to the Officers Mess

L/Cpl. Gray from 1 PWO to the Officers Mess

L/Cpl. Mizzi back to the MT from the Depot

Pte. Greenhow to the MT from the Depot

Pte. Farr to the Officers Mess from the Depot Officers Mess

Pte. Nee to the Officers Mess from Somme Coy

Bdsm. Clegg to the Band from the Depot

Pte. Lee to the Band from Argyle and Southernland Islanders (*Too nice to correct—Ed.*)

L/Cpl. Soulsby to the QMs from Depot

Pte. Knowles to QMs from Alma Coy

Pte. Gannon to groom from "B" Coy

Pte Dowson (ACC)

L/Cpl. Fielding to Coy HQ from Somme Coy

L/Cpl. Atkins to the MT from the Depot.

Marriages

Congratulations to the following on their marriage:

Pte. Thomson 86 (MT), Pte. Baker 02 (MT), Pte. Honor (MT), Pte. Bowes (Band), Pte. Bell (Families Office).

Births

We congratulate the following:

To L/Cpl. and Mrs. Naiken, a girl;

To Pte. and Mrs. Hoy, a boy;

To L/Cpl. and Mrs. Pennington, a boy.

THE REGIMENTAL BAND

With the arrival of the month of October, we had to plan ahead for our return to the United Kingdom. This proved to be not quite as straightforward as one might hope for after completing two years in Hong Kong, for this is the period when patrons begin to formulate their plans for Christmas activities and, from October onwards, the telephone and postal services became "hot lines" with urgent requests for dance bands and the Military Band. It was therefore necessary to make firm dates for ending all band engagements. We decided that military band work would end on October 22 and dance band on the 31st. It then followed that a considerable number of band engagements had to be refused or passed on to other bands where possible.

We commenced October with the Concert Band playing in the Officers Mess at Headquarters Land Forces on the 5th. Our last Urban Services Concert took place on October 11 at MacPherson Playground in Kowloon. Two days later we performed at the Queen's Theatre, Central, for the premier performance of a film called "The Arch". Then on the 16th came a notable highlight when we were asked to perform in the China Fleet Club at a charity show. The guest star of the show was none other than that famous personality, Tommy Trinder, who had the audience in stitches for a full half hour. Readers of our previous columns may remember the Jimmy Edwards show undertaken by the Band which came under the same hilarious category last year.

The Band also appeared on Rediffusion TV; the programme, having been recorded on October 21 on video-tape, was viewed in excerpt form throughout November. Both Dance Bands and the Military Band were featured in the programme.

A close relationship had been built up between the Hong Kong Military Services Corps and ourselves due to our regular attendances at their



Photo: "Huddersfield Examiner"

The long and the short of it at Buckingham Palace

Cpl. Middleton marches off the old sentries and Pte. Gribbon

quarterly Passing Out Parades. It became apparent that, once we left the Colony, they would not be able to engage a band to replace us, and so Mr. Alexander volunteered the services of the Band to make a tape recording of the music for future use on parades. We wish them happy listening.

Both our dance bands remained active throughout October, when at the last possible moment their equipment had to be packed to catch the boat home.

During November, the Band handled the Baggage Party for the daily flights home to the UK. We have not, to date, received any reports of missing suitcases, scales, etc. We wish to point out that at

this late stage "No claims will be accepted for loss or damage."

We offer our congratulations to Bds. Bowes who, on November 28, took the plunge and joined the ranks of the Pads (Married Men). We wish him and his wife Elaine every success for the future.

RUGBY

Little has changed on the rugby scene since writing the last IRON DUKE notes in September. We are still keeping ourselves in shape by playing a few 1st XV fixtures and will be ready to take the Army Cup next season.

The expected return of a few players to the Battalion should strengthen the side considerably in various key positions and people like Capt. Walker coming out of retirement should add a certain amount of zest to the back line. We even heard a rumour that Ian Reid has volunteered his services for next season's cup games (if needed).

Although our last few months in Hong Kong did nothing to maintain our unbeaten record, at least it allowed some lesser players to gain valuable 1st XV experience. Many of our "ace" players had returned to UK on courses and we were left with the original "front five" holding the fort against such sides as police, club and the RWF who were determined to give us a sound beating. We were beaten by all three of these sides but not as soundly as they intended. These three games, together with two practice games against club and the Army when we loaned ourselves out as chopping blocks, made up the 1st XV games in Hong Kong during October and November.

The 2nd XV played some great morale-boosting games and only lost 3 of their 12 fixtures. A good relaxing Sunday afternoon's entertainment was to watch the 2nd XV in action against such teams as HMS *Vendetta*, HMS *Hermione*, or the BMH. Credit must be given to this side who, although lacking in some of the basic skills of good football, always put their hearts and souls into the game.

After six weeks' leave rugby training has started again, now under the expert guidance of Major Campbell-Lamerton. We have a few games arranged within 3 Div. to keep us ticking over and, on our return from Ulster in the early days of next season, we hope to put into practice all we have gained from a season of non-competition football. We played the rest of Northern Command in our opening match. We won 9-3 and are hoping that this is a start of a long run of success.

LAI, CHANG AND BOOTS

Every PBI soldier knows the term "polished boots" and has sweated and sworn while trying to bring his leather to the lustre looked for on inspections.

Normally one pair of boots is bulled (sorry, polished) the other pair being what is known as "brushed". In Hong Kong both pairs were polished—without sweat or swearing.

When the Battalion arrived in Hong Kong each company took over from the outgoing unit, in addition to more normal equipment, one or two boot

boys. Corunna was blest with Lai and Chang, two small, slight specimens of the Hakha section of Hong Kong Chinese.

Lai, who has a good command of English, explained that, for five Hong Kong dollars per soldier, polished boots would be on parade daily. Not all soldiers availed themselves of this service; which hadn't was quite apparent on muster parade next morning when the shine of the majority was most gratifying to the inspecting officer.

Wherever the company went—except on batta-



Lai (left) and Chang with some of the 37,340 pairs of boots they cleaned for Corunna

lion exercises or to the Jungle Warfare School in Malaya—Lai and Chang went too. In company camp under canvas, with reveille at 0430 hrs., they were up, blue with cold, and could be seen in the dim light of the CQMS's admin area crouched at the feet of a soldier who, with "banjo" in one hand and a mug of tea in the other, would be telling them to get a move on. "Finger out, Lai, I'm on parade in a minute."

When the Company went on border guard and, at times, was split up from Man Kam To to Sandy Ridge and on to Lowo, Lai and Chang got the polish through on bicycles.

They have polished boots for 14 years all over the Colony for many famous regiments including the

Green Howards and the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers.

For us they polished 312 pairs of boots a week; and that makes 1,248 a month, 14,976 a year and a grand total during our tour of 37,340 pairs.

Now we are on Public Duties in London they are sorely missed. Pte. Taylor 44 was heard to say to Pte. Whitely 93, "We should have asked for an extra MFO box, put a bag of rice in it, put Lai and Chang on top and sent the box off to Catterick. That would have taken care of the spit and polish required for Jimmy's and Buck House."

From Corunna to Lai and Chang: "*Kung Hoy Fat Chow*" (Happy New Year!).

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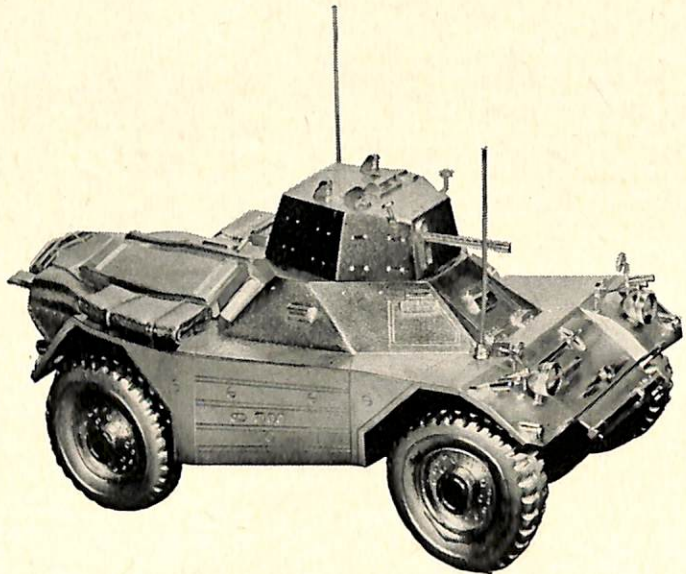
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Regimental Headquarters

This has been an uneventful time for RHQ but much interest and activity has been caused by the promised reactivation of the Territorials.

The dream of the Cadre being expanded to battalion size faded when it was realised that only some of the cadres of the former TA units were to be expanded and these only to company size. As gunner units were involved, the grouping of the companies/batteries into battalions resulted in some rather mixed units.

To show clearly what has happened to The Duke's TA Battalion it is probably best to go back to 1961 when 382 Medium Regt. RA (DWR) TA and 5th/7th Battalion DWR TA amalgamated to form the West Riding Battalion (DWR) TA.

The West Riding Battalion (DWR) lasted some six years until 1967 when the TA was disbanded. The TA was renamed the Territorial Army and Volunteer Reserve. One company was raised as a Group II unit, with a reinforcement role for overseas, and the remainder of the unit, still under the command of a Lieutenant-Colonel, was called the West Riding Territorials, with a TAVR III Role (Home Defence only).

The company with a TAVR II role became part of 1st Battalion The Yorkshire Volunteers which consists of a Command and Adm Company at York, "A" Company (PWO) also at York, "B" Company (Green Howards) at Middlesbrough, "C" Company (DWR) at Halifax, "D" Company (Hallams) at Sheffield and "E" Company (Leeds Rifles) at Leeds.

In 1968 the West Riding Territorials, along with other TAVR III units, was disbanded for reasons of economy though allowed to survive as a cadre of three officers and five ORs.

What is now happening is that the cadres of this and other former TA units are being expanded to company size only and becoming units of two newly-formed battalions in Yorkshire.

Our cadre is to become "C" (The Duke of Wellington's Regt) Company of the 3rd Battalion The Yorkshire Volunteers based at Huddersfield. The other companies of this Battalion are to be "A" (The West Riding Artillery) Battery based on Bradford, "B" (The Sheffield Artillery Volunteers) Battery based on Rotherham and "D" (Hallamshire) Company based on Sheffield.

The CO is to be Lt.-Col. L. Tattersal RA of the Sheffield Artillery.

The newly-raised 2nd Battalion The Yorkshire Volunteers is similarly a somewhat mixed unit with "A" (Humber Artillery) Battery, "B" (PWO) Company, "C" (Leeds Rifles) Company and "D" (KOYLI) Company.

To sum up. What we now have is "C" Company (DWR) in the 1st Battalion The Yorkshire Volunteers and "C" (DWR) Company in 3rd Battalion The Yorkshire Volunteers. These two companies are based on the Halifax and Huddersfield Drill Halls respectively.

Major Keith McDonald, formerly the Cadre

commander, will be OC the newly-formed Huddersfield company.

Collar badges

The elephant collar badge was reintroduced on March 1 by 1 DWR and "Dukes" serving at Strensall.

The short notice given, coupled with the problems caused by the postal strike, was probably insufficient for junior soldiers' units and others to get jumbos for March 1. There will probably be some men on ERE whose first information of the change will be by reading *Soldier Magazine*. The editor, Mr. Peter Wood, himself an ex-Duke, was pleased to help pass on the news of the change.

Herman Harris

Herman had a write up in the *Courier* on February 1 on his golden wedding.

The Oak Seat in the RHQ flower garden was presented by him on his retirement to record over 50 years of service to the Regiment of which he felt himself a part.

Many of those who served in Halifax will remember Herman as the Depot newsagent.

He was kindly and never very prompt with his accounts which tended to mount up over the months. Many will probably have left without fully settling their paper bills. Our best wishes go to him in his retirement and our thanks for his past generosity.

Company Pub Signs

In the 1st Battalion notes from Korea in 1953 the sub-editor wrote "Company canteens sprang into being, all designed on the English pub system . . . we shall long remember the names of 'The Supporting Arms', 'The Baker's Dozen', 'Charley's Bar', etc., and the excellent pub signs made by the Pioneers which, we hope, will eventually find their way to the Regimental Museum."

Unfortunately, none of them did. The Director of Halifax Museums is very anxious to know whether any survives in the possession of someone who was there. If anybody has any information about what happened to them will he, please, communicate with either the Bankside Museum or RHQ.

Regimental History

A new short history of the Regiment has been written by Major-General James Lunt who was commissioned into The Duke's in 1937. It is one of the "Famous Regiments" series introduced by Lt. General Sir Brian Horrocks.

Copies are available from RHQ at a cost of £1.05 post free.

Officers Dinner Club

The annual luncheon and dinner will be held on Friday, May 14, at the Hyde Park Hotel.

The King's Division News

Once again, the emergency in Northern Ireland exerted considerable influence on events for regiments of the Division. A deterioration in the situation led to the 1st Battalion The Green Howards moving there on June 29, 1970, closely followed by 1st Battalion The King's Regiment. Having finished their tour in Northern Ireland, the 1st Battalion The Queen's Lancashire Regiment returned briefly to Dover and left for Osnabruck in November. Almost simultaneously the 1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment arrived in Catterick from Hong Kong to face a heavy programme which includes Public Duties in London early in 1971 and a tour in Northern Ireland later in that year. The 1st Battalion The Royal Irish Rangers left Catterick for Hemer (BAOR) in October with the prospect of a six-months unaccompanied tour in Cyprus during their BAOR tour. The 2nd Battalion The Royal Irish Rangers are due back from Bahrein in March/April 1971.

The winter Division Meetings took place at Strensall on December 8 and 9. The Colonel Commandant's meeting was attended by all Colonels of Regiments, Regimental Secretaries and all but two Commanding Officers who, for operational reasons, had to send representatives. We were also privileged to have at the meeting, the Director of Infantry, Major-General C. W. Dunbar, CBE. During this meeting, the Colonel Commandant welcomed his successor, Major-General J. H. S. Majury, MBE, late of the Royal Irish Rangers, now General Officer Commanding West Midland District. Major-General Majury's appointment as Colonel Commandant has now been confirmed as effective from April 30, 1971. Lt.-General Sir Richard Anderson, KCB, CBE, DSO, Colonel The King's Own Royal Border Regiment, on behalf of all members of the Division, expressed appreciation of the work done by Major-General Bredin as our first Colonel Commandant and wished him well for the future.

Adult recruiting in 1970 has shown a slight improvement on 1969 and we as a Division are now 100.7% of our manpower target. However, the trend is still downwards and the pressure must be maintained in 1971 if we are to keep up to strength. Junior Soldier recruiting has been good and we have some 540 Juniors under training at either Junior Units or Depots.

The Colonel Commandant congratulates The North Irish Militia on winning the China Cup and the Sub-Machine Gun Match at the TA Rifle Association Meeting at Bisley in July 1970. This is the first time that this cup, the most coveted trophy of the meeting, has gone to Northern Ireland.

Also to be congratulated is Major Sam Robertson of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment on his successes in both the National and Army Rifle Association 1970 Meetings at Bisley. At the NRA Meeting he won the Regular and Territorial Armies

Cup and at the ARA Meeting the ARA Silver Jewel, having come second in the Army Championship for the Regular Army.

Two officers of the Division have been honoured by awards for service with the Sultan of Muscat's Forces. They are: Major J. J. McFrederick, R Irish, who was awarded the Sultan of Muscat's Distinguished Conduct Medal, and Capt. C. F. Hepworth, Kings, who was awarded the Sultan of Muscat's Bravery Medal. The Colonel Commandant warmly congratulates both officers.

In the field of sport, mention must be made of the swimming team of the 1st Battalion The Queen's Lancashire Regiment who took second place in the Army Inter-Unit Team Championships in July 1970. This was achieved despite the team's involvement in guards and other internal security duties in Northern Ireland during their training for the competition.

The Divisional Brigadier

Brigadier Thomas Roy Birkett, OBE, became Divisional Brigadier, The King's Division, on September 28, 1970.

Brigadier Birkett was born on March 7, 1922. At the beginning of world war II he served in the ranks for just over a year. In 1941 he was commissioned into the Rajputana Rifles, Indian Army, and saw active service in Burma in 1944 with the 3/6th Rajputana Rifles in the 19th Division.

He transferred to the British Army in 1945 as a regular officer in the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers. In 1952 he transferred to the East Yorkshire Regiment and was subsequently rebadged to the Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire.

He attended the 1956 Staff College Course. After Camberley he was brigade major, 11 Infantry Brigade in BAOR, from 1957 to 1960. He then attended the US Armed Forces Staff Course (equivalent of our JSSC) and, after a short period with 1 PWO as a company commander, spent three years as an instructor at the Staff College.

In 1965 he was promoted lieutenant-colonel to command 1 PWO, then at Colchester. Later in the year the battalion, under his command, was actively employed in the Crater district of Aden and in the Radfan.

In August 1968 he was selected for the post of Colonel G.S. in the Military Operations branch at MOD. He was promoted to brigadier in June 1970.

In May 1946 he was mentioned in despatches and was awarded the OBE in January 1967 for his services in Aden and the Western Protectorate with 1 PWO.

Brigadier Birkett is married; he has a son at London University and a daughter who is a St. John and Red Cross Services Welfare Officer, currently serving in Cyprus.

The King's Division Depot, Yorkshire

Headquarters Company

With the arrival back of the 1st Battalion to Catterick, the number of P7 Specialists has decreased to a mere trickle.

RQMS Sargent has taken over complete command of the "Q" side of the Depot in the absence of the QM who recently suffered a heart attack. From what we hear he is managing admirably. Does this mean he is pushing for his commission?

The Provost Staff continues to be dominated by "Dukes" with L/Cpl. Bagshaw coming to join L/Cpl. Rutherford. It is rumoured that, since he has given up smoking, Slim Rutherford is planning on running in the sprint events of the Depot Athletic meeting.

Training Company

The contingent of "Dukes" continues to form the backbone of training company. Capt. Westcob and Cpl. Lucky have finally been reunited and are once more back to normal after taking the Junior Leaders' Platoon up to Otterburn for a fortnight's Battle Camp.

Our congratulations are extended to Lt. Chris Gilbert and his charming lady, Angela, on their recent marriage.

Sgts. Dowdall and Blood are both hard at it again studying for their ACE I. It is strange not having a training platoon run by a predominantly "Dukes" contingent—so hurry up, Sergeants, and get qualified!

Cpls. Blood (Brush) and Grey are coming to the end of their tours and are due back to the Battalion shortly. Cpl. Exley is now firmly entrenched after completing his Warminster Course. With Cpls. Wood and Cook, the flag is kept flying high.

Congratulations to Cpls. Blood and Wood on the recent additions to their families. We hear they are already badged as future "Dukes".

Junior Soldiers' Company

The departure of Lts. Palmer and Jowett has left a gap in the hierarchy in the Company and the onus now lies on the redoubtable team of Sgt. Leachman, Cpls. Millar and Kelly and newly-arrived L/Cpl. Heslop. The company still remains dominated by potential "Dukes"—long may this continue.

Over the past few months, the company has been hard at it with a Battle Camp at Leek and yet another in March up at Otterburn.

The Drums Platoon are preparing for several outside engagements, the most important being the 1900th Centenary Celebrations in York and a Soccer Youth International between England and Eire.

In the Junior Soldiers' Cross-country Team Championships in January the following "Dukes" represented the Company: Fereday, Jarvis, Walton, Fitzpatrick and Wright (18). However, for all their efforts, the team did not qualify for the finals.

In the Junior Soldiers' Hockey Championships we fared much better beating the Light Infantry Depot 1—0. We were eventually knocked out by the Scottish Infantry Depot (Bridge of Don) 2—1. The following represented the company: Wright (88), Grange, Filton and Foxton.

Shooting

The Depot Small Bore League is now drawing to its close with only one more round to go. The Officers' Mess Team with three "Dukes" in it are in an almost unassailable position: Major Sam Robertson, Capt. Alan Westcob and L/Cpl. Allen. The wives' team, captained by Vera Robertson, have thrown out a challenge to the Mess Team, having already beaten the others (without sandbags for rests!) It should be an interesting match.

Officers Mess

As usual the Mess has had a hectic session what with Christmas and New Year festivities. Sgt. Laherty, ably supported by Cpl. George Hayton, L/Cpls. Powell and Allen, has coped with the situation admirably. The change over of commanding officers and the work involved preparing for the arrival of the Preston element of the Depot has been causing Robin Newell to put in some very long hours.

On top of this he and Alan Westcob continue to slave away on their Staff College syllabus. We feel sorry for their wives, Jill and Gel, who seem to have accepted the long hours of study admirably. Chris Gilbert is now settled in his quarter with Angie. Apparently he is becoming an expert in commuting between Strensall and York Station twice a day—oh to have a working wife.

With the spring cocktail party looming up we are all looking forward to the opportunity of extending invitations to the Battalion to come and pay us a visit.

No. 10 ARMY YOUTH TEAM

Since THE IRON DUKE last went to print we have had a busy yet relatively unexciting time. September saw us start work with more schools than ever, and with larger numbers in almost every case. We also started our annual '22 competition for youth clubs in the same month and it is now in its closing stages with some 120 young people having fired about 9,000 rounds between them.

After an invitation from the Huddersfield Duke of Edinburgh's Award Committee to assist them with their annual exhibition and presentation, we took over the St. Paul's Drill Hall (with the kind blessing of Col. Sugden and Major Keith McDonald) and virtually lived there for the last week in October. Despite our feverish efforts at carpentry and painting, amongst other occupations, the display was a great success, attracting a record attendance.

In December we held our second Discussion

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Evening and, along with a very large number of guests, were delighted to welcome our new CRLS, Lt.-Col. O'Kelly, who started the ball rolling with a couple of very apt jokes. As with our first Discussion Evening in 1969 the Ministry kindly allotted us sufficient funds to enable us to repay some of the excellent hospitality we had received over the previous year.

At this point it is perhaps worth mentioning that during 1970 we had direct contact with, and gave some form of instruction to, about 1,600 young people aged between 14 and 19. This figure represents approximately 18% of the population in that age bracket in the Huddersfield area.

After a relatively short Christmas leave we settled down to planning this year's programme (which includes a combined cadet tattoo, a camp for 240 school children, a weekend on the North Sea and a few days in a monastery) and to preparing for this term's school activities. We also visited Col. Walter Skelsey at Scargill House to give some advice on the construction of an assault course. He was about to go on a month's leave and, not surprisingly, was in great form.

Last month Sgt. Tom Martin left us to return to the Battalion. He had been with the team for two-and-a-half years and had gained great respect from youth circles in the area for the enthusiasm and effort which he put into his work. His efforts with The Huddersfield Area Army Cadet Force (DWR) were particularly appreciated and, at a special social evening in January, the Area Commander, Major John Howarth on behalf of the Area officers and instructors, presented Sgt. Martin with a silver tankard as a token of their gratitude. He has been replaced by Sgt. Cyril Howard who has previously spent some time with the team and who is already making his presence felt. We wish them and their



The Team

families all the best for the future in their respective jobs.

Finally, we must say a word about our liaison with the 1st Battalion. Now that the Battalion is so close to the regimental recruiting area we hope that as many people as possible will visit us here and find out how we work and how we assist the Regiment as a whole. We have heard rumours of some KAPE tours being planned and look forward to these as opportunities for securing closer ties between the Battalion and its Youth Team.

The Army Cadet Force

Huddersfield Area (DWR)

WELCOME HOME—1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, our parent unit. Your exploits in the Far East have been enthusiastically followed by us all, and we look forward to seeing more of you (particularly of the many ex-cadets serving within your ranks).

FAREWELL—To Major-General The Earl Cathcart, GOC Yorkshire District, on your appointment as GOC Berlin (British Sector). Your deep and genuine interest in the ACF has been far more than warmly appreciated. We are indebted to you, and our very best wishes go with you in your task ahead.

ACF Review

The Army Board have published their findings, and much good has emerged. The contents are far too long for these notes but the more notable points include:

- (a) Confirmation of the value of the ACF.
- (b) Lowering of the entry age to 13 years.
- (c) A new working dress permitting phasing out

of the old BD.

- (d) Increased financial assistance.

The report is comprehensive and detailed. We welcome the contents and look to the future reasonably reassured.

Comings and Goings

A very warm welcome is extended to SIs Roy Newman and David Cole who join Keighley and Huddersfield Detachments respectively.

To SI Peter Duffy we sadly bid goodbye. Thank you for your valued efforts, we are sorry that domestic matters prevent continuation.

10 AYT

We take opportunity of spotlighting The Team on this occasion in recognition of their sterling achievements for the ACF. Aply led by Lt. "Toby" Hirst and manned by "Dukes" personnel, their presence is indeed felt and welcomed.

Regrettably we say farewell to Sgt. Tom Martin on his return to the 1st Battalion. His devotion and enthusiasm to all matters, however humdrum, has

been splendid. We are deeply grateful, Tom, and hope to see you around in the not too distant future. Hello there to Sgt. Howard who replaces Tom Martin; we're not entirely strangers, of course, because of your spell with Capt. Danny Marsay in days gone by, and we look forward to a further happy association.

To our dear colleague, Toby Hirst, many genuine thanks also. Your initiation of ACIO help to all our detachments by way of lectures, film shows and demonstrations was superb. Physical Training throughout the Area via Cpl. Miller is first rate, and the master minding of a Pre-Service Combined Cadet Tattoo in Greenhead Park, Huddersfield, does you great credit.

This latter event will bring together Sea, Army, and Air Cadets in a display of activities and music which will include gun drill by the SCC, a pageant by the ATC, and continuity drill by the ACF. The whole will be aided by a massed corps of drums from all three services under the control of Lieut. Trevor Windle of our Huddersfield Detachment, with Leeds Royal Marine Cadet Band in addition.

Officers Mess

In December, the officers held a guest night in the Mess at St. Paul's Street, to which ladies were invited. Principal guests included the Mayor and Mayoress of Huddersfield, Councillor and Mrs. Hazelden, along with Col. and Mrs. J. C. Moncrieff, Major and Mrs. K. M. McDonald, Major T. D. Tetlow, and Major the Rev. and Mrs. R. Matthews. In a splendid after-dinner speech Councillor Hazelden expressed his town's pride in its connection with the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, and pledged his help for any military activity within the borough.

Weekend Camps

Two further weekend camps have occurred since our last set of notes, one at Burniston Barracks, Scarborough, in October when some 80% of the officer strength was struck with a common germ, contracted prior to arrival and with varying effect.

'C' Company (DWR) Yorkshire Volunteers

Compared with the last issue when, because of our most enjoyable camp in BAOR, it was difficult not to write reams, this time one is left wondering just what has happened since.

Looking back it seems to have been a round of inspections and carousals. Elsewhere appears a list of the various jollifications in the Sergeants Mess, and the canteen has been just as lively. This was discovered by a certain Lt.-Col. who turned up to inspect the ACF Contingent on one of our "Disco Nights."

On Remembrance Sunday, the Halifax Platoon paraded to the Parish Church for morning service. The lesson was read by our OC and a wreath was laid in the Regimental Chapel by the CSM, alongside those of the Regimental Association and the

However the show must go on, and an enjoyable weekend was spent map-reading and on various beach activities.

Our next weekend found us in Robin Hood country with 4 AYT and 43 AYT from Bradford (ACIO and Belle Vue Barracks respectively). With 4 AYT in attendance signals training was a must, with a very damp and noisy exercise on the Sunday morning by way of variety.

Here and There

Congratulations to Cadet Joyce of Huddersfield Detachment upon being selected for the Northern Command Team in the National ACF Swimming Championships.

Capt. Doug. Bennett of our Skipton Detachment keeps the shooting flag flying by achieving a splendid win in the 303 Individual Match at the Yorkshire District Rifle Meeting. WRACF "A" Team won the Visitors Falling Plate in superb style.

March heralded the inaugural meeting of an ACF Old Boys Association at St. Paul's Street, and who knows what help could not emanate from such a gathering.

Capt. John Tyler has recently emerged from an ACF Officers' Advanced Course at the Cadet Training Centre, Frimley Park, and Lt. Peter Turner is scheduled to depart to the same venue for a K.G. VI Course.

Rumour has it that Lt. John Clegg became engaged on a recent date, and confirmation by way of pints all round appears imminent.

General

In conclusion, a plea to NCOs/WOs about to re-join civvy street. Wherever you choose to settle, do please remember that the ACF could put your expertise to good use—your skills are desperately needed in the ACF and we hope you will swell our ranks. If you are Huddersfield bound then we "Dukes" will be delighted to throw open our doors, but even if Land's End is your destination, there'll be a Cadet Unit nearby.

OCA. Afterwards we returned to the Drill Hall, reinforced by 8 Platoon who had paraded in Huddersfield, and were joined by a few old comrades and Regimental personalities for lunch. In the afternoon a few volunteers braved the elements, and joined in the Civic Service at the Cenotaph, where they laid another wreath. This time Pte. Sweeney had the honour.

The results of that day's turn-out competition was that Pte. P. M. Burnside and L/Cpl. Liversedge were chosen as the best trained soldiers in Halifax and Huddersfield respectively and Ptes. Collins and Beaumont, best recruits in Halifax and Huddersfield respectively. They were duly rewarded on December 15 when the CO, Lt.-Col. I. G. Norton, TD, presented them with tankards.

On November 29 he had attended Halifax for his pre-FFR inspection and the following week the GOC Yorkshire District, Major-General R. M. Somerville, OBE, conducted the FFR inspection. Without flattering ourselves at all it is only fair to say that the reports of the various inspections were favourable.

Christmas with its festivities for the young and not-so young loomed up and training "tottered" to a start again in January. Since then we have had enjoyable and hard working week-ends at Warcop and Proteus. Great credit is due to all for the amount of effort put into these weekends, but especially deserving of mention are the PSIs for their preparatory work and CQMS Dolan and his cooks (Ptes. Green and Byrom) and orderlies (L/Cpl. Gillespie and Pte. Ryan) for their untiring efforts to keep us fat and contented. In spite of their efforts and the previous night's beer, there were some good times over the obstacle course at Proteus. Some of the younger lads will have to do better, though, as they let an elderly team of officers and sergeants come third!

On the subject of PSIs we now have S/Sgt. G. Holliday to reinforce WO2 Morris, and to replace S/Sgt. Glencross. We welcome him and hope that he will have an enjoyable time with us. He has already made his presence felt as his poker-faced announcement of the end of the postal strike is said to have resulted in our two postman reporting to work the next morning.

Another loss is Lt. C. J. Butterfield, but he's only gone to Middlesborough, and we wish him well there and in his job at Tyneside.

By now there are various "leaks" and rumours about the expansion of the TA. We are delighted at the news and look forward to co-operating with any new battalions or companies.

Finally, the faint-hearted will quake and only

the brave will volunteer when they learn of the hazardous location of Annual Camp in September—Scarborough!

SERGEANTS MESS NOTES

On October 4, 1970, we had a "Take your Pick" night with "Michael Morris" doing a better job of the questions than those taking part. This was followed by our second Psychedelic night on November 21 which must by now be an annual event. We had a Folk Group in keeping with hippies and there were some very good hippies on view! The PMC ended up as the best hippy, but handed the prize over to Spud Taylor, formerly West Yorks and Dukes, who was placed second.

This was followed by usual Christmas functions and a New Year's social on January 2, 1971, when we were entertained by "The Star Revellers", a terrific group. A most enjoyable evening was had by all due mainly to the Star Revellers and the comedian who came all the way from Doncaster. Brian Dolan is now recovering from the spate of socials that we have had recently, and is glad of the rest! However, "Dago" Taylor is wondering when we are going to start again.

We said "So long" to "Scottish Soldier" Glencross on January 2 on his leaving us for 1 DWR. We hope he will remember his stay with us for some time to come. In his place we extend a welcome to S/Sgt. Holliday; he will feel at home with a range on his doorstep.

On February 14 we had a Mess *versus* Gooks lunchtime. The Mess being eventual winners 13 to 11, winning at carpet bowls 5 to 1, drawing at dominoes and "fives and threes", and losing at darts 2 to 4. So we have Walt to thank for educating us in carpet bowls, otherwise the Gooks would have walked it.

West Riding Battalion (DWR) Cadre

Since Christmas we have once again been going through the preliminary stages of a Territorial Army reorganisation. This involves the digestion of an amazing number of rumours, most of which are completely unfounded. It results in those directly involved missing many hours of leisure time (let alone sleep) making decisions, attending committee meetings, and worrying about the effect of the reorganisation on units and individuals. When eventually the official decisions are made public knowledge, many pints are drunk whilst these decisions are compared with the original rumours, and are then pulled to pieces by all those Territorial soldiers in the canteen who know much better than the Ministry of Defence how their unit should be organised. The remarkable thing is that the Territorial soldier thrives on this situation and, as has been proved so often in the past, accepts the new organisation and, within a very short space of time, is soldiering on with all his old enthusiasm. In Huddersfield we have had our fair share of undigestable rumours, we have attended committee meetings

and made decisions, we have torn apart the new organisation, and we are now preparing to start soldiering again.

The Officers Mess organised their New Year's Eve Ball in the Drill Hall on December 31. 320 officers, their wives and friends attended and we were very pleased to welcome amongst the guests The Mayor and Mayoress of Huddersfield, the CO The Yorkshire Volunteers, and a large party of KOYLI officers from Wakefield.

On the Sunday before Christmas, our Regimental Association Band gave a carol service in the Canteen. We were pleased to see a large number of familiar faces, not only behind an instrument in the Band, but also behind a pint pot in the audience.

Much hard work lies before us before the new unit officially starts to operate on April 1. We look forward to welcoming the Regular Army Staff who are due to join us in March, and all the Volunteer soldiers, both old and new, who will make up "C" Company, 3rd Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers.

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The Regimental Association

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

London and Home Counties Branch Dinner

The annual reunion dinner will be held this year on Saturday, May 15 1971, in the Drill Hall of the Queen Victoria's Rifles Association, 56 Davies Street, Berkeley Square, London W1, 7.30 for 8 p.m.

Applications for tickets, price £1 each, should be made to the Secretary, Mr. R. H. Temple, 59 Burnfoot Avenue, Fulham, London SW6.

AGM and Reunion Dinner

The AGM and Reunion Dinner, followed by a Dance, will be held in the Drill Hall, St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield, on Saturday, September 25, 1971. AGM 5.30 p.m. Dinner 7.15 p.m.

Tickets, price £1, obtainable from the General Secretary at RHQ or from Branch Secretaries.

Regimental Service York

Owing to the unavailability of the Regimental Chapel in York Minster because of renovations, the Regimental Service this year will again be held in the Garrison Church at Queen Elizabeth's Barracks, Strensall, York on Saturday, October 30, 1971, at 11 a.m.

The Regimental Sweepstake—1971

The annual Regimental Sweepstake on the St. Leger to be run this year on Saturday, September 11, 1971, is now being arranged.

Someone will win £100, others £50, £25 and £10, with £1 for each runner. Also, this year, as a new innovation, a special prize of £5 will be given to the person who sells the winning 1st prize ticket.

Books of tickets, 10 in a book, price per ticket 5p, will shortly be sent out. When you have sold them, send for more. If you have not received any books to sell by mid August write to the General Secretary at RHQ DWR, Wellesley Park, Halifax and tell him how many books you can sell. New sellers are wanted—please send your name to RHQ.

Profits from this sweepstake are for Regimental and charitable funds.

R.A. NOTES

First and Foremost. Welcome home to the 1st Battalion. We are all very glad you are back. (It's time someone came to put things on an even keel and we've every confidence in 1 DWR.)

Speaking on the 'phone to Bob Temple of the London Branch a few moments ago, he informs me that both he and Dave Benson have been treated royally by the 1st Battalion whilst on guard duties in London. Drinks in the Mess, Dave's special trip as a guest to Buckingham Palace. It all sounded so exciting I cursed the postal strike which has pre-

vented detailed notes from being submitted; also prevented personal invitations being sent to members of the London Branch to visit the Battalion during their tour.

Jack Wardle, Secretary of the Bradford Branch, cannot understand why the "hard core" of the Bradford Branch are the only "active" members when there must be scores of ex-serving "Dukes" living in Bradford area who could, especially in these never trouble-free days of late, enjoy the rejuvenation of our soldier masonry, mixing with men and women of like ilk who meet to keep alive that indefinable comradeship fostered in service life.

At the Management Committee Meeting of the OCA and Regimental Associations held at RHQ Wellesley Park on Sunday, January 17, 1971, some branch secretaries expressed concern over the diminishing numbers attending branch meetings. All present agreed that it was the "old hard core" who were keeping the branches alive and that there was a shortage of younger members who should now be prepared to take over the reins to ensure the continuation of branches. Present day counter-attractions and other commitments could be the cause, also, the Day's Pay Scheme (whereby a soldier automatically becomes a Life Member of the Association when he elects to subscribe) could be detracting from the publicity afforded the Association when his membership subscription was made by a physical hand over of hard cash. Action is now being taken to bring to the notice of younger soldiers the aim, purpose, facilities offered and benefits obtainable from the Association and the importance of keeping it alive and active.

A list of officials, the objects and aim of the Association and details of branches is again published in order that "Dukes", wherever they may be, can enlist our aid if need be, or help our appeal to strengthen the "active list" of our branches. Any suggestions, advice or help required should be sent either to Branch Secretaries at their home addresses or to the General Secretary at RHQ, Wellesley Park, Highroad Well, Halifax.

Other items on the agenda discussed at the Management Committee Meeting included the London Branch Dinner, 1971, The Annual Reunion Dinner, 1971 and the Regimental Service, 1971. Details of these events appear elsewhere.

Stanley Coupe, who lost a leg from injuries received on the sports field in Hong Kong has now been fitted with an artificial leg and discharged from the Army. He is living at 99 Ovenden Way, Halifax, with his mother and is at present attending a rehabilitation course in Leeds learning watch and clock repairs. He sends his best wishes to his friends in the 1st Battalion.

The General Secretary and Jackie Horne paid a visit recently to Sharrow House, Ripon, a British Legion Home where Steve North and Frank Watson of our Regiment are residents. Both were in excellent health and spirits and fellow residents spoke highly of Steve and how this old "Dukes" warrior still entertained them with "songs the soldiers knew".

Tom Skinner-Berkeley, Secretary of 5 DWR OCA, recently paid a visit to the Huddersfield Welfare Homes and Beechwood Cheshire Home. Of the 42 residents, 7 have served in The Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

BLESMA (British Limbless Ex-Servicemen's Association)

This Association caters for the well-being and welfare of limbless ex-Service men and women whether or not they are members of BLESMA. There are still many limbless ex-Service men who could benefit from its services. If you are a limbless ex-Service man, or know of any, would you please inform the General Secretary at RHQ. Help is also available to the widows of limbless ex-Servicemen.

Johnny Sargeant (RQMS King's Div Depot) would like a Dukes car badge for his car. Answers to General Secretary, RHQ.

BRANCH NOTES

With the loss of Ted Samples, Secretary of Halifax Branch, who died in January, we have lost a very dear friend, a staunch supporter of the Regiment and ever-willing member of the OCA.

We grieve with his widow and family.

Fred Stringer has taken over acting Secretaryship of the Halifax Branch.

Branches continue to hold their monthly meetings and functions and with the new reorganisation of the Territorial Army we are keeping our fingers crossed that our meeting places in the drill halls will be unaffected.

We hear that the Bradford Territorials are introducing a new discotheque in their newly decorated drill hall. Will this help the Bradford branch—even make a waiting list necessary?

Dave Benson and Bob Temple of the London Branch represented the OCA and Regimental Association at the Field of Remembrance Service in London on November 8, 1970.

Mr. Temple reports that Bill Smith was also present. Bill Smith was with the 2nd Battalion (Egypt and Singapore days 1922-28) and played second cornet in the Band. Mr. Smith hopes to be at the London Dinner on May 15, 1971, and looks forward to seeing his old friends from the North.

Another "Bill Smith" (W. G. Smith, Secretary of Keighley Branch) and his members organised their first social at Keighley Drill Hall in November and a good "do" it was too. It was pleasing to see the young cadet soldiers helping to make that evening such a success (the "old sweats" really appreciated

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

Patron

His Grace The Duke of Wellington, KG

President: General Sir Robert Bray,
GBE, KCB, DSO

Vice-President: Col. J. Davidson, Mount
House, Terrington, York.

General Secretary: Mr. A. Wood, RHQ,
Wellesley Park, Halifax.

Branch Secretaries

London and Home Counties: Mr. R. H. Temple,
59 Burnfoot Avenue, Fulham, London, S.W.6.

Bradford: Mr. J. Wardle, 31 Woodhall Avenue,
Thornbury, Bradford, 3.

Halifax: Mr. F. H. Stringer, 26 Savile Park,
Savile Rd., Halifax.

Huddersfield: Mr. J. E. Horne, 9 New St, Slaithwaite, Huddersfield.

Keighley: Mr. W. G. Smith, 1 Beech St., Steeton, Keighley.

Mossley: Mr. F. Shaw, 325 Stockport Rd., Mossley, Ashton-u-Lyne, Lancs.

Sheffield: (Regimental representative) Mr. J. A. Hough, 17 Delf St., Heeley, Sheffield, 2.

PURPOSE AND AIM OF THE ASSOCIATION

1. To maintain and promote *esprit de corps* and fellowship between all serving and past members of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment and to recommend the Regiment to suitable men and boys desirous of joining the Army. To circulate information about the Regiment among members of the Association.
2. To receive and distribute on behalf of the Trustees any charitable or relief funds connected with or existing for the benefit of the Regiment in accordance with the conditions of such funds. These funds exist for the assistance of members and ex-members of the Regiment, their wives and dependants who may be in difficulty or distress.

the waiter service). Coach loads from Halifax and Mossley helped swell the throng. The useless piano had the effect of making singing the louder and merrier and, strangely enough, more in harmony. (Who needs a piano with Joe Chaddick around!)

The Huddersfield Branch presented our Regimental plaque to the Royal Air Forces Association (Huddersfield Branch) on November 27, 1970. After welcoming the RAFA Branch President, Squadron Leader H. W. A. Taphouse and members of the RAFA Association, Mr. G. H. Machen, Chairman of the Huddersfield DWR Association branch, called on Mr. J. Horne to make the presentation. Jackie said how pleased he was to be making this presentation in appreciation of the warm friendship and co-operation that existed between our respective Associations. In reply, Squadron Leader Taphouse expressed thanks and said that they considered it a great honour to be able to dis-

play the shield of such a fine and renowned regiment in their club. It would have a very special and prominent place. The presentation was followed by a jolly social evening.

Jack Powell, Chairman Mossley branch, certainly keeps that branch on the move. At the time of writing these notes it is known that a "mystery tour" has been arranged for this Saturday, February 20. A coach will leave Mossley 7.30 p.m., meander over the Lancashire hills to the plains of Cheshire, its occupants eventually quaffing ale with mine host at the Grey Horse Hotel, Romilly, Cheshire—"mine host" being the popular ex-PSI from Mossley—Cornelius Sullivan. (The writer had been informed of the "mystery" in advance as he lives "O'er t'brew (brow)" and will not be joining the party on this occasion.) *After note: A 'phone*

Multan

by IMRAY

The last episode of Mr. Imray's recollections of his service landed the draft for 2 DWR at Karachi on January 3, 1938—Ed.

We had a 26-hour journey from Karachi to Multan and reached our destination at 2 a.m. The whole Battalion seemed to be there to meet us. Lots of us had friends who had preceded us to India and they came along to give us a welcome. Not so my squad mate, Geordie Gardner, who remarked, "You idiot, what made you come to this place?"

Multan had an awful reputation among the troops. It was known as a punishment station to the rank and file but whether the Army classed it as such I don't know. Bitterly cold nights and plenty of sports fields made me think this reputation was unfounded. We had plenty of space for all sports and in the Fort where my company was stationed was a good hockey pitch.

Our first job on arrival was to pass the physical efficiency tests as drawn up by Col. J. C. Christison, our CO. Readers of THE IRON DUKE of that period may remember a cartoon showing a soldier throwing the discus and the caption described it as "The Christison twist." Everyone was trying to amass 27 points and there were nine events to gain the points on. The only snag was most of us had never thrown a hammer or discus, javelin etc. and about one-third lost their proficiency pay, but such was the enthusiasm and desire to get that pay back that two of the failures, Taffy Evans, of March 11 Squad, 1934, and Bestall became Battalion champions at the Javelin and the Hammer respectively. It at least kept us off our bed cots and physically and mentally fit.

Our next destination was Mussaffarghar. It was about 22 miles from Multan and the place for training. We marched there and halted for our midday meal on the banks of the Chenab. It was

message (postal strike) Monday, February 22, informs me that over 40 members enjoyed a wonderful evening and that Con and his wife had made a special welcome cake iced with the Dukes crest in the centre. Funds raised on this outing will go to the "OAP Fund" of this branch which is set aside to help defray costs of outings, expenses, etc. of their OAP members.

Invitations are also out to attend another Grand Social in the Club at Greenfield Paper Mill on March 27. Another date on which the Yorkshire contingents will cross the border for the regal treatment and entertainment always provided at this sumptuous club. Many thanks to Mossley's President, Major Eric Mowatt, for his never failing efforts to ensure that nothing but the best is good enough for the "lads" from Mossley and their friends.

like something out of the Arabian Nights to my young soldier eyes. In the distance I could see a huge colourful marquee and small tables with coloured canopies. We halted and sat at the tables and gaily uniformed bearers served us with tea. It was 1½ annas a teapot and cheap for three cups of tea. That spectacle I got used to in time. Anglo-Indian as spoken by Thomas Atkins also. A little Urdu and lots of English and we thought we were born linguists.

The schemes were without imagination and on one we crossed the same canal about thirty times going around in circles. Economy was the order of the day and we used as little land as possible to save paying compensation but we were never told what the whole scheme entailed and just marched the whole day and were ready for our "all-in stew" at the end of it.

I tried to learn as much about Multan as was possible and the little gleanings I picked up are here for the readers' interest. Alexander the Great was defeated in Multan and it was the start of his downfall. The Indian Mutiny began to fall apart with the first defeat at this place of the mutineers. There was a story that all victors had their first defeats at Multan. Maybe it was the heat.

The town is inhabited by a fanatical sect of Muslim known as Sunnias and in their Koran it is said that Father Abraham was at Multan when ordered to place his son Jacob on the sacrificial fire. The sun was so low and so hot he took it out of the sky and lit the fire.

The Civil and Military Gazette had an article in each day. It was a pictorial outline of a race. Each military Cantonment was represented by a horse and in the lead was Jacobabad. The article was called "The Heat Stakes." General Jacobs had founded the place called after him and the temperature was often 127 degrees in the shade but a short head behind came a horse called Multan at

about 123 to 125 in the shade. However, the former was a ghost town and Multan was inhabited by a battalion of British troops.

It was about April when the heat came. We had been told Reveille would be at 4 a.m. with two parades out of doors and two indoors. That took us to 1030 when we cleaned guns or did indoor jobs. Khus-khus tatties were placed upon doors and windows and coolies threw water on this stuff. This action was said to decrease the indoor temperature by two degrees. Our midday meal was brought to us by the cooks and a mineral water shop was opened in the sports store to encourage us to drink as much liquid as possible. Mr. Renney and L/Cpl. Jones were in charge of this establishment.

Nights when the punkahs failed and the sweat poured out of our sleepless bodies. Some men soaked their sheets in cold water and slept on them like that. Prickly heat became a nightmare. Men were covered in a purplish dye or calamine lotion sold by the Medical Officer, Major Foster, RAMC, at 2 annas a tin. It was wasted effort and after a couple of tins we accepted the discomfort and kept our annas.

An order was given to wear shirts outside our trousers, native fashion, but some pundits said the Company Commander, Capt. J. C. K. Faithful, was trying to make us go native. It was a sensible idea and very cooling. Eventually the shirts khaki flannel were too unbearable and we were allowed to wear white shirts on parade. Woe betide the man going outside without a topee. On a charge, and how. Topees were inspected every Thursday which was a holiday. 2/Lt. Mussafar Khan, one of the ULIA* officers, was in charge of this parade and any signs of softness on the crown of the hat and we were ordered to buy a replacement. A topee cost 2s 6d but our clothing allowance was good and ample to cover this expense.

Sport was a must. Every evening all men had to do an hour's rigorous sport of some kind—football, running, hockey, etc., and some fine sportsmen were produced. I knew men who were unknown as sportsmen in the 1st Battalion, but in the 2nd, where the opportunities were better, they blossomed as Battalion players and if we had been in a bigger military area would have represented higher formations. Men came around asking for eleven men to play a sport and volunteers turned out. Eventually their prowess came to the notice of the Sports Officer. We had a competition where we represented our home town team at football. I played for Newcastle United. Sheffield teams ran into all the days of the week and in 1938 the competition was won by Sheffield Saturday captained by Dolly Dawson.

The Hills were our Mecca and in July we left the Fort for Dalhousie and returned to Edwardes Barracks in the October where Capt. J. H. Dalrymple took over. We were the only company in the Cantonment when war broke out.

*Unattached List Indian Army: all officers newly commissioned from Sandhurst to the Indian Army spent a year attached to a British battalion before joining their own unit.

We had two deaths. John Hogg of my Squad and Pte. Herbert Lister. They lie with veterans of The Mutiny and this cemetery abounds with them.

Word came that we were to go to Delhi later that year 1939 and we had a church parade when every man turned out. The Roman Catholic priest and his fellow clerics were later detained as enemy aliens. They were Italians. John McGowan was my Platoon NCO at this time and he gradually taught us the ways of a soldier in India. Delhi lay ahead and, as the Battalion marched out of this awful Multan place, Monty Marshall began to cry: "Ram, Ram Gopi Ram, Ram, Ram."

The whole battalion took up the cry and in unison we shouted our last goodbye. Gopi Ram was a contractor in the town and it was his shop we were passing.

I went back to Multan about two years later on my way from Bombay to Karachi with a draft of another regiment. It was hot as usual and as I saw the pallid faces of The Somerset Light Infantry, I remembered the days when we were also in hell in a place called Multan.

IMRAY.

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Personalia

ENGAGEMENTS

Sharp—Watson

The engagement is announced between John Newton Sharp, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Sharp of Avenue House, East Keswick, near Leeds, Yorkshire, and Elizabeth Ann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. K. A. Watson of Sheko, Hong Kong.

Newman—Kennedy

The engagement is announced between Christopher Graham Newman, The Royal Army Pay Corps, third son of Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Newman of Gloucester and Penelope Ann Kennedy, The Women's Royal Army Corps, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. Kennedy, 18 Mayfield Terrace South, Halifax, Yorkshire.

Richardson—Wathen

The engagement is announced between John, son of the late Mr. E. B. Richardson, CBE, and Mrs. E. C. Richardson of Sydney, Australia, and Jennifer, daughter of Col. and Mrs. A. H. G. Wathen, of Haxby, York. The marriage will take place on May 15 in Perth.

MARRIAGE

Gilbert—Green

The marriage took place on Monday, December 28, 1970, at the Church of the Holy Trinity, Eridge Green, Sussex, between Lt. Christopher John William Gilbert, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, son of Mrs. M. A. Gilbert and the late Major M. A. Gilbert, of Richmond, Surrey and Angela St. Clair, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. G. W. Green of Hong Kong.

Golden Weddings

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Moran of Boothtown, Halifax, celebrated their Golden Wedding on February 12, 1971. During World War I, Mr. Moran served for three years in The Duke of Wellington's Regiment in France. He lost his left arm in the fighting on the Somme. Mr. Moran retired in 1959 after 40 years' service at Halifax Post Office.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Harris, of 240 Warley Road, Halifax, celebrated their Golden Wedding on February 1, 1971. A tribute to Mr. Harris for his long association with the old Regimental Depot can be found in the Regimental Headquarters' Notes.

Col. Donald Isles has left his job as Col. GS (W) at MOD (AEP5). He is now the Military Project Co-ordinator at the Royal Armament Research and Development Establishment at Fort Halstead, Sevenoaks. Also at this unit is Lt.-Col. Robert

Nicholson who, as a Special List lieutenant-colonel, is employed as a GSO 2 (W). However, it does not seem that they will be together for long as the latter has applied to retire in May.

Capt. Charles Bunbury has just been posted to the RMA Sandhurst as a Company Instructor. We wish him a happy and successful tour. With him, of course, will be Lt.-Col. Mike Hardy who is the GSO 1 (Training). This must be the first occasion when two officers of the Regiment have been on the staff of the Academy at the same time.

After an intensive period of briefing and preparation in this country, Lt.-Col. Rodney Harms is back in the Arabian Gulf, commanding the 1st Abu Dhabi Defence Regiment. We wish him every success. As there are no married quarters available his wife, Elizabeth, and their children have remained behind and are living at Tangier House, Howe Barracks, Canterbury, Kent.

Major David Cowell has now taken up his duties as Training Major, 3rd Battalion The Yorkshire Volunteers. His will be the problem of organising the training of a unit composed of two batteries of Artillery and two companies of Infantry, though all are to be in an Infantry role. "C" Company is the "Dukes" Company, commanded by Major Keith McDonald.

Major Mike Campbell-Lamerton has replaced Major David Cowell as GSO 2 (Cadets) HQ Yorkshire District. As the District HQ is located not too far away from Catterick he has retained his married quarter and he thus has the good fortune to be able to live with the Battalion though serving away from it.

Lt.-Col. Hugh LeMessurier who, as readers will remember, retired before Christmas and became Range Commandant at Catterick, is still looking for a suitable house in the area. In the meantime he can be contacted through Lloyds Bank, Catterick Camp.

We have heard that Major Steve Dunn has recovered fairly recently from a severe illness. If any of his old friends should wish to write to him or visit him, his address is Walnut Tree Cottage, Fordwich, Canterbury, Kent.

In our last issue, brief mention was made that Major "Guy" Potts had been appointed an MBE. We feel sure that readers would like to know that it was "for his services as ADOS in Dharan, Nepal", where he had been on the HQ Staff of the Gurkhas for seven years, that he was given this award.

CSM Cornelius Sullivan is now landlord of the

"Grey Horse", Stockport Road, Romilly, Cheshire. He is anxious that old friends should call in and see him.

CSM Johnny Fee has retired to civilian life and has settled in Halifax. He is employed as a departmental manager in a local supermarket.

A new and recently joined member of the Old Comrades Association is Mr. Dixon Pickup, who served in the Regiment as a National Serviceman from 1959 to 1961. He is now the professional at the Leicester City Golf Club and hopes that any "Duke" who might visit his course for a round of golf will introduce himself. We understand that he is, also, quite an authority on Regimental badges.

We offer our congratulations to CSM Bill Norman on his award of a Clasp to his Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. We understand that no other "Duke" has gained this distinction. Bill Norman enlisted into the Regiment as a Boy in Aldershot in 1934 and came onto Man's Service in Multan in 1938. After all these years he is still serving and is fittingly employed at the Army Careers Information Office Huddersfield, recruiting soldiers into the Army. He tells us that he hopes to serve for at least another four or five years! Those who know him will be interested to learn that, though he has little time for practice, he is still shooting in the Army Target Rifle Long Range and Short Range teams.

We hear from Major Tony Savory that he has been appointed Chief Personnel Executive of Unigate. This takes him to the top of his professional tree as Unigate—primarily engaged in the dairy and food business—is one of the largest companies in England and employs 35,000 people.

Major Savory joined Unigate about 15 months ago, as Management Development Advisor, having previously been with Rootes for 10 years.

Major Bob Burton is engaged in the second-hand book business. He writes, "At the beginning of 1968 my wife and I started a postal second-hand book business from our house in Cirencester. However, local people wanted an opportunity to 'browse' and as this habit grew—and rather held up the paper work—we opened a small bookshop in the town in the summer of 1969. We now have hopes of enlarging this. We have about 20,000 books, on almost every subject (in almost every corner!) and constantly find that the oddest ones are those most keenly sought—things like old geology, coaching, books on early motor cycles and original Penguins.

"We are especially interested in military history, sporting books and good fiction—also old county maps and prints. We should always be delighted to give advice on buying or selling books second-hand and, of course, to look out for any special 'wants'. The address is R. Burton Books, The Old House, Gloucester Street, Cirencester, Glos. GL7 2DP. Tel. 3950.

Capt. C. R. Cumberlege qualified in the written examination for the Staff Colleges held in November-December 1970.

We hear from the Sheffield representative of the OCA and Regimental Association that Mr. H. M. Barron, who served in both 1st and 2nd Battalions of the Regiment from the mid-twenties until after the 1939-45 war, has just taken up residence in the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. This brings our number of in-pensioners up to six.

When the Yorkshire contingent of the OCA goes down for the London dinner its members will be visiting the Royal Hospital and we hope to publish a full account of our pensioners in the August issue. We have also received some reminiscences from In-Pensioner Sgt. "Tug" Wilson which we hope to publish then.

In a Christmas letter Mrs. Watson, well known to many older readers, wrote that last July she celebrated her 80th birthday at a party attended by most of her direct descendants of whom there are 15 including 5 great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Watson is the widow of Lt.-Col. A. G. Horsfall, DSO, who was killed in command of the 2nd Battalion near Ypres in 1917, and subsequently of General W. M. Watson who commanded the 1st Battalion in 1910.

On the conclusion of the postal strike we received a characteristic letter from Col. "Tuppence" Harvey who wrote that he was "fine" after his recent major operations—"just have to do that most difficult thing—take care". He is hoping to visit his son in Rhodesia again before the end of the year.

He enclosed a cutting from the magazine *Rhodesia Calls* which states that Fort Gibbs in that country is named "after Captain J. A. C. Gibbs, an Imperial officer in the West Riding Regiment, who was brought out by Rhodes as adjutant of the Rhodesia Horse in 1894. He was in charge of the Gwelo Jaeger during the Matabele Rebellion in 1896 and built the fort which bears his name".

Col. Gibbs, of course, was given command of the 2nd Battalion in 1912 and took the Battalion to France in 1914. He was severely wounded at Mons and died suddenly in 1930 from peritonitis caused by these wounds. Mrs. Gibbs, who is an aunt of Col. Hugh Le Messurier, still lives at "Portobello", Eaton Rise, Ealing.

Which other officer of the Regiment had a town named after him? (*Answer on page 43*).

York Minster

Nearly £1,830,000 has been given to the Minster appeal fund which was launched four years ago and the trustees are confident of reaching the £2 million target by the time the appeal closes in 1974.

This sum will, however, almost certainly not be sufficient to complete the restoration work. It will be sufficient to carry out the essential work needed to save the building from collapse but more will be needed for repairs to the stonework and roofs.

DUKES DOWN UNDER

By MAJOR M. R. N. BRAY

Having spent 1970 at the Australian Staff College, I thought your readers might be interested to have a few impressions of life down under and a short report on some "Dukes" in Australia.

The Australian Staff College has, since World War II, occupied the old fort at Queenscliff which dominates the narrow entrance to Port Philip Bay and the port of Melbourne. The fort, which was built in the middle of the last century, allegedly to counter a Russian naval threat (history appears to be repeating itself), is a pleasant place in which to work, but there are several disadvantages to this site and it seems probable that the College will move to Canberra in about five years' time when a tri-service college will be established.

The College is small, with only 70 students of whom 20 are overseas students, including two British, and 15 directing staff lieutenant-colonels of whom two are British. This small size compared with Camberley makes the College less formidable; everybody knows everybody well and the atmosphere is very friendly. The tempo of life seemed to me to be just right. There is plenty of time to fit in social functions and sport but sufficient work is done to justify one's existence.

It is sometimes suggested that to miss out on membership of the Camberley club is a mistake. I believe that this disadvantage is easily outweighed by the advantage of seeing many new places and people. (During the year I visited Singapore, Indonesia, New Guinea, Malaysia, South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, Tasmania and New Zealand). Apart from this I found it a refreshing and enjoyable experience to live in someone else's army for a year.

I was surprised to find how very similar the

Australian Army is in every respect to the British Army. I was rather disappointed by this since one saw little that was new to one. Despite close contact with the Americans in Vietnam there is virtually no American influence in the Australian Army.

For those in the British Army who believe that the grass is always greener on the other side of the hill I will add four comments. The Australian serviceman's conditions of service, including pay, are no better than the British serviceman's in relation to their respective civilian counterparts. In several respects they are worse. Most Australian officers are far from happy with the status of the Army within the nation. Although the Australian Army has expanded in recent years it is still small (its combatant units make up one division) and there are inevitably many limitations to life in a small army. Lastly, the absence of any direct threat to Australia's security could allow a future Government to reduce the size of the Australian Army in order to reduce the defence expenditure or to remove the need for national service.

To summarise, I strongly recommend that anyone who has the opportunity to do an exchange tour, attachment or course in Australia should take it—the Australians are splendid people to work with—but if you transfer you will probably be disappointed.

It was my great pleasure in Australia to get to know Lieutenant-Colonel John Coulter and his family. The Colonel, a very lively septuagenarian, who was orderly room sergeant when my grandfather was CO, and QM when my father was adjutant, now lives in Melbourne. He and his wife are stalwart supporters of the Regiment.

By a strange coincidence Michael Casey, once a subaltern in the West Yorks who served in The Duke's in Korea and now a major in the Australian Army, was also a Queenscliff student during 1970. Mike, an ex-Irish West York "Duke" now Aussie, great supporter of the French, recent collaborator with the Americans and holder of a Vietnamese decoration, is a formidable asset at any bar or dinner table. Also amongst the students was Major Mohammad Akbar of the Baluch Regiment.

To my even greater surprise I got a letter from the famous Sergeant F. J. Towey, recently of 1 DWR, now working in north Queensland. Having travelled over 8,000 miles on a small motor scooter he is now working for an aluminium company in the middle of nowhere.

Lastly, just to prove it is a small world, we had Col. Donald Isles to stay. He seems to have been everywhere in 1970 and we were delighted that an ABCA conference brought him to Melbourne, and that he found time to spend a week-end with us and pay a visit to the Coulters.

In case any of you imagine that the Brays spent a year basking on palmy beaches I will finish by putting you straight. Victoria's climate is only a slight improvement over Britain's and when I was writing this article it had been too cold to swim for seven months.



Ex-Sgt. F. J. Towey in the outback

Obituary

We deeply regret to report the following deaths and on behalf of the Regiment offer our sincere sympathy to those bereaved.

Mr. T. Dennett

Thomas Dennett was born in 1886 and joined the Regular Army at Gosport in 1908. He was posted to 2 DWR who, at the time, were at Tidworth. With the Regiment he took part in the funeral of King Edward VII in 1910, the coronation of King George V in 1911 and then in the unpleasant duties in connection with the London Dock Strike and the railway strikes at Birmingham and Wolverhampton. In late 1911 the 2nd Battalion moved to Dublin and here remained till September 1914. At the outbreak of war he moved with the Battalion to France, and took part in all the fighting from the Retreat from Mons to the defeat of the German Army. Apart from his military skills he was also a capable chiropodist and barber and, among his possessions, was found a snap of himself cutting Col. C. W. G. Ince's hair sometime in 1914.

After the war he went out to Egypt, Singapore and then India and, having spent all his twenty-four years of service in 2 DWR, he was discharged in 1932. Sgt. Thomas Dennett was a first-class soldier who had given of his best throughout his service. This was clearly brought out in the testimonials provided him by his Commanding Officer at the time, Lt.-Col., later Brigadier, J. C. Burnett, his Company Commander, Major Sir Robert Henniker and his platoon commander Lieutenant, later Brigadier, B. W. Webb-Carter.

After his retirement he continued to be a loyal member of the Regiment. He was a life member of the Regimental Association as well as a founder member of the Huddersfield Branch. He was immensely proud of his Regiment and of the fact that he had served in it. Displayed in his house are all his medals from the 1914-15 Star and Bar to the Meritorious Service Medal as well as his Regimental collar dogs and badge.

He died on November 5, 1970, and leaves behind his wife, Annie Hilda, four sons, one daughter, 15 grand-children and eight great-grandchildren.

Major H. A. Luhrs

After an illness lasting six months, Major Luhrs died on December 10, 1970. He was 57 years old.

At the outbreak of the last war he enlisted into the Black Watch but was commissioned into The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, joining the Depot in the early months of 1940. Shortly afterwards he was sent out to the 1st Battalion in France and was wounded in the fighting which led to the evacuation from Dunkirk. Fit and well once again, he was posted to the 9th Battalion which became 146 Regiment RAC in the summer of 1941. Later in

this year the Regiment moved on to India and there he remained to the end of hostilities, gaining command of "C" Squadron in 1943.

With the war over he went back to Dundee and worked there as a chartered accountant in which he had already been qualified. In 1960 he moved to the Manchester area and, at the time of his illness, he was Company Secretary of Cope Allman International Ltd. and a director of Transloyd Services Ltd.

Since the war he had maintained a close touch with the Regiment, particularly the old 9th Battalion, and attended regularly their annual dinners held in Leeds.

He leaves a widow and two sons.

Mr. E. S. Samples

"Ted" Samples died at his home 16 Albany Street, Trooper Lane, Halifax, on January 22, 1971, after a short illness. He leaves a widow, two daughters and a son.

Capt. H. Rowlands writes:

"Old Soldiers never die", but their passing leaves a void which it is so often very difficult, if ever at all, to fill. On Friday, January 22, 1971, Ted Samples passed from our midst and thus broke a link in our chain of comradeship which had been forged and strengthened, in peace and in war, over a period of 39 years. He was a dedicated soldier of the pre-war period, loyal to his unit and his comrades. He saw, with the 2nd Battalion, service on the Northwest frontier and was a recipient of the India General Service Medal. A keen sportsman he was, in his own sphere as a goalkeeper, unsurpassed during his tour with the Battalion in India, representing the Regimental side on many occasions. At the outbreak of war in 1939 he re-enlisted and was posted to the West Yorkshire Regiment with whom he served until discharged as being medically unfit for further service.

When the Halifax Branch of the Regimental Old Comrades was formed Ted was one of our first members and from then onwards until three months ago was an "ever present" at all socials and functions, Regimental dinners in Halifax, London and Huddersfield, Armistice Day and Services in the Regimental Chapel at York Minster. Latterly he was our Branch Secretary. During all these past years his disability, from being a limp slowly, but most surely, worsened and must have called for an effort of will and physical endurance. To all with whom he had dealings he gave of his best and never complained. No task was too menial to undertake, no job was too heavy for him to attempt. At the end he died as he had lived—with dignity and fortitude.

We, of the Halifax Branch, are grateful for the memory of the example he always set and which he strictly adhered to.

SAX.

Major D. N. Simonds

Denis Napier Simonds was the son of the late Lt.-Col. Napier Simonds, Scind Horse, and of Mrs. Simonds (nee Daly) of Dundsdale Co. Galway. He joined the 1st Battalion from Ampleforth and Sandhurst in August 1939. At Ampleforth he had played full back for the first fifteen and at the RAMC he played rugby football and boxed heavy-weight at better than company level. He was a good tennis player—in fact, a good all-rounder. He sailed for India on the HT *Britannic* from Greenock on the day war was declared with 2,000 officers recalled to the Colours or joining units in India.

There were five "Dukes" on board HT *Duchess of Bedford* and HT *Britannic*, in that first convoy of the war; Cunningham, Kavanagh, Butterfield and Firth were the others. At Delhi they joined the advanced party of the 2nd Battalion who were on their way down from Mooltan.

The Battalion moved to Peshawar and thence to Burma where Denis Simonds commanded a rifle company at the age of 21. During the retreat to the Sittang Bridge his Company was cut off and he led them round to the north of the Japanese road blocks. He managed to find some boats and crossed the Sittang River without interference. He then found a telephone which, by an odd chance, was still working. He rang up the Headquarters in Pegu who sent tanks and transport for the whole company, so that they were able to rejoin the Division, one of the only two companies of the Regiment more or less intact after the Sittang action. During the exhausting retreat up through Burma Denis was a tireless and fearless leader of a rifle company.

In 1943, after about a year retraining in Eastern India, and following much lobbying by the CO, Lt.-Col. Faithfull, the 2nd Battalion was selected for service with The Chindits, 3rd Indian Division (Special Force). The Battalion was split into two columns each with one rifle company. Denis commanded the company with 76 Column under Lt.-Col. "Boy" Stevens. He was a tower of strength throughout that successful campaign of long marches with no transport. He returned to England in the Autumn of 1943 and went to Normandy for service with The Hallamshires, thus seeing action on the two main fronts.

In November 1946 he married Bunty, the daughter of Mrs. M. Whyte, and the late Capt. Whyte, of Loughbrickland, County Down.

Denis was fond of music and poetry. In his salad days he was an authority on traditional jazz music, and had to be restrained sometimes from singing with bands at dances. He was a giant of a man and not a person to argue with, but yet he had other qualities of leadership. He was interested in people and took trouble to know those under his command and all about them. He was always well liked and respected: a quiet man, with a bit of a stammer.

He attended the Staff College at Camberley in 1949. He played rugby for the Staff College and for Rhine Army.

He was Adjutant of the 1st Battalion in Germany in 1952 when the Battalion was ordered to Korea. He had all the detailed work of organising the move

and of sorting out personnel, and regimental affairs. It was very hard work but the Battalion went off to active service in excellent order. He took a rifle company into the line in Korea but not long afterwards he had a breakdown due, one suspects, to the work in Germany and had to return to England for a rest, followed by staff employment. He rejoined the 1st Battalion in Ireland in 1957.

Denis retired in 1962 under "the terms" and has been living outside Dublin and working for a firm of estate agents. He rarely came to England, so we have not seen much of him in the Regiment for some years. Denis's great interest, after leaving the Army, was in the pedigrees of bloodstock, of which he had a very thorough knowledge, and in racing (alas only as an onlooker). He was a great companion and always the best of company. The Regiment will remember him as an exceptionally keen all-round sportsman and a loyal and tireless regimental officer.

He left four children: Jaqui, a successful model in Ireland and Italy, Michael, studying accountancy, a keen rugby player, and "hot" on the piano; Clodagh works in an advertising agency, has her own "Pop Group" and is fond of music and poetry, like her father. Veronica is only 11, but already music-minded. His only brother was killed with the RAF during the war.

Mr Sam Smith

Mr. Sam Smith died suddenly on January 6, 1971, in his 89th year at Scarborough where he had gone to live with his wife, Winnie, in his retirement. The Regiment was represented at his funeral by Col. J. Davidson, the Acting Colonel, Major J. H. Davis, Regimental Secretary, Major J. B. K. Greenway, with a party from the 1st Battalion and many retired officers and wives who live in Yorkshire.

Sam Smith lived with his family in Halifax until the fifties and during the second world war he founded the Halifax Comforts Fund which served the Regiment and was its chairman throughout this war. This valuable service was supported by the town and the ladies of Halifax, and their work was greatly appreciated and admired by soldiers of the Regiment wherever they served and specially those in prisoner of war camps. The success of the fund was largely due to his great organising ability. His support for the Regiment did not end with this war. He reopened the Comforts Fund for the Battalion in Korea. On one memorable occasion, like a magician, he arranged for a large consignment of red hosetops to be sent out to Gibraltar at short notice so that the 1st Battalion could parade in its correct ceremonial dress for the ceremony of "Trooping The Colour". In many other ways he continued to support the Regiment.

Although Sam may not have been known to the present generation, he had a great many friends amongst those of the older brigade who served in the Regiment. During and after the war many who were at the Depot or visiting there will remember Sam and Winnie's ever-open door, their musical evenings and their warm hospitality. Apart from being a musician, he was a talented painter and both these

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accomplishments, which he looked upon as hobbies, gave him and many others much enjoyment.

Sam was a real sportsman and a great competitor. He was keenly interested in all games, but cricket and golf were his greatest loves. Golf, at which he was no mean performer, (he went round Ganton in 72 strokes at the age of 72), enabled him in his retirement to keep in touch with his many friends and make full use of his aptitude to organise. This resulted in his being appointed to the senior post of president of the English Golfing Union. He had a wonderful collection of photographs of international events but amongst these, taking pride of place, was a photograph of himself between the present Duke of Wellington and General Sir Philip Christison at a Regimental Dinner.

Sam Smith was a man of great talents, wide interests and a deep love for The Duke of Welling-

ton's Regiment. He will be remembered by all who knew him for his great zest for life and his essential warm heartedness.

His son, Major Roy Smith, and his son-in-law, Major Tommy Hoyle, served in the 4th Battalion (TA).

D. C. R.

LATE NEWS

Colonel L. E. Bishop, MC

Colonel Bishop died on Good Friday in hospital in Cambridge as the result of a motor accident on March 25. He had been unconscious since the accident. An obituary notice will appear in the next issue.

Mrs. Bishop was also injured in the accident, but not so seriously and is recovering.

HALIFAX AND THE CROSSLEYS

By MARK GIROUARD

Reprinted by kind permission of the Editor of 'Country Life.'

So far as we know no member of the Crossley family has served in the Regiment but, through the years, succeeding generations have been well known to "Dukes" serving at the Depot and for many years now a full-page "Crossley Carpets" advertisement has been a regular feature of THE IRON DUKE, providing a valued contribution to our all-too-small advertisement income. So we are glad to have obtained permission to reproduce this article in recognition of that help, quite apart from the fact that we think it will interest many of our readers as much as it did us.—Ed.

A good few people would react to "Crossley" by saying "carpets" but one has to go to Halifax to see what Crossley carpets meant in terms of a Victorian family and a Victorian manufacturing town. One narrow valley choked with Crossley Mills paid for the Crossley orphanage, the Crossley almshouses, the Crossley chapel, Crossley Street, the Crossleys' hotel, the Crossley baths, the Crossley park, Crossley model housing, and a ring of the Crossleys' own houses.

Crossleys were Mayors and MPs; Crossleys contributed to every conceivable charity and headed all the subscription lists. Crossleys were in the thick of every local activity during their lives, and at intervals the whole town closed up the shutters and turned out for an enormous Crossley funeral.

The Crossley business was started by John Crossley (1772-1837) a self-made man who worked his way up from weaver to foreman to mill-owner. In 1802 he took a lease of the Dean Clough mill on the edge of Halifax and set up in a small way as a carpet manufacturer. By his death in 1837 the business was flourishing. It was continued by his three younger sons, John (1812-79), Joseph (1813-68) and Francis, generally known as Frank (1817-72). In the decade after their father's death the three brothers started to investigate the possibility of harnessing steam power for carpet manufacture.

This had already been successfully achieved for linen, cotton and cloth, but the heavier and more complex carpet looms were less adaptable.

The Crossleys took a clever inventor, John Collier, on their pay roll and he did the trick for them. In 1851, they took out a patent for a new steam-driven loom for weaving velvets and carpets. It enabled them to produce carpets in enormous quantities and at much lower prices. Carpets ceased to be a rich man's luxury. Other carpet manufacturers either had to pay the Crossleys for the right to install their looms or go out of business. Crossley carpets inundated the markets not only of England but of Europe and America.

The result was a great deal of money for the Crossleys and, indirectly, a great deal of money for Halifax. By 1869 the Dean Clough valley contained eight huge Crossley mill buildings, the biggest 120ft high. The works employed 4,400 workmen and covered 27 acres. In the early days of one solitary small mill building old John Crossley's wife, coming to the mill to start work at 4 o'clock one morning, made a vow: "If the Lord does bless us at this place, the poor shall taste of it." The poor did taste of it though admittedly the rich tasted more.

All three brothers were insatiable workers, and every morning at 6 a.m. rode down to the mills on their little cobs. Joseph was completely absorbed in running the business; his superintendence left the other two more time for public life—John mostly at the local and Frank at the national level. John was prominent on the Halifax council and was Mayor in 1849-51 and 1861-63. Francis was M.P. for Halifax in 1852-59, and for the West Riding from 1859 until his death in 1872. Among the three brothers, Frank had the ideas, Joseph the perseverance and John the softest heart and worst head for business; his two brothers each died worth about a million pounds; but John developed an appetite for speculation in his old age and lost all his money.

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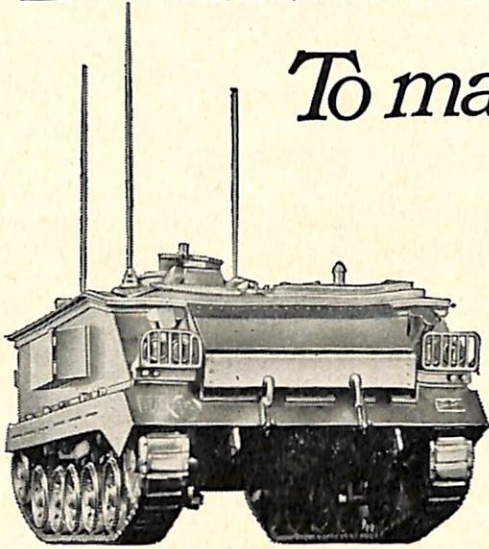
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All three were ardent non-Conformists, Sabatarians and Radicals. The brothers contributed to provide most of the cost of the Square Congregational Church, built in 1855-57 to the design of Joseph James, with a delicate decorated spire shooting up at the valley bottom beside the river and the railway. In 1857-64 they were builders of the Crossley Orphanage, accommodating 170 boys and 100 girls in an enormous and early example of the full-blown mansard-roof style, designed by John Hogg.

The brothers also had their individual projects. During the 1850s, when the money started to pile in, they each built sizeable houses on the edge of the town. John's was a large prickly Gothic villa called Manor Heath but his most interesting venture was the buying up of old property in the centre of the town and its redevelopment on a T-plan of two spacious streets, Crossley St. and Princes St. At the junction of the two, closing the vista down Princes St., he sold a site to the Town Council on which to build the Town Hall, designed by Sir Charles Barry.

The building of the Town Hall on this site was a victory for the Crossley family over Colonel Edward Akroyd, whose worsted manufacturing business made him one of the town's leading citizens, and who was also a great builder and public benefactor. Akroyd (who, unlike the Congregationalist Crossleys, was a keen Church of England supporter) had tried to get a Gothic town hall, designed by Sir Gilbert Scott, built on another site.

In 1863, the year in which the town hall was finished, John Crossley was Mayor; the Prince of

Wales came up to open it and stayed at Manor Heath. Round the nucleus of the town hall the streets filled up with handsome stone-faced Italianate buildings, soon to turn black with northern soot. John Crossley built the grandest of these himself, and decorated it with his coat of arms and monogram as though it was his own palazzo, although it was in fact built as the White Swan Hotel. It was opened in 1858.

John also built an Italianate model lodging house in Smith Street, and in 1863-68 laid out the West Hill Park estate of model dwellings, a non-profit making development designed to provide freehold houses for working men.

His brother Joseph, the least assertive of the three, built his own house, Broomfield, and a large group of almshouses very agreeably grouped around three sides of a big private garden in Arden Road. These almshouses form one end, and the West Hill Park estate the other, of a great swathe of Crossley territory. The middle is filled with the projects of the third brother Frank: the People's Park, the Margaret Street almshouses, and his own house, Bellevue.

Frank Crossley had bought a small house at Bellevue in 1851, and in 1855 built the Margaret Street almshouses next to it. Like his brother's almshouses they were designed by Roger Ives. In the same year he went on a trip to America and Canada. He was so impressed by the panoramic view from the White Mountains that on the spot he decided to see what he could do for his own home town. The result was the People's Park of 12½ acres—a little absurd in comparison to the White Moun-

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tains but with considerable charm when considered on its own merits. It was laid out by Sir Joseph Paxton. Frank Crossley may have come across him in connection with the Crystal Palace, for Crossley's supplied the carpets for the opening ceremony. The park was equipped with a little lake, a fountain, a brass band playing every day except Sunday, and a raised terrace lined with urns and statues. In the middle of the terrace Paxton's son-in-law, G. H. Stokes, designed an arcaded pavilion in which grateful fellow-citizens later placed a statue of Frank Crossley. The inscription on the pavilion, "Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits", suggests a backward glance at the Crossley carpet profits. The park was opened in August, 1857, with a procession, several brass bands, detachments of local Friendly and Temperance societies, and 3,000 Crossley workmen each carrying a little banner made of Crossley carpeting.

The Crossley brothers were hard-working, open-handed, chapel-going Yorkshiremen without much education but with plenty of sense and no pretensions. Like many self-made men they were proud of their origins. A good proportion of Frank Crossley's speech at the opening of the People's Park was given over to praise of his mother, who had been cook-housemaid to a local farmer and, in addition to her normal duties, had milked the cows and done all the spinning.

Frank Crossley was a Radical and, in his youth at any rate, a staunch opponent of privilege, primogeniture, the established church and the House of Lords. He bought T. H. Maguire's picture *Cromwell Refusing the Crown of England* to hang at Bellevue. The West Riding had been solidly Cromwellian in the Civil Wars and Cromwell—breaker of kings and scorner of privilege—had become a hero among West Riding manufacturers, a king of honorary Yorkshiremen.

But in 1862 Frank Crossley was created a baronet, and in 1863 he bought the Somerleyton estate in Suffolk. The house (which is now regularly open to the public) had been built regardless of expense by Sir Morton Peto who then ran into financial difficulties which ended in bankruptcy.

It was not especially surprising that Sir Frank, millionaire as he was, should buy a country estate, but it *was* surprising that he bought it in East Anglia, considering how deeply bound up he was with Yorkshire by inheritance, interests and tastes. One suspects that the explanation lay with his wife. He had married into the business; his wife was a carpet manufacturer's daughter—but in Kidderminster. She disliked Yorkshire and had ambitions that extended beyond a house in the suburbs of Halifax, sandwiched between a cemetery and a public park. In 1872, when her husband died at the age of 55 (of overwork like several of the Crossleys) she shut up Bellevue and moved all the best contents to Somerleyton. Perhaps it was significant that the only picture of importance left behind was *Cromwell Refusing the Crown*.

They had only one child, Savile Crossley, who was brought up as a country gentleman, educated at Eton and sent into the Army. He was M.P. for North Suffolk in 1885-92 and for Halifax in 1900-06, following in the steps of his father but as a Con-

servative, not a Liberal. In 1902-05 he was paymaster-general, in 1916 he was created Lord Somerleyton. Bellevue was bought by Halifax Corporation in 1887 and became the Public Library. Although Sir Savile's son worked in the family firm for some years as a young man, the main interests of this branch of the family inevitably shifted from Yorkshire to Suffolk.

But as often happened with Victorian manufacturing families, while one branch set up as country gentlemen, and loosened their links with the family firm, others remained in their native town, where they continued to build houses and play a prominent part. And, again as often happens with the second and third generation of wealth, they branched out into intellectual interests, for which their fathers had not had the time or the education. In about 1872 Joseph's son Edward Crossley (Mayor of Halifax 1874-76) built a house called Bermerside on Skircoat Moor; and as an enthusiastic astronomer he equipped it with an observatory. John's son, Louis John Crossley, who lived in a substantial house called Moorside, was a musician and a pioneer electrical scientist. He fitted out his house with electrical clocks, a telegraph transmitter, an electrical laboratory, an electric trainway, an enormous organ and a lighthouse on the roof, before dying of overwork at the age of 49. His house has been demolished as have Bermerside and John Crossley's Manor Heath; Bellevue is, as far as I know, the only Crossley house at Halifax to survive.

Today, although the family connection with the firm is retained, and the town is full of buildings put up by Crossleys, the intimately personal and paternal relationship between one family and a town, which was so typical of the Victorian age, is a thing of the past.

Changes of Address

We have been notified of the following new addresses:

Major R. A. Burnett, R.A.P.C., 30 Marlborough Park, Kempston, Bedford.

Major J. M. Horsfall, M.C., T.D., J.P., Greenfield House, Embsay, Skipton, Yorkshire.

Mrs. M. Ince, Witheby, West Clandon, Guildford, Surrey.

Capt. T. Moore, 14 Northridge Road, Gravesend, Kent.

Capt. Proctor Naylor, 2 Park Way, Pool-in-Wharfedale, Otley, Yorkshire.

Lt.-Col. Owen Price, Hartland, Orchard Combe, Whitchurch Hill, Reading, Berkshire.

Lt.-Col. J. M. Ricketts, Weston Manor, Honiton, Devon.

Eponymous "Duke" (see page 34)

Exshaw, between Calgary and Banff on the Canadian Pacific Railway was named after Lt. W. E. Exshaw who served in the 2nd Battalion from 1888 to 1892. Exshaw married a daughter of Sir Sandford Fleming who was one of the pioneer engineers of the CPR.

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