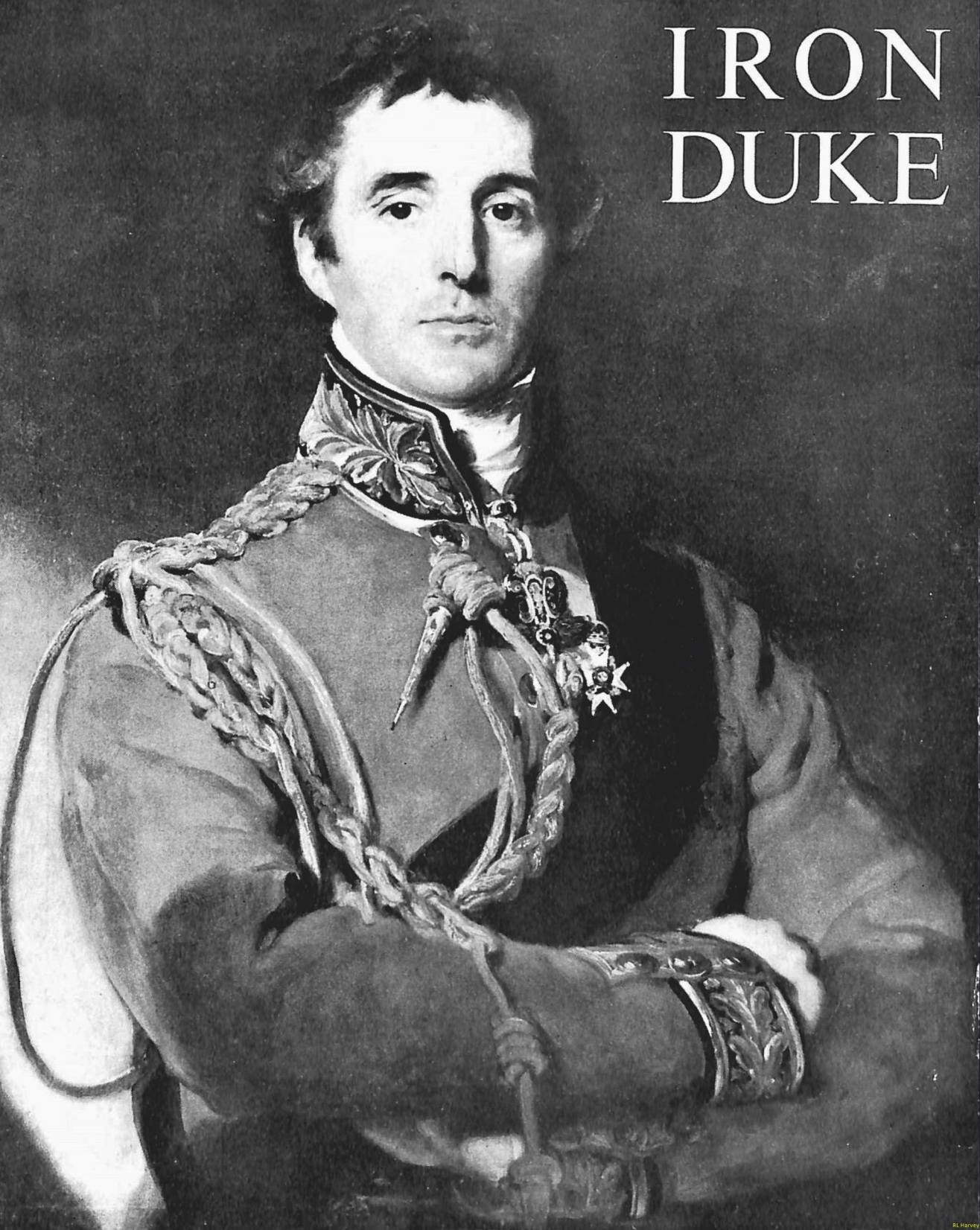


No.159 August 1972

THE
IRON
DUKE



THE IRON DUKE

The Regimental Journal of

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

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



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

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AUGUST 1972

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BUSINESS NOTES

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Acknowledgement

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

Colonel of the Regiment

GENERAL SIR ROBERT BRAY, G.B.E., K.C.B., D.S.O., *Larkrise, Walkers Ridge, Gamberley (Tel. 21062)*
(From October 15: The Farmhouse, Sherrington, nr. Warminster, Wilts)

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

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

THE 1st BATTALION

Somme Lines, Catterick
 C.O.: Lt.-Col. C. R. Huxtable, OBE Adjutant: Captain P. J. Mellor
 C.O. Designate (November 1972) Major P. A. Mitchell

TERRITORIAL & ARMY VOLUNTEER RESERVE

1st BATTALION THE YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS "C" COMPANY (THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S)

Wellington Hall, Prescott Street, Halifax.
 Commander: Major T. D. Tetlow, TD

3rd BATTALION, THE YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS "C" COMPANY (THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S)

St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield
 Commander: Major K. M. McDonald, TD, MA

ARMY CADET FORCE

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

AFFILIATED C.C.F.

Giggleswick School C.C.F., C.O.: Lieutenant R. J. Hargreaves

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

President: General Sir Robert Bray, GBE, KCB, DSO
Vice-President: Colonel J. Davidson, Mount House, Terrington, York.
General Secretary: Mr. A. Wood, Wellesley Park, Halifax

1st Battalion

SUB-EDITORIAL

It is with the very greatest regret that we in the 1st Battalion have to record the death of Pte. George Lee of Alma Company who was shot on June 6, 1972, whilst on patrol in the Ballymurphy area of Belfast. We offer all our sympathy to his mother and father. It is worthy of note that in a letter published in the *Belfast Telegraph* of June 20 Mr. Lee says that he and Mrs. Lee bear no malice. If everyone in this troubled land could express the same Christian attitude we should be well on the way to solving the problems of Ulster. We also offer our condolences to the family of Sapper Hirst who was shot on May 17, 1972, at Crossmaglen whilst working on the defences of the combined police and army post there. He and other members of 51 Field Squadron, Royal Engineers, have done an enormous amount of work for the Battalion in the most trying circumstances.

As you will see from the company notes we have a very varied set of company areas to look after. Alma Company are detached from the rest of the Battalion and are under command 1 King's in Belfast. Initially, they were deployed in Londonderry under command of 8 Brigade. If we could only get them back with us before we leave they would have served in all three brigades in three months! Their area of Belfast, the Ballymurphy estate, is a notoriously difficult area and I have heard with pride of the fine way in which the Company have impressed their mark on the area and produced a reasonable degree of sanity in an area of chaos.

In the Battalion area Burma Company have a stretch of the border and a considerable amount of the hinterland, Corunna Company are responsible for the town of Newry and Somme Company—out in the wild west—have a long stretch of the border to look after. Battalion Headquarters and the Echelon live in an old mill—flax not wool—while the Reconnaissance Platoon look after a vast area of South Down, including the Mourne Mountains. We are also very lucky to have under command a squadron of the Scots Dragoon Guards who help us to patrol our area.

Detailed accounts of the Companies' activities will be found in the following pages and there is no need for us to go through them here. However, it may be of interest to note that so far 20 weapons, over 2,000 rounds of ammunition and over 1,000lb of explosive have been recovered in the Battalion

We deeply regret to report that, since these notes were received, two more men of the Battalion, L/Cpl. Terence Graham and Pte. James Lee, were killed and a third, L/Cpl. Robert Bradley, was seriously injured when a land mine exploded beneath a Ferret scout car in which they were travelling near Crossmaglen.—Ed.

area since we got here, as well as an enormous assortment of other equipment.

Those of us who live in the country find life very different to Belfast in 1971. South Down and South Armagh produce some of the most lovely countryside in the north of Ireland. We are operating, at least in part, in a more normal environment for the soldier. Tactically, our patrolling is similar to patrolling in other more conventional forms of warfare and we operate in a rural environment.

Once again we are here at a time of change. The "peace initiative" is well under way, the official IRA have declared a truce, the provisional IRA are rumoured to be thinking of a similar move. At least we shall be able to say that we were in Northern Ireland during two of the most critical phases of the campaign. We have seen a change in the attitudes of people since our arrival. We live in a strongly republican area and a few weeks ago there is little doubt that the bulk of the people around us were thoroughly opposed to us. However, in the last few weeks there has been a significant increase in the number of people who are prepared to stop and chat, acknowledge a wave and even give refreshments to soldiers on patrol and on duty at check-

FLASH BACK



Photo: PRO, HQ, 1 Div.

Army Rugby Cup Final—March 22, 1972. Lt. C. J. W. Gilbert (Capt.) holding Cup with Lt. P. J. Bird.

points. It has not been a revolutionary change but there is no doubt that some progress has been made. We are confident that it will continue.

Finally, it is with the greatest of pleasure that we are able to record that our seven wounded—Cpl. Dyson, L/Cpl. Wright, L/Cpl. Foster (REME), Ptes. Dales, Lingard, Wright and Morris are all making good recoveries. We look forward to the time when they are back with us.

WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS MESS

At the time of writing the last notes the Barbados members were on the high seas on their way back to UK, the writer of these notes being a member of this group can relate a few of the happenings on board the good ship *LSL Bedivere*. The voyage back was very smooth compared to the journey out and, landlubbers that we are, there was no record of sea sickness. We entertained the officers to a social evening in the ship's mess which I am happy to say was a huge success; the Mess tippett team, consisting of the RSM, Terry Conley and Brian Hartley offered a challenge to all comers; this was readily taken up by the Battalion Second-in-Command and his highly skilful team; big names didn't seem to worry our champions who came out worthy winners even if they had to fiddle just a little bit. One of the things we learned during this trip was that Ben Gunn gets brown as a berry without the sun. We arrived back at Catterick in the early hours of the morning travel weary and ready for a rest only to be told that the bus taking members to the rugby cup final was to leave at 0730 hrs. that morning. Paddy Collins had really got things organised, which made the trip one to remember and, of course, it made our day when The Duke's came out as winners.

OIC King's Division Records gave a very interesting talk to the mess during the morning of March 14. Many Mess members are now jockeying for position on the seniority roll and others hold a firm glimmer of light for what the future holds. Our next visit came on March 20 when the Command Sec and his team descended on us. A good report was received, not one observation—thank God we have a good QM who has kept members on the Q side with crown over chevrons. On March 23 Pete Lindsay had a select team of volunteers to take part in the Cyprus walkabout, which is the annual orienteering competition! Roy Kelly, Nobby Clarke and Tom Jackson tried in vain to be contenders. (The distance being a mere 60 miles up and down the Troodos Range.) Owing to difficulties beyond our control the teams had to withdraw, other duties called.

During the period we were preparing for Ulster numerous Mess activities were suggested, yet had to be shelved owing to training commitments, Bob Middleton our able-bodied master of entertainments was most upset with the cancellation of these functions but hopes he can volunteer for another stint of PEC on our return to the beloved Catterick.

Finally, before our departure for Ulster we took part in exercise "Disco II". During this exercise General Bray arrived and not only viewed the exer-

cise but visited the Mess and wished us luck during our tour.

Now to the present time; the majority of us are in Bessbrook Mill which is situated near Newry, the Mess is all in all quite good and Tom Jackson has once again got stuck in and made the place comfortable by erecting shelves, making coffee tables and decorating the drab walls. We show films once a week and Mick Reddy, our able projectionist, is still trying to convince us that Cinemascope is not the same as 3D and that we don't need 3D glasses when he is showing a film that is blurred as he says films are made that way these days!

Wally Waltham, our money spider has now left for Germany, we all wish him well in his new posting and would like to thank him for all the work he did in the interest of the Mess during his stay with us. We hear it's now, 'When I was with 1 Duke's'. In Wally's place we welcome Brian Ballard and hope his stay with us will be a happy one. We also said goodbye to Terry Bowen who, we are told, has been posted quite some distance from us—yes, Catterick. If you can get a flight, call and see us sometime, Terry. In Terry Bowen's place a true Yorkshireman, from Wales, Taffy Sobey; we keep a welcome in the Pennines.

SOCCER

Northumbrian District Cup

We met 8 Signal Regiment in the final on March 24 at the Central Stadium, Catterick Camp. In a hard-fought game which could have gone either way, neither team played to their true ability and 8 Signals won by one goal to nil.

Northern Command Cup

We beat 38 Engr Regt from Ripon by four goals to one in the semi-final and we were through to meet 8 Signal Regiment yet again in the final on April 12. This was a good game with both teams playing good soccer and our spirits were high when we took the lead with a good goal from L/Cpl. Pennington. However, victory was to elude us once more. L/Cpl. Burns was carried from the field with a bad ankle injury in the second half and, despite numerous good shots at goal by L/Cpl. Pennington and our other forward, the Signals drew level and then scored the decisive goal in the closing seconds of the game.

So we ended the season with two runners-up medals and determination to try again next year.

The following players represented the Battalion in the two finals: L/Cpl. Jagger, L/Cpl. Mark, Pte. Woodward, L/Cpl. Pennington, Bds. Sollitt, Sgt. Heron (capt.), Cpl. Law (RAPC), L/Cpl. Burn, Pte. Lomax, L/Cpl. Millar, Pte. Furness, Pte. Denton.

We would like to make particular note of the noble efforts during the past few years of L/Cpl. Pennington who has now left the Battalion on posting to the Army Youth Team in Huddersfield. His skill, sparkle and sportsmanship will be greatly missed and difficult to replace. We wish him and his wife, who has been a great supporter, well in their new post, and hope that through his job he may find some soccer talent for The Duke's.

Company Notes

ALMA COMPANY

Since coming to Ireland, all the days between "Sun Pirate" and the date of embarkation, spent in training, seem to have shrunk into insignificance. The lessons have not been forgotten, and some of them are now much better understood. Exercise "Disco Two" put the final seal on things, and in the middle Major Stevens arrived to take over the Company from Capt. Cumberlege. This late change was caused, some say, by problems connected with the withdrawal, while others may connect it with a sneaking desire to winter in the sun.

During the recce in early March we were warned we were to be the roving company, so we examined the Dungannon area. However, in April, 10 days before we were off, we were told that this had all been changed and that we were to go to Londonderry for a month, to look after Strabane, and then to come back to 3 Bde and 16/5 L, for whom we were to be the infantry company.

By Thursday, April 27, we were all present in Londonderry, under command the Royal Welch Fusiliers, but administered by the Worcesters and Forresters. Very confusing. We lived in a huge deserted factory in Drumahoe and worked for sometimes up to three different units in the same day. Our main tasks were checking vehicles in the city centre or patrolling in the Sperrins. Each day an average of 12 shootings is recorded in the city, but the Press no longer bothers to mention anything that is not a death or an explosion, so glutted is the market.

Our first major military outing came on May 6, when Alma Company, with a number of little units under command, was charged with holding the city

in peace during a meeting of the Londonderry Municipal Labour Party. As it turned out, we needn't have bothered for it rained, Leeds won the cup and the entire show, organisers and spectators, never exceeded 19. The next day Fisher gave up in disgust and had his appendix out.

When Kelly's Bar was blown up in Belfast, it was to us just another bomb. However, on Sunday, May 14, besides being on another form of warning to help with marches in the area, we were put on one hour's notice to move to Belfast for "not less than 72 hours". At 6 p.m. we were on immediate notice and 45 minutes later we were off. We were not to return. We enjoyed much kindness from 8 Bde, from 1 RWF and 1 WFR, and were sorry to leave them so suddenly.

Ballymurphy

"Red and yellow and pink and green,
Orange and purple and blue.
I can sling a rainbow..."

Pop Song

As dusk was falling we drove up to HMS *Maidstone* and, for a delirious two hours, we were under command 7 RHA, but by 5 a.m. the next morning we found ourselves the sole owners of Rallymurphy, having taken over from two companies of 1 Para. This is a sad place, with much crime, subversion and unemployment. The children threw rocks, bottles, paint, petrol bombs and gelignite. When we arrested them, their doting parents swore that, not only were they innocent, but that we had beaten, sworn at, threatened and framed their darlings. Now we are under command 1 King's,



Inside the Henry Taggart Memorial Hall at the beginning.



Platoon Commander, 1 Platoon, off to Belfast.

who have administered, supported and generally backed us up as though we were one of their own—for which we are most grateful. Wain tried heading a brick and earned five stitches; Villanyi lost his temper with a Pig and lacerated his hand. McGregor came off poorly in a road accident, followed by flu. The Pigs turned from khaki drab to wonderful modern colourings with such speed that this estate can be recommended to anyone who wants a re-spray. Cpls. Noble and Frear both got painted, too, the former's attacker getting six months.

Meanwhile, our living conditions have gradually improved. At first we were all on the floor of this village hall. Then we got bunk beds, and now we are split between here and the Black Mountain School, just up the way. We have gained a colour TV and a canteen, run by Sgt. Hall plus assistants.

Our sphere of influence increased at the end of the first week by the addition of two more housing estates and some country fields. However, Ballymurphy remains the greatest problem area, with its ignorance, poverty, fear and suspicion. It was here that Morris and Banks were both wounded by the one bullet, which came through the windscreen of the Pig. Luckily, they are both up and about.

You will have read elsewhere of the death of Pte. George Lee, who was shot by a sniper in Ballymurphy on June 6. In our rage at this cold-blooded and senseless murder, and in offering our sym-

pathy to his parents, many people in Ireland, regardless of politics or creed, will wish to join.

Our congratulations to L/Cpls. Best, Dack and Wood on gaining one stripe, and to Cpls. Raine and Waterman for two. Equally our congratulations to Lee and Fisher for marrying one wife (each). To all our wives we send our love and thanks for bearing with our strange military lives. We'll be back soon.

BURMA COMPANY

Catterick again

Catterick was experiencing its worst March weather for years when the Company finally "dropped anchor" and we all became landlubbers again. The quick change of scenery was followed by an equally speedy change of clothes and tactics and Burma was out training for urban guerilla war. The only reminder of the Caribbean was our suntan. Two company exercises were programmed for the disused camp outside Barnard Castle. Unfortunately, on the second occasion we found the camp had been sold, so our joint training with Alma Company had to be switched at short notice to a nearby camp at Barford. 6 Platoon (battle honours Newlodge Road, Belfast, June—October '71) claimed that where tactics were concerned they did not follow fashion—they led it!

Perhaps more enthusiasm than expertise was evident in the reports that filtered back to Sunray who was having an equally tough time in the officers' ward of the Military Hospital fighting off the attentions of all those nurses. In the battalion exercises that followed hard on the heels of the Battle of Barford Camp, the most noteworthy event was how Pte. Nendick managed to get a very large articulated lorry off the road all by himself whilst manning a road block!

Ulster again

With a lot of Belfast experience under their belts, the majority of the Company had taken training for Ulster in their stride. However, it was not 100% certain that we were coming to the rural area on the border that the recce party had visited. It was not until the Company finally unpacked their bags in the Bessbrook Technical School on April 29 that we could look forward to three months on the border. Memories of Sha Tau Kok and Low Wu sprung to mind and some of the people in these parts seem to be equally "prickly" and "barbary". However, they are fortunately in the minority and although the majority of the area we operate in is staunchly republican and nationalist and has, traditionally, no love for the British soldier on Irish soil, "Them" and "Us" get on quite well together.

However, it is sad to find the door of the village stores bolted in your face and a complete boycott on selling anything to the soldiers. Never mind, it means more business for the canteen, though Sunray was heard to darkly mutter that he objected to the jackpot dropping for the fourth time in succession just as he was sitting down to breakfast.

Bessbrook and the Border

We police an entirely rural area through which passes the main Dublin—Belfast road. This is not

exactly the M1 but it is also the quickest way to Dundalk to the refuge of the "Gunman" in the south. We used to man the two permanent 24-hour VCPs but, thankfully, this is now reduced to the main one on the Dublin Road. Ops and patrolling by vehicles in the day and foot patrols at night use up all our spare time. That's the theory, in practice we came upon this quote from 5 Platoon: "To cover the area we have to use mobile patrols and leave our lights off on minor roads which accounts for the fact that all our time is spent reversing out of ditches and cleaning the Land-Rovers". Now we know!

We have our lighter moments. At night times the Dublin Road looks as if someone stole Heathrow airport and dropped it around us. However, even this did not stop a car full of Irish from missing the "runway", completely overrunning our Caltraps and crashing into a road sign 200yd down the road. We frequently get cars going down the up lane and vice versa. Harry Ayrton explains in broad Yorkshire that this is wrong but the Irish love doing it. Pte. Parr was nearly whisked away from under our noses by one woman who wanted to "mother him".

"Steptoe" Walton and Pte. Thompson (The Whisker) take a great delight in running the metal detector over people and picking up braces, bra

straps and the bones in bodice girdles—much to the owners' surprise. 4 Platoon claim that their acting Platoon Commander, S/Sgt. Hodkinson, has a thing about nuns, priests and pretty girls because that's all they seem to search! Don't make a "habit" of it 4 Platoon!

Sunday night sees all the Northerners going south to drink. They return somewhat the worse for wear in the wee small hours. This presents a problem because the girls want to take a soldier home as a souvenir of the British Army. We also listen with amusement to the many and varied excuses as to why cars are not taxed or insured. Usually it starts "Well, Sir, wait while I tell you . . .!"

Rumour corner

It is a fact that most events in the world are serious but not hopeless. In Ireland they are hopeless but not serious. That just about sums up the kaleidoscopic mixture of religion, politics and people that is Ulster. Rumour plays a large part in shaping Irish history and to show you how influential it can be we put below the distortion of fact and fiction that takes the full-time staff of the Ops Room 24 hours a day to unravel.

The rumour that Mr. Best dislocated his ankle to keep out of ops room duties has been strongly



VISIT OF LORD MAYOR OF BRADFORD TO BURMA COY.—BESSBROOK TECHNICAL SCHOOL
 Standing: L/Cpl. Lawrence, L/Cpl. Law, Cpl. Smith. Sitting: Pte. Pemberton, L/Cpl. White, Pte. Anver
 and L/Cpl. Elgar.



Waiting for the enemy to cross the border. S/Sgt. Stewart, Cpl. Theodore, L/Cpl. Elgar, Pte. Croft and Pte. Sharpe (driver).

denied. Rumour has it that Capt. Cartwright is thinking about putting some laundry in—if a vehicle is sent round to collect it.

“Official sources have now confirmed the statement that Sgt. Wilkinson has spent 14 hrs 21 mins 07 secs in bed.” Previous record of 13 hrs 57 mins held by, wait . . . wait . . . Sgt. Wilkinson!

Rumour that the Company Commander’s mail from Sweden comes from Colour Climax Publishing Company has been strongly denied. The Company Commander insists that it comes from the Swedish Embassy.

From Sgt. “Julius” Robson, there is no truth in the rumour that the sludge clearance certificates that the CQMS receives twice weekly have anything to do with him—or his bed space!

The rumour that all the intelligence for the Bn Int Section stems from Pte. Harry Ayrton 4 Platoon is true.

“Some there be who leave no memorial”

Lest the much good work put in by Company “wallahs” who don’t hit the limelight or Company Commander’s Orders, etc. should go unrecorded we have been sniped at five times.

A total of 37 assorted rounds have been fired at us at one time or another.

Frustrated a hijacking of two lorries on the Dublin road by five-armed IRA men.

Searched 7,384 cars, 384 lorries, 1 invalid chair and a bicycle.

Completed 100 hours’ flying time on mini-Eagle flights.

Recorded the highest mileage in the Battalion for our individual vehicles whilst patrolling our area.

Trudged well over 1,000 miles on foot patrols.

Watched 2,352 hours of TV (we have four sets). So dear reader we leave you to judge, if others gain the glory on succeeding pages then you know who has done the graft!

Personalia

Departures. We wish Cpls. Cole and Cowburn a prosperous and happy future in civvy street.

S/Sgt. Bob Stewart, that man of “sterling” worth, has hit a good posting to 5 Airportable Brigade. Good luck, and thank you for raising all our morale but not morals during your stay!

Arrivals: S/Sgt. Dowdall from the King’s Division Depot. His “Scouce” humour is already in evidence. He certainly needs it with that new system of accounting to master.

From the Divisional Depot came the following recruits: Ptes. Stoddart, Tyler, Crowther, Pickersgill, Connolly, and Pte. Godfrey has come back to us as a re-enlistment.

Marriages: L/Cpl. Wykes to Christine Stokes at Retford on March 4. Pte. Steele to Lucinda Clarke on April 18 at Sheffield.

Promotions: S/Sgt. Dowdall, S/Sgt. Hodgkinson, Cpl. Huntley, Cpl. Laws, L/Cpl. Lomax, Wykes.

CORUNNA COMPANY

The advance party arrived in Newry on a sleepy Sunday afternoon and spent the next five days under the Devon and Dorset Regiment. They proved to be an affable crowd and their west country sense of humour had obviously appealed to the less militant members of the town.

After a 24-hour delay the main body under Capt. Reid arrived (courtesy of RFA Sir Bedevere). The handover/takeover was completed, quickly and competently. Within 10 minutes of the D & D’s leaving, Cpl. Butterworth led out the first Corunna patrol in Newry. The IRA had obviously known about our arrival and, possibly wanting to test our reactions, laid on a bomb. In retrospect it is amusing to relate that Cpl. Butterworth, using his Belfast experience, had checked this car out only 30 seconds previous to the bang. He had only rounded a corner when off it went.

The following night saw an incident which could have been disastrous. A high-powered foot patrol consisting of Sunray, Seagull and Sunray-minor C/S 31 walked past a car parked in a lay-by on a lonely country road. Five minutes later, Cpl. Franks, on seeing the same car, went over to in-

investigate; he caught a glimpse of a rifle; then, fortunately, his section reacted quickly and aggressively. Four men were apprehended with two M1 carbines and a .22 rifle. On questioning, they were most forthcoming, resulting in a series of dawn raids in which more arms and ammunition were found.

After this rather hectic start, life quietened down and gave us a chance to get to know our area properly. Newry is known as the Frontier Town as it is only six miles from the border and on the main road from Belfast to Dublin. Before the troubles it was obviously a prosperous town as most of the estates are less than five years old.

Each estate shows a varying degree of tolerance to the troops but, without a doubt, Derrybeg takes the honours for being the most hostile. The estate was the scene of a mini-riot after Mr. Whitelaw's visit to Newry. However, the old hands were a little disappointed and all declared it was a poor effort when compared to the Lodge. But we still haven't found the answer to the little boys of Derrybeg greeting every mobile or foot patrol with stones, bottles and insults.

An additional task we have just taken over is the O'Meath Road block which is a 24-hour check-point half a mile from the border. It is usually positioned by some lock gates, on a lonely road overlooked by a wood. The shooting score to date is IRA 2, Corunna 1, hits nil. One of these shots was fired at Sunray as he introduced the Heavy Squad to this block. The Heavy Squad from Administrative Company relieve us of this block twice a week, arriving with GPMGs, senior ranks by the score and an enthusiasm that causes the occasional problem: "Staff Reddy, you needn't search every car". But the event of note at this block was the Holly-

wood saga: a young, conceited member of the Civil Rights Association, who obstructed any form of searching one Saturday night, and insisted on speaking in Gaelic. His letter of complaint to Col. Hucksworthy included "I want to lodge a formal complaint about the attitude of . . . a male and military version of Norman St. John Stevens. . . I would like an explanation of his behaviour, do not tell me I was unco-operative . . . I was. After all, we are in Ireland!

Company Headquarters, 7 and 8 Platoons are tucked away on the outskirts of Newry in the local UDR centre; whilst 9 platoon, under the vigorous rule of Lt. Bird and Sgt. Basu, are in the Divisional RUC station. The relations with the police are excellent, and many a "hot tip" is passed in 9 Platoon's canteen. Socially, the officers and sergeants entertained the RUC at a short cocktail party from 1930-0130 one evening. On the sporting side, the Company soccer team have beaten the local UDR and police teams.

At the time of writing, life is relatively quiet, the occasional car bomb, reports (mainly unconfirmed) of shooting and the odd armed robbery, with our worst injury being Hoyland minus a few teeth. However, to speculate is dangerous over here, so we just look forward to our leave and our return to Yorkshire.

Personalia

Postings out over this period have included Capt. Tighe to Uganda, Pte. Moore to Burma Company, Pte. Preston to Strensall, Pte. Ellingham to the QM's department (Pioneers) and 10 under 18s to the Green Howards on temporary loan. Postings in include Capt. Reid from 24 Bde, three from the Depot and Pte. Steele from Burma Company.



Results of car explosion in Newry—April 28, 1972—ten minutes after Corunna Coy. had arrived to begin its tour in N. Ireland.



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LXXVI

Re-union rendezvous? Think



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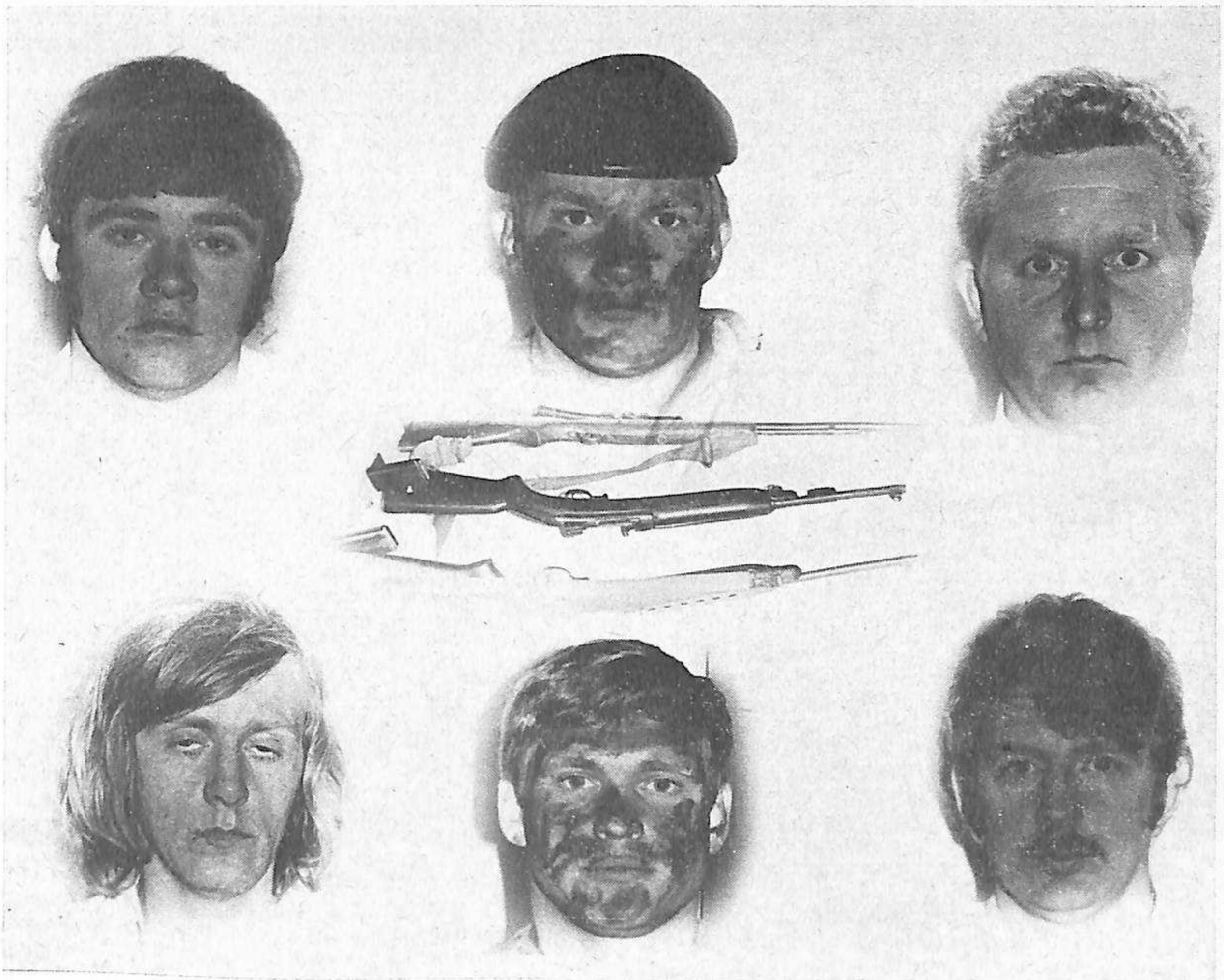
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Cpl. Franks and his 2IC, Silcox (centre top and bottom) with their catch, 4 men and 3 weapons (see pages 54 and 55)

Cpl. Russell returned with a good report from his skill-at-arms course at Warminster and has disappeared again on a guided weapons course.

Congratulations to the Calverts, Grinsdales and Lever's on their marriages, we gather that Cpl. Hall, Ptes. Ennis and Ross are taking the plunge in the near future.

Corunna's team for Ulster 72 is:

- OC: Major Mundell
- 2IC: Capt. Reid
- CSM: WOII Collins
- CQMS: S/Sgt. Hughes
- Ops Sgt.: Sgt. Nash

- | | | |
|-----------|------------------------------|-----------|
| 7 Pl. | 8 Pl. | 9 Pl. |
| Lt. Isles | 2 Lt. Grieve (S/Sgt. Carter) | Lt. Bird |
| Sgt. Shaw | Sgt. Leachman | Sgt. Basu |
- With Cpl. Waterhouse and his drivers, Cpl. Petre and cooks, and Cpl. Morton and his signallers.

SUPPORT COMPANY

Since arriving in the border area of Crossmaglen,

Newtownhamilton and Forkhill, the Company has been involved in many operations against the IRA. The area is implacably Republican and therefore hostile. The IRA have divided their attention between security forces and easy targets such as post office vans, school buses and unarmed farmers whom they have shot for a variety of alleged offences. The punishments have varied from head shaving and whipping to shooting in the legs and tarring and feathering. It is due to this terrorism that the local population are afraid to give useful intelligence to the Company.

Despite the lack of intelligence on which to base operations, all three platoons have had their success against the IRA. Most of the stories about incidents appear in each platoon's notes. The Vigilant Platoon lived up to their name by discovering a 230lb bomb with only a small piece of wire in a field as their clue. The Anti-Tank Platoon found a similar set-up even before the explosive had been moved in. As well as this they had an inconclusive gunfight across the border but can claim no hits.

The bulk of the action has centred around Cross-

maglen where are based Company Headquarters and the Mortar Platoon. They have achieved great success in discovering a large bomb, capturing six revolvers, two criminals and £100 cash as well as shooting dead one IRA gunman. This has not been achieved without cost. L/Cpl. Foster, our hard-working REME mechanic, was seriously wounded in a car bomb incident. Less seriously wounded but badly shaken were Cpl. Dyson, L/Cpl. Wright and Pte. Dales. One section of the Mortar Platoon have been where the action is. Pte. Lingard also suffered a shot wound and all the Company extend their sympathy and hope they all will recover soon (Dales has, and is, back on ops).

We deeply regret the death of Sapper Hurst, 50 Field Squadron RE, who was shot down whilst he was engaged in building a sentry post outside Crossmaglen RUC Station.

VIGILANT PLATOON

The Caribbean sun has set since the last notes, leaving some of us with happy memories, some with not-too-pleasant memories (those who unwittingly used barrel cactus for tree-stump resting places) and for the 151 drinkers, no memories at all.

The month of March and the early part of April was spent training for Ulster once more. The training was in preparation for a somewhat different task than our previous tour of Belfast. We were now to spend three months in the country. Physical fitness was, of course, a necessary requirement to carry out long patrols over rough country—how necessary we were soon to find out. The training, culminating in a four-day exercise, was considered rather successful. During riot training, carried out at Barnard Castle, so much realism was introduced that it was commented by members of the Platoon that they had never been in a rougher riot situation; this was quite something coming from the veterans of the internment riots of our Belfast tour. Only minor injuries were sustained, this an achievement in itself. However, after a welcome 10 days' leave we were ready to "Go".

At the time of going to press, we have done our settling-in period, taking over from the Devon and Dorset's at Newtownhamilton. Newtown is a fairly large village about two miles from the Border and some 13 miles from Newry, the nearest city.

We quickly got on with the task at hand and, with the expert guidance of Lt. Thorn and Sgt. Martin, who had arrived on the advance party, we managed to get around the patrol routes without foraging over the Border. The only way to learn our area was to footslog over bog and barbed wire fence, which can be testified by our new hard-heeled and eagle-eyed section commanders. The tasks presented to us are quite complex, in addition to the border patrols we also carry out "eagle flights", vehicle check points, road clearing, ambushes, farmers daughter patrols, town patrols, and town dolly patrols. In addition to this we have to provide base protection; we are helped in the latter by a contingent of UDR, who are a great help to us, not only in helping us with our tasks but with their local knowledge, without which our task would be much more difficult. Their help is greatly appreciated by us all.

It would take hours to define all our tasks in depth, but briefly, "eagle flights" save us many hours of tramping around the countryside—the idea is to use a Sioux as a spotter and a Wessex carrying a section. The spotter nominates a vehicle to be stopped and searched, the Wessex drops the section on or near the road and a search is carried out. The chopper then lifts the section again and moves on to another target. This is a great aid to controlling illegal border crossings. Vehicle check points, ambushes and town patrols need no further explanation. Farmer's daughter patrols help us to get to know the people on the outlying farms of the district. The town dolly patrols help us to get to know the people of Newtownhamilton. All these tasks are quite demanding at section commander level and very time consuming. Some patrols are out so long that a guide has to be left in the accommodation to show members of patrols where their beds are, they can never remember which is theirs.

I would like to point out for those concerned at home that due to lack of space and time on the post, it is impossible to continue with the Disco's of the Belfast era. However, we do have a colour TV and the odd beer to keep us amused; I am sure we will not crack under the strain. Leave is looming up for the lucky few in the next week or so, four days to unwind, and then back to it.

Our area is quiet at the moment, but we are on our toes prepared for the unexpected.

Sgt. Hewson left us for a somewhat coveted job of Company Int Sgt. We welcome in his place Sgt. Martin from the A/Tk Platoon. Because we lost our drivers to the MT Section we have been made up to strength by the Pioneer Platoon "Dad" Clarke who expertly drives one of our "Pigs". Ptes. Leonard, and Fothergill, the latter joining us from the Mortars, look after our gastronomical requirements.

Our sense of humour has not suffered in spite of all.

One of our number who shall remain nameless has suspect eyesight, whilst preparing an ambush position the following conversation took place;

"Hey, Corporal, we have been rumbled, we can't put the ambush here".

"Oh, why not?"

"There's a bloke up there on the hill watching us."

"Where?"

"Up there, look, in the brown and white pull-over."

After a rather withering look from the Corporal, "Eyesight" looked sheepishly after the brown and white cow that bumbled off down the hill.

I am sure that before the tour is over there will be many more amusing and warlike tales to recount. But now on with the job, and a hopeful return to safety in Catterick, and a spot of welcome leave.

Congratulations to L/Cpl. Hutchinson on his promotion to Corporal.

ANTI-TANK PLATOON

The Platoon is located in the most beautiful part of S. Armagh. Forkhill is set in a national park, surrounded by hills with winding rivers, cottages and farms nestling into the natural landscape, a perfect setting for a holiday. Unfortunately, the natives are not as congenial as one would like, and the holiday

image rapidly vanishes when one remembers that over 1,000lb of explosive have been found in the area in recent months, and Dungooley cross-roads is notorious for cross border shootings.

The move from Catterick was uneventful on the good ship *Sir Lancelot*. A calm crossing, unlike that experienced on "Sun Pirate". Lt. Gilbert and Sgt. Minto had gone ahead with the advance party and were relieved to be able to speak to someone who did not believe that "The answer loies in the soil". An interpreter is recommended the next time we take over from foreigners (I am reliably informed that England ends at Doncaster). The take-over took two minutes, they left as we arrived.

Our job entails route clearing, patrolling the border, checking any suspicious goings on, liaising with the Police, and generally making our presence felt. We are up very early in the morning. Even the rabbits are surprised to see us. The number of badgers, foxes, hares and game that we have seen is astonishing. There have been reports of lions (Probably Lyons Birks.)

The locals are just beginning to accept us: cups of tea are beginning to appear; windows are beginning to be opened to wave to us, but we are always aware of the unexpected. All the platoon are in good health, Evans 86 especially after his near-miss. Butcher is to be commended for getting so many rounds off—surprisingly?

Our cook is still Joe 90. His popularity is such that the cookhouse queue sounds like Battersea dogs' home the night before Cruft's.

Sgt. Minto, Cpl. Hopper and L/Cpl. Taylor are shortly to go on courses in UK, we wish them good luck. The RUC Station Sergeant, Sgt. A. Robinson, has just had a daughter, we congratulate him. We also congratulate L/Cpls. Birks, Hepworth and Walker on their promotion.

MORTAR PLATOON

The Mortar Platoon is once again in the Emerald Isle. But this time we are based at Crossmaglen, which is about two miles from the border of Eire, and makes a nice change from the daily bomb blast of Belfast where we were last year.

The last two months prior to coming to Ulster were spent training the platoon for Ireland, also two weeks mortar firing at Larkhill. The first week was spent working with the School of Artillery. The second, doing platoon live firing and training. This training proved very successful and was enjoyed by all of the platoon.

The Platoon now has 15 miles of border to look after in the county of Armagh, which we are managing to do quite well. During the six weeks we have been here, we have found six pistols, 28 rounds of ammunition assorted, in which Cpl. Dyson's section played a great part, also the capture of two men who were carrying three of the above-mentioned pistols.

On two occasions, Cpl. Hogg and Cpl. Frear acquired very good intelligence from Eire, the latter has now got the nickname of 41 Eire.

WOII Lindsay, the Platoon Commander, found a bomb in a milk churn which contained 120lb of explosives. He, at the present, is away on a canoeing course which will be a great asset to the Platoon

when he comes back; we will be able to send him out on route clearing patrols with his canoe to help clear culverts.

During our tour we have had five people of the Platoon injured: Pte. Lingard, who was shot in the side, Cpl. Dyson, L/Cpl. Foster (REME), L/Cpl. Wright, Pte. Dales, who were injured when a car bomb went off as their vehicle went past. We hear they are now all getting better and all the Platoon send them their best wishes for a speedy recovery.

We would like to congratulate L/Cpl. Hogg and L/Cpl. Clarke on their promotion to Corporal; also Ptes. Wright, Ferguson, Whitworth, Cooper on their promotion to Lance-Corporal. Congratulations to Cpl. Hogg and Pte. Dales on their weddings.

ADMINISTRATIVE/COMMAND COMPANY

Since our tour of the West Indies, the land of sunshine, we have gone full circle and are now in Ulster where it rains all the time. On arrival here Administrative and Command Companies consolidated to form one command structure for the tour. Departments of the two companies continue to function normally but the two company headquarters now form what is locally known as the Mill Office. We are billeted in a wing of Bessbrook Spinning Mill and find that by combining our efforts duplication does not occur.

The pundits of military jargon would be horrified at the appointment titles within the Mill. Administrative Company Commander is known as the Mill Manager with his Command Company colleague being the Mill Foreman. There was an attempt to appoint the RSM as Shop Steward, but Sgt. Jackson failed to comply with an order and consequently his appointment was not promulgated in paint before his arrival after which no one dared to put the instruction into effect! The two CSM's are known as CSM "A" and CSM "G". The former deals with the routine administration within the Mill including all documents of both companies, CSM "G" has the doubtful honour of being responsible for the duties in the Mill. This can be quite hectic and CSM "G" has developed a routine which allows him to disappear for several hours after the duty roster has been published.

Life in the Mill is not too unpleasant related to living conditions elsewhere in Ulster. This fact is known and those that do show signs of being dissatisfied are soon satisfied customers again after a visit to some less fortunate location.

Leave has started and is now well under way, a fact that does confirm that the days are passing by. The Mill people have one or two operational tasks to perform which helps to ensure that everyone is out regularly and playing their part operationally in addition to their administrative duties.

The Lord Mayor of Bradford visited the Mill accompanied by two reporters from the *Bradford Telegraph and Argus*. The Lord Mayor managed to have a chat with the lads from Bradford over a pint of Tartan in the PRI canteen and seemed impressed with the high spirits of them all.

Entertainment is limited here in the Mill but with the help of the square box (coloured, of course) we

manage to see most of the major sporting events, Cpl. Mortimer (BOR) has organised a chess competition, Cpl. Hodgson (QM's) a darts knockout and CSM "A", with the assistance of S/Sgt. Reddy, runs a bingo session weekly; for the keep-fit fanatics, SI Pickering has fixed sessions of circuit training, the main participants being RQMS Ashby and WO2 Middleton.

No notes would be complete without a word about our stalwarts the cooks who are feeding us well in the "Mill Grill" under the watchful eye of Catering Manager S/Sgt. Vinson, The ration side is a full-time job with SSM Figgins at the helm ably assisted by S/Sgt. Skipworth and driver Pte. Hustwick. We congratulate SSM Figgins and S/Sgt. Vinson on their recent promotions.

SQMS Waltham, our money spider, has now left us for BAOR; all our best wishes go with him for the future and we hope he enjoyed his stay with us and that we lived up to the standards of 1 Queen's. To replace the SQMS we welcome S/Sgt. Ballard and hope his stay with us will be a happy one. Sgt. Hall left us at the Mill to look after Alma Company's financial side of life; Cpl. Rhodes arrived after spending the first part of the tour with Rear Details to find a desk already prepared for him piled high with work, this being the doing of Cpls. Collett and Wilson who felt that he had led an easy life whilst with Rear.

Finally, these notes were avoided by the Mill Foreman, started by the Mill Manager and completed by CSM "A".

Personalia

Departures: SQMS Waltham to 4 Armd Wksp BFPO 41; CSM Hartley to "E" Company 1 Yorks Vols, Leeds; Sgt. Bowen to 8 Sigs Regt, Catterick; Cpl. Roberts to 6 Fd Wksp, BFPO 17; L/Cpl. Watson to JIW Preston; Pte. Morton to HQ BH Garrison.

Arrivals: S/Sgt. Ballard from 1 RRW; Sgt. Sobey from 24 Bde; Cpl. Kupczac from 1 Royal Tk Regt, BFPO 36; Cpl. Hoare from 10 Fld Wsps, Tidworth; L/Cpl. Forster from 1 Kings.

Marriages: Cpl. Wilson (RAPC) and Pte. Cordner (Officers Mess). We wish them every happiness for the future.

RECCE PLATOON

The Ulster tour to date has had its moments for the Platoon. We found an IRA training camp and weapons during a rural search operation, a 105lb culvert bomb was found by Pte. Cockshot and c/s 63; even S/Sgt. Stansfield found himself under fire. We hope the remainder of the tour will produce some further success.

Being in Ulster has its compensations. We are the proud owners of three ZB 298 Radars, with four more to come—"promises, promises". They have a very limited use in the present situation, but the Platoon will be proficient in radar, and its deployment, by the end of the tour. Also we are doing trials with a NOD (night observation device)

equipped with a thermal pointer, this has great potential as a night aid for an observation party.

Attached to the Platoon for the Ulster period are some of the PT and Provost staff and drums. They have all fitted in very well and are enjoying soldiering again.

After leave in August we are looking forward to the KAPE tour in September, and then driving cadres on both Land-Rovers and Ferrets in preparation for—don't say it—Ballykelly and Ulster.

Congratulations to Ptes. Attiwell, Tooley and L/Cpl. Morton on their recent marriages. Rumour has it that Smith 35 is getting married in August, then applying for 22 SAS!

SIGNAL PLATOON

By April 28 the Signal Platoon was, once again, split up and cast to the four winds (or Coys.) for our second tour in NI and so once again we are represented in all the Company HQs in their various locations.

Though the area we are covering this time is completely different to Belfast the communication problems are basically the same. The main problem so far is maintaining good contact with the Recce Platoon who periodically patrol the Mourne Mountains.

While radio room duties claim a lot of our time in the HQs some of us still manage to get out occasionally on patrols, etc. The "opposition" nearly claimed Sgt. Kench and L/Cpl. Ruding whilst on a trip through Belfast when two rounds were fired at their vehicle. One passed through the windscreen above Sgt. Kench's head, the other hit L/Cpl. Ruding and smashed a jar of coffee in his flak jacket pocket before lodging in his flak jacket after nicking his shoulder.

We have not been neglected on the publicity side, with visits from Yorkshire papers and even one from the Lord Mayor of Bradford. The Bradford lads were all on good form that day, especially Sgt. Kench who suddenly seemed to qualify as a radio technician if one is to believe the photo in the *Telegraph* and *Argus*. This prompted a jealous Sgt. Gunn to compose the following poem:

The Mayor came to see our Mill,
Mistook our Bob for technical Bill:
Camera lens zoomed in close,
Our Bob struck up a technical pose:
Bradford press published that snap,
Thornton's proud of their technical chap:
So now across yon fair lands,
They think our Bob has skilled hands.
Now our Bill likes his latest acquisition,
His own regimental storeman/technician.

The Standard II Classification on April 16-18 produced some good results, passes going to Ptes. Clarkson, Gledhill, Bray, Sisson, Welburn and Whitfield. Well done, you lucky lads!

Congratulations are in order for Sgt. Bill Taylor on promotion, WO2 Conley who came out top on his Bomb Disposal Course, L/Cpl. Grant on passing his Standard I and Pte. "Windy" Gale on passing the B3 Driver/Op Course. Though we are all very busy here in Ulster we are still managing to send people on courses. Those away at the moment are

Ptes. Hollis, Thackeray and Clarkson all on Standard I, and L/Cpl. Brook on RSI. We all wish you the best of luck. Finally, we say a fond farewell to Sgt. Tony Bowen, our Royal Signals Rear Link NCO, and wish him all the best in his new employment and we welcome in his place, Sgt. "Taff" Sobey.

Who was it in the Company Office who said he thought that Mr. Ward had mellowed since his marriage? If he had it didn't last long though he himself admits his attitude has changed.

INTELLIGENCE SECTION

The second tour of Northern Ireland is now well under way. The IO, together with Sgt. Waller, L/Cpl. Roberts and Pte. Hughes, arrived some little time ahead of the Battalion and were housed in the Bessbrook RUC station with the RHQ of the Queen's Own Hussars. On the arrival of the next party we all moved down to the Bessbrook Mill and went to work on setting up our office and operations room. We have now managed to fill up most of the walls with a suitable display of maps and the card index is now some four times larger than when we first arrived.

Most of the section are, of course, old hands at operations in Ulster. Admittedly last time it was Belfast, but they know the score anyway. At least that is what they keep trying to tell Acorn who is doing his first stint.

L/Cpl. Jagger (photographer) and Pte. Crawford (developer) finally arrived out here after their respective courses and have been producing some quite swish stuff. (Except, unfortunately, the photographs taken of the cakes sent to the unit by the good people of Scarborough.)

S/Sgt. Carter spent a short time with us but decided that he was better employed commanding one of Corunna's platoons. Much as we miss him we are still managing to keep abreast of the collation war.

Like most others, we have had our periods of quiet and others of almost complete pandemonium. Cpl. Harston always manages to keep his cool despite the numerous tasks which come his way.

Nearly everyone has managed a period of R & R and has been given a little time to recover.

Must finish off now before the CSM comes and shows his disapproval again at our being permitted to grow sideboards.

MT

"Sun Pirate", having ended and been enjoyed by everyone who took part in it, was followed by 10 days' leave prior to Northern Ireland duty again. After leave, the Battalion was a hive of activity in preparation for the tour. The vehicles were all serviced, inspected, painted, scrubbed, drilled and kitted out for their individual specific roles during the tour. Once again, as is usual for the MT, much midnight oil was burnt in the process and then it was Northern Ireland again. It doesn't seem two minutes since we were there last, but a change of location is one consolation at least.

Having been here three weeks at the time of

writing these notes, everyone has settled into their various locations, prepared to work the Irish day of 28 hours for the next three months.

Mackrolon, it is agreed by all, is the worst product ever produced for use in Northern Ireland, simply because we have to armour all vehicles with it which is hard work. The programme for mackroloning vehicles went with such speed that no one dared stand still in the yard at Bessbrook Mill otherwise they would have been kitted out in a mackrolon sports jacket styled by D. Battye and Co. The crowning achievement by the mackrolon team was cup final day when the MTO walked round the yard singing "We are the champion Mackroloners", and various remarks like "He's finally cracked up lads" were heard behind him.

With 27 Pigs to keep on the road, the REME have had their work cut out doing repairs. They are coping very well in the task although spares are getting hard to come by. Keep it up, lads, we admire the way you use those 14lb hammers, but at the same time we are sure spanners would be better.

We would like to say welcome back to Cpl. Lambton, and congratulations to L/Cpl. Lawrence and Cpl. Waterhouse on their promotions.

BORNEWS

Nothing seems quite so useless as an expended air ticket (Belfast—Leeds return) lying in the bottom of one's locker amongst the usual debris of bits of string and last week's laundry label. On seeing it one immediately reflects that there are only 47 more days to do here; at the thought the Mill walls move in another 6ft on all sides and depression darkens the air perceptibly.

The four-day high spot of the Northern Ireland tour is passed and the only things to look forward to are the day we embark for home and the ever-increasing mound of paper in one's in tray.

The Orderly Room lies deep in the bowels of the gaunt, crumbling and forbidding grey walls of Bessbrook Mill. The myopic peerings of the clerks over their typewriters testify to the subterranean gloom of the place and the clerks can be seen blinking like owls whenever they venture outside into the light of day.

Our staff seem estranged these days—the meeting of Stanley and Livingston drawing a strange parallel to the meetings of Cpls. Wilson and Mortimer as they pass like ships in the night, one on his way from work to duty, the other from duty to work! So the days have extended through May and into June, from crisis to crisis, from can-see to can't-see.

Of course, circumstances have changed in BOR; Speedy is now a married man—(and to be congratulated for the beautiful try that his wife scored for St. Helens against Leeds in the Rugby League Cup Final). Parkhouse has left our ranks for Burma Company and has been replaced by young Greenwood who is now engaged in learning the intricacies of the despatch table. The Adjutant wears an ever-increasing air of pensiveness as the date of his staff promotion exam looms ever nearer and seldom does he speak. Pte. Casey sits snugly behind the new-found security of the documents desk and

grins in that maniacal Sheffield way that we have all come to know so well.

Of the two remaining members of BOR (Chief Clerk and ORC), Sgt. Manion appears to be the most comfortable. His pet concern, the SDS, seems disinclined to get out of business and this, coupled with his ever-broadening experience of bridge clearing, car inspecting and map reading keeps him busy most of the time. We do see him in the office occasionally; that is, of course, when we ourselves are there! Staff Milner, on the other hand, spends most of his time looking for the staff—some days are unfortunately just “no-go” as far as the office is concerned!

We must apologise to our readers for the brevity of these notes and the lack of the usual sparkle; we are (and we know this will be appreciated) busily engaged with the job in hand, although when we are thankfully back in Catterick things undoubtedly won't appear as bad as they sometimes seem in situ. Meanwhile, back to gazing at used air tickets, string, and last week's laundry label.

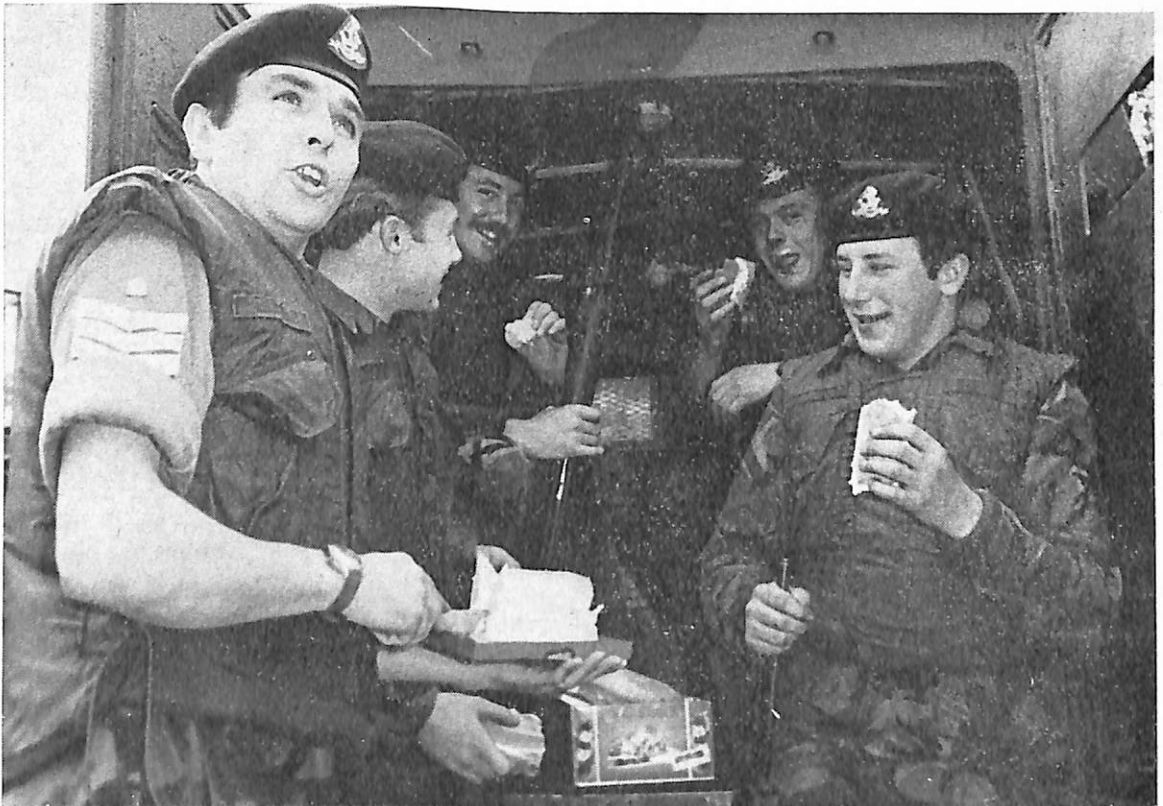
TRAINING/OPS TEAM

After ex “Sun Pirate” the training team was reassembled to run a number of cadres in preparation for our forthcoming tour in Northern Ireland. There were so many soldiers either attending cadres or instructing on them that on a few occasions

students on one course had to be rapidly withdrawn to instruct on another.

There is no universal definition of the word cadre that would adequately describe the attitudes adopted by different personalities. To a Company Commander the word means the initial dissemination of his company when he and his Sergeant-Major will be required to command and administer the remaining non-specialists. To the Second-in-Command it means an impressive display of qualified specialists in every conceivable method of warfare. To Divisional and Higher Commanders, who may have to commit their soldiers to war involving nuclear and bacteriological agents, with snipers, sharpshooters, sniffers, low flying aircraft, search teams, drivers, radar, Tobias and Iris, to name but a few, it is presumably the formula for a good night's rest. However, for once the cadres run by the training team were immediately relevant to our operational tour and the Battalion as a whole should benefit.

Before leaving for Northern Ireland we said goodbye to Cpl. Rochester, Sgt. Heron and Sgt. Brennan. Our congratulations also to the latter two on their well-deserved promotion. A special thanks to S/Sgt. Carter who became the Battalion Senior NCO Without Portfolio. His many commitments have included successfully deputising for every member of the training team, organising the



Eating cakes generously donated by some good ladies in Scarborough. S/Sgt. Hughes, Ptes. Pelucci, Ross, Allen and Jarman.

baggage for amphibious exercises, helicopter handler extraordinaire, the King of ex "Fastball", which was almost a no ball, and our roving ambassador for second-in-command's conferences (when we get to Vieques . . .). Whenever a strange task crops up the cry is "Get Carter"!

For Northern Ireland the training team became the Ops Team which initially consisted of the Ops Offr and WO2 Middleton. Our first task was to set up an Ops Room in the Bessbrook Mill. And in order of priority the other tasks were: Conquering the NARAT—a mysterious formula which, if

correctly applied, will get you a helicopter, acquire coffee-making ingredients and, finally, the operational requirement of defeating the IRA. Cpl. Akeroyd has now joined the team from Depot The King's Division and his clerical and typing abilities are a great help.

Our tour is only two-thirds completed and therefore a full saga of the Ops Room will only be available for the next edition. But whatever happens, wives of senior NCOs who have had to work in the Ops Room should not ask their husbands to make the coffee when they get home.

LOCATION LIST OF SERVING OFFICERS

as at July 1, 1972.

Colonel

ISLES, D. E., OBE, *RARDE Fort Halstead, Sevenoaks, Kent. To British Defence Staff Washington in Nov. 72 as Brigadier. Director of Munitions. Defence and Development Staff.*

Lieutenant-Colonels

HARDY, E. M. P., *GSO1 (Trg.) HQ, Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, Camberley, Surrey.*

SHUTTLEWORTH, D. W., *GSO1 (Ops. 3) HQ Northern Army Group, BFPO 40.*

HUXTABLE, C. R., OBE, *OC 1 DWR, Somme Lines, Catterick Camp, Yorkshire.*

HARMS, R. M., MC, *CO 1st Abu Dhabi Infantry Battalion.*

Majors

INCE, R. H., *SO II (S.W.W.) School of Infantry, Netheravon, Wiltshire.*

TEDD, G. C., *DAAG (M) HQ The King's Division, Imphal Barracks, Yorkshire.*

ROBERTSON, W. F. C., *OC Holding Wing, Recruit Selection Centre, Sutton Coldfield.*

COWELL, J. D. P., *Trg. Maj. 3rd Battalion The Yorkshire Volunteers, The Drill Hall, St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield.*

HOPPE, P. B. L., *SO 2 (PT) HQ, West Midland District, Shrewsbury.*

NEWTON, J. M., *Trg. Maj. 2nd Battalion The Yorkshire Volunteers, Aug. 72.*

MITCHELL, P. A., *GSO 2 (W) Infantry Trials and Development Unit, Warminster, Wiltshire. CO designate 1 DWR, Nov. 72.*

MILLER, C. D. d'E., *1 DWR.*

PELL, J. E., *2IC Junior Infantryman's Battalion, Sir John Moore Barracks, Shorncliffe, Kent.*

NASH, S. J., *DAAG HQ Wales.*

LUPTON, T. D., *OC Training Wing, Depot The King's Division, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Strensall, Yorkshire.*

CAMPBELL-LAMERTON, M. J., *2IC 1 DWR July 72.*

CUMBERLEGE, J. R. P., *G2 (Ops.) HQ 4 Division, BFPO 15.*

DENNISON, A., *HQ GL Group (UK) (For 55 CBGL Section).*

GREENWAY, J. B. K., *G2 (EPS) HQ 1 (BR) Corps, BFPO 39.*

BUCKINGHAM, A. E., *Dubai Defence Force.*

STEVENS, R. L., MBE, *1 DWR.*

BRAY, M. R. N., BM, *2 Infantry Brigade, Shorncliffe, Kent, to 1 DWR Dec. 72.*

IVEY, C. W., *1 DWR.*

PUGH, D. M., *1 DWR.*

CHARLESWORTH, W. F., *GSO 3 (Int) HQ UKLF.*

MUNDELL, W. R., *1 DWR.*

MARSAY, D., *Depot The King's Division, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Strensall, York, for adm offr 23 SAS (V) Oct. 72.*

REID, I. P., *1 DWR.*

CUMBERLEGE, C. R., *1 DWR for Staff College, Oct. 72.*

Captains

STACPOOLE, M. G. L. M., *OC HQ Coy, Junior Infantryman's Wing, Fulwood Barracks, Preston, Oct. 72.*

PUTTOCK, P. J., *10 Cadet Training Team, c/o Light Infantry Office, Wakefield Road, Pontefract, Yorkshire.*

ANDREWS, P. D. D. J., *1 DWR.*

BUNBURY, C. N. St. P., *Coy. Instr. Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, Camberley, Surrey.*

CARTWRIGHT, H. de C., *1 DWR.*

WALKER, E. J. W., *Instr. Signal Wing, School of Infantry, Warminster, Wiltshire.*

POWER, J. F. B., *attached Worthy Down, pending transfer to RAPC.*

NEWELL, D. R. D., *2/2 Gurkha Rifles.*

WESTCOB, A. R., *G3 (Ops/Air) HQ 3 Brigade, Horse Shoe Barracks, Shoeburyness, Essex.*

FITZGERALD, C. G., *1 DWR.*

NICHOLSON, T. J., *Adjutant, Depot The King's Division, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Strensall, Yorkshire.*

MELLOR, P. J., *Adjutant 1 DWR to MOD SC AG2 Sept. 72.*

REDWOOD-DAVIES, A. R., MBE, *1 DWR.*

TIGHE, R. A., *British Army Training Team, Uganda.*
 MCGLYNN, G. I., 1 DWR.
 WONSON, D. W., *OC 10 Army Youth Team, c/o
 The Drill Hall, St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield.*
 PALMER, A. D. M., *Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion,
 Oswestry, Salop. To 1 DWR, Aug. 72.*
 HIRST, P. T., *attached Depot and Training Battalion
 ACC.*
 BRAY, M. P. C., 1 DWR.

Lieutenants

GARDNER, P. D., 1 DWR.
 THORN, J. M., 1 DWR.
 GILBERT, C. J. W., 1 DWR.
 WARD, J. R. A., 1 DWR.
 BIRD, P. J., 1 DWR.
 NEWELL, N. J., *Depot The King's Division, Queen
 Elizabeth Barracks, Strensall, Yorkshire.*
 ROBERTS, A. D., *G3 (Int) HQ 39 Brigade, Lisburn,
 Co. Antrim, Northern Ireland.*
 BATTYE, D., 1 DWR.
 SHERLOCK, M. S., 1 DWR to *Infantry Junior
 Leaders Battalion, Oswestry, Salop, July 72.*

Second-Lieutenants

ISLES, T. J., 1 DWR.
 BEST, K., 1 DWR.

GRIEVE, C. F., 1 DWR.
 DOWDELL, J., 1 DWR.
 SINCLAIR, T. C., 1 DWR to *Durham University, Oct.
 72.*
 MEEK, A. D., 1 DWR.
 HARRAP, D. L. J., *King's Division Depot, Queen
 Elizabeth Barracks, Strensall, Yorkshire, to 1
 DWR, Jan. 73.*

Quartermasters

HALL, J. M., MBE (MAJOR) *HQ Rheindahlen
 Garrison.*
 ROBINS, W., MBE (CAPT.), 1 DWR to *HQ 44 Para
 Brigade, Chelsea Barracks, as GSO III, Nov.
 72.*
 NICHOLS, F. (CAPT.), 1 *Division and Signal Regi-
 ment, BFPO 32.*
 BURKE, W. (CAPT.), 1 DWR.
 KIRK, S. H. (CAPT.), 1 *Green Howards.*

Attached 1 DWR

QUEEN'S LANCASHIRE REGIMENT
 TETLOW, J. A., *Lieutenant.*
 RAMC
 JAGO, R., BA, MB, MA, *B. Chir.*
 RAPC
 ROBB, A. F., *Captain.*

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Regimental Headquarters

Regimental Service—York Minster

The restoration of York Minster will be sufficiently far advanced for the Regimental Service to be held there as planned at 11.30 on Saturday, October 28.

This year this service will incorporate the dedication of a dossal which will hang on the wall behind the altar. The dossal is to be presented as a memorial to Major-General W. M. Ozanne, CBE, CB, by the Regiment and by his daughters.

The dossal consists of a series of panels of scarle Thailand silk on which the Guild of Broiderers of the Minister have worked a number of gothic crowns in gold. The crowns, all dissimilar in design, have been grouped variously. The whole effect will be most impressive judging by its appearance as work on it is nearing its close.

Will those who would like to attend the service kindly inform the secretary of the DWR Minster Committee, Major F. H. V. Wellesley, HQ The King's Division, Imphal Barracks, York.

Families with long connections with The Duke's

Reproduced below is a letter sent to OCA branches.

"In the 1930s THE IRON DUKE recorded the histories of a number of families which had served three generations in The Duke's. These were the Kennedy, Waller, Hemblys, Kirwin, Harper, Brennan and Bond families. Representatives from these, together with one or two whose story was not mentioned in THE IRON DUKE, totalled over 1,100 years with the Regiment, saw active service in 19 countries and gained 21 awards.

"It would be interesting to bring these records up to date, but to search through the official documents in the Public Records Office would be a monumental task. Would anyone who knows of any family, other than those mentioned above, which has provided members from three generations or more for The Duke's (including the TA) write to Major J. H. Davis, Headquarters, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, Wellesley Park, Highroad Well, Halifax, giving such details as they know. Of course, any information on the families mentioned in THE IRON DUKES of the '30s which brings the story up to date would be welcomed."

Research was started off by a letter to *Country Life* on March 2 giving details of a family with four generations' service in the Rifle Brigade.

Our reply giving details of our three generation families was published in the April 20 issue and up to present has not been challenged.

Reminder

The annual luncheon and dinner of the Officers' Dining Club will be held at the Hyde Park Hotel on Friday, September 15.

THE MILITARY KNIGHTS OF WINDSOR

The oldest military brotherhood in existence is that of the Military Knights of Windsor. Formed by King Edward III in 1349 they have a continuous history from that time until the present day. The king's purpose in instituting this brotherhood was to reward poor but deserving knights who had grown old or been disabled in the king's service and to encourage the worship of God in St. George's Chapel, Windsor.

The knights, originally 26 in number, were formed as the Poor or Alms Knights of the Order of the Garter; to this day they maintain a close link with the Garter Order.

When King Henry VIII died in 1547 his will gave effect to an endowment to help provide for the knights. Their establishment was then fixed at 13 with one of their number appointed as Governor. The present Governor is Major-General Sir Edmund Hakewell Smith, Deputy Constable and Lieutenant-Governor Windsor Castle.

In 1833 King William IV changed their title to The Military Knights of Windsor. Established therefore as a military body a military uniform was then adopted.

Today the duties of the Military Knights of Windsor are to pray for the Sovereign and to attend, in uniform, the morning service at St. George's Chapel, Windsor, on St. George's Day and on certain Sundays.

A candidate for registration as a Military Knight must have held a commission in the Regular Army, though consideration may be given to other army officers, especially those with war service. At the time of registration and on appointment an applicant must be under 65. Preference is given to married officers. The combined gross private income, excluding pension of the applicant and his wife, must not exceed a sum fixed from time to time which is at present £750 a year.

A Military Knight receives free married quarters within the precincts of Windsor Castle, a grant towards the cost of fuel and a stipend of about £180 per year gross. He also receives a free issue of full dress uniform. In addition, a knight may, with the permission of the Governor, hold a civilian job outside the precincts of the Castle, provided the work involved does not interfere with his duties as a knight.

Before registration candidates for appointment are required to attend a Ministry of Defence (Army) Selection Board, but registration by this Board does not imply selection to fill any vacancy. Selection is the Sovereign's prerogative. A Military Knight holds his appointment directly from the Sovereign, by Royal Warrant under the Royal Sign Manual.

An officer wishing to be considered as a candidate for registration as a Military Knight should send his application to MS3, Ministry of Defence, London Road, Stanmore.

'C' Company (DWR) 1st Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers

Summer is with us, we are told, although at times it is hard to believe it. With summer comes the traditional TA camping season. This year the Company were to have gone to Malta. However, a little local difficulty prevented this. It is said that when the Maltese Government heard who was coming they not unreasonably put the rent up.

Thus, instead, we go to Otterburn. However, having had a slight let-down, we are being given all possible vacancies elsewhere. First to go was our valuable Geordie interpreter, Sgt. Bailey, who goes to try his linguistic skills on the Cypriots instead. Why-aye man!

In addition, a full section is to go to Cyprus with him, courtesy of our "D" (Hallams) Company.

Support Platoon are still to go to BAOR with our "B" (Green Howards) Company. Luckiest of all is Pte. Salt who not only goes to BAOR but, thanks to a vacancy occurring and a very understanding employer, has been selected to go from BAOR to Canada with 1 Green Howards. It should prove a good reward for his keenness.

The rest of us poor devils go to Otterburn, but take heart, the place is beautiful when the sun shines, and there are those who speak highly of nearby hostleries.

Since the last notes were written the Battalion had yet another great privilege, that of providing a guard of honour for HM The Queen when she visited York to distribute the Royal Maundy on Maundy Thursday. Despite the fact that it was an ordinary workaday Thursday in our company area, there were quite a few members of this company on parade.

We congratulate S/Sgt. Carey on his substantive promotion, and Sgts. Kelly and Kennerdale on joining the Sergeants Mess. Also due for congratulations on their promotions are:

Corporals—Kennedy, M., Leonard, M., Burnside, P. M.

Lance-Corporals—Barkham, J., Burnside, F. A., Clay, M., Collins, J., and Smith, B. T. R.

Congratulating S/Sgt. Carey is becoming a habit. In the last three issues it has been his Lord-Lieutenant's Certificate, his promotion and now the grant of substantive rank. We should also congratulate him and his son, Kevin, on the latter's progress at Cambridge where he is now the holder of the much-sought-after office of President of the Union.

In conclusion, the Company must take the unusual, if not unprecedented, step of saying farewell to a general in these notes.

With the closure of Yorkshire District, the GOC, General R. M. Somerville, is departing. During his term of office he took a very great and personal interest in the TAVR. There can be few generals who have become so well known by even the most junior soldiers. We wish him well in his new appointment of Vice-Quartermaster General, and hope that he and his charming wife settle well into their new home even if it can't be in Scotland, or Yorkshire.

The General was one of the guests at the first dinner for past and present officers of all three Battalions of the Yorkshire Volunteers, and received a surprise presentation from the officers in recognition of his assistance to the Yorkshire Volunteers.

The venue of this function, which it is intended will be an annual event, was the RHQ Drill Hall at Lumley Barracks, York, which was still "dressed overall" from the previous week's function on April 15, namely the Battalion Sergeants Ball. Once again it was a great success and enjoyed by all. We are sure that the new PMC Sgts. Mess, our own CSM Peckett, will be certain to maintain the very high standard.

SERGEANTS MESS

Since the turn of the year we have had a number of socials. First, there was the PMC's birthday party (21), held on a drill night (February 15), when candles made good the scene, man. Con Sullivan and approximately 30 of his customers were made welcome and the Mess had about 80 present. The disco commenced at about midnight! due to the

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electricity cuts, and everyone had a good time. The next Saturday, February 19, we had Sgt. Berry's birthday party, and all who came thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

On Easter Sunday, we entertained WOs and Sergeants, 3 Yorks, to a games session. It is rumoured the RSM present had his own games! Well done, Sir. We presented him with a picture, a coloured sketch of Yorkshire, for hanging in the Mess at Huddersfield. We received a 3rd Battalion plaque, which is now above the Mess bar. Score: 2 falls to 1, to us. On April 15 we had our traditional Sergeants Ball at Lumley Barracks, York. This turned out to be enjoyed by all those who were present, and quite the best in my (PMC) opinion for a long time.

On April 28 we had our first Bier Keller night in the Mess. Now how about this; the Mess was laid out for 94 seating and the PMC arrived at 2045 hrs. to find two seats unoccupied! This must be recorded as the best night we have had in the Mess; Don and Cheekita were the artists and what a great duo they were. I'm sure I speak for all Mess members when I say the artists set the pace and everyone made one in and thoroughly enjoyed the changes. Jack Preston (bless him) came as Kaiser Bill and won the best dressed male competition (I'm sure Mick Dillon fixed it). I'm sure the PMC should have won (I thought I'd fixed it!). The Mess was in good decor, and the manager of the Bier Keller would have been proud. Many thanks to him for the help received in posters, etc.

On May 17, we entertained the Engineers Dept., Websters Brewery, to a games session. As this was mid-week it was not as hectic as on a weekend. However, it was a most enjoyable evening. The scores were, home team first: bowls, 7-5; dominoes, 6-6; fives and threes, 7-5; darts, 5-7; so we just won 25-23, keeping our record of not losing at home. (A good job Walt was playing bowls.)

The next main social, on July 29, will be over by the time these notes are being read. I will have to tell you all what we presented to May and Walt (Walt's farewell) in our next issue. Next on the list will be annual camp, August 12 to 26, for those of us fortunately left in the UK, who will be instructing on recruit cadres. However, Mess life at Otterburn should be first class, for yours truly will be Battalion PMC and Walt assistant RSM. We intend to run carpet bowls, darts and doms competitions for which trophies have already been purchased for the eventual winners and runners-up.

I would like to mention that "Spike" and old comrades still use the Mess on the first Saturday in each month, and the Halifax Branch of the Far East Prisoners of War Association on the last Friday in the month. FEPOW are having their Standard dedicated on Sunday, August 20, and have been given permission to use the Mess afterwards. Any details of this branch can be obtained from the secretary, Mr. D. Nash, 39 Cromer Street, Fenton Road, Halifax.

We welcome to the Mess Sgts. Kelly and Kennerdale on their promotion. We hope their stay with us will be long and enjoyable. Both have been given the PMC's blessing, and they are in charge of the Mess Christmas Draw. Anyone for numbers?

WELLINGTON CLUB (FORMERLY JUNIOR RANKS CANTEEN)

First of all, may I thank all the members of the darts and doms team for an excellent season in the Halifax Friendly League, and although neither team came anywhere near the top, I feel we made our presence felt.

Social-wise, we have been rather busy, with a lot of late nights brought about by some very good comedians—CSM Peckett might be included.

One of the socials (what you wore when the ship went down) turned out to be something similar to a scene from "Paint your Wagon" with Pte. (Mitch) Mitchell wearing the sexiest pair of army issue long john's that I have ever seen, together with a (curvie) pyjama top, a pair of size 8 DMS's and a "Black Watch" bonnet. He would have rivalled any Lee Marvin.

Training-wise, we have revisited our usual exotic resorts, Proteus, Strensall, Warcop, Rowston, etc., with some hard work thrown in especially from the shooting angle, resulting in possibles for Bisley.

One more great event happened for us on June 6, the Wellington Club was born (and almost sank the same night under the weight of beer which flowed) with a few words of advice and encouragement from the OC, Major Tetlow. I'm sure that the officers and senior ranks who were present had a ball, and I hope there were no headaches the following morning as bad as my own. Many thanks to L/Cpl. John Green for once more providing an excellent supper.

I also offer my condolences and thanks to Mr. Arthur Westerman for having to type this lot out.

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'C' Company (DWR) 3rd Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers

What have we done since our last notes? Training, this has been progressive, designed to lead us up to camp at the end of June—section, platoon and company field firing on Deer Hill, with patrolling during the night to relieve the "boredom", or was it the cold, of bivvying on Deer Hill? Annual Range course was fired at Strensall in May, and most of the people who attended passed. No doubt time will have to be set aside at a later date to "fit in" the non-firers.

The Company is up to strength, but we are still recruiting, and those people who are bad attenders will be receiving letters in the near future asking their intentions. We are determined to have a "real" strength rather than a paper strength.

We have a new 2IC, Capt. Peter Green, who has come to us via the Leeds Rifles and is rapidly learning what it is to come to a "Duke's" Company, albeit within the Yorkshire Volunteers. He is being

lectured on the background of our tradition and was seen taking home the Regimental History. Lt. Bateman, as No. 1 man in the Keighley area, is to be congratulated on passing his Lieutenant to Captain promotion exam, and also for recruiting such a large platoon in Keighley.

We are sorry that S/Sgt. Quayle will be leaving us after camp on promotion to 1 DWR. We cannot thank him enough for the wonderful job he has done with us. He is to be followed by S/Sgt. Reed.

As we write these notes we are busily packing up for camp, where we will find out the truth about the state of our training.

The Company Commander, Major McDonald, is leaving us at the end of September for business reasons. He has served in the TA and TAVR for over 17 years and our good wishes go with him for the future.

Depot, The King's Division

The last few months have been a busy time for the Depot. Recruit intakes maintain much the same level, with platoons starting training between 55 and 65 strong. On any given day there are about 220 men under training, with 50 in the Forming Up Platoon, and another 50 awaiting drafting. It may come as a surprise to many readers of this journal to know that the Depot total strength is now continually in excess of 700 (771 on June 7).

To cater for this number countless works service projects, both small and large, have been carried out, or are in the process of being carried out in the camp area. The largest of these is the building of a new three-storey barrack block at the east end of the square which, when completed, will enable us to rehouse W (Training) Company at Strensall. The plans are not yet off the drawing board so it will be a year or so before that happens. However minor the task, the D of E contractors manage to erect a mountainous heap of rubble or, alternatively, leave a huge pit outside. It would be unkind to suggest that D of E are digging holes into which they can put the rubble left over from the last job, and then have to dig another hole into which . . .

Anyone passing the Depot should make a point of visiting the Strensall Garrison Church which now has a beautiful new window which incorporates the badges of all the regiments of the Division. The window was dedicated by the Bishop of Selby on the occasion of the May Divisional Meeting. The Colonel of the Regiment was present, as were Major Mitchell, CO designate, and Capt. Mellor, representing the 1st Battalion.

In late April, Major Robert Peliza, the Chief

Minister of Gibraltar, visited us and took the salute at Quebec Platoon's pass out parade. He presented the Platoon with a plaque to commemorate his visit. Quebec Platoon has since been renamed Gibraltar Platoon. In March, HM The Queen visited York to distribute Maundy money, and the Depot provided street liners. Capt. Nicholson and Sgt. Blood between them held sway over No. 1 Half Company. Her Majesty stopped to speak to one of the Juniors on parade but, alas! his jaw dropped, his eyes glazed over and he couldn't speak. On June 29 the Depot is again providing a street lining contingent for a visit to York of TRH The Duke and Duchess of Kent.

The Depot fete, held this year on June 10, was regrettably a washout. A freak rainstorm elected to hover over us throughout the afternoon. Better weather is hoped for on July 7 when the Officers Mess summer ball takes place. It is extremely unfortunate that none of the English battalions of the Division will be around for this event, which promises to be a first-class affair.

We welcome to the Depot Major Lupton, from the School of Infantry, who has taken over the exacting task of OC Training Wing. Welcome also to Cpls. Arundel and Larnder and L/Cpl. Craze. We wish them and their families a happy tour at the Depot. Staff seems to change over so fast that a list of "Dukes" serving here may be in order:

Depot HQ: Capt. Nicholson (Adjutant).

Training Wing: Major Lupton (OC).

"W" Company: Cpl. Exley, Cpl. Noble (Pl. Cpls.).

"X" Company: Sgt. Blood (Pl. Sgt.), Cpl.

Larnder, Cpl. Arundel (Pl. Cpls.).

"Z" Company: Sgt. Wallace (Drafting NCO), Cpl. Cook (Trg.), Cpl. Smith (AIPT), Cpl. Bagshaw (PRO), L/Cpl. Craze (Orderly Room), Cpl. Fielding (QM's Clerk), L/Cpl. Broadbent (Arms Kote), L/Cpl. Heslop (Ammo stores), Pte. McQuade (MT), Pte. Guirgy (Stores).

"Y" Company: Lt. Newell (Pl. Comd.), Cpl. Haig (Band), A/Cpl. Gallagher (Drums).

RRO: WO2 Keily, Sgt. Craig, L/Cpl. Butcher, Pte. Preston.

We wish all the best to WO1 Sargent, posted to

34 Cadet Trg. Team in Lisburn, N. Ireland, to Cpl. Akeroyd, who has returned to the bosom of the 1st Battalion Orderly Room, and to Cpl. Millar on the eve of joining the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. In November this year WO2 J. A. Welsh arrives to take over as RSM. We understand that he had been allocated his old quarter in Stanley Fort (Dover House) and is somewhat upset not to be able to take possession.

All ranks at the Depot would like to express their deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Pte. Lee.

NO. 10 ARMY YOUTH TEAM

The control of the reins of the "Dukes" Army Youth Team is now well and firmly in the hands of Capt. D. W. Wonson and Capt. P. E. Hirst is up to his elbows in plum duff with the ACC at Aldershot.

It has been said "Join the Navy and see the world", but joining an Army Youth Team certainly gives one a thorough insight into the countryside that is our heritage. The last period has seen the five "Dukes" of the Youth Team and a beagle creeping after red deer on Exmoor, clinging to rock faces in the Highlands of Scotland and on every corner of the Yorkshire moors with minor intrusions into Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire.

The year started off with a bang when Huddersfield was temporarily put under the stresses and strains of life across the Irish Sea and our office in Kirkgate was petrol bombed forcing the team to move to a converted bath block in a corner of the Drill Hall at St. Paul's Street.

The team have continued their work with youth clubs, schools and the cadet forces during the spring, preparing for a rather hectic and full summer ahead with camps and expeditions up and down the country. This included a period at Minehead when 10 AY T along with other youth teams were brought into the Butlins holiday camp system on an adventure week for youngsters who would not normally be able to have a taste of the life out of doors.

On another occasion some members of the team were involved in a pot-holing rescue operation in the Kettlewell area.

We are now about to branch out on canoeing to give us another string to our bow. There are two members of the team away on canoeing courses and a visit to Huddersfield will find the team smothered from head to toe in fibreglass in the construction of canoes.

L/Cpl. Shaw has now left the Army from the



L/Cpl. Verrall giving instruction on survival on the moors at Kettlewell.

team after adding a set of twins to his family as a parting gesture for which we give him our congratulations. Congratulations also go to L/Cpl. Sugden on his recent marriage thereby leaving the team with now only one bachelor.

Lastly, we would like to welcome L/Cpl. Pennington and his family to the team and, although the Battalion has lost a star in the soccer world, he will doubtless boost the team's sporting prowess.

The Army Cadet Force

Huddersfield Area (DWR)

Visit to 1st Battalion

In April, about 30 cadets and a smattering of adults and officers descended upon the unsuspecting soldiers of the 1st Battalion for a period of eight days and had for themselves what has been described as a super visit with the soldiers.

Particularly did they enjoy being conducted around all the various departments of the Regiment which are so necessary to equip, feed, transport and support the infantryman in his job.

It would appear that there were two highlights to the visit, the first being the visit to the Officers Mess to see the wonderful silver and the Regimental Colours in all their splendour and the correct setting, and also the talk on the Regiment which interested the boys to such an extent that the talk overran one hour.

The second thing which grabbed them was when they were given to Mr. Battye to play the part of hooligans (not a difficult job for our cadets). It is fairly obvious now that the exercise in Catterick paid dividends on arrival in Ireland.

For the success of our visit we are all indebted to the Battalion as a whole and in particular to Col. Huxtable, the companies who put up with our troubles, the QM and his wonderful staff, our guides for the week, and, of course, to the catering staff and the Bandmaster.

Will anyone whom I have overlooked please accept the profound thanks of Huddersfield Area ACF.

Sport

The West Riding Sports are now behind us and, once again, I am pleased to announce that the Area did itself proud. We picked up a potful of first places and a bundle of seconds and thirds, and also a new West Riding record in the junior discus.

Arrivals and departures

We welcome to the Officers Mess 2/Lt. Peter Mitchell, who will take over the Halifax detachment. Congratulations to Sgts. Battye, Cole and Ellis on their promotion to staff-sergeant.

A welcome is also in order to Cadet W. O. Morris of the Heckmondwyke Grammar School detachment on being accepted into the adult ranks as sergeant instructor. His place as Cadet WO has been deservedly given to S/Sgt. Hartley of the Halifax detachment.

Let it be recorded that we wish Cpl. Mike Shaw of 10 AYT the very best of luck on his discharge from the army and we also wish to thank Mike for his help to the ACF during his tour in Huddersfield.

In the first five months of 1972 a total of seven cadets have left the ACF to join the regular army as boys.

Weekend camps

April found the Area in camp at Proteus where 10 Cadet Training Team ran a senior cadet NCOs cadre, while 10 AYT organised some very exciting training for the remainder of the boys.

June took us to Leek for a very beneficial camp conducted by Capt. Wonson and Sgt. Howard. This particular weekend was primarily to prepare us all for Cadet Sunday which is mentioned below. Our thanks on this occasion are due mainly to Capt. Wonson for working out the parade details; for a bonus, he drilled the officers also in preparation for the parade.

Cadet Sunday

This year our Cadet Sunday parade was to Lockwood Parish Church and the service was very ably conducted by Capt. the Rev. E. Simpson, our area padre.

Actually on parade were 60 cadets and the Area corps of drums. We were also fortunate to have a contingent of the Girls Venture Corps along with us. The attendance this year at church was the best ever with a total of 160 people including guests and the local congregation.

Our guests this year were: Lt.-Col. Tom Horsfall of the County Staff, Capt. D. Wonson, 10 AYT, Sub-Lt. Hyland, Huddersfield Sea Cadet Corps, and RQMS Davies of 10 Cadet Training Team. Refreshments were served after the parade in both Messes and a very pleasant social affair developed.

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The Regimental Association

AGM and Reunion Dinner

The AGM and Reunion Dinner for 1972 will be held in Wellington Hall (Drill Hall), Prescott Street, Halifax, on Saturday, October 7, 1972.

AGM 5.30 p.m. Dinner 7.15 p.m.

Tickets for the dinner, price £1.00, are obtainable from the General Secretary, RHQ, Wellesley Park, Highroad Well, Halifax, or from Branch Secretaries.

Branch Appointments—1972

HALIFAX

Chairman: Mr. Dennis Mitchell.

Secretary/Treasurer: Capt. H. Rowlands, "Emsgarth", 41 Haugh Shaw Road, Halifax.

HUDDERSFIELD

Chairman: Mr. G. H. Machen, MBE. Secretary: Mr. J. E. Horne, 9 New Street, Slaithwaite, Huddersfield. Treasurer: Mr. R. Wilkinson, 2 Burcote Drive, Outlane, Huddersfield.

BRADFORD

Chairman: Mr. H. Artist. Secretary: Mr. A. Copley, 91 Tyersal Road, Bradford 4. Treasurer: Mr. F. Deighton, 2 Stirton Street, Little Horton, Bradford 5.

MOSSLEY

Chairman: Mr. J. Powell. Secretary: Mr. T. Hallas, 32 Wyre Street, Mossley, Ashton-under-Lyne. Treasurer: Mr. J. Wood, 8 Ratcliffe Terrace, Mossley, Ashton-under-Lyne.

KEIGHLEY

Secretary/Treasurer: Mr. G. Smith, 1 Beech Street, Steeton, Nr. Keighley.

LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES

Chairman: Mr. D. Benson. Secretary/Treasurer: Mr. R. H. Temple, 59 Burnfoot Avenue, Fulham, London SW6.

BRANCH NOTES

Halifax Branch (by Sax Rowlands)

With another year of activity behind us, domestic "headaches" ironed out, officers for the next 12 months elected, accounts audited and thanks expressed to deserving persons and "bodies", we can look back and, I think, review with a little pride that period. Primarily our success was due to changing our meetings from the first Wednesday to the first Saturday in every month. This increased our attendance figures and finances besides having the desired effect upon our social well-being.

Officers elected for the next 12 months were Messrs. D. Mitchell, H. Rowlands and E. Carter as chairman, secretary/treasurer and entertainments chairman respectively. At this point it is as well that we say a very sincere "thank you" to our outgoing

secretary, Fred (Spike) Stringer. He has fulfilled with merit in the past so many duties, functions, "go-betweens", etc., that I am certain this "outgoing" will be of a very temporary nature indeed. As a last (?) fling he arranged, on the occasion of our annual general meeting held on June 3, a special buffet of "curry and rice", with "pies and peas" for the not so "oriented", and a splendid meal it was. It was also quite a change for our ladies to be able to attend a function without their "pinnies" on to serve the buffet. They were one of the "bodies" to which we expressed our sincere thanks for all the work they had put in on the branch's behalf.

No "notes" on this branch would be complete without mention of our annual trip to London along with our friends from the Bradford, Huddersfield, Keighley and Mossley branches. For that matter no year would be complete unless we attended the London and Home Counties Annual Reunion Dinner, and this year we were very pleased to have our Colonel dine with us yet again. Those two stalwarts of the London scene, Bob Temple and Dave Benson, again did us proud with their organising ability, their "presentation" and, just as important, they were their usual shining, genial selves. The writer would be presumptuous to pick out personalities but one must be mentioned, Mr. Dennis "Busty" Mitchell, who this year gave us the toast to "The Regiment".

I do not intend to quote verbatim his "Toast"—indeed, I could not, nor could I recapture the fervour with which he spoke nor the atmosphere he thus created. All present, regardless of their rank in pre-war days, were made to re-live them. As one of those who have known "Busty" since his earliest days in The Duke's, having had many dealings with him "on the square", in the barrack room, in the school, in "mess" and in sport, perhaps he may forgive me when I state that he "shook me to the core" and the lump in my throat I was proud to own and in that I do not think I was alone. The Colonel of the Regiment's "thumbs up," spontaneous as it was, at the end of the "Toast" was praise indeed. The meal had been first class and our get-together afterwards left nothing to be desired as one expects of all our reunions.

Now, of course, we are back to more mundane matters but we look forward to an even better year—hope in consequence to increase our numbers. Finally, we of the Halifax Branch extend to all ex-"Dukes" a warm welcome if and when they are in our vicinity and meanwhile best wishes for the future.

Mossley Branch (by T. Hallas)

Again we have had a very successful year, both in the social and serious sides of activities. There have been various outings to places where we have been most welcome; it appears that the name of "The Duke of Wellington's Regiment" is a passport to anywhere.

Our membership remains steady although it is with regret that we lost a good member with the death of Mr. "Eddie" Gilworth, who served with the 1/7th Battalion from 1938 until 1946.

In April, our secretary, Mr. Fred Shaw, who has served us well for the past three years, resigned due to pressure of outside interests. His place has been taken by Mr. T. Hallas, of Mossley, who served with the 1/7th Battalion from 1928 until 1951.

On Sunday, June 11, our chairman, Mr. J. Powell, received an invitation from the Town Council to represent "The Duke of Wellington's Regiment Old Comrades Association" at a farewell party given at the Mossley Central Conservative Club to the Mayor, Mayoress and officials of the French town of Hem, which is the twin town of Mossley.

Mr. Powell presented the Mayor and Mayoress each with a DWR Association lapel badge and the demand by the French party for these badges then became such that there only remained those which it was not possible to remove from lapels and those which had been left at home.

When the return visit is arranged, it can be assured that The Dukes will be back again in France.

Huddersfield Branch

Jackie Horne reports that attendance at the monthly meetings continues to grow as membership increases.

Another very successful social was held a few weeks ago when guests were invited from the Huddersfield and District Army Veterans Association and their wives, from the Lancashire Fusiliers Association, Bury and Mossley Branch Association members and wives.

During the evening entertainment was provided by the Revue Group of Bradley Townswomen's Guild, enthusiastically performed and enthusiastically acclaimed.

Serving members of the Regiment are cordially invited to attend any of the meetings and socials. Meetings are held at the Drill Hall, St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield, on the last Friday in each month commencing at 8.0 p.m. (There is the bar in the same room!)

Keighley Branch

Bill Smith reports that the branch continues to thrive but adds a sad note paying tribute to a staunch member and valuable worker—John Clayton, who died on May 1, 1972, as the result of a car accident.

The sympathy of all members of the Association are conveyed to his mother.

St. Leger Sweepstake

Tickets for the 1972 race have been distributed and on September 9 some lucky persons will be richer by the sums of £100, £50, £25, £10; also our funds will benefit.

Ticket sellers, 5p per ticket, books value 50p, are still needed. If you are prepared to sell two books next year, please let the General Secretary at RHQ Halifax have your name and address.

7th Battalion Reunion

Over 100 members of the old 7th Battalion attended a reunion held at the Drill Hall, St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield, on Saturday, March 4, 1972. An excellent buffet was provided by the cook of "C" Company (DWR) 3rd Battalion The Yorkshire Volunteers.

Company, Signal and other groups filled and raised their glasses as war-time friends met and consoled one to the other by the opinion that they "hadn't altered a bit" and, all too soon, the time came to part again, but everyone was refreshed by once more meeting their friends and comrades with whom they shared a soldier's life a quarter of a century ago.

The thanks of all are conveyed to Walter Downs, who master-minds this gathering and who keeps communications open between ex-members of the 7th Battalion.

Army Rugby Cup

A mini-coachload of supporters from Halifax and Huddersfield area, and Len Sullivan from Lincoln, made the journey to Aldershot on March 13 to watch the 1st Battalion beat SME in the UK final.

Before the match, we partook of a drink in the Sgts Mess of the Para Brigade and after the match in the club house at the Stadium.

4th Battalion (1st War) Reunion and Dinner

In 1972 the AGM and dinner was held in Wellington Hall (Drill Hall), Prescott Street, Halifax, on Saturday April 15, when over 80 persons attended.

The chief guest was Mr. Richard Asquith, who spoke of the difference between the two world wars and how men of the first war had to suffer more physical hardship, and how proud they all must be still meeting and reminiscing over 50 years later.

Mr. E. Soothill was appointed chairman for the ensuing year, vice Mr. A. Clegg.

London and Home Counties Branch Dinner, 1972

Bob and Dave preparing, Sax's party assembling; coaching; dining; singing and raffling; Victory Club; shows; pubs and the big event saw some 90 guests headed by our Colonel, General Sir Robert Bray, seated for dinner after the usual meet and drinks in the lounge at Queen Victoria Rifles Association Drill Hall in Davis Street, W1, on Saturday, May 13, 1972.

A more descriptive pen than this gives a fuller report in Halifax Branch Notes.

(Bob Temple, who was waiting to go into hospital for a minor operation at the time of the dinner, has since been in hospital and is now back home well on the way to full recovery. We send to him and Mrs. Temple our best wishes and all good luck and happiness in their retirement.)

Once again Mr. and Mrs. Jackie Horne brought a handsome gift to be raffled. A regimental pipe rack and tobacco pouch were also drawn for and were won by Mr. Fred Stringer.

SHAKO PLATES

1812-16

by Dixon Pickup

The badges illustrated in the accompanying photograph show the regimental badges worn by the centre companies* on the second, or Waterloo, shako. (Shako or chaco is an East European word meaning "cap with a peak".)

This Waterloo shako had, in 1812, succeeded the pattern introduced in 1800. Known commonly as the "short-pipe". The main alterations were plume, Hanoverian cockade and regimental button moved from the front to the left side of the headdress, a high false front, and the same area festooned with gold lace; yellow worsted cord for other ranks. The shako plate, or badge on the 1800 pattern, had been usually of rectangular shape, and had not necessarily displayed regimental numbers. The change to the 1812 type was not wholly universal: for example, the 60th King's Royal Rifle Corps and the 28th Gloucestershire Regiment both fought at Waterloo in the 1800 shako.

The simple pattern of the 1812 shako plates is indicative of the overall neatness and practicality of the uniforms and equipment in use at the time. Regrettably, during the long peace that followed

**Footnote:* At this period the Light Company wore a simple, stringed bugle and 33, 76 on the standard shako. The Grenadier Company wore a completely different headdress and badge.

Waterloo this serviceable aspect of the British Army was sadly neglected.

Figure I shows the officer's shako plate of the 76th Regiment. It is in theory, in an unfinished state, the copper being ungolded. However, a grenadier company officer's cap plate of the same period is in a similar "finish" (Halifax Museum). This suggests the possibility that the officers of the 76th chose to wear their cap plates in this curious manner.

The plate, die-stamped in one piece displays the wide Georgian crown with the royal cypher of George III, reversed and interlaced, the Regiment's number and the newly won honours, Hindoostan (1806), and the Elephant with Howdah (1807)—though only the howdah cloth is shown here. These honours had already been incorporated into the new shoulder belt plate of 1807. The plate is 5¼ in. in height and 3½ in. at the widest point. On the reverse are two copper loops for securing the plate to the shako. At least two dies were used for the manufacture of the 76th's plates—for, although a brass rank and file example in the Halifax Museum is of the same die, a further rank and file plate in the Castle Museum, York, has many minor differences.

Figure II is the rank and file brass, die-stamped, plate of the 33rd. It displays simply the crown, cypher and number. Seringapatam is not shown, for although the action was fought in 1799 it was not granted as an honour until May 28, 1818. Height of plate, 5 5/16 in. and 3 7/16 in. at the widest point. Two loop fasteners on the reverse.

This example is much worn and battered and could well have been in action on June 18, 1815!

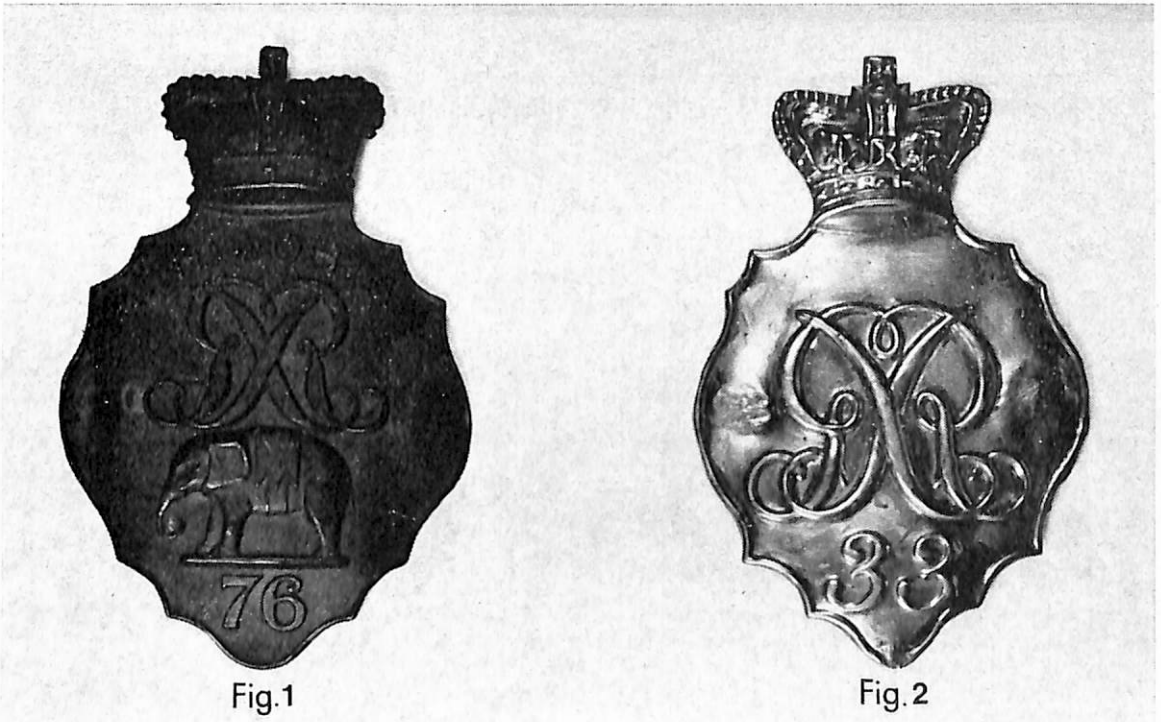


Fig.1

Fig.2

Personalia

Marriages

Bird—Ames

The marriage took place on December 4, 1971, at Biddenham Church, Bedford, between Peter Jeremy Bird, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, second son of Mr. W. P. Bird of Camp Mijas, Fuengirola, Spain, and of Mrs. H. E. M. Bird of 3 Park Road North, Bedford, and Angela Christine Ames, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. A. H. Ames of 5 Gold Lane, Biddenham, Bedford.

Ward—Collins

The marriage took place on March 18, 1972, at the Harmony Hill Presbyterian Church, Lambeg, County Antrim, Northern Ireland, between John Richard Arthur Ward, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Ward, of the Governor's House, HMP Northeye, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex, and Janet Lorna Collins, third daughter of the late Mr. R. S. Collins and Mrs. S. Murphy, of 29 Ardmore Park, Finaghy, Belfast, Northern Ireland.

Hamza—Sugden

The marriage took place on December 5, 1971, at Shipton-by-Beningbrough, York, between Mr. Usama Hamza, son of Dr. and Mrs. Hamza of Beirut, Lebanon, and Miss Isobel Sugden, second daughter of Major and Mrs. R. E. Sugden of South Court, Shipton-by-Beningbrough, York.

Engagement

Fenwick—Sugden

The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Mrs. Fenwick of Crowborough, Sussex, and Victoria, youngest daughter of Major and Mrs. R. E. Sugden of South Court, Shipton-by-Beningbrough, York.

Birth

Nicholson

On February 21, 1972, at Westowcroft Maternity Home, Westow, to Sheenagh (née Reive) and Tim Nicholson, a daughter, Paula Mary.

Sir Robert and Lady Bray expect to move to their new home by October 15, from which date their address will be: The Farmhouse, Sherrington, near Warminster, Wilts. The telephone number is not yet known.

The house lies between Wylie and Sutton Veny and "Dukes" will always be welcome there.

Lt.-Colonels E. M. P. Hardy and C. R. Huxtable, OBE, have been selected for promotion to substantive colonel in 1973. We offer our congratulations to them and also to Lt.-Colonel J. M. Cubiss, MC, PWO, who recently commanded the Depot, The King's Division and who has also been selected for promotion.

Major-General James Lunt, who recently retired as Vice-Adjutant General, is to be the next domestic bursar of Wadham College, Oxford.

General Lunt, who is the author of several books, including the recently published short history of the Regiment, is at present working on a biography of General John Burgoyne. "Gentleman Johnny" is best known for his surrender to the Americans at Saratoga in 1777, but General Lunt thinks he was a better soldier than history has so far recognised.

In a previous issue of THE IRON DUKE we made mention that R. R. St. J. Barkshire has been promoted lieutenant-colonel, and made commanding officer of the HAC the day after his 35th birthday and in a matter of only eight years after being re-commissioned. We now hear he is to gain further distinction for he has been selected to be the next Regimental Colonel HAC in September this year. As John Barkshire served as a National Service Officer in 1 DWR in Gibraltar in 1954-55, we are pleased to record his success and at the same time to send him our warm congratulations.

Major Lewis Kershaw and Rona visited the RHQ recently and we learnt that he now works for the ex-Services Mental Welfare Society. Based on Manchester, he is the appeals secretary for the Midland District which stretches from the Scottish border to the Bristol Channel. His address is The Gables, Flat 1, 66 Bramhall Park Road, Bramhall, Cheshire.

Mr. J. A. Cohen of 9 Stainbeck Crescent, Meanwood, Leeds 7, has written: "Many thanks for sending me THE IRON DUKE and I sincerely appreciate your kindness in making it possible to keep me informed about my old Regiment. I enjoyed all the latest news, especially the article that Major-General R. K. Exham submitted. I remember him as a great officer (lieutenant) in 1930s in India. He was my platoon officer, a great gentleman and sportsman, and I had the honour to serve under and to play rugby in the same team as he did. It all seems like a dream when I look back to my service with The Duke's, 1st and 2nd Battalions, over 40 years ago. I was quite fit then, partaking in all sports for company and battalion—soccer, rugby, hockey and boxing. I am now in broken health and disabled and look forward to the pleasure of seeing anytime any of my old comrades I served with if they should ever get into our district where I live."

Major John Milligan retired on July 11. We have no news as yet as to what he is going to do but he will be living, for the time being, at Applegarth, Ebberston, near Pickering.

Lt.-Col. Hugh Le Messurier, who has worked as a RO in Catterick since his retirement in November

1970, has been waiting for some time for the completion of the alterations to the house he bought. The workmen have recently finished, so he and Rosemary are now happily installed at Thornton Grange, Thornton Steward, Ripon.

In the last issue we reported that Major "Topper" Brown had been ill for some time in Millbank Hospital and that he had only just been allowed to go home. We are now happy to be able to say that he is very much better and that he has been back at his work in London, which involves a 70-mile drive there and back each day, for the past two months.

Major Douglas Jones-Stamp, who retired on February 26 this year, is back at Craigcleuch, Langholm, Dumfriesshire. He writes to say that there seem to be no jobs going in this part of the world so he remains at home "enjoying the bad summer and where I find that there is more work to do than when I was 'working'". His wife, "Tushie", is well.

CSM Norman, from the ACIO Huddersfield, has just let us know that he is off to Camp Perry on Lake Erie in the USA to take part in the American National Rifle Association Meeting in August. We wish him every success and an enjoyable trip.

In a recent letter, Prison Officer J. S. Bailes says amongst other things, "I called in at Catterick a couple of months ago and visited the Sergeants Mess but as it was a weekend there were only four members present. I've heard from ex-Sgt. Harry Brooks (Medical Sgt. in Osnabruck) and he is at HM Remand Centre, Ashford, Middlesex, and he has just married the daughter of the assistant governor. Ex-Sgt. Wilkinson (Signal Pl. in Osnabruck) is at Hewell Grange Borstal, Redditch, Worcestershire. There appear to be several ex-"Dukes" in the Prison Service. My wife gave birth to a son, Andrew, on May 22. He is named after the late Sgt. Andy Jackson, ex-sniper and Bisley team, who was killed in Korea. Best wishes to all "Dukes" and "ex-Dukes".

Capt. Bob Tighe left 1 DWR at the end of April for a two-year tour at secondment. He is with the Uganda British Army Training Team as a platoon instructor.

We had two officers serving at HQ Yorkshire District when, due to the rationalisation of the Command structure in the UK, it closed down at the end of June. Major Mike Campbell-Lamerton went back to 1 DWR as 2IC and Major Jim Newton joins 2 Yorks (V) as training major in August.

Major Wilf Charlesworth has completed his tour with 22 SAS. In May he was posted to HQ UKLF as GSO 3 (Int).

After a two-year tour at the Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion, Oswestry, Capt. Donald Palmer rejoins 1 DWR in August. At the same time, Lt.

Mike Sherlock moves from the Battalion to Oswestry where he is to be a platoon commander.

Major Edward Buckingham has been on secondment with the Dubai Defence Force since the end of February. This is a 19½-month unaccompanied tour.

The School of Infantry, Warminster, which has up till recently been quite a stronghold of "Duke's" officers, is no longer so. Major Jim Pell has moved to The Junior Infantryman's Battalion, Shorncliffe, as 2IC, Major Duncan Lupton is now OC Training Wing at the Depot, The King's Division, Strensall, and Capt. Charles Cumberlege has been in Ulster with 1 DWR. Major Peter Mitchell will be leaving later in the year to take over command of the Battalion so this will leave Capt. Johnny Walker, an instructor at the Signals wing, as the sole survivor. However, close at hand at the Support Weapons Wing, Netheravon, Dick Ince remains till he retires in June 1973.

The Rev. Roy I. J. Mathews, who has been vicar of Penistone for the past seven years, has just been appointed vicar of Brighouse. He is also chaplain of the 1st Battalion the Yorkshire Volunteers.

Birthday Honours List

Major-General H. H. Evans, late RAEC, awarded the CB.

General Evans (known as "Ginger") is the Director of Army Education. Of more significance to us, however, is that he is a Yorkshireman from the West Riding and was, in fact, a TA officer in 7 DWR. He was commissioned on January 15, 1936, and at the outbreak of war was 2IC HQ Company. Later in the war he transferred to the RAEC. We offer him our congratulations and best wishes.

We also congratulate Major R. L. Stevens on the award of the MBE. Major Stevens is now commanding Alma Company, 1 DWR, at the time of writing, in the Ballymurphy area of Belfast.

Family Record

There are not many families who can boast that three generations have served in the same regiment. The McGovern family is one that can. There was Jeremiah McGovern. He was born in Tralee, Co. Kerry, served with the 33rd in the Crimea and in Abyssinia and ended his days in Tralee. He was followed into the Regiment by his son, John, who saw service in South Africa as a member of the Mounted Infantry Company supplied by 2 DWR, then in Burma, and which went to make up the Burma Mounted Infantry Regiment. He also died in Tralee. Lastly, there was grandson, Jeremiah McGovern, known as John McGovern. He came to the Regiment as a boy in 1929 and went on to serve with 1 DWR in Devonport, with 2 DWR in India from 1933 to 1937 and then back in UK with 1 DWR in 1938, taking his release in 1946. His brother, Fred, was also in the Regiment, joining the 1st Battalion Band as a boy in 1933, moving to the Signal Platoon in 1937 and finally transferring to



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Duke of Wellington's Regiment*

the Royal Corps of Signals in 1941. He has a son in the Scots Guards.

John, or Jeremiah, McGovern now lives at 30 Oglander Road, Peckham, London SE15, and he would be pleased if any old friends would get in touch with him.

Success Story

Kevin Carey, the 19-year-old Todmorden youth, has become President of the Cambridge Union. He is thought to be the first partially blind undergraduate to hold the office.

His father, Dennis Carey, served with the 1st Battalion from April 1952 to May 1954 and saw service in Hong Kong, Korea and Gibraltar. After National Service, Dennis joined the 5/7th Battalion (TA) and, serving continuously through all the amalgamations and reorganisations since that date, he now holds the appointment of staff-sergeant with "C" Company (DWR) 1st Battalion The Yorkshire Volunteers, based at Wellington Hall, Prescott Street, Halifax. In civilian life he is a station officer with the West Riding County Ambulance Department at Brighouse.

Kevin entered the university, where he is studying history, just over a year ago fulfilling a life-long ambition. He has been partially blind since birth and has used braille, tape recorder and braille typewriter to help him with his studies. In 1966 he won the Hansard Society National Essay competition for schools and attended the Cardinal Allen Grammar School in Liverpool. His ambition now, after further study at university, is to become a politician, journalist or broadcaster.

We send our sincere congratulations to Kevin on this magnificent achievement and share with Dennis and Mrs. Carey the pride which is theirs.

In June Lord Rhodes of Saddleworth was installed at Windsor as a Knight of the Garter. He is a native of Greenfield, who in the first world war served in the RFC and RAF, was badly wounded and gained the DFC and bar. He used his gratuity to buy four looms and a wooden shed and started weaving woollen cloth. He prospered amazingly and eventually had a fairly large works at Delph, which he sold a few years ago.

Meanwhile, during the war he had been appointed to command the Saddleworth Battalion of the Home Guard, part of the group commanded by Col. Keith Sykes of the 5th Battalion. He commanded it so long as it existed.

He turned to politics after the war, was elected member for Ashton-under-Lyne (Labour), became Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade and privy councillor and, some years ago was made a life peer. He also served for three years as Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire, a remarkable position for a Yorkshireman.

We had intended to publish in this issue a photograph and "profile" of His Grace Brigadier the Duke of Wellington, who succeeded his father in January. He has, however, been unable to provide the photograph in time, so it and the profile will appear in the next issue.

Obituary

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

Mr. L. D. Breare

Mr. Lynn Dinely Breare died on March 14, 1972. "Bunny" Breare, as he was always known, came of a family of newspaper owners in the Harrogate and Ripon district and for a great part of his life was a director of the family business. His real interest, however, was in farming, in which he was established at Knaresborough before 1914, and which he left on being commissioned in the 7th DWR in September 1914. He went out with the 1/7th Battalion to France in April 1915, served as a subaltern in "D" Company till January 1916, when he was appointed transport officer and continued in charge of the transport till the end of the war, when he returned to England in command of the Battalion cadre, the only officer of the 1/7th to serve throughout the whole period of active service. A few old members of the 1/7th will remember him as a capable and conscientious transport officer whose proud boast it was that the Battalion never failed to receive its daily rations, however difficult the conditions, during the whole of the three-and-a-half years that he was responsible for their delivery. He was mentioned in despatches for his good work.

He had another spell of farming, then was active for a time in newspaper management; during the 1939-45 war he served in the Ripon Company of the Home Guard (part of a battalion commanded by Col. Harold Aykroyd, formerly 4th DWR) and eventually retired to Malvern Wells, where he remained, a very fit and active man, till a few weeks before his death at the age of 82. He married in late 1915 and had a son and a daughter who were able in recent years to live fairly near to Malvern; his son David served for some 14 years in various battalions of The Duke's, starting in the 2/7th in 1939 and later becoming adjutant of the Depot.

Major J. C. Bull, MC, BA

James Christopher Bull died at his home, Corners, Twyford, Winchester, Hants, on April 24, aged 90. He served in the 10th Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment from 1914 to 1918 in France, Italy and Egypt, rising to become a major and second-in-command of the Battalion. He won a MC and was mentioned in despatches three times. He was wounded at Messines. From 1918 to 1919 he commanded the 8th Battalion The Green Howards. In 1939 he commanded a Home Guard Company of the 5th Battalion The Hampshire Regiment.

For 58 years he was mathematics master at Twyford School. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. I. L. Bull, MBE, and his son and daughter-in-law and two grand-children. His elder son was killed in Italy in 1944.

The following is an extract from J. B. Priestley's "English Journey".

"The other major, unlike most of us there, was not a West Riding man at all, but a South Country schoolmaster, known to all his men as 'Daddy', and whose character and reputation were such that through him the whole affected tittering South Country was forgiven everything. In short, he was amazingly and deservedly popular. Rarely have I observed such waves of affectionate esteem rolling towards a man as I did that night. Those rough chaps, brought up in an altogether alien tradition, adored him; and his heart went out to them. I caught a glimpse then and I am not likely to forget it—of what leadership can mean in men's lives. I had seen it, of course, in the war itself; but long years of snarling peace, in which everyone tended to suspect everybody else, had made me forget almost its very existence. I do not suppose that in all the years that had passed since the war any of those men had found themselves moved by the emotion that compelled them that night to rush forward, at the earliest opportunity, and bring themselves to the notice of 'good old Daddy'."

Lt.-Col. and Mrs. M. N. Cox

Lt.-Col. Michael Cox, MC, died in hospital of pneumonia on March 28. His wife, Betty, died a few days later as the result of injuries sustained in a car accident while being driven to visit her husband in hospital.

Brigadier Webb Carter writes:

Michael Newell Cox was born in Devonshire in 1888. He was educated at Blundell's School and Sandhurst and was commissioned into the Regiment in 1908. He joined the 2nd Battalion at Tidworth, but two years later went to the 1st Battalion in India.

Being on leave in England at the outbreak of World War I, he was posted to the 2nd Battalion at Dublin and on August 19 went to France with the Battalion. He was one of the first recipients of the Military Cross in the Regiment but was invalided home early in 1916. The rest of that war Cox served with the 3rd Reserve Battalion.

He became an instructor at Sandhurst in late 1919 and in 1922 rejoined the 1st Battalion, then at Gibraltar. His career followed the course of a good regimental officer and in 1933 he was selected for command of the 2nd Battalion. He retired in 1937.

Michael Cox did not have a spectacular career but he attained the great ambition of a good regi-

mental officer in those days—the command of a regular battalion of his own regiment and to command it on active service, in his case on the North West Frontier.

Universally respected for his integrity and loyalty he is a loss to us older officers who had the privilege of serving under him.

B. W. W. C.

The daughter of a tea planter Betty Cox met her future husband in India; they became engaged at the Delhi Durbar and were married at Richmond, Surrey, in 1915. From 1916, when Michael returned from France, she was at his side throughout his army career; she was devoted to the Regiment and became a very popular CO's wife. As the Rev. John Garton, Assistant Chaplain at Sandhurst, said in his address at their funeral: "For 57 years they had lived together, and if they had had the choice I feel sure they would have wished to die together".

The service was held in the chapel of the Royal Military College, a chapel with which they both had a long and close connection. Among those present were General and Lady Bray, General and Mrs. R. K. Exham, Brigadier Webb Carter, Col. Armitage, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Faithfull and Capt. Buxton.

Mr. F. Gunnis

Mr. Frank Gunnis of Halifax died at the General Hospital on June 23, aged 78. He served in the 4th Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment in both world wars and rose to be a sergeant.

Mrs. Lily Hemblys

Mrs. Lily Hemblys of 3 Green Terrace Square, Savile Park, Halifax, died on April 22. She is the wife of the late Albert Ernest Hemblys, who served for many years in the Regiment, as his father and grandfather had done before him, and whose obituary appeared in issue No. 156.

Mr. Christopher Murphy

Mr. "Shanack" Murphy, of 31 The Triangle, Lindford, died at his home on Sunday, June 3, after several years of ill health. He was 69 years of age. Born in Listowel, Co. Kerry, Eire, he was taken with his older brother to India by his father, Major B. Murphy, when his mother died. He spent his childhood and boyhood in India and came back to this country at the age of 18 to join the army.

He saw service in Constantinople, Malta, North China and India, including the North-West Frontier. Next he served with the BEF in France and he was evacuated from Dunkirk. After 24 years' service he retired from the Army in 1945 and then for 20 years he worked at Bordon Camp, finally retiring in 1967.

He is survived by his wife, Anne, a daughter Mary, and his brother, Michael. The latter lives at Shotton, Deeside, Flintshire.

In a letter, Mr. A. M. Ancill writes: "Shanack

Murphy was a very old 'Duke', the brother of CQMS Murphy. I first met him at Bordon Camp when he was employed in the bath-house. I did at times see him in the village and have a chat about the old Regiment. He led a very quiet life but I am sure that lots of the older members of the Regiment will remember him."

Mrs. C. T. Waller

Mrs. Charlotte Tamsitt Waller, mother of Col. William ("Swazi") Waller, died peacefully on April 22 in her 92nd year.

She was the widow of C/Sgt. Frederick William Waller, who served for 21 years in the Regiment, being a member of the Waller family, whose notable record in the Regiment was described in THE IRON DUKE No. 27 of February 1934.

Waller took his discharge in 1911 but rejoined voluntarily on the outbreak of war in 1914 and was killed in action at Gallipoli in August 1915.

His widow was left to bring up seven children, the youngest of whom was just 12 months old. Undaunted, she trained at Queen Charlotte's Hospital in London, became a fully qualified midwife and, after a long and arduous struggle, opened a maternity home in Dover, which she ran successfully for many years. She retired just before the outbreak of the 1939 war, when all the children were grown up.

She was laid to rest in Midhurst, where her youngest son, Father Charles, is the parish priest of St. Mary's, Bepton Road.

In-pensioner Jim Yaxley

Jim Yaxley died at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, on May 4, 1972, aged 82. His army career began when he became a member of the Special Reserve in 1909 and, from that year till 1911, he served with 2 DWR in Tidworth and in Dublin. These were the years of the Coronation of King George V and involvement with the London Dock strike and the railway strikes at Birmingham and Wolverhampton. From 1912 he was with 1 DWR in India and Afghanistan, returning home for duty at the Depot in 1920. He was with 1 DWR again in 1925 at Gosport and in 1928 at Devonport. He completed his military service at Mirfield, where he was a PSI with 5 DWR from 1928-30. In 1940 he rejoined the Depot and for 12 months was an instructor to the Home Guard at Wakefield.

He had been at the Royal Hospital since November 1966.

He was buried at Brookwood Cemetery, Woking, on May 12, 1972.

New pattern of Male Officer Cadet Training including the University entry

The following is a letter issued on March 14 by the Army Board of the Defence Council announcing a new pattern of training for male officer cadets to become effective from September 1, 1972.

We are publishing these details as it will interest all our readers both serving and retired.

Aim of new pattern

The aim of this new pattern is to set similar standards in officer qualities, basic training and professional knowledge for all types of entrants. This will:

- a. Remove the present anomalies over commissioning and conversions.
- b. Provide a common basis for all further professional training. Since this common foundation will now be essential for a subsequent career in the Army, it is to be required of all potential regular officers.

The new pattern is illustrated in the diagram at Annex A.

Standard Military Course

The cornerstone of the new system will be a Standard Military Course (SMC) for all PRC (Permanent Regular Commissions), SRC (Special Regular) and SSC (Short Service) candidates at Sandhurst with the following aim: "To develop the qualities of leadership and provide the basic knowledge required by all young officers of any Arm or Service so that, after the necessary specialist training appropriate to that Arm or Service, they will be fit to be junior commanders."

The content of the course will be based on the current Mons course; its duration will not exceed 26 weeks.

There will be three intakes annually in September (or late August), January and April. The first such course will commence on September 1, 1972. All officers will be commissioned on successful completion of the SMC.

Those intending to serve on short-service commissions will then leave Sandhurst for their appropriate special-to-arm training and regimental duty.

The further training required by career officers will follow at Sandhurst immediately after the SMC.

Regular Career Course

Those intending to take regular commissions will therefore remain at Sandhurst after the SMC to qualify on a Regular Career Course (RCC) which has as its aim:

"To lay the foundation for a professional military career".

SSC officers wishing to convert to PRC/SRC will return to Sandhurst to achieve this aim. However, in the case of those SSC officers who started officer cadet training or were commissioned before the

date of this letter, this course will not be a precondition for the grant of their PRC/SRC.

The RCC will contain both an academic and a military element:

- a. The academic element is intended to encourage young career officers to start thinking about their profession and the environment within which they will practise it. It will, therefore, be based on War Studies and International Affairs as the foundation for subsequent continuing instruction under the Junior Officers Education Scheme and for the Staff/Promotion Examination.
- b. The military element is primarily to permit the assessment of candidates for regular commissions. SSC officers converting, who will have been assessed by their Commanding Officers at regimental duty, will be excused this military part.

There will be three courses a year, starting in April, July and November. The first course will commence on April 1, 1973.

Manning

The Army Board is concerned with the officer manning situation in units. Consequently:

- a. The combined SMC and RCC should, if possible, be restricted to 12 months, though some extension may be considered if further study now being undertaken shows this to be necessary. The precise length of the RCC is at present under consideration.
- b. Colonels of Regiments and Colonels Commandant are requested to give every encouragement to potential regular officers who are academically qualified for PRC/SRC to stay on at Sandhurst to do the RCC immediately after the SMC, thus reducing turbulence in units.

In-Service degrees

It is intended to continue and to encourage In-Service degrees on the present lines. Those regular officers requiring additional academic work in order to qualify for RMCS/universities will be offered such training at Sandhurst. It will be tailored to their individual needs. This will be known as Pre-University Studies (PUS).

PUS will normally be carried out immediately after RCC and, whenever individual circumstances permit, will normally be followed by a period of regimental duty before embarking on degree training.

University entry

Entrants via the universities will continue to be accepted as at present. Their professional training will be increased by new post-university courses at Sandhurst, embracing the essential elements of the

SMC plus the RCC in a more concentrated form. Courses for university graduates will comprise:

- a. A course for Direct Entry Graduates of some five months.
- b. A course, mainly for University Cadets, of about four months, taking into account previous military training.

The aim of both these courses is to set the same standards in officer qualities, basic military training and professional knowledge as has been demanded of non-graduates.

Other courses

Courses for TAVR officers, SSLC candidates and pre-university courses for those awarded university cadetships will be held at Sandhurst.

Overseas

Cadets from overseas will be accepted on present

lines. All vacancies so far offered or granted will be honoured on the nearest equivalent course; those intended for MONS on SMC only; those intended for Sandhurst on RCC in addition.

Conclusion

I am to say that, for the first time in the history of the Army, all officers will be trained as a united body in the same place, Sandhurst, and to the same standards of officer qualities and military skills. All potential career officers, whatever their means of entry, will achieve the same professional background. Their future instruction throughout their careers will be based and developed from this common background and a major review will now be put in hand to co-ordinate this up to promotion to the rank of lieutenant-colonel.

THE TRUE STORY OF A BOY'S LIFE

By FLORENCE E. WALKER

Widow for 48 years of CSM Patrick E. Walker, 2nd DWR

This story was sent to Major Grieve at Regimental Headquarters by Mrs. Walker's daughter, Mrs. Sheila Goodyear, who had persuaded her mother to write down the story of CSM Walker's early life which she had often heard her tell.

By chance it arrived soon after Mr. Code had been telling Major Grieve the story of CSM Walker's death and its sequel. So Mr. Code was asked to write that down too.

In the year 1884, lived a soldier, his wife and four children. Their home was in the army camp at The Curragh, in Ireland.

In September 1884, the Regiment moved into barracks in Preston, England, and from there to Hillsborough Barracks, Sheffield.

In those days a soldier's pay was very little—4d. a day. The mother of this family was a very good housekeeper, and an excellent laundress, so she worked for the officers of the Regiment, laundering and repairing their dress shirts and table linen, etc. The wages she earned helped to make a better life for all the family.

In March 1885 a new baby was born—another boy, but before very long this lovely, hardworking mother died, leaving a family of three girls and two boys. The father, with the help of friends, and the eldest daughter, managed to keep the family together.

Then the Regiment returned to Ireland. The eldest girl, married by now to one of the bandsmen, still kept house for her father, brothers and sisters, as well as taking her mother's place as laundress for the officers.

This girl had three children of her own, and to enable her to keep the job of laundress, the younger brother had to look after her children for her during working hours.

The other two sisters went to work as domestic helps into senior officers' homes, and the elder boy

joined the army as a trainee bandsman, and was sent to a musical college in England.

As the various officers were posted back to England, the two sisters had to go with them, leaving the young boy with his eldest sister and her family.

As the father had by then died, the Colonel gave his permission for the boy to remain where he was.

He attended the Army School, and became a great favourite with the soldiers as he had no parents. Any spare time he had was spent watching the soldiers whilst they were drilling, and going on marches with them.

One day the soldiers were going on a route march but the boy couldn't go as he had to look after his sister's children. After playing with them for a short time, he made a tent and after settling them inside it, went off after the soldiers and stayed with them all day. He knew that his sister's husband would be very angry because he had left the younger children, so he dared not go home but spent the night in the camp with the soldiers.

The next day was prize-giving at school. He managed to wash his face and hands and to make himself tidy, but he had to wait until his sister and her husband had gone into the school before he dare go in.

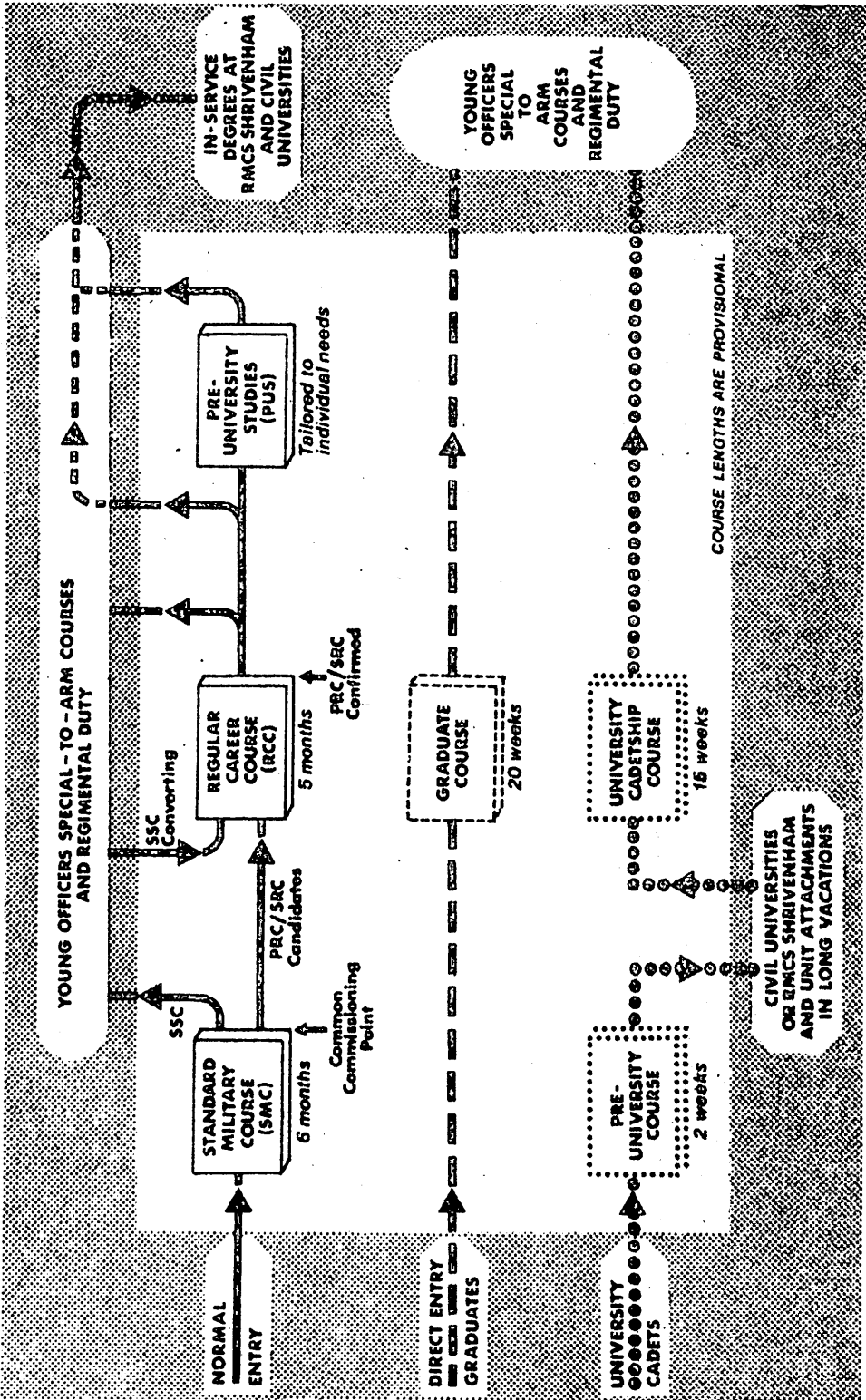
The first child called to go up for a prize to the Colonel was this small boy. He set off bravely to walk up the aisle, between rows of soldiers and their families, but suddenly remembered that he had torn a hole in the seat of his trousers. However, he had to go on and receive his prize—a book entitled "A Boy's Rough Road".

He hurried home, holding out his prize but his sister's husband was very angry with him for leaving the little ones, and gave him a severe thrashing.

Once again this small boy was at home with his sister—and determined to be good.

One day his sister gave him 1s. 4½d. to fetch some

NEW PATTERN OF TRAINING AT RMA SANDHURST



sausages for dinner. He set off, but on the way he saw the drums and pipes of the Regiment, who were setting off for England. His little playmates from school were going, too, and they called to him to go to the station with them, so he joined the troops, very proud to be marching with them. When they were all on the train they told him to get on the train and ride to the next station with them, which would be very near to where the remainder of the Regiment was stationed: but, alas, the train did not stop—it was a through train to Dublin.

His friends told him not to worry, and gave him a kitbag, telling him to march on to the boat with them. But the soldiers who were on guard made him wait until all the soldiers were on board. Then the kitbag was taken from him; the gangway was pulled up and the boat set off for England, leaving the small boy where he was, alone, with only the 1s. 4½d. belonging to his sister.

He walked up and down the quayside, then bought some buns and a cup of tea.

When night came, he tried to sleep inside a large packing case on the quayside, but he was too cold and hungry.

In the morning he thought he would go back to the railway station and look for the train on which he had come to Dublin, but of course he could not find it. He kept looking, because in his childish way, he thought if he could find that train, his troubles would be over. Some of the time he sat on a seat near the door of the restaurant. He was very hungry and cold.

At last a gentleman sat beside him and started

talking to him, then asked him if he would like some coffee and something to eat. The boy cried and the gentleman took him into the restaurant and bought him some food and a hot drink, then left him.

The boy was sitting with his back to the door but in a large mirror he could see the gentleman standing at the door, talking to a policeman. The little boy was very frightened but could see no other way out but through the door, so he slowly went out. The gentleman spoke to him and then handed him over to the policeman. He was taken to the police station, and eventually into the dock in the Court. He was so small that all they could see were his eyes and his curly hair. They asked him how he came to be alone in Dublin, and he told them his story.

The Judge decided to keep him in the police station until they got in touch with the Colonel of the Regiment. The policeman who had brought him in asked permission to take him to his own home until the next morning.

Very early the next morning, he was again in the dock in the Court. The Judge said he was very sorry for him but his sister's husband refused to take him back. So the boy was placed in an orphanage in Dublin.

The other children in this home were all Irish and did not like him because he was English, so they made life very hard for him. They would not play with him and called him "English Pig" and other names. At last he ran away.

As he played in the park by himself, two small boys started to play with him, and then took him home with them.

Eventually, the boy was apprenticed to a barber in Dublin. He didn't receive any wages; just a place to sleep and some food.

The prices then were 1½d. for a haircut and 1d. for a shave. The barber gave his wife 1½d. per day to buy food for herself and the boy. The child was eager and very quick to learn and soon he was attending to customers by himself. The barber was a drunkard, so the wife encouraged the boy to give haircuts and shaves when the barber was out drinking, so the woman got extra money for food and necessities.

When the barber died, the wife kept the boy on to do the work, but after about three months another man was introduced into the business as manager, even though the boy still had to do the work, whilst the manager went out with the woman.

After a while, the boy realised things were different and ran away, back to the home of the boys who had befriended him before. They helped him again until he obtained work. This new work was going round with a confectioner.

One day, his two friends came running to him, to tell him that an officer was looking for him. The boy was overjoyed; he forgot everything he was doing and just ran to find the officer, leaving the van just where it was.

The officer had been asked by the boy's sister in Aldershot to try and find him. He was brought to England and put on a train to Manchester, where his youngest sister met him, and took him home with her.

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The boy and his sister stayed with relatives in Manchester until the boy was enlisted into the Army at the age of 17.

He served in the 1914-18 War, during which he was mentioned in despatches, and given a Certificate of Merit. He next served in Ireland, during the troubles with the Black and Tans.

This young man grew up, in spite of all his

trials and tribulations as a child, to be a man of kindness, loyalty and generosity. He was honest in thought, word and deed, and at the age of 39 was killed by bandits in Palestine in 1924, whilst on Army business. He left a widow, and three small children.

IT WAS AN HONOUR TO BE HIS WIFE.

THE LATE CSM P. E. WALKER No. 1 Company 2 DWR

Mr. Sidney Code was a young soldier in 2 DWR in January 1924 when CSM Walker and CQMS Dunn were killed by bandits on the Jerusalem—Jaffa road. His account of this unfortunate event and what followed appears below:

No. 1 Company was commanded by Capt. St. J. T. Faulkner, the CSM was Pat Walker and the C/Sgt. was CQMS "Nuttty" Dunn. On September 11, 1923, the Company moved from Ismailia, Egypt, to Surafend in what was then known as Palestine. After a short stay we moved on to Jerusalem and were stationed in barracks called Russian Buildings, about 1½ miles from the city walls.

As far as I can remember the company was about 110 strong and our main duties appeared to be to find the Governor's Guard at his residence on the Mount of Olives and to provide a "military presence" to deter the Arabs, Jews and other religious groups from flying at each other's throats. We were a happy company. Capt. Faulkner was a popular and respected Commander. Pat Walker and Nutty Dunn were also popular as both were tolerant and reasonable in their dealings with the soldiers.

It was their popularity that probably led to the following incident. Pat and Nutty had gone to Jaffa on business and were returning to Jerusalem when, at about the half-way stage, they were held up at gun point by a wandering Arab gang who demanded their money and valuables. As they were handing these over, apparently Dunn let some of the money slip to the ground and, as he bent down to retrieve it, one of the bandits fired and hit him; they then killed both of them.

When news of these cold-blooded murders became known, there was a feeling of stunned horror throughout the company and the immediate reaction, on the part of the junior NCOs and soldiers, was to avenge the deaths of their CSM and C/Sgt. A meeting of the Company, less senior NCOs, took place and it was decided to march to the place of the shooting and seek out the people responsible for this outrage.

By this time the excitement was intense, and as we were all very young the prospect of some action clouded our reason. Eventually, the bulk of the Company formed up outside the guard-room, in fours facing the entrance, with rifles and bayonets fixed. The HQ Guard Commander, L/Cpl. Frow, refused to hand over any ammunition when requested, which was as well, for obvious reasons.

However, it was decided to go ahead with the plan to march out and find the perpetrators of the deed. So the column went off, with no one apparently in command as the junior NCOs were in the ranks, but march discipline was maintained by L/Cpl. Beeson, giving orders from his position in the ranks.

After about three hours' march we halted at a bridge over a stream where we thought we should have to start the search for the bandits. It was by now dark and the terrain looked very forbidding, but Beeson started to detail parties off to comb the area and he established a HQ at the bridge. It was at this moment that we sighted a car coming from the direction we had come. It contained Lt. Farrell, Cpl. R. L. Bye and two regimental policemen who had come to turn us back. Mr. Farrell pointed out the futility of trying to find anybody at that time of night but the consensus of opinion of the soldiers was that having come so far they were not inclined to give up now.

These discussions had taken place quietly with no question of threats. However, when Mr. Farrell said "Well, if you do, you will let your Company Commander down badly", this struck home and we unanimously agreed to return to barracks, which we did singing all the way. On arrival we found the canteen open and free tea and "wads" on the Company Commander. The next morning Capt. Faulkner spoke to the whole Company. He gave us all an "imperial rocket" but said he understood our feelings. Later we had another dressing-down by some senior officer from GHQ Troops Egypt but he, too, said he understood how we felt.

The killers were brought to justice by the Palestine Police and were executed in the gaol opposite the barracks.

We buried Walker and Dunn at Ramleh Cemetery, Lydd. 2/Lt. Frankis commanded the party of mourners, bearers and firing party; Sgt. Lucas commanded the firing party at the graveside.

A house-to-house collection for the bereaved families was organised by Lady Clayton, the wife of one of the Government officials, which realised, I think, about £3,000 which was later disbursed by the OCA.

Shortly after, our stay in Palestine came to an end and we rejoined the Battalion at Kasr-el-Nil Barracks, Cairo, on March 29, 1924, where we were joined by three new officers, Lts. Miles, Turner and Frith.

I do not think that there was a happier company in the whole of the Army, belonging to what we all thought was the best battalion in the British Army.

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