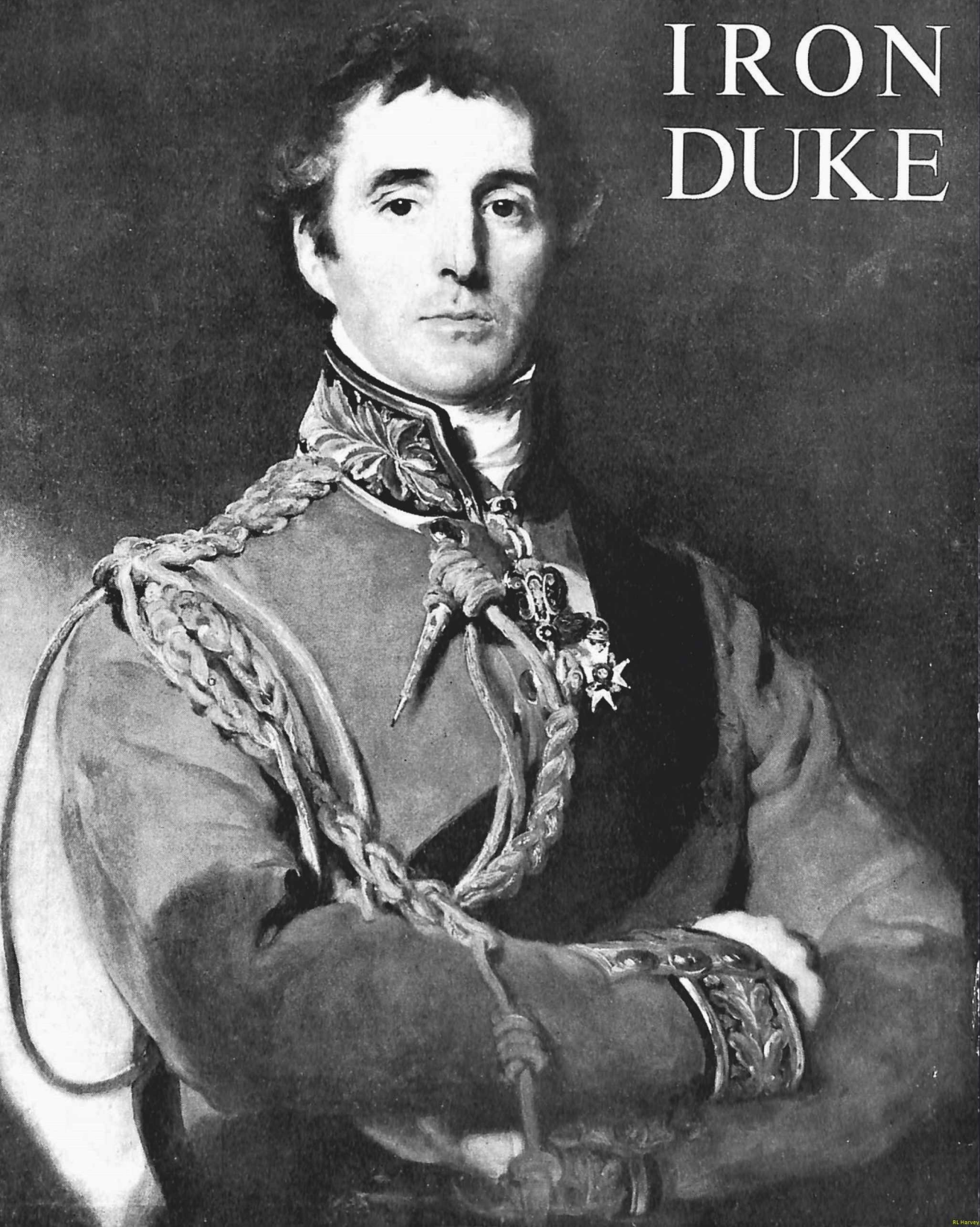


No.163 December 1973

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 Swla
Afghanistan 1919
North-West Europe
1940, 1944-45
Dunkirk 1940
St. Valery-en-Caux
Fontenay-le-Pesnil
Djeboul Bou Aoukaz 1943
Anzio
Monte Ceco
Burma 1942, '43, '44
Sittang 1942
Chindits 1944
The Hook 1953
Korea 1952-53

Vol. XLIX

DECEMBER 1973

No. 163

BUSINESS NOTES

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

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LONGMAN & STRONGI'TH'ARM

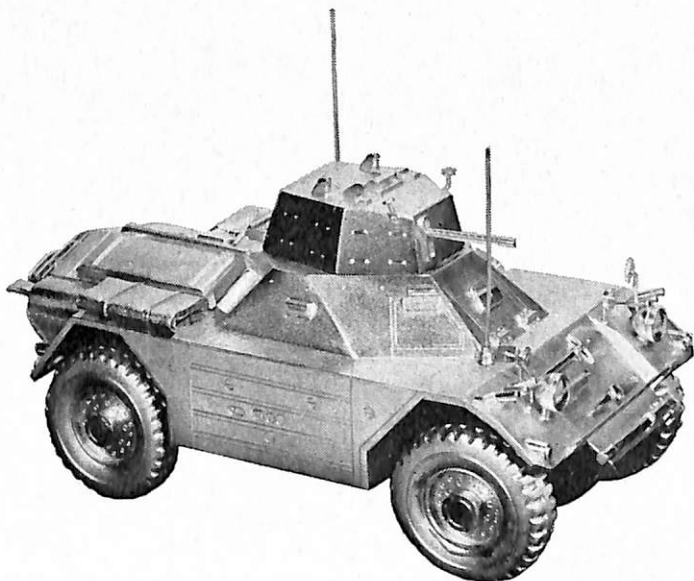
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Colonel of the Regiment

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Telephone : Codford St. Mary 304

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

THE 1st BATTALION

BFPO 801

CO: Lt.-Col. P. A. Mitchell Adjutant: Capt. A. D. Roberts, MBE
RSM WO1 T. Pickersgill

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

St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield
Commander : Major P. D. Green

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OIC, DWR, ACF Detachments: Major J. Howarth, 4 *Heather Road, Meltham, Huddersfield*

AFFILIATED C.C.F.

Giggleswick School CCF, CO: Capt. D. P. Fox

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Editorial

The contents of THE IRON DUKE were discussed at the last Regimental Council Meeting and this number is the outcome. Instead of the old company notes we offer, instead, contributions in article form. The response has been so good that we are in danger of having too much for one edition! So if your article does not appear it will certainly be used next time. I am sorry that many of the photos were too indistinct to reproduce and some were damaged.

The exciting element to me is the number of articles or verse contributed by junior ranks, and

how good they are, too. Please keep sending them in!

Although operations are given good cover I hope readers will be equally impressed by the accounts from sports and clubs, and particularly the Wives' Club, which underlines the truth that the Regiment consists of more than just the soldiers!

Unexpected production problems have delayed this edition but I wish to thank Mr Pelling at our publishers for his unfailing help during the year; and also all our many contributors.

Regimental Headquarters

DATES TO NOTE

Saturday, April 13—55th Annual Reunion and Dinner of 4 DWR 1914-18 Association, in Halifax.

Saturday, May 11—Annual Dinner of the London Branch of the Regimental Association.

Saturday, July 6—Ladies' Luncheon. Army and Navy Club, London.

Friday, October 25—Officers' Dinner in York. (See below.)

Regimental Dinner 1974

The 1974 Officers' Dinner will be open to all who have been commissioned into the Regiment or who

have served as commissioned officers in any of its Battalions or units which have had DWR in their title.

The Dinner is to be held in the Gimcrack banqueting rooms on Friday, October 25, 1974. This date has been chosen so that officers from the 1st Battalion can be present being at this time on leave between their return from Ulster and going to Aldershot to become the Infantry Battalion in the Parachute Brigade.

We need to compile as comprehensive a list as possible to whom notification should be sent so readers are asked to send the Regimental Secretary the names and addresses of those they think may have lost touch with the Regiment but might like to come to this Dinner.

From the London Gazette

Regular Army

COMMANDS AND STAFF

The undermentioned Colonel to be Brigadier, June 30, 1973:

D. E. Isles, OBE (304096), late Infantry.

The undermentioned Lieutenant-Colonels to be Colonels, June 30, 1973:

E. M. P. Hardy (393157) from DWR

C. R. Huxtable, OBE (420858), from DWR.

The undermentioned Captains to be Majors, June 30, 1973:

P. J. Puttock (463390), DWR

M. G. L. M. Stacpoole (463399) DWR.

Major R. H. Ince (85713), DWR, retires on retired pay, June 7, 1973.

Lt. P. J. Bird (481722), DWR, resigns his commission, July 3, 1973.

2/Lt. K. Best (489892) DWR, to be Lieutenant, July 25, 1973.

2/Lt. (on probation) D. L. J. Harrap (493640), DWR, is confirmed as 2nd Lt., May 3,

The photo shows The Lord Mayor of York, Alderman Jack Wood with Major B. Roper and Lt-Col. H. Ford, Parade Commander.

1972, seniority March 3, 1969. To be Lieutenant, May 3, 1972, with seniority, March 3, 1971 (substituted for the notification in *Gazette* (supplement) dated May 22, 1973) (and entered in August 1973 edition of THE IRON DUKE).

The undermentioned Lieutenant to be Captain July 28, 1973:

J. R. A. Ward (484052), DWR.

Lt. A. D. Roberts, MBE (479979), DWR, to be Captain, August 20, 1973.

The undermentioned second-lieutenants to be confirmed in their commissions, August 11, 1973:

H. R. Fawley (495511), DWR.

D. I. Richardson (495573), DWR.

Territorial and Army Volunteer Reserve

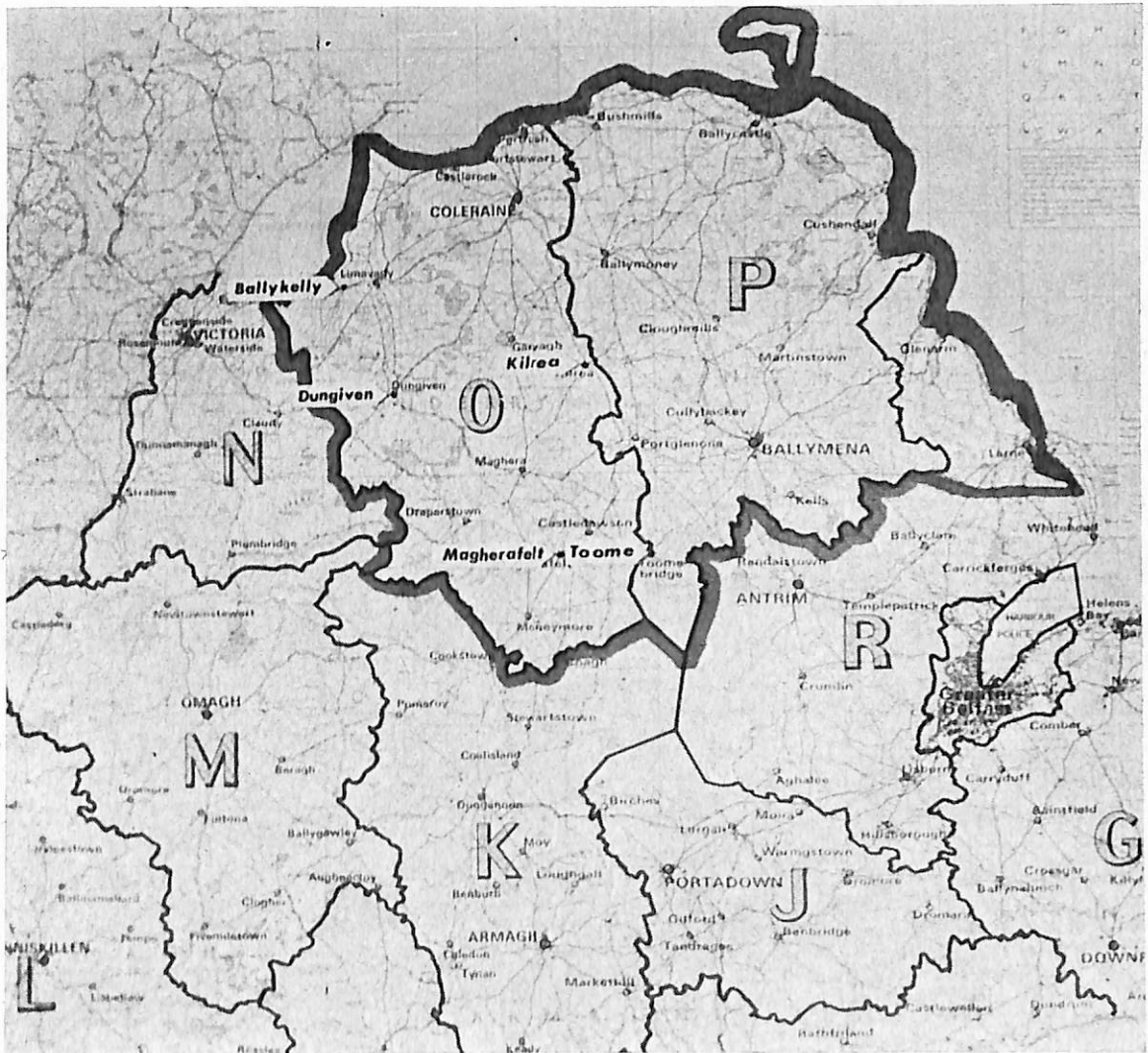
GROUP A

The undermentioned Lieutenant to be Captain, April 1, 1973:

C. M. B. Bateman (481478), 3 Yorks.

Major R. C. Curry, TD (429952), 3 Yorks from T & AVR Group B, 1 Yorks (unposted) to be Major Sept 1 1973 with Seniority Dec 25 1967.

1st Battalion



THE DUKES AREA

Sub-editorial

Our contribution for this issue bears a somewhat unfamiliar appearance, as it has been decided to go away from the Company note format to a series of articles describing various aspects of life in the Battalion during its tour here in Northern Ireland. It is hoped that this will be interesting to our readers who may not have, in the past, read through the Company notes.

The past four months has seen the Battalion consolidate its grip on its task in Ulster. The level of activity has remained high and it is seldom that any man is completely free to relax and enjoy him-

self. Nevertheless the need for our presence is obvious and we accept that this is an inevitable result of doing a necessary and important task. We have continued to have our successes, including some important and significant weapon and explosive discoveries both in the county and the Brandywell area of Londonderry City. The Assembly elections passed off quietly, giving us our third opportunity in four months to deploy widely in protection of the polling stations.

We have acquired a new piece of real estate in the form of Larne and its police subdivisonal area. We include in this issue a map of the province showing

our area of responsibility, which can be seen to be fairly substantial. Readers should not get the impression that the whole area is troublesome, because this is far from the case. In fact, although the potential for incidents exists practically anywhere, over two-thirds of the area is policed normally with no military presence other than very occasional patrols.

Morale is good and the debt we owe to our families for their patience, understanding and good humour under trying conditions is well recognised, if not always openly acknowledged.

Our first block leave is coming up very shortly (October 22 to November 14) and many plans are being made to get away from it all. This is really the watershed in our time here, as when we return we shall be at the halfway point of our tour.

Sport necessarily takes somewhat of a back seat at present, nevertheless the soccer XI is playing regularly and is hopeful of doing well under the leadership of Sgt. Cross, APTC, himself an Army player. We are not entering the Army Rugby Cup this season but will devote ourselves to reconstruction and regrouping by playing friendly fixtures against local sides.

Pte. Ellingham and his dog Major are to be congratulated on their superb effort in winning outright the Army (UK) Dog Championship Trials, 1973.

Mention must also be made of Sgt. Spearman, the team coach and captain, whose determination and hard work played a significant part in the success. We also congratulate Cpl. Lister on being awarded the Taylor/Miles Prize for 1973. This is a prize awarded annually and donated by Lt.-Col. George Taylor, DSO, TD, who wished his great friend Brigadier "Bonzo" Miles's name to be associated with it.

It is with great sorrow that we have to record the sudden and unexpected death of WOII P. H. Lindsay at Magherafelt on August 28, 1973. The Regiment can ill afford to lose men of his calibre and he will be sadly missed by us all. We send our sincere condolences and sympathy to his family.

On a happier note, we congratulate S/Sgt. Simpson on the well-deserved award of a Mention in Despatches for his superb work on the previous tour in Ulster, and also Cpl. Smith and Pte. Foo, who received GOC's commendations for their excellent work with Burma Company.

Mention is made later of the Battalion Youth Club, Wives Club, Company Clubs and other amenities. It will be readily apparent that under present conditions in Ulster it is incumbent upon us to make our own amusements and entertainments. It is hoped that the articles which follow will indicate something of the life we lead in Northern Ireland in 1973.

NEWS from the MESSES

OFFICERS' MESS

As the new PMC, I am somewhat daunted by having to write the Officers Mess Notes after the monumental and somewhat original flavour of the last contribution. It must have been the straw (or log) that broke the Campbells back, because the old PMC has managed to relinquish his post.

There have only been two major Mess functions in the past few months—a guest night in June and a barbecue in August. The English concept of a barbecue or Braievleis, as I know it, never ceases to amuse me. The original idea is that a group of people get together in casual attire to cook their own food over charcoal fires. The modified version is that the guests arrive dressed up as for Ascot and the Mess staff move from their comfortable kitchen to outside coal fires to cook the food. If the weather is unfavourable the only people that suffer are the staff. One Mess invited the Dukes to a barbecue in black tie! (even stranger people these Irish).

The Steak Bar has increased in popularity and provides an excellent and exceedingly cheap form of entertainment. It is also a useful place for ironing out our A and Q problems with the Brigade Staff, whose regular attendance must soon qualify them for some sort of award. The RSO, I know, looks forward to talking megahertz to the Brigade Signals Staff. Top of the pops in the Steak Bar is "Here Comes the Groping Major" by Jones the major.

There have been a number of arrivals. The West-cobs are here—if you haven't already heard—and the humidity and decibel level has increased. (Like the Bata shoes and socks and Mahommed Patel

corduroy jacket, my friend, not to mention your crinkled tropical suits.) David and Julia Wonson have returned and David has already established a fluid relationship with Brigade. A somewhat subdued Roberts, now partnered by Carolyn, has also returned. Finally, we would like to welcome David Richardson, Bill Atkinson and Howard Fawley.

Last, but by no means least, I would like, on behalf of all Dukes and other Mess members, to thank the Mess staff for their work. S/Sgt. Rusby and his staff have managed to maintain a very high standard and, apart from the normal running of the Mess, they also contributed to guards and other duties in Ballykelly.

WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS MESS

Authors thoughts: "Not again; I only did the last ones a week or so ago". As one would say at bingo. "Eyes down, look in", switch on brain, listen for thoughts (negative).

Stage two: phone call, "What's happened since the last IRON DUKE notes".

Answer: "Wait-out." Result: still waiting.

Pen back to paper, comings and goings are at last to be centralised and will be mentioned elsewhere, but I feel one of note is the departure of one of our old stalwarts, Roy Kelly, who to the end was always there keeping his end of the bar up to such an extent that when he left it actually collapsed (bill to follow). Births, of course, are few and far between but, owing to the time spent away from home, three weeks here, six days at home, three weeks



Some of the silver
in the Sgts. Mess

there, there may be an increase, and careful study has proved that, all being fair, most people should be at home on the day of delivery.

Other entertainments have picked up slowly and through a process of elimination have proved the talent is here it just needs fostering. On June 28, Northern Ireland and the Sergeants Mess held their respective elections, the Mess to elect a "Lord Mayor of Shackleton". Polling started a week prior to the 28th with candidates canvassing votes and by Wednesday the 27th everyone in the Mess avidly watched TV in case one of our candidates had managed to get themselves interviewed. We had a number of candidates—nine in all, six male and three of the girls—who deserve a special mention as it must have taken great courage or strong drink to get them on the rostrum to deliver their speech. The female candidates, Betty Pickersgill, Ruth Hughes and June Pye all did a really sterling job. Well done, ladies (but it is still a man's world). Fred Kerry, who should have been hot stuff, had too much cold drink and dried up on the rostrum. Consequently he waved his arms about for the required three minutes but never uttered a word!

The chair was finally taken by Sgt. "Viny" Pye and was well deserved. He now reigns as "Lord Mayor" and his chain of office has a place of honour in the Mess.

The Chief Clerk finally slid from behind his desk, took two full days off and produced a River Boat Casino night. The Mess was completely blacked out for this occasion and lighting was provided from hurricane lamps (all colours). Again the ladies were to the fore and were resplendent in revealing evening dresses and ran the respective tables, which included roulette, crap, poker, pontoon, wheel of fortune and a roll-a-penny for

the "cheapskates"—RQMS? The Chief Clerk was the only one to show a profit when he dropped the jackpot on the fruit machine! The acidic smell from the hurricane lamps proved too much for some members (in the beginning), but as the night wore on more favourable comments were made (mingled with beer fumes).

Paul Wilkinson produced a very good version of the TV show "Mr. & Mrs.", but, unfortunately, as so often happens in this part of the world, the "natives" in the city became a little restless, so half the men went along to help out (in flak jackets and carrying riot guns). Don't worry, Paul, it will soon be your turn again.

Entertainments continue and each Saturday night we manage to produce something, if only dancing to the sound of Palmer's disco music. He has become so popular that non-dancing members come along for the evening, if only out of curiosity. His antics are a sight to be seen. There are murmurings amongst the ranks of making him an honorary member (Saturday nights only).

Each Wednesday we hold a Cafe Night. This is a first-class evening and is well supported. The food and waiter service is superb at a cost of only 50p per head. The dining room is well laid out with soft lighting and music to suit all tastes. It is open to all members of roulement units and those that have attended are grateful for such a splendid evening and the relaxed atmosphere.

At the moment the Mess is undergoing a face-lift under the supervision of Tommy Jackson. How he manages to beg, borrow or steal the required timber from various units sharing Shackleton Barracks is a mystery. His efforts are first class and we are eternally grateful to him for all the hard work he and his pioneers have done for us. We would also like to take this opportunity of thanking the

Quartermaster, Capt. Burke, for allowing Tommy and his boys to work in the Mess.

Finally, on a sadder note, the members of the Mess, whatever regiment or corps they may be, extend their deepest sympathies to Mrs. Lindsay and family on the very sad loss of their husband and father, CSM Peter Lindsay.

Footnote

Overheard in the bar: "Why is Bob Middleton limping?"

Reply (from the Geordie Mess member who always sits in the corner): "Because he's got some money in his pocket".

CORPORALS' MESS

These are the first Mess notes for quite a time and to note all comings and goings would fill this edition of THE IRON DUKE from cover to cover, however welcome and farewells are extended to all concerned.

It seems strange that under the present operational situation we find ourselves with our own Corporals Mess for the first time since the far-off days of Gillingham. It is an old building, but many hours of graft by a faithful few have converted it into a going concern.

Our first evening of note in Ulster was an invitation from 1 PWO Corporals at Palace Barracks, Hollywood, to a games tussle. Distance and commitments only allowed a small representation to attend, which gave us an excuse for the sound thrashing they gave us. Comments as we lost individual games were, "If only old... was here; he's good". We can only hope that at our next meeting with 1 PWO our first team is half as good as we make them out to be.

Alternate Mondays we hold a disco evening with professional entertainers. Either disco or live groups. I use professional loosely as much as they want paying for their services. Attendance is improving and, regardless of the quality of the music, a good time is had by all, excepting, of course, the eyes peering through the window of the duty NCO as he passes on his rounds.

Looking around our local area and realising that 1 RWF were only down the road in Derry we thought we might erase our thrashing by 1 PWO and play Welshmen at Yorkshire games, which must make us favourites. The Welshmen were streaming down from the hills and filled our men to bursting point and as the evening wore on beer got stronger and games got shorter and the only real result was at the end, when 1 RWF won the boat race and we won an event called the yard arm, which is a glass approximately one yard long filled with beer. The main attraction of the evening was a buffet produced by Cpl. Crook, ACC, which looked like something from the Arabian nights and delighted our guests. The disco went on non-stop throughout and by end of the evening even the records were sweating.

The result at the end of the evening was a draw, thank goodness. Does anyone know of a blind and crippled team over 80 years old who want to take us on at games?

To end our notes I will briefly mention our next

games evening, which is to be against the old men in the Sergeants Mess. This time we have carefully selected our players and applied for transfers for our first team from rifle companys to base rats, if only for one night.

POSTINGS OUT

The undermentioned have departed to serve a tour at "E":

Sgt. Manion to Officers Wing, School of Infantry, Warminster, as ORS.

WO2 Kelly to 1 Yorkshire Volunteers, York, as PSI.

Sgt. Lambton to Depot, King's Division, Strensall, as MT Sergeant.

Pte. Backhouse to Admin Wing, School of Infantry, Warminster, as Private GD.

S/Sgt. Simpson to 3 Yorkshire Volunteers, Huddersfield, as PSI.

Sgt. Brennan to Depot, King's Division, Strensall, as Drill Instructor.

WO2 Ashby, temporary attached to Depot, King's Division, Strensall, prior to going recruiting at Wakefield.

Pte. Dyke to Depot, King's Division (spending last six months in England prior to civilian live).

Sgt. Gunn to Support Weapons Wing, School of Infantry, Warminster, as Signals Instructor.

The undermentioned have departed for Civilian life:

Pte. Potter, Pte. Collins 69, Pte. White 78, Pte. Kwiatkowski, Pte. Whittaker, L/Cpl. Steadman, Cpl. Simpson, REME.

The undermentioned attached personnel have now completed their tour with this unit:

Cfn. Settle, REME, to Depot, REME, Arborfield.

Sgt. Collett, RAPC, to Regimental Pay Office, Brighton.

POSTINGS IN

The undermentioned have rejoined the Battalion after completing successful tours at "E":

Sgt. Budden from HQ Northern Ireland. Cpl. Nuttall 90 from HQ Northern Ireland. Cpl. Fielding from Depot, King's Division. S/Sgt. Lawrence from 10 UDR. Sgt. Hunter from Infantry Junior Leaders Battalion, Oswestry.

The undermentioned have joined the Battalion on completion of their basic recruit training:

Ptes. Gibson, Smith, Ware, Wartors, Spencer, Conlon, Down, Johnson, Bailey, Batham and Wartors.

The undermentioned have joined the Battalion having spent a period attached to 2 Royal Irish at Warminster until attaining the age of 18: Ptes. Lewis, Machin, Symonds, Clayton, Holmes, Reid, Maltby and Stone.

The undermentioned have been posted on to our attached strength:

Cpl. Lake, RAPC, from 1 Irish Guards. Cpl. Douglass, REME, from 19 Airportable Brigade and Signal Squadron. Cpl. Ashley, RAPC, from 9 Signal Regiment. L/Cpl. Banks, REME, from 8 Field Workshops, REME. Sgt. Nuttall, Royal Signals, from HQ 8th Infantry Brigade. Cfn.

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Wiseman, REME, from SEME (T), Bordon. Pte. Stone, ACC, from 24 Field Ambulance, RAMC.

Sgt. Walker has re-enlisted into the Army and is now back home with the Dukes.

SENIOR RANKS 1 DWR SERVING ERE

The following senior NCOs are serving away from the Battalion:

WO1 R. Chilvers	Headquarters Land Forces, BFPO 1.
WO1 J. Sargeant	Royal Military School of Science, Shrivenham.
WO1 J. Welsh	Depot King's Division, Strensall.
WO2 G. Clarke	Depot King's Division, Strensall.
WO2 R. Kelly	1 Yorkshire Volunteers, York.
WO2 B. Coll	Junior Infantryman's Wing, Preston.
WO2 N. Wright	9 Cadet Training Team, York.
S/Sgt. T. Hudson	Headquarters 2nd Division, BFPO 22.
S/Sgt. J. Holliday	3 Yorkshire Volunteers, Halifax.
S/Sgt. M. Reddy	1 Yorkshire Volunteers, York.
S/Sgt. N. Butler	1 Yorkshire Volunteers, York.

S/Sgt. J. Hemmings	Junior Infantryman's Battalion, Shorncliffe.
S/Sgt. A. Simpson	3 Yorkshire Volunteers, Huddersfield.
S/Sgt. J. Toplis	5 Brigade Headquarters and Signal Squadron.
Sgt. E. Craig	Divisional Recruiting Team, Depot King's Division, Strensall.
Sgt. G. Cookson	Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst.
Sgt. D. Barnett	Army Careers Information Office, Keighley.
Sgt. F. Lowney	Army Careers Information Office, Halifax.
Sgt. J. Manion	Officers Wing, School of Infantry, Warminster.
Sgt. G. Minto	Army Careers Information Office, Huddersfield.
Sgt. G. Robson	Army Careers Information Office, Barnsley.
Sgt. B. Gunn	Support Weapons Wing, School of Infantry, Netheravon.
Sgt. R. Heron	Junior Infantryman's Battalion, Shorncliffe.
Sgt. M. Brennan	Depot, King's Division, Strensall.
Sgt. M. Hirst	1 Green Howards (British Biathlon team)
Sgt. V. Lambton	Depot, King's Division, Strensall.

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From the Companies

WATERLOO COMPANY

Community Relations

"Community relations". What on earth does it mean? Well to the uninitiated it means helping the local community, impartially and to the best of one's ability, with the limited resources available. To the old and bold those dreaded words "hearts and minds" immediately conjure up in their memories hours of toil and sweat. To the well informed the cry is "conscientization".

Our community relations work is divided into three spheres of activity. These are:

Operational community relations

a. Company commander level—working in parallel with operational tasks. Dealing with complaints and damage reports, talking to local community association leaders or Peace Corps ladies. In fact, providing a means of communications between the Army and the local population and for the Community Relations Officer to forward ideas, complaints and suggestions to the Civil Community Relation Authorities.

b. Community Relations Officer—meeting community leaders to discuss similar points to those given above. Also to try and establish normal relations with the local population and to stimulate mixed political and religious areas into working together to help improve their own immediate environmental surroundings and to encourage them to help themselves and use the local authorities.

This side of community relations is often a thankless task and one wonders if it is all worth while, then out of the blue one's efforts are rewarded. An area which is completely hostile and anti-military says thank you for your efforts. Then one begins to think perhaps there is something to community relations after all (although some of the company commanders may disagree).

Non-operational community relations

Our non-operational community relations efforts have been considered well worth while. The greatest political and religious barrier breaker is sport, and being Dukes, with our reputation of 1956-58, still remembered by many Ulstermen, doors have been opened to us where many other regiments would find it difficult.

We have to be careful that the response to our efforts doesn't swamp us and over-stretch our meagre resources. To give you some idea of what we do, a few of our activities are listed below:

- a. Assist with seven youth clubs (mixed communities).
- b. Assist with four ACF units.
- c. Run swimming classes for two schools.
- d. Run remedial PT for handicapped children's home.
- e. Run trampoline, soccer and rugby coaching courses at the New University of Ulster, Coleraine.
- f. Help run an adventurous training camp for the

children of the Bogside and Creggan.

g. Help run swimming classes for children from the Creggan.

h. Outings and visits for children from difficult areas.

i. Numerous sporting events.

j. Numerous marquee tents put up for church fetes, flower shows and festivals.

k. Duke of Edinburgh award scheme work for Boy Scout and Girl Guide groups.

As you can see, we are kept fairly busy and, considering the size of our community relations team (four men), do a remarkable job.

Regimental community relations

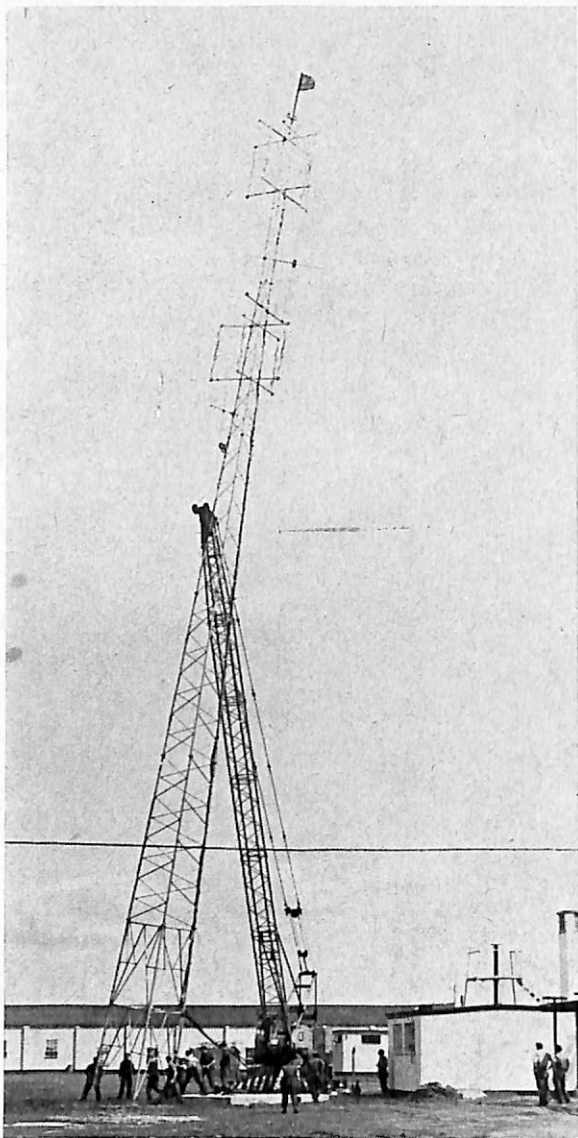
Apart from the local community, we also have a responsibility to our own families. Life is restricted over here and there is little for our regimental children to do, particularly during the school holidays. To cater for this problem we formed a Battalion Youth Club, which has turned out to be a resounding success. We have 132 members, who meet four times a week during term time and every-day during the holidays.

The club's activities are varied and interesting. For example, we have built up an animal farm with, pigeons, geese, ducks, chickens, wild pheasant, golden and silver pheasants, white mice, hamsters and a goat called Duke. We have run five-a-side football matches, go-karting, trampoline courses, life-saving classes, "It's a Knockout" competition and a girls' beauty contest won by Donna Skipworth, runner-up Sharon Flemming. So you can see there have been plenty of things to do. The children have been marvellous and entered into the spirit of things and have made the Youth Club a definite part of life in the battalion at Ballykelly.

Community relations take up a lot of time and effort, but I think readers will agree it plays a part in helping keep the peace in Ulster. M.J.C.-L.

Signal Platoon

The main problem in the VHF communications at Ballykelly was the great distances we were required to work to the county location and to Brigade HQ in Londonderry. *In situ*, when we arrived at Ballykelly, were three 60ft telegraph poles outside the comcen. Two of these were used to mount antennae to work to the distant stations. However, difficulty in maintaining constantly good communications was still experienced and the only practical solution seemed to be achieving greater height for the antennae. With this as an aim the RSO set the wheels in motion and very soon a gang of navvies appeared and dug a large hole in the ground outside the comcen. This was duly filled with 30 tons of concrete as a base for the new 120ft mast. Then came the frustrating wait for the concrete to set, which seemed like months but was, in fact, only three weeks. The mast itself eventually



The Signal Mast

arrived in sections and was assembled on the ground. This was the cue for our intrepid "antennae assembling stores section" to get on the job and produce Yagi and dipole rod antennae for attaching to the mast. The Brigade Signal Squadron also appeared with their contribution and soon the top of the mast looked like a Christmas tree. Then the great day arrived, Friday July 6. The mast was ready, the antennae all fitted and a Duke's flag was attached to the top of the mast (much to the annoyance of the Brigade personnel present); the cases of beer were there and a crowd of proud signallers and awe-filled non-signallers. The crane operator attached the jib of his crane to the mast and with almost casual ease swung the whole enormous structure above our heads and set it squarely on its base. Willing hands helped to bolt the mast to its

base and all was ready for the launching ceremony. The RSO climbed to the comcen roof, took up the well-shaken bottle of Newcastle brown ale and swung it at the mast. The bottle burst with a satisfying pop on the mast and, amid cheers of approval from the spectators (one or two moans of protest from the Geordies present), the ceremony was complete and the mast officially erected. The communications since then? Well, we're still having one or two problems to Brigade HQ, but.

Phantom Gunman—Dungiven

For those who are not familiar with Dungiven, it is a small town situated about 11 miles south of Ballykelly, the population of which are mainly Catholics.

Late one evening in mid-August a high-powered foot patrol from the Reconnaissance Platoon scouted the main street and car parks in Dungiven. Searching for stolen and suspect cars that may have been deliberately left unattended with their famous and deadly passenger, Miss Bomb.

On reaching the final objective, a car park to the rear of a public house, the patrol was split up, one half to watch the front of the pub, while the commander, radio ops "Nicky" Nicholls and invisible "Swine" Donaldson tasked to check out the car park. On reaching the entrance "Swine" noticed a man stood by a car illuminated by a beam of light coming from a house upstairs window directly behind him. A whispered order from the commander sent Nicholls and Donaldson to take up firing positions. Once they were tucked away the commander moved towards the lone figure. Before any question was asked a shot rang out into the night. Two single shots were returned in acknowledgment.

"Upstairs window with a light", shouted radio op. "Did you get him?" Commander: "I'm not sure". "Well, you have been complaining of not being zeroed properly. This is your other alternative". Another shot; again two single shots were returned.

"Aah, he's still alive"—radio op.

"Send SITREP"—control.

"Haven't got him yet; wait out"—patrol.

"Stop firing and stay here. I'm going in", blasted Sunray." As he scrambled towards the front door of the house he almost collided with a policeman who came tearing to the scene from the opposite direction. While the policeman was being told briefly what had happened another shot was fired from the house. There was no need to waste valuable time in explaining, but straight into the house and get the phantom gunman.

And what a phantom gunman he was—an old man of 65 years of age stood in the middle of the room with a double-barrelled shotgun.

"Have you quite finished?" commander.

"God be Jesus, I thought they've come to get me"—old man.

"Who?"

"The boys".

"What boys?"

He had mistaken us for a group of boys who recently had been constantly threatening him to

vacate the premises. He had promised them that he will vacate the premises only on one circumstance—over his dead body.

However, be Jesus was very grateful to be still in the premises—alive. RECCE PL

UK Army Dog Trials

Each year the various dog holding units compete in sector dog trials to produce a number of teams for the Army UK Dog Trials. The essential justification of these trials is to improve the efficiency of guard and security dog patrol teams employed by the Army, Navy and MOD Police.

The trials are not aimed to test the capacity of a dog to perform set tests as in the normal obedience trial, but to challenge dogs out at duty with practical situations that are likely to occur, this is all conducted as a nonspectator phase.

To create added interest to what otherwise would be a trial of purely military efficiency on the spectator day, teams are required to carry out a test set specially for the occasion and negotiate four previously declared obstacles. Teams are given the opportunity of tackling three unfamiliar obstacles. This challenges the team and creates an element of excitement for the spectators.

The prizes that can be won are as follows:

Pedigree Pet Foods Ltd., Melton Mowbray: Champion Cup.

Glaxo Ltd, Greenford, Middlesex: Three sector shields.

Denman & Sons Ltd., Melton Mowbray: Best Man Work Cup.

In addition, there are challenge trophies for the best military and civilian guard and security team given by the RAVC Training Centre.

Pte. Hoyland and I have only been handling dogs for the past eight months, and both of us will agree that it is hard work, but, as you will have noticed, pleasurable at times. A competition as such makes the job worth while and, of course, interesting for the handler and dogs.

Prizes won at the recent dog trials:



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Sgt. Spearman
Pte. Hoyland and Major

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Pte. D. Ellingham (and Earl): Best Guard Dog Team (Shield), ADT Challenge Cup, Best Military Team, three tankards.

As a matter of interest, all the military shields to be won were won by the Duke's dog team. Members of the team are as follows:

Sgt. Bob Spearman, (pusher), Pte. David Ellingham (worker) and Earl, Pte. William Hoyland (worker) and Major.

D. Ellingham.

ALMA COMPANY

A day in the life of a soldier serving in the Duke of Wellington's Regiment

At the moment The Duke of Wellington's Regiment are in Northern Ireland. They are a reserve battalion and are also engaged on certain operational tasks. On operational duties there is no set time for Reveille or Lights Out, as different platoons and sections are occupied on different tasks within a rifle company. These duties are interesting and wide ranging. They include active and vigorous patrolling of some of the hot spots in and around Londonderry. Other tasks include the setting up of observation posts, vehicle checkpoints, cordon and search operations and camp guards.

As always, a high standard of training and competence is required. Here is an example of what happens on a normal operational twenty-four-hour spell in a rifle platoon.

0800 hrs. The section commanders of two of the rifle sections would report to the briefing room with their sections. They would be briefed by either the company commander or his 2IC. They would be told exactly what their task will be on the patrol. They would also be given other detailed orders, as to what routes they would have to take, and they would discuss anti-sniper drills, depending on the ground in the area in which they were working.

It is usual for each soldier in the section to be given an individual task, such as memorising the face of and observing for a particular wanted IRA man. Other tasks for members of the patrol include keeping a watchful eye open for suspect cars and their movements.

As soon as the briefing has finished, the third section commander will be briefed separately. His task will be to provide an observation post and cover for the patrol on the ground. They will be instructed to move to a carefully concealed vantage point. The briefing will be just as detailed as the one given to the previous two sections, and individual tasks will be allotted to the personnel in the section.

It is usual for observation posts to take various items of specialised equipment to the position with them. Such equipment includes a 2×7.62 mm sniper rifle, fitted with telescopic sights, and an extra high-powered telescope. If the situation demands, a single-lens reflex camera with a range of interchangeable lenses may be taken for taking close-up shots of personnel on the streets. The Battalion is always running sniping courses for newly joined members. Personnel selected for these courses are those who have proved to be good consistent shots in training.

08:30 hrs. The patrol and observation post personnel prepare to leave base. Besides their personal weapons and webbing, additional equipment is taken. This includes a rubber bullet gun and a supply of about 30 rubber bullets, which are distributed amongst the section. The rubber bullet gun has proved to be a highly effective weapon against a hostile crowd. Its effective range is up to 75m, and at this range it can easily knock a man to the ground and stun him. Every man in the Batta-

lion is taught to fire the rubber bullet gun and can use it effectively. CS gas grenades are another important item to be included in all patrol equipment.

The patrol sets out. It is now that the men really start to work as a team. Alertness and ability in fire and movement is the key to all good patrolling, and it's in the Duke's that you will find these qualities.

The man who has just finished his training and joined the Regiment will find that he very quickly fits into the fighting team.

The patrol will last from half-an-hour to two hours. On returning to base they will be debriefed by either the company commander or his 2IC as before.

1000 hrs: After the debrief, the platoon may find themselves free for a few hours. During this time they can either sleep, watch TV or go to the NAAFI. In outposts in Ireland the NAAFI's are run by char wallahs. The char wallahs usually come from India, and have served with one particular regiment for as long as 40 or 50 years. The char wallah in our location at present has followed the Dukes all over the world for many years.

1200 hrs. The platoon may be asked to man one of the many vehicle checkpoints in and around Londonderry. Each section carries out these tasks in rotation. The aim of the checkpoints is to search all vehicles and their passengers for weapons and bombs. We are all trained prior to our departure for Ulster intensively on vehicle checkpoints until we have reached a very high standard. Each checkpoint is issued with metal detectors which can detect weapons and ammunition carried on pedestrians. During our tour we have found several bombs and weapons in cars entering Londonderry.

The remainder of the day may continue in much the same way as I have described so far. However, as night falls the situation becomes different in so much as the skills of the infantryman are tested to a high degree, especially on patrolling and observation post work.

2230 hrs. A night patrol of two sections prepare for a patrol. Their task will be to watch a suspect house. With them they will take an individual weapon sight (IWS) to observe with. They may watch for a known IRA man to enter or leave the house. The patrol commander will be briefed thoroughly.

The patrol will set out and set up a good observation post as near the house as possible. They may see the suspect moving to and from the house and will report the information back to Company HQ. When enough information has been gathered the patrol will return to base and they will then pass on the information verbally to the Intelligence NCO.

On the strength of the information the patrol has collected, the company commander will probably then plan an arrest operation in the early hours of the morning. There will be a detailed briefing for the whole Company who will carry out the operation. (These operations are never executed with any Unit of under company strength on the ground.) The operation is fairly straightforward and involves cordoning off the entire area of the suspect house and sending in the arrest team.

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0430 hrs. The Company will move into a cordon position and the arrest team will prepare to move in. On the order given over the radio, the team will approach the house and knock at the door. If there is no reply, they will simply break down the door and carry out a search. It is usual to find either wanted persons or arms in suspect buildings. Intelligence information is rarely incorrect.

So this operation takes up to 0700 hrs in the morning. This is basically what happens during operational duties over a 24-hour period in the 'Duke's'.

It is both exciting and rewarding. Most of all, everybody enjoys the fact that they are doing something real, something exciting and something with an element of danger.

Pte V. M. R. Hartley

BURMA COMPANY

It is with deep regret that the death of CSM Lindsay has to be recorded in this edition of THE IRON DUKE. All Burma Company's sympathy is extended to Mrs. Lindsay and her two children. SM Lindsay was both respected and well liked by every member of Burma Company, be he old or new. Not only did he set a high standard of morale and the will to work hard, but showed an example to all of us by carrying out his duties with a sense of humour and fairness second to none.

Major "Chewing Gum" Chuck was bade a fond farewell from Battling Burma after showing his successor, Major Mike Stacpoole, the route to Magherafelt. Welcome also to CSM Dave Hughes, who has all our wishes of success in taking over under difficult circumstances.

Life at Magherafelt is very much the same, bringing back memories of our four-month stint in Newry, with rural patrols, eagle flights, etc. 5 Platoon, who worked with us for our three-week "posting" in the county, must have felt the benefit of working with Company HQ. They have never been seen in civvies so much either before or since (or was it the other way round, Sgt. Lyons?). The Company 2IC still insists that "Willie threw a wobbler" when 4 Platoon exhausted the Company's supply of schemulies whilst trying to land a chopper in a fog so thick that Mr. Harrap thought he was on ops.

From Magherafelt back to Ballykelly for six days, and then on to the Brandywell once more. (Is it Brigade who request our services so often?) There in large red letters, for all to see, on a wall in Carrigans Lane, were the words "Chink, beware". Once again Burma foiled the "Indians" and, by anticipating his reception, Norman ("Sniffer") Foo was sent (or was it scent?) to Cyprus.

Capt. H. de Headspring Cartwright delighted us all by giving us a headspring *extraordinaire*. Quote: "I've never done one in the Int room before" unquote. The CSM (who has never seen anything quite like it) was so intrigued by the warm up to this event that he thought it advisable to give Quebec/3 'jellied ell', but decided at the last moment that the Int room wall was capable of stopping an "over-shoot".

Overheard on the air:

"Hello, N2, this is M22. I've found a body in the

gutter. Over.”

“Hello, M22, this is N2. Send location. Over”.

M22: “In the gutter. Over”.

N2: “Roger, wait out”.

The following are congratulated on obtaining “B” gradings on recently attended courses:

WO2 (RQMS) R. Middleton: CQMS course.

L/Cpl. Birks: Anti-tank course.

L/Cpl. Raynor (ACC Att. 1 DWR).

Arrest of a Coleraine Bomber

In the early hours of a warm June morning a telephone call to the Ops Room in Magherafelt was swiftly followed by a scramble and in 10 minutes members of 4 Platoon and Company HQ were setting off to Bellaghy . . . mission . . . to lift a Coleraine bomber.

The house, although large, was difficult to find and the darkness did not help. MRF had the house surrounded and at 0355 hrs in we went, the Company 2IC leading the way, making light work of the front door. The family, all 15 of them, were ushered into the sitting room and the regulation search started.

The Platoon Commander, 4 Platoon, took details of all male residents and four of them were arrested and quickly whisked off to Coleraine in the company of “Burma’s heavies”.

Imagine everyone’s delight when later on that morning one of the men admitted to have taken part in the Coleraine outrage. He also spilt the beans on his girl friend, who was promptly lifted in Magherafelt that afternoon. Their subsequent charging made headline news in all the national newspapers.

More recently the UDR—“F” Company—working with 5 Platoon from Magherafelt, picked up a third Coleraine bomber at a snap VCP. One of the UDR corporals recognised the wanted man despite the fact it was dark. The wanted man gave a false name and address but this deception was useless, since the UDR, by living amongst these terrorists, know many of them by sight. This was one example of many where joint patrols of the Dukes and the UDR have worked well together. On this occasion L/Cpl. Harvey, Burma Company medic, went out with this mainly UDR patrol.

Finds and losses. During our last tour in the Brandywell 4 Platoon were very successful, in that they were the only platoon to find anything. For their hard and excellent work they were awarded a sum of £7.50 by Major Stacpoole. This took quite a bit of persuasion, but in the end the Major cracked. Unfortunately for 4 Platoon, someone acquired a pair of their “binos” and the £7.50 reward has to go towards the cost of the “binos”. So all their hard work has been in vain, because some light-fingered b***** has struck again. Our last tour of the Brandywell turned out to be quite busy, as were our last tours. Roll on the day the Major realises that there are three platoons in Burma Company and not just 4 Platoon. We know we are the best but do we have to prove it every time we go to the Brandywell? If and when the Major does realise this, 4 Platoon may be able to do some blanket pressing as well as the other platoons.

We all know that the IRA have many disguises and different methods of infiltrating, but we didn’t think they would stoop this low to recruiting green-, white-and-gold-coloured fleas wearing jack boots and false teeth. We know about the teeth because dozens were discovered imprinted in several parts of our bodies. Cpl. Peat and Pte. Green are writing a book on how to cross roof tops at five in the morning without being observed. The book should be published by the year 2000. On our last day of patrols we asked Lt. Jenkins and Sgt. Fleming if they would like to come out on patrol with us to get to know the area. They got quite excited and started jumping up and down and clapping their hands. We thought they had got the fleas, but fleas don’t bite officers and sergeants, only soldiers. Now a few words in the Major’s ear: Sir, if you would like to accompany 4 Platoon to the ranges, it would be our pleasure to help you zero your weapon properly. We’ll even erect a light bulb for you to practice on.

The Unlucky Thirteen: Early on Saturday morning, July 28, 2 Section, 4 Platoon, were woken up and sent to the Brandywell on information received to search a house. We loaded up a pig and got the dog handler and driver to set off to the Brandywell and tragedy. 2/Lt. Jenkins and Cpl. Elgar approached the house after the Section had secured all round cover. The door was knocked on and from No. 11 appeared an old lady who informed us that the occupants had recently gone on holiday. Our two men made a tour of the house and looked for possible means of entry. Cpl. Elgar suggested that ATO be called in and 2/Lt. Jenkins agreed. However, the door was knocked on again and what followed was a loud explosion. Four men were injured; three seriously. Mr. Jenkins was injured but was still able to continue his job. He quickly informed the Ops Room, which in turn brought reinforcements and an ambulance. Throughout this incident all the men stayed quite cool and used their initiative to clear the crowd, whilst Ptes. Thompson, Oakley and Jarvis attended the casualties. Thanks to the private soldiers, they are now alive and kicking. 4 PL

An Op in the County

Early one morning during our last tour of Magherafelt Mr. Harrap and a section left for an OP in the area surrounding Lough Neagh. After waiting through a cold and somewhat back-aching five hours, the section was startled by the sound of gunfire from only 300 yd away, somewhere in the mist. The section, after a quick investigation, discovered a man in possession of a shotgun. Mr. Harrap asked the man if he would oblige by firing a cartridge to see if it was this that made the noise they heard. The man replied, saying, “Cartridges cost two shilling each”. So Mr. Harrap said that he would give him the two shillings. The man accepted this and fired a cartridge. This proved to be the same noise as before and the man then proceeded to give Mr. Harrap, his 10p back. Mr. Harrap quickly pocketed the money and sent the man on his way—typical officer from 1 DWR.

During the last tour of the county Cpl. Frear,

L/Cpl. Marks, Ptes. Wadsworth, Swift and Calvert were sent out to do an OP in the southern areas of O and P. It turned out to be not so much an OP, but a moonlight guided tour of the most hilly ground that could be found. The crew began their midnight hike to what they thought was a house in a wood, overlooking a dam. The house turned out to be a couple of old stone walls, but, as Cpl. Frear pointed out, "It looked as if it had a roof on from the helicopter". The rain soon proved otherwise and our heroes spent all that night and the next day in a damp mist with very little to see. The next day was spent tramping over the surrounding hills until we arrived at the pick-up point at about 0200 hrs. The radio at last decided to work and we picked up a running commentary from Magherafelt about a bit of a shooting up there. This meant that we were unable to be picked up for another three hours. We arrived back in Magherafelt somewhat colder, more tired and very midge bitten. In the words of one of the sufferers, "I don't mind them landing in my tea; it's when they start doing the backstroke that I get annoyed".

A certain private, who shall remain anonymous, broke his glasses on a helicopter flight. That was early on in the tour, and in the next three weeks he did some rather strange things. Instead of watching the television (which wasn't so often) he used to sit and watch the tea machine all night. He swears he never had a drink the whole time he was there, I won't say who he is but he's a Scouse. 5 PL

The Thoughts of a Soldier

I'm on my way home from the land of the damned;
I'm on my way home, this home I call England.
I've been here before its familiar to see
The bricks and the stones that do injure me.

I've seen death and destruction the mad and insane;
I've seen children screaming, mothers dying in pain.
We try to understand but we never will
The cause that make people murder and kill.

We go on patrol with a feeling of pride,
To search and destroy the men that do hide.
To find the bomb, the mine, that gun
And capture the people who terrorise and run.

Someone fires a rifle; his victim falls dead.
Another of my friends has been shot through the head.
A bomb is thrown; another friend dies.
I look down the street with tears in my eyes.

I see a man running with weapon in hand;
I now know it's time to take command.
I lift my rifle aiming to kill;
In a very short moment his blood I will spill.

I squeeze the trigger and know he is dead.
The thought will stay with me forever in my head.
A man's life ends with one single shot.
Never no more will he murder or plot.

As I leave this land across the sea.
I think of my friends who were dear to me.
I know those who died did not do so in vain.
A memory so proud my heart fills with pain.

One day the children will listen with ease
To the stories of solidiers and their good deeds.
Soldiers, we salute you, you who were so brave.
Goodnight, God bless you, sleep peacefully in
your grave.

L/CPL. CROWTHER

A Find in the City

All my section was on routine foot patrol in the Brandywell area of Londonderry. It was a nice (I won't say peaceful) summer's day. This had been our fourth patrol of the day and all the section were looking forward to getting back to camp for a few hours' rest in our luxury accommodation which we were sharing with a few bugs. The area we were patrolling was Anne Hamilton Street and the waste ground. This was as far as we were going on this patrol into 'Indian country'. Myself and Hepworth went to the right-hand edge of the waste ground, whilst the remainder of the section, under command of our old sergeant, who is now Acorn Minor of the company, Sgt. Jock Cook, went to the left of the waste ground. We were to meet by Brown's Garage after completing our task.

We went about our tasks with not much hope of finding anything, but as we were crossing a narrow strip of land, with bushes and trees on both sides, I noticed the ground was churned up. I told Henry to watch himself, thinking there might be a booby trap. There used to be a hut on this particular strip of land, but isn't there any more apart from a few old floorboards. Henry was inspecting these floorboards when he shouted to me, "Hold it". On looking round I see Henry looking at a polythene bag which was sticking out from under the floorboards. In the bag was a length of cortex and some rounds. I then shouted for Jock, who thought we were having him on until he saw what we had found and then he thought all his birthdays had come at once. On closer inspection we found that we had discovered some Thompson, Armalite, and .38 special rounds and a couple of electric detonators. We then radioed to 2 and told them of the find. They sent ATO, who came and had a look round along with the sniffer dog. The dog proved to be very useful—he found a bag containing a dozen electric detonators. We also found a couple of burnt-out detonators hanging from a tree. We were then joined by the other two sections, who immediately started to search the surrounding area. One of them turned up with a very good find indeed, consisting of 250lb of anfo mix about 100yd from the first find, and that ended a normal day's patrolling.

That one find of ours makes all the hours that we put in seem worth while, as we know that we will probably have saved a few lives, be they soldiers or civvies. I hope that Hepworth enjoyed his can of beer that Major Ivey gave to him, even though we were dry for the 10 days in the city. 6 PL

Community Relations

My first impression of Maghera was that the people in the town were unfriendly. However, after I had been there a few days we found them quite the opposite. They made us very welcome indeed.

The shopkeepers were very helpful and the community on the whole couldn't do enough for us, except for the odd few (on both sides I might add). A good example of this was one of the local butchers, who brought us fresh meat every day, and every time we offered to pay him I think we insulted him. A lot of the local women baked us cakes and buns; they were very welcome indeed. The paper girl left a paper for us every day as though it was the natural thing to do.

I must say that nobody can tell me that "Cath" and "Prod" can't live together because if they do I suggest that they take a trip to Maghera and take a walk round the town. The people in this town—and I think I speak for the majority—are completely behind the Army and, like every innocent person, all they want is to see an end to this bloody and messy war.

A soldier once said to me, "Do you know, the last person to die in Ulster has not yet been born".

Pte Dunne

CORUNNA COMPANY

The Beleagured City of Londonderry

In line with the new style which THE IRON DUKE is adopting, this article is designed to make readers who are not perhaps fully up to date with the Battalion's latest activities more aware of some of the social problems that soldiers come up against in Derry.

There is a stigma attached to the city of Derry which gives it a reputation that is hard to understand until one has seen the city itself. Having tasted the general atmosphere of tension, of resignation to the presence of Army patrols and checkpoints everywhere, one is beginning to appreciate why Derry is somewhat of an exceptional city, even in the beleagured province of Northern Ireland.

In travelling around what is essentially a beautifully situated city one thinks immediately of how such a comparatively small urban area with a population of only 55,000 can, in fact, foster such a level of terrorism as it has done in recent years.

After having seen the amount of bomb damage in the city centre, the dirt and sleaziness in the troubled areas of the Bogside and Creggan, one is now more fully aware of what the people of Derry have been going through since this latest campaign of terrorism started. Leaving aside the political and, indeed, sociological background to the present troubles, one can still sense the feeling of despondency and unhappiness. One notices the large numbers of males on the streets during the daytime, which highlights the unemployment problem—10 per cent of the male population of Derry is unemployed and of these the majority live on the west of the River Foyle.

In the afternoon and evenings one notices the lack of people going to cinemas, theatres, discos and

the like. There are none to go to because, of the few that there were in the first place, most have been bombed or burnt down.

With 44% of the population under the age of 19 years one would expect to see large numbers of children playing on swings and merry-go-rounds until one wonders where the recreational areas are. There are more being built now but the space available for suitable playgrounds is limited and it means that for many of the younger children they are too far away. The result of this is that most kids are seen to be playing in the streets, where the variety of things to do is very much lacking. Herein lies the root of many problems as far as the Army's patrolling is concerned.

From a very early age children accept throwing stones, bottles and the like as a form of recreational activity. With the general atmosphere of hatred of the Army in the trouble spots as a background, what better target for their stones than Army patrols and vehicles? They may not realise the implications of their actions when they are very young but it is at a very tender age that they change from throwing missiles for amusement to throwing missiles for a purpose.

With few parents able or willing to do much about their children's activities at this early age the children soon become very independant of their parents and consequently respect for normal family or parental control is distinctly lacking. Having been able to get away with so much at home, many children become far too much for junior school teachers to handle.

So we now come to the point of realising that, with such a lack of discipline in their home life, at school and on the streets, due to the complete absence of policemen, the younger generation are very, very open to becoming anti-social. The tendency to move around in groups is a natural one; also natural is the tendency to commit far more serious misdeeds when in a crowd or group. It is recognised that the girls and young women are every bit as bad, if not worse, than the boys, because, though both are totally unreasonable, the girls have the nasty habit of becoming hysterical as well.

Recently, during a relatively quiet period of hard-core IRA style activities, Army patrols have been the victims of a very nasty form of propaganda warfare. Youngsters of both sexes are being encouraged to pester patrols in such a provocative way as to invoke a harsh reaction from the soldiers; this reaction can then be used if a soldier is provoked to such an extent as to lose his temper completely and then commit an indiscretion. This provocation takes various forms, ranging from spitting and swearing viciously at soldiers to actual physical contact and crowding. With so many guilty, many of them very young, how can a soldier single out any individual for arresting? In effecting an arrest such a hiatus is caused that one is left wondering what purpose arresting any particular individual will serve, anyway. Just how much can one expect a soldier to take from young hooligans between the age of 6 and 15 years when his hands are so tied by the "softly, softly" approach?

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People sometimes talk of the Creggan and Bogside areas of the city as being ghetto areas. This is not strictly true as the actual standard of the housing on the whole is better than that in the worst areas of almost any town in Great Britain. The whole of the Creggan estate is new and there are a large number of new flats in the Bogside. It is the people in these areas who are turning them into slums because of the appallingly low standards of cleanliness that they maintain. The level of destruction of good property is staggering and, of course, most houses are very overcrowded.

"West of the Foyle" is used as a convenient geographical term, but it is also particularly noteworthy because on the west of the Foyle lie the hard Republican areas; areas which almost totally associate themselves with Donegal and Eire. The people in this area think anything east of the Foyle is a foreign country instead of recognising it as their own.

These areas also have a long record of street protests, marches and rallies. They will use anything as an excuse to have a meeting or a march and, of course, as we all know, these more often than not lead to disorder with the unruly element of the crowd taking over.

Seeing the appalling conditions in the houses in these areas and the very low standard of living that most people have to put up with, one cannot help sympathising with many of the complaints and requests that are put forward by people from those depressed areas. The youth of today become the adults of tomorrow, but against this form of social

background one is left with little alternative but to look to the future with a great deal of pessimism and trepidation.

K.B.

SOMME COMPANY

The Brandywell

1 DWR has had during the past two or three months the responsibility of controlling the Brandywell in the City of Londonderry. Each company in rotation stays there for 10-12 days, a contrast to the task and tenure in the county. Our task there is markedly different to the original deployment in that area earlier in the year, when at least three weeks was the norm. The ability to patrol has improved because of a reduction in the Company's responsibility, making three platoons available where before two had to suffice.

Geographically the Brandywell is of considerable significance in relation to the rest of Londonderry. It forms the southern end of the city on the west bank of the River Foyle. The Foyle runs south to north. The area has natural and man-made boundaries which make it compact and easy to define. The eastern boundary is the river, and the Foyle Road running parallel to the river. The western boundary is the Lonemoor Road, again running south to north, which skirts a large cemetery on the side of a hill. On top of the hill is the notorious Creggan Estate. The cemetery is an ideal spot from which to look into the Brandywell. There are two other south to north roads which neatly subdivide the area, namely the Lecky Road, and Bishop Street Without. The Lecky and Lonemoor Roads make an area between them known as the "Old Brandywell". The Bishop Street Without runs along a ridge of high ground into the city. The ridge overlooks the Old Brandywell, and also dominates the ground falling away to the river. The four roads virtually meet at the southern end giving a triangular appearance to the area, and the northern boundary is the Bogside and city centre areas.

From the control point of view, the high ground in and outside of the Brandywell, and the four main routes into the city dominate the area. To have those roads blocked, and no presence on the high ground whilst in the Old Brandywell risks losing the initiative to the opposition. The Brandywell is ideal for the IRA to launch anti-SF attacks within that area or to provide a base for attacks on the commercial part of the city. The proximity of the Bogside, which is equally near the city centre, and the good communications with the Creggan all make it ideal for the IRA to try and use as an area of operations or a base. To this end they are helped by the houses of the Brandywell itself. Although new housing is slowly progressing, the area is largely covered by old-style terraced houses, a number in a pretty parlous state. Many are derelict, either from natural processes or, more often than not, the result of explosions or fire. All of the houses abound with skylights, nooks and crannies, and are surrounded by narrow streets. Alleyways behind the houses link into a profusion of communications, most suitable for snipers, blast-bombers and "cowboys" to

operate in. Large patches of open ground, and the high ground in and outside of the area, give opportunities for longer range shooting which adds to the problem.

It is perhaps hardly surprising that it has a population of strong Republican sympathies, and during the troubles has a history of ambushes, shootings, and explosions. In the past and present the IRA have had at least strong passive support from the younger element of the population. Both the proximity of the Creggan and Bogside and the support of the populace aid terrorist movements despite VCPs and PCPs. The Brandywell is an area where the movement in and out, the production and storage of explosives, arms caches, and ammunition stand a good chance of remaining undetected before use, despite SF attempts to locate them. Young children, youths, belligerent females, with four years activity under their belts, inured to poor conditions, with their Republican upbringing, aid and abet their mentors by "aggro" and barricading when so ordered. This activity is designed to hamper the SF, cover the movement of personnel and munitions, or to lure the SF into an ambush.

To combat this fairly extensive problem, The Duke's have had to employ the "classic" tactics of dominating the high ground, and patrolling in strength. It must be stressed that compared with our predecessors in the area, we have had much less problem with manpower. The use of OPs on the high ground is mainly for the most difficult area—the Old Brandywell. The OPs are capable of viewing and covering all the patrols and also are strong enough to look after themselves if need be. This takes the best part of a platoon, and leaves perhaps a small section which can be deployed immediately in vehicles as and when necessary. The Patrols Platoon divides itself into a mobile patrol and three foot patrols. Since the area is reasonably small, these patrols, including the mobile, are in close proximity to each other, and are capable of instant reaction to attack. This means an ability to saturate one area at a time which would make it hazardous for a gunman to attempt a shot and disappear. "Hard" patrolling so far has produced dividends in this respect, lowering both the effectiveness of any attack and its likelihood. It is, of course, not a total guarantee of thwarting would-be attackers. The system described above applies also to searching areas and derelict houses, particularly when used in conjunction with a search dog and/or an Ammunition Technical officer. Naturally the rest of the Brandywell does not get this treatment all the time, but as a principle it is used when OPs overlook the area.

Intelligence in such an area is always at a premium. However, patrols are briefed thoroughly before going out, and are given a specific aim, and then are thoroughly debriefed on their return. In consequence, the "grass roots" work done by the Platoons provides valuable snippets of information which are carefully sifted at all levels and help to provide information which can be worked on. Various snippets from outside the area are also fed in, helping to produce the best possible picture for all to work on; but information is scanty. Having said this, it is a fact that a considerable amount of arms, ammunition and explosives have been found.

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These have been the result of information, hunches, luck, and, in a lot of cases, good observation, persistence, and a good search dog and handler. The key, perhaps, to success is that the area is small, patrolling is heavy and continuous and this has paid dividends.

Another interesting aspect of the tour in Brandywell is the BCA which stands for the Bogside Community Association. These people act as a link between the populace of the Brandywell, Bogside and the security forces. It can be a useful organisation when it decides to help the SF by clearing barricades, etc., but for the most part its members walk a tightrope which depends very much on what pressure is exerted on them locally. Since it is a step in the right direction, one is duty bound to pay heed to them, and an uneasy relationship is the result.

From the soldiers' point of view, the Brandywell is a challenge after the relatively slower pace of the county. To be alert at all times during patrols which occupy about 20 hours out of 24 is quite some feat over 10 to 12 days, and requires the utmost concentration when getting progressively more tired. There is no doubt that the soldiers are doing a great job, under difficult circumstances. They require the work-rate of a horse, the patience of Job, and a sense of humour which is severely taxed from the moment of entering the Brandywell till their departure. Suffice to say that in all aspects referred to, the soldiers so far have succeeded, and will continue to do so.

I.P.R.

A FIND IN THE BRANDYWELL

During Somme Company's tour in the Brandywell (August 15-26) the highlight was the picking up of arms, ammunition and munitions. Such an occasion was on the morning of August 23. The original plan was to search derelict houses in Brandywell Avenue, Deanery Street and Donegal Place. This was to be a routine search employing a dog and handler, and with an ATO standing by in the New Bridge location.

The deployment of troops following the normal form. A platoon to provide OPs on high ground to cover the search and a local protection platoon. This platoon was divided between a double mobile and two foot patrols, which provided protection from any would-be gunmen in the area of operations. Movement into position began before first light and patrolling of the area was in process by 0530 hrs. At 0545 hrs the search began in the Brandywell Avenue derelicts. Entry by the front in that street was impossible, and so the search group climbed over a fence into an alleyway which ran behind the backyards. One part of the alleyway wider than the rest contained two taxis.

The dog and handler had a negative response in the first three derelicts and were moving to the fourth when Bdr. Lewis, the Regimental Int Corporal attached from 47 Light Regiment, RA, looked into one of the taxis parked in the alleyway. On lifting the back seat he found a Japanese Armalite with a folding butt and a magazine on. In his excitement he let out a whoop of delight, which must have awakened half the Brandywell. The weapon had been lightly oiled and was most definitely ready for use. ATO was tasked to the area to pull the weapon out of the taxi and to investigate further into both vehicles. In the middle of ATO's work a message from one of the OPs requested ATO's assistance concerning a hole in the track leading into one of the OP's position, which could be seen now the light was better. ATO went to the OP to investigate once the taxis had been cleared.

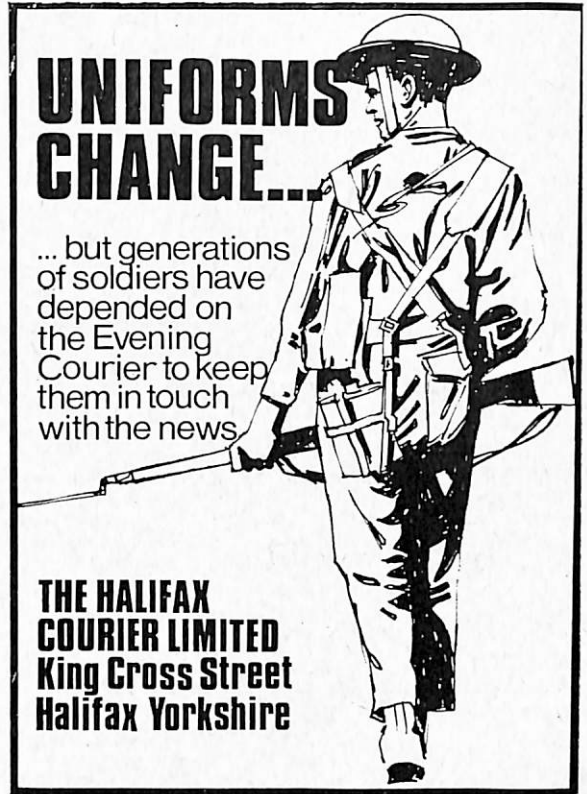
At the same time the search group moved to the junction of Lecky Road and Brandywell Avenue and attempted to enter the premises of the Handy Cab taxi firm, to whom the taxis belonged. They were, in effect, parked behind the firm's building in the alleyway. Entry was obtained through the main large window at the front, which had the glass missing and was covered in polythene sheeting. A quick search of the actual premises of the taxi firm revealed nothing, but a door bolted and locked from the firm's premises was considered to be a little odd as it led into 1 Brandywell Avenue, which was thought to be unoccupied. The door was opened easily enough and the search team entered the house.

It was not long before "finds" were coming out thick and fast; types of ammunition and bomb-making equipment and one or two other items which were of interest. The latter included a piece of combat clothing reputedly taken from the body of a soldier who had been blown up in a booby-trapped house a few doors along. ATO, who had finished his task at the OP, returned to verify the safety of the bomb-making equipment with regard

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to booby trapping and the amount was totalled up and passed back by radio to the New Bridge location. An immediate hot pursuit was mounted when one of the BCA members, who had arrived at the scene, grudgingly gave the addresses of two of the so-called drivers of the firm. The two men were politely asked to accompany the SF to RUC Victoria for questioning, which they did.

By this time, 0745 hrs, a lot of people were up and about and it was considered that little was to be gained from carrying on in the area, and all troops withdrew. At 0900 hrs a quick search was made of the two other premises on the Lecky Road, one of them being a grocer's shop, owned by the Handy Cab taxi firm owner. However, there was nothing more to be found. The original search of the rest of the derelict buildings in the area was discontinued after the find of the Armalite.

So a routine search turned into a most interesting and valuable find, which was a combination of good fortune and inquisitiveness. The local population, although not openly hostile to the finds, were very irritated, as could be judged from remarks like "We'll get the informers", etc. One final comment on the morning's proceedings was the result of ATO investigation of the OP. His assessment was that a 10-15lb charge had gone up during the night and he had brought back the remains of a trembler mat device burnt by the explosion. This had obviously been laid early on the preceding evening as an explosion had been heard from the area, but when no troops were about. How the device was detonated is not certain, but the message was clear that SF on

that particular OP were to find the device in unpleasant circumstances, and luckily for us it was prematurely detonated. Equally it was clear for further OP groups that careful movement and clearance of the route was essential when moving into OP areas.

List of items found: 1 Armalite, 1 magazine with 5 rounds, 1 9mm magazine, 33 .45 rounds, 15 Armalite rounds, 1 M1 carbine round, 73 Garand rounds, 1 bell switch, assorted bomb-making kit.

HOOK COMPANY

The Regimental Band

We had no sooner arrived in Ulster when it was time to pack all the kit again and return to England for a summer band tour. The tour had been arranged during the latter part of 1972 due to the numerous requests received following an extensive advertising campaign which was designed specifically to earn some money for the Band Fund, not to mention the bandmen.

On May 9 we eventually managed to coax the bandmen into giving up their duties, and so boarded ship for Liverpool. Our base during the four-month tour was to be the Depot, The King's Division at Strensall, and from there we would move about on engagements visiting such interesting places as far apart as Colchester and Glasgow.

The first engagement was a pass-out parade at the Depot on May 18, followed by a band concert at Frodsham, Cheshire, on the 20th. We were invited by R & LS (Yorkshire) to attend the Tri-Service Display at Pocklington School on May 24. This event took the form of a marching display by the massed bands of: The Royal Artillery (Woolwich) Staff Band, The Royal Tank Regiment (Rhine) Staff Band, and the Regimental Band of the 1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding). During the last week in May, we visited Scarborough and Lichfield to take part in the Gala festivities.

The dance band played at the Town Hall, Spensborough, on June 1, and the military band played at a dinner night for the Yorkshire Volunteers in York on the following evening. We had the good fortune of being able to play concerts in schools in the Halifax and Huddersfield area on June 7, 8 and 9. On June 20, the band again visited Scarborough, this time to play for the procession which highlighted the Eurofair festivities. It was on this occasion that we met up with Charlie Williams (me 'ole flower). Bds. Barnes (one of our Colonial gentlemen) beamed a smile delightfully when Charlie patted him on the shoulder, and said, "Hello cousin, 'ow they treatin' yer then?" Charlie turned out to be the life and soul of the procession, running up and down, stopping and starting the various floats with one quip or another. We ended June with a concert at Harrogate and a trip to the Isle of Man, the latter being initiated by the Lions Club of Preston. We provided concert music on the ship during the outward and return journeys. One or two of the bandmen, along with

many of the passengers, had not got their sea-legs, and so had to fight off the bouts of sickness which ensued.

July provided a mixed bag of engagements, with the band repeating some of the previous year's concerts. These consisted of two performances at Butlin's, Filey, and one at Leeds Town Hall. We also attended Goole gala, another old favourite of ours. Sheffield is not normally within our territory, but during July we travelled there on no less than four occasions in order to provide concerts and marching displays in several schools. Recruiting was the main object and a team from The Household Cavalry and the Hussars followed us around from school to school. We expect they may have gained some recruits.

The Colchester Tattoo brought back memories to us when we attended at the end of July. The last time we played on this Tattoo was in 1961 during the Battalion's posting there. It was quite a pleasure to see again some of the old faces, one in particular, Edie, who used to serve the Battalion in the NAAFI at Meane Barracks. The Tattoo itself has grown considerably to what it used to be, in so much as 15 bands now take part instead of the original five.

As soon as the Tattoo finished, we had to make a quick move back to Strensall for one night's stay and then travel up to Scotland to assist the Scottish Division in a KAPE. We visited Ayr, Greenock, and Glasgow during the period August 6-17. It was a very successful tour from our point of view. We finished the Glasgow tour on a lighter note, four instruments light, in fact. It certainly dispels any belief that the Scots only play the bagpipes. We rounded off August with a concert at Lytham St. Annes, and a recruiting visit to Leeds for the Leeds gala.

Our tour had now just about ended and we had but two more engagements to perform. On September 1, we attended the Keighley Show giving a concert and marching display. Finally, we had the honour of performing for the Reunion Parade of The Green Howards at Strensall which took place on September 2. Since then, we have managed to fit in our leave and are now back in Ulster. At this point, we would like to thank all concerned at the Depot, Strensall, for the way we were received and treated.

We have seen quite a number of people come and go during the last few months. First of all, we lost Bds. Willson and Nesbitt who both decided to have a go at civilian life. We wish them both every good wish for the future. We also said farewell to Major Miller, our Band President, who for quite some time had managed our accounts. Major Pugh, our Company Commander left the Battalion while we were in England. We say a big thank you to them both for all their efforts. Finally, we said farewell to Bds. Taylor, Nicholson, and Dunning who left us to attend the Pupils' Course at Kneller Hall. We hope they will work hard.

We welcome back from Kneller Hall, Bds. Irving, Kirby, Edwards and Wedgwood.

Congratulations are extended to Bds. Taylor, Barnes, and Fairclough, who recently took brides (not bribes).

CLUBS & SPORTS

DUKE'S TRAMPOLENE TEAM YORKSHIRE AND NORTH MIDLANDS DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIP LEEDS, APRIL 1, 1973—GRADE C, MEN'S

The Duke's team, consisting of Cpl. J. Hogg, L/Cpl. M. Boguszewski, Pte. B. Beck and Bds. P. Fairclough, left for Leeds on a dull Tuesday evening, arriving at the Playhouse at 1000 hrs. the next morning and, to our amazement no trampolines. After getting in contact with the organizer, we trained with the Leeds University team, every day and night without having a drink (would you believe?). We trained the last night before the competition in the Playhouse, then decided to go to bed early before the big day.

On arrival at the Playhouse on Sunday morning at 1000 hrs., we found all nine trampolines being used with about 200 performers warming up for the competitions.

Cpl. John Hogg met his old coach, Randal Bevan, who was glad to see John still bouncing. It was Randal who trained the Junior Soldiers wing at Strensall in 1967 when John won the Army Junior Championships.

At 10.30 hrs. the team handed in their voluntary routines and the competition started. By mid-day everyone had completed the compulsory set routine, with the Duke's team holding 1st, 2nd and 3rd places. Then started the voluntary routines. John Hogg and Brian Beck performed good routines and both scored well into the nines, with both smiling at each other wondering who had won. Mick Boguszewski got into a little bit of trouble half-way through his routine, but managed to finish it all, even though he ended up on his hands and knees. Paddy Fairclough performed a good routine, comparing it with the very short time he had been bouncing.

The final placings were:

<i>Teams</i>	<i>Dukes individual placings</i>
1 DWR—1st	Cpl. Hogg, J—1st
Scarborough—2nd	Pte. Beck, B.—2nd
Leeds University—3rd	L/Cpl. Boguszewski—

9th

Bds. Fairclough—12th

To put an end to it all we flew back, which was very exciting for young Brian Beck, for the nearest he had been to flying was on the trampoline.

The team are now training for their next competition. At the beginning of August they were trained for a couple of days by SSI Ions, APTC, Army Senior Champion 1966 and ex-British Tumbling Team. Then at the end of August they had a week in the New University of Ulster (Coleraine) with two advanced coaches from Durham training on their routines for the Army Championships which are being held in Aldershot on November 24 and 25, 1973.

We welcome a new member in L/Cpl. Sugden; his bouncing ability isn't great, but his eating and joke-telling make up for it.

Trampolining, so far, is becoming very popular in the Battalion. Cpl. Wragg, "C" Company, is now



L/Cpl. Roguszewski demonstrates the double-back somersault.

doing quite a well-performed back somersault, just to get the better of Cpl. Holmes. Pte. Bray, "C" Company, bruised a few toes in March while having a bash at the back somersault. Major Stacpoole passed by one day, while we were practising, so we talked him into putting on the safety harness and doing a back and front somersault.

On the Wives Club side, Babs Northend and Patricia Barlow, with a few more weeks practice, will be able to pass the bronze.

L/Cpl. Boguszewski

FOOTBALL

Football this season managed to get off to a flying start in the Battalion. Knockout competitions were organised, an inter-rifle company competition and an inter-department competition within Hook and Waterloo Companies. Rather than attempting to run long drawn out competitions under the present circumstances, it was decided that to select potential Battalion players quick competitions should be held and draws were made for the two competitions. The draws for the rifle companies were as follows: Burma v. Somme and Corunna v. Alma.

These two games were played and the victors were Burma Company with a score of 7-5 over Somme Company, and Corunna Company in a no-holds barred match beat Alma Company 10-2. Burma and Corunna met in the final; Corunna Company were the winners in a very professional game, scoring 7-3 over their opponents after being three goals down. The Commanding Officer pre-

sented a cup and medals to the winning team.

For the inter-department competition the MT Platoon played the remainder of Hook Company, Hook Company being the winners with a score of 9 to the MT's nil. The Recce Platoon came out the losers against the remainder of Waterloo Company and the final was arranged between Hook and Waterloo. This was an excellent match and both teams played an extremely hard game. However, after extra time Waterloo Company emerged the winners with a score of 5-2. The Commanding Officer presented a cup and medals to the winning team.

After the knockout matches had been played a Battalion football squad was selected and football training started under the very competent Sgt. Cross, APTC. Sgt. Cross is a member of the Battalion team and he has arranged vigorous training for the squad. The Battalion has entered the Army Challenge Cup and the Northern Ireland Major Units League. We are also entering the Infantry Football Challenge Cup Competition; games for this latter competition are not due to start until January 1974.

We have already played a number of matches in the Northern Ireland Major Units League and the results have been very favourable. However, we unfortunately lost in a replay of the first round of the Army Challenge Cup by 1-0 against 1 DERR after drawing 2-2 in the first match.

The Battalion football squad at the time of going to press are as follows:

Sgt. Cook (Burma), Sgt. Cross (APTC) (Waterloo), Sgt. Garrick (REME) (Waterloo), Cpl. Walker (Band), Cpl. Bell (Recce), Cpl. Peat (Burma), Cpl. Fairclough (RAPC) (Hook), L/Cpl. Jagger (Hook), L/Cpl. Taylor (Alma), L/Cpl. Solit (Band), Pte. O'Garra (Corunna), Pte. Denton (Corunna), Pte. Irvin (Band), Pte. Furness (Waterloo), Pte. Walker (Corunna), Pte. Lightfoot (Corunna), Pte. Woods ward (Alma), Pte. Morson (Burma), Pte. Adam-(Somme), L/Cpl. Washington (Hook).

DUKES SUB-AQUA CLUB

Perhaps the best-kept secret at the moment is that there is a Battalion sub-aqua club, which is alive, thriving, and well. It started as being a way of passing a few hours each week, and has now developed into a club of some 36 members.

We started the course with some surface tests, to sort the men from the boys, and managed to get everyone through. We proved to people the difference between being fit, and being "water fit". By some pretty exhaustive training, and our most progressive student turned out to be Mrs. Heath, who hasn't missed a class.

We are fortunate in having the full co-operation of 4 Field Sqdn RE, who very kindly put all their diving equipment at our disposal. We, in return, introduced some of their men to the basics of diving, and the whole arrangement works fine.

Our first open water dive was arranged with the help of the Coleraine University, who have all the local waters charted, and are familiar with the tides and races. The party was five strong, headed by Major Stevens and Mr. Raynor from the Engineers. CSMs Stansfield and Hodgkinson made

up the other pair and last, but not least, Sgt. Garrick came along as chief photographer, and our surface cover.

We arrived at Portrush Harbour, and set about getting dressed, all of us using the one-piece diving suit for the first time.

Trying to climb into a one-piece suit through the neckband has got its lighter moments, as Lt. Rayner will testify. He managed to rip the suit, with the aid of CSM Stansfield, and had to resort to a 'cold dive' with no suit for protection.

Finally, the complete party managed to enter the water and wade out until we had enough depth of water in which to make our final checks. At this stage, Major Stevens and CSM Hodgkinson were floating like balloons on the surface, Major Stevens through insufficient weight (he was only carrying 25lb of lead), and CSM Hodgkinson because he'd failed to let the air out of his suit. Problems corrected, and we dived to 20ft. at this depth, the water is very clear and warm and all is silent. Silent that is, except for that reassuring sound of bubbles as the used air escapes to the surface.

Virtually all colour had gone by the time we reached 35ft, yet visibility is very good. A few minor problems with water in the air tubes, but everyone copes, and we continue, scouring the sea-wall. Our two companions from the university are bagging lobsters and crabs at an alarming rate with a method called "old nosey".

First you locate the lobster, usually hiding in a hole, and then approach him head on. You then quite literally pull faces at him, and "thumb your nose". The movement, and your strange antics, attract the lobster, who is curious by nature. He comes further out of his hole, and as he does so, you run him through with a small fencing sword. Csm Hodgkinson tried the method, and succeeded in catching the claw, but the lobster itself got away (perhaps he'll get him next week).

We moved further along the sea-bed, and touched bottom at 38ft. Here there were whole colonies of crabs, some of them quite large.

We caught one crab just to try his meat, and there can be great excitement chasing these creatures around the weed beds.

Finally, shortage of air brought us to the surface to count the spoils. We caught nine lobsters and one crab, which were duly boiled and eaten. The evening ended, with a pint in a bar, and a detailed plan of our next dive. This will be on the wreck of a battleship, sunk during World War I.

Finally, our thanks to 4 Field Sqdn. RE for the loan of their kit, Mac and Geoff, from the university for their kind assistance in arranging the dive, and L/Cpl. Kay (ACC) for cooking all that we found.

BUSTER CRABB

THE WAY OUT CLUB (1 DWR)

For the first time in the history of The Duke's we can at last say a big hello from all the children of the Regiment to the many people who read THE IRON DUKE.

The club was opened in May 1973 and is situated in Shackleton Barracks, Ballykelly. It is open to all the children of soldiers serving in the area. The club is open on four nights a week, senior nights are

Monday and Friday. This is for 11 to 17-year-old boys and girls. Monday is a general games and knockout night. Friday is a case of having ear plugs and dancing shoes, because this is "Disco Night", when the boys meet the girls and music is great. The juniors have Tuesday and Thursday nights in which they enjoy themselves.

Apart from normal club life, there are also a lot of animals at the club. There are chickens, hens, geese, pheasant and Donald the Duck. Taking priority, we must not forget, of course, our club mascot (Duke) a six-month-old nanny-goat, who is a great favourite with all the children. We must not forget Mr. Addy, who is doing a great job looking after the animals and training the racing pigeons.

We have also started our own pop group and hope to have a lot of success in the future. We had a Miss Way Out competition which was won by Donna Skipworth. Major Campbell-Lamerton crowned the Queen. The youth club also took part in "It's a Knockout", which was a great success and was enjoyed by all the children. The winners got presented with little shields.

Before I finish I would like to thank the following people for all their help in running our club:

Sgt. and Mrs. Lofthouse, Sgt. and Mrs. Blenkinsop, Sgt. and Mrs. Waller, Pte. Addy and also my Mum and Dad.

So please, boys and girls, if you want a good night out, do come to the Way Out Club. The more the merrier.

GARY MARTIN (14 years)

THE WIVES CLUB

The Wives Club in Ballykelly has been very active since we have been here. In fact, one of our members likened life in Ballykelly to that of a holiday camp!

We still hold the usual evening meetings once a month, which are well supported, and since we have been here we have had many and varied entertainments. We commenced with a film on making pottery in Ulster, there was also a chance to buy pottery. Ann Bray and other wives from "C" Company were rushed off their feet with sales. This proved so popular that we decided to sell Ulster ceramics in our thrift shop. This was followed by a flower arranging demonstration which, as usual, was very popular. In May, it was the turn of Hook Company, and we were shown how to cure our own sheepskin rug. In June we had a midsummer night's dinner. This was held in the Sergeants Mess, as local hotels are out of the question. This was beautifully done and the lovely silver was much admired by all, we had not expected to have the silver or so many waiters and it was an evening that will not be forgotten for a long time. Our grateful thanks to the RSM and members of the Sergeants Mess.

In July, the turn of "B" Company, we had a talk on the weaving of Donegal tweeds, there was also an opportunity to buy tweeds, tam-o-shanters and other goodies. We await the cooler weather to see the tam-o-shanters being worn! In August we had a demonstration on stone polishing and making jewellery and once more the wives were able to "buy". Readers will have guessed by now that we like spending money and that the local shopping is extremely poor. In September we had a splash night, Mrs. Reid and Mrs. Cross, on behalf of Somme Company, worked extremely hard, and carried on a Hong Kong tradition of chicken and chips round the pool. (For those who may not know, the pool is indoors and heated.)

We have many activities during the week, in fact there is something on each day. There is the sauna bath, keep fit, go-karting, swimming, sewing,



Visit of Adjutant-General to White Rose Club.
Mrs. Attiwell, Gen. Blacker,
Mrs. Harding, Mrs. Baker.

shooting, bingo, and a weekly families disco in the White Rose Club not forgetting the German and typewriting classes. In fact, the only thing that we really do not have out here are the Butlin "red coats".

We have visited various factories in the area, the Bushmills whisky samples were very popular! We have also been to Government House; reading these notes the reader may wonder when we ever do our housework!

It was decided to hold a Food Tombola in June, to raise funds for a local school for handicapped children. One hundred wives cooked superb-looking dishes, consisting of "starters" "main courses" and "puddings". We also had a gift of salmon from the Officers Mess, ham from the Sergeants Mess and turkey from the Corporals Mess, plus gifts from the local butcher, NAAFI and a supermarket. The Food Tombola was a series of mini raffles, and Mrs. David Mostyn, the Brigade Commander's wife, very kindly drew the tickets. We were able to raise £113 for the handicapped children. We sent out 850 invitations—grateful thanks to those who helped to address the cards—and it is thought that about 450 attended the morning. (We gave free coffee and 450 paper cups were used!) Apart from giving the money to the school we were able to meet a lot of the local Irish wives and show the hand of friendship which, we now hear, was much appreciated.

The thrift shop thrives selling Ulster ceramics and factory rejects. Our best bargain being pyjamas at 40p a pair, rejected by a well-known chain store, and we cannot find the fault! We also sell shirts, towelling robes, Irish linen tea towels, tea cosies, etc. plus the usual second-hand clothes. No item, new or old, over £2. We have been able to give SSAFA £40, Forces Aid £10, Cancer Research £10, and £10 to the appeal made by the Variety Club of Great Britain.

The writer of these notes has no time to write more as the next activity calls!

IT'S A KNOCKOUT COMPETITION

To help give a focal point of the children's summer holiday, an inter-company "Its a knockout competition" was organised for soldiers, wives and children.

The actual events were as follows:

a. The Water Race. Teams of five carrying water in groundsheets, through and over a series of obstacles.

b. The See-Saw event. Teams of four; two members on the see-saw, the other two throwing balls to their partners on the see-saw, who try and throw the balls through a hoop.

c. Water Tank event. Teams of six, who have five minutes to carry as many large boxes over the water tank, on a narrow plank, as they can. Opposition party throwing footballs, trying to knock the contestants into the water.

d. Trampoline event. Teams of two, one throws balls to the other on the trampoline, who tries to get the balls through a small hoop 12ft. high.

e. Tarpaulin race. Teams of six, whole team on a tarpaulin who try to race one another along 40 yards, without getting off the tarpaulin.

f. Go-kart race. Teams of six, who race against

the clock, each competitor doing three evil obstacles during his or her turn.

The competition was a great success and was enjoyed by contestants and spectators alike. Over 200 turned up.

The results were:

a. Water race	Hook Company
b. See-saw event	Hook Company
c. Water tank event	Burma Company
d. Trampoline event	Hook Company
e. Tarpaulin event	Hook Coy
f. Go-kart event	Hook Company

FISHING NOTES

I have been asked to produce a few notes on the latest battalion sport—sea fishing.

This, we have found, is one of the relaxing things to happen to the people who have taken advantage of the trips.

There have been a few notable catches, the 40lb. tope of Cpl. Gill's, 35lb. tope, Sgt. Lyons, 6½lb. haddock, Sgt. Jackson's 6lb thornback ray, WO2 Wilson, being just a few; of, I almost forgot, Major Pugh's excitement when he hooked his first lineful of 2 to 3lb pollack, a great sight.

Feeling that we were becoming reasonably proficient, we entered a team of four in the Causeway Coast International Sea Angling Festival to try our skill/luck against the experts. Due to various battalion commitments we were restricted in our choice of fisherman, but came up with the team of WO2 Wilson, Sgt. Jackson, Cpl. Laherty and L/Cpl. Todd. This was a most enjoyable two days with a not very large, but I think creditable, result. Sgt. Jackson came second in the class for whiting with a 2½lb beauty, just missing specimen size. Cpl. Laherty and WO2 Wilson both produced specimen "Cuckoo Wrasse", Cpl. Laherty just missing the Northern Ireland record.

Perhaps a final word on the *Violet*, a 65ft, ex-naval tender and her cheerful, ever-helpful skipper Len Forbes, wouldn't be out of place. He and his crew take us out, help with tackle and advice and generally make the outings a success. All we need now is the anglers of Alma and Corunna to test the delights and we will have a virtual full house of company "splodgers".

WO2 L. WILSON

FISHING (SOMME COMPANY)

With very few days one can call one's own, a number of opportunities have occurred when a party of soldiers have managed to participate in sea fishing trips. Normally this is done on a Company basis, and the applicants are many and places few, which has resulted in several having to be turned away.

Somme Company, with Sgt. Dickens, Cpl. Cooper and Cpl. Parkinson much to the fore, have found the trips a particularly pleasant pastime. The party join the boat at Coleraine, and head for the Donegal coast or the Causeway Bank. Usually, the group is well stocked with beer which has the more unwary ones in a state of nausea soon after leaving the harbour!

The one great factor about the sport is that even a beginner can catch something. The sea abounds

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with cod, tope, mackerel, whiting, etc., and hauls ate unusually good in variety and quite large in number. Nothing pleases the individual more than success, and so far this sort of outing has produced considerable satisfaction. Quite a number are so taken by it that they have bought their own tackle, namely Cpls. Clarke and Cooper, and Ptes. Nendick and Houfe.

Ptes. Atkinson and Chadderton claimed that they were old hands at this game, but were noticeable by their absence in the boat during the trip, and it was commented in passing that they both had had a *Kit check!!* They arrived back on "terra firma" sadder but wiser men.

Taken all in all, fishing trips are very popular indeed, and the next stage must obviously be an inter-Company fishing contest at which Somme Company fancy their chances. It sounds an excellent idea, and one which may result in a future report in the next IRON DUKE. One last point for all prospective fishermen from the Company! The CSM insists that success is the criterion for any future trips, and that so far the standard has fallen little below what he expects. Even a 15lb cod can't last him a whole month.

MT FISHING TRIP

Ringed with the sound of joyous revelation and a multitude of "hallelujas" a heavenly host descended upon the MT yard when it was announced that a day off for fishing had been decreed.

All preparations for the trip were carried out with meticulous scrutiny, once again proving that amphibious exercises come in handy at one time or another. Excellent food was prepared by the cook-house, the boat was laid on, a crate of beer per man. Someone even mentioned fishing rods, which were reluctantly taken along.

It was an early morning start from the MT yard in pouring rain. We arrived at the dockside in Coleraine by 0830 and were loaded up ready to sail by nine o'clock. Cpl. Price, who drove us all down there, stood and waved our departure with tears in his eyes. (Anyone would have thought it was the ill-fated sailing of SS *Titanic*.)

Once under way, the first cans of beer soon started drifting in the wake of the boat, while Sagar and Collins started tackling up for us all, as they were the only semi-pro fishermen the MT can lay claim to.

The trip took about 2½ hr. and then the boat cut engines and started to drift, having sailed past Portstewart, Portrush and Castlerock. We were drifting about two miles off the Giant's Causeway and by that time the weather had brightened considerably.

Fishing commenced, and within three minutes Pte. Waller had the first fish aboard (a mackerel). From then on we just couldn't go wrong. The fish were really biting and everyone was pulling them in, right, left and centre. The beer was completely forgotten, except by Sgt. Pye, who had to drink it or return it.

L/Cpl. Lawrence was pulling them in fast and L/Cpl. Sharpe, his number two on the 7-62 self-loading rod, was bashing them or stabbing them to death just as fast.

Cpl. Hoare, Cpl. Douglas and Cfm. Mulholland were doing great for REME lads who'd never fished before. Although their ability as fitters may sometimes come into question, their natural ability as fishermen will not, having caught the two biggest fish of the day.

Pte. Brear spent the day below decks shouting for someone called "Hughie"; the only thing was, he shouted so much he changed colour three times and we didn't have anyone on board with that name anyway.

After a solid five hours fishing we started for home, weather beaten, arms and legs aching and thoroughly pleased with ourselves, one and all. The return trip was spent gutting all the fish and putting them in plastic bags to show mates, wives, children and other well-known disbelievers, of our great day. The boat was shadowed by about six sharks on the way back to Coleraine and it was about this time that Pte. Barker disappeared, no one seemed to bother about it and he turned up when we docked,

so all was well. If we'd thrown him in the sharks would have thrown him back.

We arrived back at camp about 9 o'clock, absolutely shattered but happy.

Fishing trip facts

1. Largest Fish—Cod (5lb.)—Cpl. Hoare (REME).
2. Second largest—Pollock (4lb.)—Cfmn, Mulholland (REME).
3. Most unusual—50-ton-boat—Sgt. Pye.

Personal points

1. L/Cpl. Sharpe's mental state is in question; nobody, but nobody slashes fish and bashes their heads in when they are already dead.
2. Pte. Smith started out wearing his Blackpool (girl wanted) hat. We were accompanied on the trip by a lovely dolly-bird called Carol, from Birmingham, age 23 years, 36-28-36, enough said.

The King's Division

We welcome the appointment of Brigadier M. H. H. Collins, MBE, late QLR, as Divisional Brigadier The King's Division.

The first half of the year opened, as the last half of 1972 closed, with four of our battalions serving in Northern Ireland. It was only by the narrow gap of one week that we avoided having five battalions in the province at one time, 1st Battalion The Green Howards departing at the end of their emergency tour in late February and 1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment arriving for their residential tour in the first week of March. Since then 1st Battalion The King's Own Royal Border Regiment have moved to Chester to convert to the mechanised role, prior to moving to BAOR in January 1974 and changing places with 1st Battalion The Green Howards. In November next it is the turn of 1st Battalion The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire to move from Northern Ireland; they go to Dover for a brief spell before moving to BAOR.

At Bisley this year we had an encouragingly increased representation from the Division with teams from 1st Battalion The King's Own Royal Border Regiment, 1st Battalion The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire, 2nd Battalion The Royal Irish Rangers, 1st Battalion The Queen's Lancashire Regiment, Depot The King's Division.

While the Divisional team result in the Methuen Cup Match was a disappointing 22nd place, despite the achievement of the second highest team score in this event over the past five years, unit teams secured some remarkable successes. The Colonel Commandant was pleased to send his congratulations to the Depot at Strensall, who won the Minor Units Championship, the Minor Units Section

Match and the Minor Units Rifle Team Match. In addition, the following results are worth a mention:

Three individuals gained a place in the first hundred in the Army Championship: L/Cpl. Woodhouse, King's Own Border (23rd), QMS1 Smith, SASC (Depot The King's Division) (51st) and Cpl. McCoubrey, 2 Royal Irish (75th).

1st Battalion The King's Own Royal Border Regiment gained fourth place out of 19 teams in the Sniper Team Match.

2nd Battalion The Royal Irish Rangers gained first place in the Coronation Team Match.

Depot The King's Division, in addition to the three first places mentioned above, gained third place in the Minor Units Team Snap-shooting and fourth place in the Minor Units SMG Matches.

Not to be outdone, our TAVR units also had a good meeting at Bisley this year, when all entered teams and individuals for the TARA Meeting. North Irish Militia and 1st Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers gained third and sixth places respectively in the China Cup competition, while many individuals scored commendable successes.

During the six months January to June 1973 the downward trend in adult recruiting into the Army as a whole has continued. There is evidence of the efforts of battalions, satisfied soldiers and direct recruiting teams in that the numbers of committed recruits have not fallen to the same degree. Recruiting is only half the story; wastage of trained soldiers is equally important, and here there has been a marked improvement. As a result, despite the poor recruiting figures, our English battalions are all maintaining a fairly healthy position but, unfortunately, our Irish battalions are having a struggle.

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Depot, The King's Division winners Bisley Minor Units. Cpl. Larnder DWR, WOII Smith SASC, Lt. Mantell Green Howards, Cpl. Webb DWR.

Depot, The King's Division

The late summer and autumn have seen a considerable number of changes in the Depot staff. Major Ballinger, King's, has handed over as 2IC to Major Lupton, DWR, and the former has gone to MOD. Major Lupton in turn has handed over command of the Training Wing to Capt. Redwood-Davies from 1 DWR. To complete the moves in Depot HQ Capt. Walsh, King's, took over the post of Adjutant from Capt. Nicholson, who is returning to 1 DWR after taking the staff/promotion examination in early December.

Farewell and thank you for your efforts to Cpls. Wood, Nellist (to civil life), Arundel, Whittaker, Smith and Fielding, L/Cpls. Gallagher (also to civil life) and McQuade, all of whom have left or are leaving shortly. And welcome to Sgts. Brennan and Hewson, Cpls. Anderson, Waterman and Hall and, last but not least, Pte. Hustwick. We hope that you and your families enjoy your time at the Depot. Another recent, though temporary, arrival has been WO2 Ashby, ex-RQMS of 1 DWR, and Major Pugh, DWR, took up his appointment as RRO in October.

A special word of praise is due to the Depot shooting team. Their success at the North-East District Competition was followed by their winning the Minor Units competition at Bisley. The team, which included Cpl. Larnder, DWR, can be seen in the photograph clutching their well-earned hardware. The trophies from left (held by Cpl. Larnder) are: Minor Units Championship, NE District; Section Match, Bisley; Minor Units Championship, Bisley; Section Match, NE District; and Rifle Team Match, Bisley. From their cap badges you can see that it was a truly representative team, ably led by QMSI Smith, SASC. Whilst on the subject of the SASC we must also welcome to the Depot Capt. Brewer, SASC.

Another training team consisting of Cpl. Arundel,

DWR, and L/Cpl. McGaghey, King's, has been instructing a group of children in cycle proficiency. This was a joint venture run for the children of both Service and civilian families in the local area, under the sponsorship of RoSPA. The rain, which all too frequently disrupted the series of instructional periods, in no way dampened the enthusiasm of either pupils or teachers. In this bicycle-conscious region of Yorkshire we hope this was a realistic contribution to the safety of children on the road.

The 1st Battalion Band left us at the beginning of September. We enjoyed having them and hope the feeling was reciprocated. For anyone in 1 DWR who thought they were just on extended leave in Yorkshire, we can assure them that the Band had a very busy time, not, however, so busy as to prevent their many archaeologists from conducting digs all over the football field with golf clubs. The hockey pitch in particular has an especially fine trench system. The bandmen whose golf ball missed the Adjutant by inches as the latter walked home after a long Friday no doubt is especially careful to ensure that the path of the ball is clear.

On Saturday, September 29, a party of 30 "Dukes" from the Depot attended the Old Comrades Association dance held at the Drill Hall in Huddersfield. A good time was enjoyed by all and a lot of old friends were met with. As the end of the year approaches we prepare for such upheavals as the annual mobilisation exercise and the King's Divisional Meeting. Five hundred men from HMS *Ark Royal* are coming to the camp for a few days to take the Freedom of Leeds. We keep promising ourselves that there is a quiet period just round the corner, but it is an extraordinarily long corner.

Finally, all the staff at the Depot from all the regiments of the Division wish IRON DUKE readers a very happy Christmas and hopefully a prosperous New Year.



Kershaw Studios, York

The Earl of Halifax handing the framed Freedom Scroll to 2nd Lt. Gordon Lightbody. The Lord Mayor of York, Alderman Jack Wood, and the Sheriff of York, Councillor Patrick Curran, are also in the picture.

YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS. FREEDOM OF YORK

The Earl of Halifax, Honorary Colonel of the 2nd Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers, received the Freedom of York on behalf of the Yorkshire Volunteers at a public ceremony in York on Sunday, October 21. The occasion was celebrated by a service in York Minster, followed by a parade in the City Centre. HRH The Duchess of Kent, Honorary Colonel of the 1st Battalion, was to have accepted the Freedom on behalf of her Regiment but was prevented from attending at the last minute due to influenza.

After the granting of the Freedom the Yorkshire Volunteers exercised their new privilege by marching through the streets of York with colours flying, drums beating and bayonets fixed. A framed illuminated scroll was presented to the regiments by the Lord Mayor, aldermen and citizens of the City of York to mark this historic event.

Officers and men from all parts of Yorkshire serve in the three battalions of Yorkshire Volunteers, all of whom are part-time soldiers, and 250 officers and men representing all three battalions were on parade.

(By courtesy Borodin Communications)

"C" COMPANY (DWR) 1ST BATTALION YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS

Since the last notes appeared the main excitement has been annual camp in Cyprus. More of this appears elsewhere. From "C" Company's point of view everyone enjoyed it. It was about the hottest part of the year, but we managed to avoid sunburn and heat exhaustion. Oddly enough, we had a few cases of 'flu at the beginning, but it must have been imported from the West Riding.

The first week was spent on platoon and cadre training. Deserving special mention was a most successful shoot by our anti-tank gunners at Pyla. Besides the boost to their morale, it was good for the rest of us who saw it to find out that these guns really do work, and are not just a front for the Mafia or some other sinister organisation.

There was also a particularly good platoon field firing exercise at Goshi. For those readers who may not know it, Goshi is a piece of desert. The day before our exercise there the temperature was 120°F in the shade. We were fortunate and favoured with a breeze from the sea, which kept the temperature down to about 109°F.

We had camped out there the night before the

exercise. Reveille was fixed for 0430 hrs. and gave rise to the following scene.

Sentry halts smartly beside sleeping figure of the Company Commander, who awakes.

Sentry: "Sir!"

OC: "Yes?"

Sentry: "It's four o'clock".

OC: "Well?"

Sentry: "Oh, sorry. I thought it were one o' the cooks".

A proper sense of proportion we have in "C" Company, always call our cooks sir!

That fine old TA and TAVR tradition of the "middle weekend" was enjoyed very much. Most of the well-known resorts—Kyrenia, Famagusta, Nicosia, Troodos, etc.—were visited by us tourists.

The second week we had the Battalion exercise in the Akrotiri area. There we were visited by the GOC Cyprus, Major General Collins. The previous week we had a visit from Brigadier Breitmeyer, Deputy Commander of North-East District, who had come all the way from Yorkshire to see us.

After the exercise there were the usual end of camp activities: cleaning and handing over, shopping for presents and the Company smoker. The amusing thing about that was that the bar where we held it was kept by Cypriots who spoke English with broad Australian accents. No doubt Cpl. "Cobber" Robinson went down well with them.

Since our arrival back at Halifax on Sunday, August 19, at 0300 hrs. with our sun tans and "war stories" we have not been idle. Our main activity was taking part in the North-East District exercise "Artful Dodger", in which we were enemy to the 3rd Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers on their particular "front". By contrast with Cyprus it was bitterly cold on the Yorkshire moors. So cold, it seems, that shelter really was appreciated. Some little soldiers finding a "hut" open, sheltered in it and showed their gratitude by leaving a thank you note and donating the remains of their 24-hr ration packs. The landowner was apparently impressed by this gesture, and even more by the fact that far from disturbing the game his guns bagged 84 brace the next day.

At the time of writing we are involved with preparations for the Freedom of York, which is to be conferred on the Yorkshire Volunteers on Sunday, October 21, following a service at York Minster HRH The Duchess of Kent will accept the scroll on behalf of all three battalions.

On a personal note we are sorry to lose Ptes. McClelland, Whitehead and Rowan, whose work is keeping them away from Halifax, and wish them well in their new situations.

Congratulations to the following on their substantive promotions: Cpls. Smith, B. T. R., Sweeney and Croft, L/Cpls. Doyle, Milton, Natynczyk, O'Neill, Salt, Sunderland and Woodcock, and to Sgt. Hollis on his well-deserved elevation to the Sergeants Mess.

Finally, the item most of us never expected to see—congratulations to CSM David Peckett on his very recent marriage. All join in wishing him and his wife every happiness.

Sergeants Mess

We are now busy socially since we arrived back in the UK after our annual camp in Cyprus. These events are normally on a Wednesday night. The Mess entertained the International Police Association, when we challenged them to carpet bowls, darts and shooting. We had a hard time trying to win, but we just achieved victory over them.

Sgt. Kelly had his firm's night also which was a successful event. Sgt. Taylor has had a busy time behind the bar. Our next social event is the Halloween night on November 3, and everyone is looking forward to witching and warlocking. Preparations are well in hand for the Christmas draw on December 22, and then the annual Mess dinner, which is to be held on February 23, 1974.

We welcome to the Mess Cpl. Hollis, who has now made the dizzy heights of the Sergeants Mess. Congratulations to S/Sgt. Mick Reddy, who, we are informed, is to be our CSM (PSI) to take over from Geoff Holliday. The new CQMS (PSI), we have been informed, could well be S/Sgt. Ken Leachman from 1 DWR. Early days yet I suppose so we will have to wait and see.

Our honorary members still help us in the Darts and Dominoes League, which has just started. Our team includes "Dukes" from the ACIO and 10 AYT. I wonder if we will be runners-up in dominoes again. The last remaining bachelor in the Mess, CSM Dave Peckett, has now taken unto himself a wife. We all wish him every success.

The Mess is still used by the Far East Prisoners of War Association on the last Friday of each month. They will welcome any FEPOW in the area who wishes to attend.

The Halifax Branch of the Old Comrades Association have a meeting cum social on the first Saturday of the month.

Annual Camp in Cyprus

A pleasant feeling of midnight warmth and a faint stickiness on the airport tarmac greeted the men of the 1st Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers as they alighted from the RAF VC10s on their arrival in Cyprus. And for a moment, in the fan-swept arrival lounge at Akrotiri, it seemed the dire warnings of heat and its horrors had been slightly exaggerated.

Even the breezy coach drive along the southern edge of the island to our base at Alexander Barracks, Dhekelia, did not give any particular cause for worry. But within a week every heat prediction and warning had come true as we sweated in the white rocky wastes of the Goshi training area. Now the cokes and fans of the airport seemed a long way away as mile after mile of blistering rocky desert shimmered into the distance.

Official temperatures, as recorded by the MO's protesting thermometer, went as high as 126°F in the sun, 114°F in the shade. And everyone found out why the insistence on carrying two water bottles had been so strong.

This year's camp was something of a plum for the 1st Battalion. Last year the Battalion was at Otterburn, but two companies went overseas—"B" Company to Germany, and "D" Company to Cyprus. Now the Battalion was almost complete,



Brigadier Breitmeyer, Deputy Commander North East District, talking to Major Tetlow and Sgt. Kelly of C Company (Duke of Wellington's) during his visit to the 1st Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers at annual camp in Cyprus.

only "D" Company being absent and preparing for a trip to Canada.

Soldiers in the Yorkshire Volunteers are drawn from all over the country, from Middlesbrough in the north to Hull in the south, taking in York, Leeds, Halifax, Bradford and Sheffield on the way.

Training started properly on the first Monday when companies began moving out individually to practise range skills. Reveille was early, at 5 a.m. or before, for those who liked a bit of time to wake up. By 6 a.m. breakfast and muster were over and the companies had left the camp.

Training continued each day until 11 a.m. when the sun called a halt. Soldiers then rested in camp or on the training areas until 4 p.m. Things then started up again and work ran through until 6 p.m.

Tropical kit had been issued to everyone. Every man sported Olive Greens and floppy hat—very popular with the ladies and useful to keep the sun off the face.

During the week training gradually built up as men became more acclimatised and work developed into platoon and company tactics. By Friday any cobwebs which may have built up over the long year had been blown away, and sections, platoons and companies were working together efficiently.

The first week ended with a demonstration of the work of war dogs. One dog proved its worth very well by savaging a well-padded 2/Lt. Potter, to the delight of his platoon.

The weekend saw parties of Yorkshire lads disappearing to all parts of the island. Some headed for Nicosia and Kyrenia, others for Famagusta and Larnaca. The rather leisurely driving habits of the Cypriot taxi drivers meant more than a few people staggered ashen-faced from their cabs. By Sunday night everyone was back in camp, and early on Monday morning the second week's training started again.

Now preparations were being made for the Battalion exercise—"Hot Pad". For the exercise we moved back across the island to where a group known as the Despots were apparently giving trouble. It was the Battalion's job to find them and deal with them.

The first day and night was taken up in company operations, my own company being typical in carrying out a cordon and search on a farmhouse. On the second day the Despots were on the run, and the wicked "General Dyer" holed up in a valley. Early the next morning the Battalion cordoned the area and moved in for the kill.

The latter part of the week was taken up with packing and preparation for the camp hand-over and the move back to the UK. Sports occupied those not slaving over hot packing cases.

On Saturday, in six chinks, we flew back by RAF Britannias to Brize Norton. Sadly, after the dry sun of Cyprus, it was not raining.

2/Lt. P. BRUCE.

"C" (DWR) COMPANY—3 YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS

On reading the last notes—completed after camp—a considerable amount of hard work has been put in by members of the Company in further recruit training (including a Yorkshire Volunteers Recruit Camp run by 3 Yorks), exercise "Artful Dodger" and now in the throes of preparation for the "Freedom of York" Parade on October 21 involving all units in hitherto unencountered headaches. However, everyone is looking forward to the event and we feel sure that all ranks will acquit themselves well.

A difficult time for us since we are at the moment without our Company Commander, Major Green, who has had to relinquish command for three months at least due to business commitments and we are therefore down to three officers at present with Capt. Matthew Bateman performing a caretaker job with all the additional problems.

We are also welcoming a new PSI (it seems to be becoming a habit making this announcement—they give up in despair!) though at present we still have C/Sgt. Stanway (PWO) in addition to C/Sgt. Simpson (1 DWR), the PSI designate. Both were invaluable at the Recruits Camp although we could have done with a few more "C" Company recruits. However, those who did attend enjoyed the camp which was well run by the Training Major, 3 Yorks, Major W. G. Norman and permanent staff.

The return from camp involved an immediate departure to start "Artful Dodger" which went well. (As ever, we had no complaints on food; the

CQMS's army did us "compo-proud" again.)

Other events since our last entry have included a charity walk for BLESMA held at Sherburn-in-Elmet which raised £320; a good effort for a most worthy cause.

We have also held a training weekend at Catterick which was fairly energetic and enjoyable and we are hoping to take more personnel from the West Riding ACF with us (we have already taken a dozen or so on "Artful Dodger" and we think they

gained useful experience).

Recruiting has been slow but steady and we are hoping to be fully up to strength next year.

In conclusion, we look forward to the Freedom of York Parade since 2/Lt. Lightbody has been chosen as Casket Bearer and we all wish him the best of luck with Sgts. Trigg and Liversedge (the latter less beard) who are acting as Stick Sergeants. An honour for the Company and, we feel, the right choice.

West Riding ACF

WEST RIDING ACF

On behalf of the Army Cadet Force I would like to wish a very merry Christmas to anyone who takes the trouble to read these notes. Particularly at this time do our thoughts and good wishes go out to all ranks of the 1st Battalion of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment. May God speed your safe and quick return.

Annual Camp 1973

Annual camp this year was held at a camp in Scotland with the unlikely name of Cultybraggan. The weather was obviously ordered by our Padre, who tells us he had a word with "head office" prior to our going away. Rewarding sessions of shooting, map reading, fieldcraft and lightweight camping were successfully negotiated and as a bonus we paid a visit to the Edinburgh Tattoo.

S/Sgt. Battye kept up his 100% record by returning with yet another broken limb and SMI Roberts took a long earned rest from his civvy job and drove a 4-ton vehicle all week; he usually drives a 10-ton vehicle.

Arrivals and departures

We welcome to the Officers Mess two new under officers, John Taylor, who will go to Keighley detachment, and Brian Hartley, who moves up from Cadet CSM and remains at Halifax detachment.

Capt. Peter Tattersall, who came to us from Glamorgan, has now taken command of Halifax detachment on the retirement of Peter Mitchell.

Sgt. Instructor David Cole has left us to go and try his hand at being a Regular soldier with 1 DWR; I believe that at the moment he is being put through the mill at Strensall. From us all Dave, the best of luck and look out for Cpl. Larnder, another ex-cadet.

Cadet Sunday and Consecration of the DWR ACF Standard

Our Cadet Sunday parade this year was a rather special event or, to be more accurate, two events in one. Beside our normal parade to church we also held the consecration service for our new Duke of Wellington's Regiment (ACF) standard.

The July 1 dawned bright and clear and all the weather signs pointed to a glorious day, and how right they were. All morning was spent on rehearsal parades for all ranks and this was followed by lunch for all ranks.

The actual parade was without doubt the best we have ever produced. There were some 160 cadets on parade and these were formed into two guards with the standard party in the centre, all being led by the Corps of Drums. The parade was commanded by Capt. Frank Fox. The standard was carried to church covered and not until the actual dedication ceremony was it uncased and seen by a capacity congregation at our own ACF Padres church.

The march back to the Drill Hall was therefore a unique occasion for both ACF and the town because never before has an ACF unit held its own standard in Huddersfield.

To mark the occasion a short history of the Huddersfield Army Cadet Force was produced by Major Howarth and lots of people expressed surprise at the fact that there has been a Cadet Force in Huddersfield since the year 1862.

Both the Officers and Sergeants messes produced a sumptuous tea for their guests, thanks to the ladies of both Messes. Our guests this year were Major J. Davis from RHQ; Lt.-Col. Tattersall, Majors Hardy and Norman of the 3rd Battalion the Yorkshire Volunteers; Lt.-Col. Horsfall of the ACF CCTO; Capt. John Thorne of 10 AYT (DWR); and in the sergeants mess RSM Hewitson and RQMS Fee of 3 Yorks Volunteers, Sgt. Howard of 10 AYT (DWR) and BQMS Davies of 10 CCT.

All our visitors were greatly impressed by the turnout and drill of the cadets and particularly that of the standard bearer and escort.

Sports and Shooting

The sportsmen and shooters in our area have once more proved their worth. Cadet S/Sgt. Hotchkiss of Heckmondwike GS Detachment represented the county in the national athletics at Aldershot, where he came away with two second and one third prizes.

At the County Rifle Meeting in June, which as usual was held at Strensall, the area was well represented by Keighley, Skipton and Heckmondwike Detachments. Again S/Sgt. Hotchkiss won a splendid trophy and badge when he won the County Individual Shoot. Sgt. Tattersfield came third in the same event.

These two cadets were once again chosen by the county to shoot at the Cadet National Meeting at Bisley, but on this occasion did not gain any honours, but, of course, there is always a next time and we trust that it will be a case of third time lucky.

Most units are now getting organised for the

various winter small-bore competitions, and we look forward to some measure of success in this field, but on this occasion not all the cups will go to Heckmondwike.

Change of Uncle

By the time these notes are produced we shall have a new affiliated Territorial Colonel. We cannot possibly allow this event to slip past without grasping the opportunity of thanking Lt.-Col. Tattersall for his tremendous help to the Army

Cadet Force. He has without any doubt been the most helpful TA uncle we have ever had the pleasure of serving with.

At the same time may we welcome as our new uncle Lt.-Col. Mitchell, who, after all, must start with a distinct advantage in that he started out on his military road as a cadet in the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, but the year of this venture shall remain unrevealed.

Farewell and good luck to you, Col. Tattersall, and welcome Col. Mitchell.

Obituary

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

Mrs. Mary Tidmarsh

On November 13, 1973, at Hythe, Kent, Mary Nield (Daisie) widow of Colonel R. M. Tidmarsh.

Major John Edward Driver, MBE, TD, LLM

On Friday, November 23, at his home, Mulberry House, Comberbach, Northwich, Cheshire, after a long illness. He is survived by his wife and two daughters.

Major Kenneth Windsor Brown

After a long illness Major "Topper" Brown died in the Cambridge Military Hospital, Aldershot, on September 30, 1973. He was 51 years old. He had been in and out of hospital for the past two years to the exact day.

He was educated at Peter Symonds School, Winchester, and in November 1941 joined the Royal Engineers in the ranks. Just over a year later he had completed his OCTU training and in January 1943 was commissioned into the DWR. The next few years, however, were to be spent with the Airborne Forces. Joining 13 Para in October 1943, he took part in the fighting in the Ardennes and parachuted over the river in the Rhine crossing and was in the drive to the Baltic. Next he was in Singapore and Java with 5 Para Brigade and in 1946-47 in the Middle East in 6 Airborne Division. The next 1½ years he served with 1 DWR in the UK and then he did a tour as OC an Airborne Control Section in Netheravon and in the Middle East. He returned to 1 DWR in time for Korea, followed by Gibraltar, and whilst in Korea served for a while on the staff of HQ 1 Comwel Division as Staff Captain "A". From February 1954 to August 1956 he was Adjutant 7 DWR at Milnsbridge, Huddersfield, and it was here that he met and married on August 4, 1955, Miss Brenda Wilson. At the time of the Suez crisis he was with 1 DWR in Malta and Cyprus and this was followed by a tour at secondment with the Nigeria Military Forces from January 1958 to January 1960. Next he served on the staff of HQ

Salisbury Plain District as DAQMG (Wks), and later DAAG, and, finally, from 1963 till he retired in February 1968 he was GSO2, Central Team, Army Works Study Group.

After his retirement he joined Walls Meat Co. Ltd. in Acton, London, as a market and sales consultant and, until illness made it impossible, he commuted daily from Christmas Pie, Wanborough, in Surrey.

"Topper" was conscientious and methodical and liked to be exact in all he did. He always looked on the bright side of life and tried to pass on this cheerfulness to others. He was not particularly interested in games but he was a very keen fisherman and this was his real recreational pursuit.

The funeral took place at St. Mark's Church, Wyke, Normandy, near Aldershot, on October 4 and was attended by a number of retired officers and their wives.

He is survived by his wife and one son and one daughter.

Capt. P. G. Bales, MC, MA

The death occurred in a Norfolk hospital on July 17, 1973, of Capt. Percy G. Bales, who was the official historian of the Halifax Territorial Unit, the 4 DWR, during the 1914-18 war.

Capt. Bales was commissioned into the 1/4 DWR in 1916 and won his Military Cross while serving as a subaltern. He was successively Intelligence Officer and assistant Adjutant, and was Adjutant in the six months before the unit was demobilised in June 1919.

For two years he had compiled the war diary of the Battalion and after the war he wrote a 300-page history of the 1/4 Battalion, which was printed and published in Halifax in 1920.

He was a member of the Battalion's Old Comrades' Association and had visited Halifax for the annual reunion for a number of years.

Mr. Walter Birch

"Hookie" Birch died unexpectedly on September 18, 1973, aged 60. Only in July of this year he and his wife had paid their married daughter in BAOR a visit.

He enlisted into the Regiment in February 1931 and, apart from a tour of two years with 1 DWR, following his initial training, he spent the remainder of his service at the Depot, employed as a groundsman. Even after leaving the Army in 1954 he continued for a time as a civilian groundsman at the Depot and then worked for Riding Hall Carpets in Halifax and latterly for the Sowerby Bridge Urban District Council. For the past 17 years he was gardener in his spare time to Col. Trevor Bentley.

On the rugger field, where he gave all he had and enjoyed every moment of it, he achieved some distinction as a hooker and played for the Depot side for many years both before and after the war. He also played for Halifax, when available, and on one occasion, in 1937, represented Yorkshire against Ulster.

We extend to his wife and daughter and to his brother, ex-RSM C. F. Birch, our deepest sympathy.

Mr. William E. Horsley

Mr. W. E. Horsley died at the Laurel Bank Nursing Home, Halifax, on July 31, 1973, aged 79.

Bill Horsley had been in practice as a solicitor in Halifax for nearly 40 years and was a man of a great many interests and achievements. He was president of the Halifax Law Society in 1955; a Liberal member of Halifax Town Council for many years and chairman of the Finance Committee for 12 years; chairman of William Hanson, cotton doublers, Halifax, and in 1948 served a term as president of the Yorkshire Master Cotton Spinners and Doublers Association; a member of the Council of Halifax and District Chamber of Commerce for some years; a member of the National Arbitration Tribunal, which became the Industrial Disputes Tribunal; in 1949 president of Halifax Society for the Blind; first chairman of the Disablement Committee and, before the last war, president of the Kings Cross Cricket Club for two years.

In World War I he was commissioned into

2 DWR and it was during his service on the Western Front that he formed a steadfast friendship with the late Major J. A. Lennon and the late Major J. P. ("Jock") Huffam, vc.

He leaves a widow and two sons, one of whom is the principal scientific officer at Harwell and the other in business in Halifax.

Mrs. Lettice Scott

Mrs. Lettice Scott died at Headington, Oxford, on August 17, 1973. She was the widow of Major R. A. Scott—"Scotty" as he was known to all in the Regiment—who served from 1909 till his retirement on account of ill-health in 1926. She had been Miss Lettice Wright before her marriage in 1933. After his death she lived for a while on her own in Pulborough and then moved to live with a sister at Headington, where she died after a long illness. Like her husband, she had a great love for the Regiment. To her sister, Miss Elsie Wright, and to Brigadier A. D. Firth and Major J. B. K. Greenway, relatives, we extend our deepest sympathy.

Trevor Emrys Morgan

Trevor Emrys Morgan died in Halifax on July 14, 1973, aged 82.

Trevor Morgan, journalist, editor, soldier, man of many interests and tireless energy, joined the 1/4th Battalion in 1914 and served through World War I in France and Belgium. In World War II he was an officer in the 23rd West Riding Home Guard.

An expert on coins and medals, a successful goat breeder and show prizewinner, amongst his many other interests he was a staunch member of the 4th Battalion Old Comrades Association.

Sgt. Hartley Falkingham, DCM, MM.

Sgt. Falkingham, West Riding Regt. (DWR) died at Keighley on August 19, 1973, aged 79.

Sgt. Falkingham was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal and the Military Medal for bravery in the field during World War I.

ALL SAINTS CHAPEL

Over 100 members of our branches made the annual journey to York Minster to attend the Regimental Service on Saturday November 3, 1973.

Before the service, officers and soldiers, serving and retired, members of the Association and friends met in St. Williams' College and later filled our chapel in the Minster to overflowing where Canon Burbidge conducted the service, assisted by the Rev. R. I. J. Matthews. The lesson was read by General Sir Robert Bray and the address given by the Regimental Chaplain, the Revd. Dr Eric Treacy, Bishop of Wakefield.

After the service we embussed for Strensall where we were met and welcomed by RSM John Welsh in whose hands we placed ourselves, knowing full well that we should be "fed, watered and entertained".

A little ceremonial welcome was made on the square to our French visitors who were guests of the Mossley Branch and spending a weekend with

them. Watched by members and visitors, The Duke's Regimental flag and the French tricolour were unfurled to fly side by side during the duration of the stay by our visitors from France at Strensall.

After an excellent meal many members and their wives, together with our French visitors, returned to York on a sight-seeing/shopping expedition to return to an evening of merriment, led by RSM John Welsh, that master of diplomacy, *bonhomie* and infectious humour.

As I have only been allowed space for brief notes on this "stop press" report a mil type report will convey to most readers that autumn day at Strensall.

Weather: Bright but cool and dry (millions of autumn leaves falling and making a russet-coloured carpet).

Food: Exceptionally good and served with a friendliness and expertise that made it all the more enjoyable.

Entertainment: As only a Sergeants Mess can put on when there's a bright, warm room, a good pianist, good crowd, strong ale and spirits, and neckties coloured maroon and French grey.

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THE OFFICERS' DINNER CLUB

The Officers' Regimental Dinner Club held its annual dinner at the Army and Navy Club on Friday, July 13. The Colonel of the Regiment presided. As guests we had Brigadier K. Hargreaves, CBE, TD, LLD, the Lord Lieutenant for the West Riding and York, and also a very welcome and familiar old friend of the Regiment, Col. T. G. Brennan, CBE, DSO, who commanded 20 Field Regiment in Korea.

The luncheon was held at the National Army Museum, Chelsea, and this was a great success.

Those who attended the two functions were

THE REGIMENTAL DINNER

General Sir Robert Bray

(Colonel of the Regiment)

General Sir Philip Christison, Bart.

Major-General K. G. Exham

Brigadiers: F. R. St. P. Bunbury, D. E. Isles, P. P. de la H. Moran, B. W. Webb-Carter.

Colonels: F. R. Armitage, P. G. L. Cousens, C. R. T. Cumberlege, J. Davidson, E. M. P. Hardy, C. R. Huxtable, R. G. Turner.

Lieutenant-Colonels: J. H. Dalrymple, R. M. Harms, H. S. LeMessurier, A. E. H. Sayers, D. W. Shuttleworth, W. A. Woods.

Majors: D. S. D. Brisbane-Jones-Stamp, R. H. Burton, W. F. Charlesworth, J. D. P. Cowell, C. R. Cumberlege, J. H. Davis, C. F. Grieve, R. H. Ince, C. C. Kenchington, J. H. S. Lane, K. M. McDonald, W. R. Mundell, S. J. Nash, J. N. H. Naughton, A. C. S. Savory, M. G. L. M. Stacpoole, J. L. Streatfeild.

Captains: C. M. B. Bateman, P. J. Mellor, A. D. Roberts, W. Robins, T. D. Sugden, D. W. Wonsen.

Lieutenants: S. F. Bruce-Lowe, H. R. Fawley, J. H. Gladwin, J. P. B. Golding, J. W. Hayes, T. J. Isles, D. I. Richardson, J. A. Shenton.

Guests: Brigadier K. Hargreaves, CBE, TD, LLD, Col. T. G. Brennan, CBE, DSO.

THE REGIMENTAL LUNCHEON

Col. and Mrs. F. R. Armitage, Mrs. V. Boutflower, General Sir Robert and Lady Bray, Major D. S. D. Brisbane-Jones-Stamp and Miss Charlotte Brisbane-Jones-Stamp, Mrs. J. E. Cameron, Major and Mrs. J. H. Davis, Major-General and Mrs. K. G. Exham, Major and Mrs. C. F. Grieve, Col. and Mrs. E. M. P. Hardy, Mrs. M. Huffam, Col. and Mrs. C. R. Huxtable, Mrs. F. M. Ince, Major R. H. Ince, Brigadier D. E. Isles, Mrs. M. W. Kirkland, Mrs. M. Lawlor, Lt-Col. and Mrs. H. S. LeMessurier, Major and Mrs. K. M. McDonald, Mrs. V. Orr, Miss P. A. Ozanne, Mrs. W. F. C. Robertson and son, Mrs. W. Robins, Major and Mrs. A. C. S. Savory, Lt.-Col. A. E. H. Sayers, Col. R. G. Turner, Brigadier B. W. Webb-Carter.

Personalia

RUBY WEDDING

Armitage—Allen

On November 4, 1933, at St. Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow, Capt. Frederick Rodolph Armitage, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, to Sheila Allen. Present address: Tanglin House, 4 Park Avenue, Camberley.

BIRTHS

Glazebrook

On July 13, 1973, to Carol, née Wade, and Dick Glazebrook, a daughter, Sally Frances.

Hamza

On October 8, 1973, at York, to Isabel, née Sugden, and Usama Hamza, a daughter, Abir Amelia.

McQuade

On June 26, 1973, to L/Cpl. and Mrs. McQuade, a daughter, Claire Louise.

Collins

To Pte. and Mrs. Collins, a son, Boyd Patrick, born on August 15, 1973.

Beaumont

To L/Cpl. and Mrs. Beaumont, a daughter, Marie Joan, born on August 26, 1973.

Atkinson

To Sgt. and Mrs. Atkinson, a daughter, Tracy, born on August 9, 1973.

Sugden

To L/Cpl. and Mrs. Sugden, a son, Steven Peter, born on July 23, 1973.

Woodward

To Pte. and Mrs. Woodward, a daughter, Lyndsay, born on August 18, 1973.

Shinn

To Pte. and Mrs. Shinn, a daughter, Christine Tracey, born on August 17, 1973.

Hutchinson

To Cpl. and Mrs. Hutchinson, a son, Ian, born on August 29, 1973.

Watts

To Pte. and Mrs. Watts, a daughter, Michelle, born on August 24, 1973.

Whiteley

To L/Cpl. and Mrs. Whiteley, a son, Daren James, born on August 29, 1973.

Barnett

To Sgt. and Mrs. Barnett, a daughter, Kirsten, born on September 6, 1973.

Fawcett

To Pte. and Mrs. Fawcett, a son, Sean Allen, born on August 30, 1973.

Thackeray

To L/Cpl. and Mrs. Thackeray, a daughter, Hayley, born on July 15, 1973.

Davis

To Pte. and Mrs. Davis, a daughter, Liza Marie, born on September 19, 1973.

MARRIAGES

Rossouw—Savory

The marriage took place on Saturday, September 29, 1973, at St. Simon's Church, Milner Street, Chelsea, SW3, between Mr. Pieter Rossouw, younger son of Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Rossouw of Muizenberg, Cape Town, and Rozanne Barbara, elder daughter of Major A. C. S. Savory, MBE, and Mrs. Savory of 42a, Lennox Gardens, SW1.

Webb-Carter—Young

The marriage took place on Monday, October 15, 1973, at the Guards Chapel, Wellington Barracks, between Major David Webb-Carter, MC, Irish Guards, elder son of Brigadier B. W. Webb-Carter, DSO, OBE, and Mrs. Webb-Carter of Ashton Cottage, Bishop's Waltham, Hampshire, and Felicity, daughter of Mr. W. L. R. de B. Young and the late Mrs. E. E. Young of The Old Rectory, Drewsteignton, Devon.

Bareham—Micallef

The marriage of Pte. Bareham to Miss Rose Micallef took place at Leeds Register Office on July 11, 1973.

Hepworth—Pearson

The marriage of L/Cpl. Hepworth to Miss Anne Marie Pearson took place at Saint Monica's Church, Flixton, Manchester, on July 14, 1973.

Watts—Musgrove

The marriage of Pte. Watts to Mrs. Margaret Ann Musgrove took place at St. Helen's Register Office on July 14, 1973.

Major-General C. W. Dunbar, CBE, late Director of Infantry, retired on October 19 last. We all wish him good fortune in the future.

In a recent letter from Major Bruce Murgatroyd he wrote: "We had a most excellent 8th Battalion Officers' Reunion, Boy Armitage chaired the dinner, and we had a very good attendance. I was interested to learn during the evening that whilst we fought at Coriano and San Fortunato in 1944, the parish priest was no other than the eventual Pope John before he was made Bishop of Rimini in 1947. This is interesting from our point of view, and also from the fact that there is a beautiful war cemetery at Coriano where a number of our chaps are buried".

Major Dick Glazebrook, PWO, who, it will be remembered, served as 2IC 1 DWR during its two emergency tours in Northern Ireland, is to be Commandant SMF Mauritius with the rank of lieutenant-colonel. We congratulate him on his promotion and wish him well in his new appointment. He has written: "The Special Mobile Force

is in fact the whole of the Mauritian Army. It consists of about 700 men divided into an HQ and Admin Company, a battery of 4x25-pounder guns, a squadron of Ferrets and Shorland armoured cars, three rifle companies mounted in one long wheel-base Land-Rover per section, a war dog section and a band. Although Mauritius is now independent, it has remained in the Commonwealth and asks the UK to provide the CO, 2IC, Training Officer, RSM and Weapon Training WO on secondment. As the SMF is too small to provide, on its own, a reasonable career structure, the junior ranks are filled by volunteers on three-year attachments from the Mauritius Police. The island is small being 40 miles by 30 miles. It lies just south of the Equator, 1,200 miles east of Africa and 3,500 miles south-west of Singapore. Vacoas, where the SMF has its HQ, is on a central plateau at 2,000ft, so that whilst the days are hot, the nights are cool. As CO I get an old colonial-type thatched bungalow and six servants". He and his wife, Carol, and their two children are due to fly out at the end of January for what should be a very pleasant tour.

CSM Bill Norman is still at ACIO Huddersfield, and still retains his great interest in shooting. He was down at Bisley again this year and with a score of 146 came sixth in the National Rifle Association Silver Medal and Bisley Cup out of an entry of 168 regular and retired competitors. As the leading score was 149, he was not far behind the winner.

In September we had the great news that our regimental chaplain, the Rev. Dr. Eric Treacy, Bishop of Wakefield, is to be made a Freeman of Halifax. He has long been associated with Halifax being Archdeacon of Halifax between 1949 and 1961 and Vicar and Rural Dean between 1950 and 1961. All members of the Regiment will wish to be associated in sending their warmest congratulations on the signal honour to be bestowed on him.

Mrs. Marjorie Crofton, visiting England from Cape Town, South Africa, found time in her very full programme to visit the regimental secretary to re-establish contact with the Regiment.

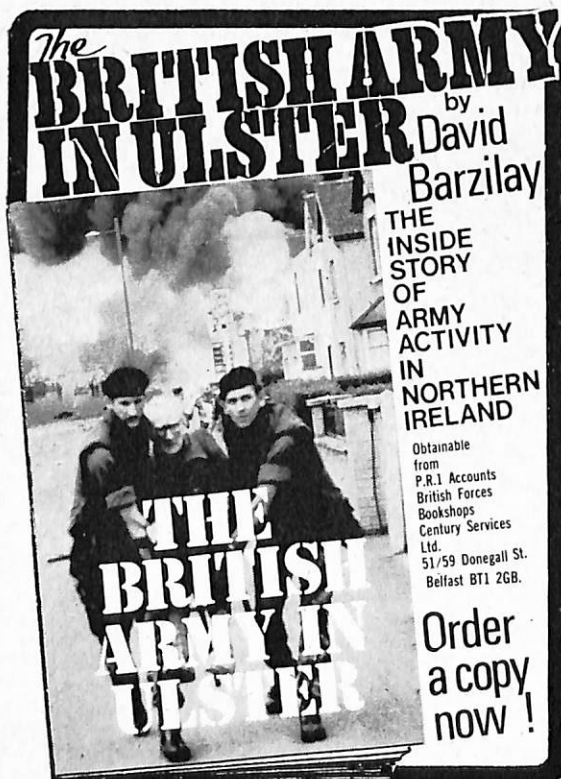
After her marriage to Cyril Denman Jubb in 1906, she joined 1 DWR in India, where Eric Liddell, now lieutenant-colonel and at 93 our oldest officer, was also serving. It was with regret they were unable to meet again before Mrs. Crofton flew back to South Africa.

Capt. Denman Jubb was adjutant of 2 DWR at the outbreak of the 1914-18 war and was killed at Mons shortly after the Battalion was first in action. Her second husband, Brigadier Crofton, died recently in South Africa.

Those who watch that amusing and interesting programme on television called "Call My Bluff" may have wondered if Miles Kington, who is assistant editor of *Punch*, and who has appeared in the show a few times, is a son of Mrs. Mary Kington and the late Lt-Col. Steuart Kington. Mrs. Kington has replied: "The now well-known Miles (Beresford) Kington is not my son, but is a kinsman. I'm never very sure what is the exact relationship. My late husband's father was married twice, and Miles B. Kington is the grandson of his eldest son by the first marriage, while my son, Miles Steuart Kington, is the son of his youngest son by the second marriage. Thus, while the two Miles Kingtons were born within a month of each other, they are a generation apart. It's interesting that both boys are called Miles after great-grandfather and grandfather, William Miles Nairne Kington.

His many friends in the Regiment will be happy to know that CSM R. Williams, or "Blondie" as he was known to all and sundry, remains much the same as ever and scarcely changed since his service days, which ended in 1959 when the Depot in Halifax closed. He still lives in Halifax, employed by the Corps of Commissionaires. Sad to relate, his wife has suffered from a hip injury for the past five or six years which restricts her walking and makes her dependent on a wheelchair. Dennis, the eldest son, who went to the Army Apprentices College, Chepstow, when 1 DWR were at Gibraltar, and then joined REME, reaching the rank of sergeant, has recently left the Army and joined the Halifax Motor Co. The other boy, Douglas, is in Halifax as well and works for the Association Tyre Specialists (Yorkshire) Ltd.

Another to have moved to York is Capt. Martin Bray. He left 1 DWR in October to become Adjutant 1 Yorks.



Major Jim Newton retired on December 16, 1973. In a letter beforehand he wrote: "I am going to work for Mulberry Hall in York, which is expanding. As you know, it is the firm which has been responsible for the Spode regimental plate and the owner is an officer in the battalion in which I am now serving. I was fortunate in that my wish to retire coincided with Mulberry Hall's wish to expand. I shall stay in Hushwaite surrounded by the many who finally decide that Yorkshire, and York in particular, is the place to finally set up home. I shall therefore be able to keep in touch with all that goes on because there is no doubt I shall miss the Regiment and the Army".

Since his retirement in July last year Major John Milligan has been living at Ebberston, near Scarborough. He has now got himself a job as assistant general secretary to the Cheltenham Old People's Housing Society Ltd (the Lillian Faithfull Homes) and he starts at the beginning of December. His enforced move takes him away from many friends in Yorkshire, but in Cheltenham he will join forces with Lt.-Col. Pat Woods and Major "Creepy" Faulkner.

We have heard that Major Graham Tedd has passed the necessary qualifying exams and has been admitted to corporate membership of the British Institute of Management as an Associate Member. This entitles him to put the letters AMBIM after his name.

In the cricket umpiring world he has been secretary for the last two years of a special development committee, set up by the Council of the Association of Cricket Umpires, to study and make recommendations for the restructuring of the Association within the UK, to cover its development and expansion over the next 20 years or so. This affects most umpires and umpiring outside the first-class game, and has involved working and consultation with MCC, the Council of ACU and many local organisations throughout the country. In the new year he takes up a new post, that of chief examiner for all applicants in cricketing countries overseas who wish to take the ACU examinations. This will involve arranging for the candidates to sit the examinations, either through the cricket or umpires organisation in the country concerned, or direct with the candidate, and, when they are returned, for marking the papers and making recommendations for grading or regrading.

There have been a number of changes affecting our officers at the Depot King's Division. Capt. Tony Redwood-Davies took over OC Training Wing/WTO in October 1973 and Major Duncan Lupton became 2IC in November. Capt. Tim Nicholson completed his tour as Adjutant and joined 1 DWR in December. Lt. Nick Newell rejoined 1 DWR in November and his place at the Depot has been taken by 2/Lt. Andrew Drake.

Capt. Peter Andrews has handed over the duties of Adjutant 1 DWR to Capt. Alistair Roberts and has begun his year at the Staff College.

Major Andre Dennison is no longer in 55 CBGL Section of GL Group (UK). He is now Training Major, 6 UDR, and relatively close to 1 DWR.

Major John Greenway has left BAOR, where he was on the staff of HQ1 (Br) Corps. Since August he has also been serving in Northern Ireland as 2IC 1 PWO.

For the past two years Major "Chuck" Ivey has been commanding a Company in 1 DWR. In September he left for the School of Infantry, Warminster, where he is DAA & QMG. Another to have joined the School is Capt. Richard Ward, who is an instructor in the Platoon Commanders Division.

For the time being Major David Pugh is attached to the Depot King's Division. He is on loan from 1 DWR for one year for recruiting duties, a job of some importance these days.

Congratulations to Major Charles Cumberlege on the successful completion of his Staff College course. In January 1974 he goes to HQ UKLF as GSO 2 (Ind Trg.) A.

Major Jim Pell's tour as 2IC Junior Infantryman's Battalion, Shorncliffe, has ended and in early January 1974 he moves to York to become GSO1, HQ North-East District. Our heartiest congratulations and sincere good wishes go to him.

After an absence of four years, during which he was at the Depot King's Division and then on the staff of HQ 3 Infantry Brigade, Capt. Alan Westcob rejoined 1 DWR last September.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Alexander Alter, Alex Alter Agency, 2365 Westwood BL No. 23, Los Angeles, California 90064, USA.

F. Ashton-Jones, Beech House, Stainland, Halifax, Yorkshire HX4 9EH.

P. J. Bird, 5 Waltham Close, Bedford.

Capt. R. D. Campbell-Lamerton, Lindley Lodge, Watling Street, Lindley, Nuneaton, Warwickshire.

Major G. C. Edwards, Green Bank, Tincleton, Dorchester, Dorset.

G. Fickling, Flat 8/13 Clapperton Street, Bengeigh, 3204, Victoria, Australia.

Major C. D. d'E. Miller, DWR, 1 Homefield Road, Maypole Green Estate, Colchester, Essex.

Major B. Hindley, 7 Rue De Praetere, 1050 Brussels, Belgium.

Lt.-Col. D. W. Shuttleworth, OBE, 15 The Grove, Latimer, Chesham, Bucks.

Capt. P. T. Hirst, 2 Wavell Road, Harnham, Salisbury, Wilts.

Regimental Association

NOTICES

Regimental Sweepstake—1973

PRIZEWINNERS:

- 1st (£100) S. Hutton, Huddersfield.
 2nd (£50) R. Exham, London.
 3rd (£25) Mrs. J. Wardell, Hull.
 4th (£10) H. Fairclough, Drighlington.
 Runners-up (£1 each): Pte. English, 1 DWR,
 Sgt. Grey, 1 DWR, B. Booth, Knutsford, Barker,
 1 DWR A. Watson, Dewsbury (2) A. J. Selway,
 Cullompton, Devon, S/Sgt. Grey, 4 Fd Sqn RE,
 BFPO 801.

A profit of £195 has been donated to Regimental funds. Many thanks to ticket-sellers and other helpers.

London and Home Counties Branch Dinner 1974

The annual dinner will be held on Saturday, May 11, 1974, in the Drill Hall of the Queen Victoria's Rifle Association, 56 Davies Street, London W1, at 7.30 p.m.

Applications for tickets, price £1 each, to the hon. secretary, Mr. R. H. Temple, 59 Burnfoot Avenue, Fulham, London SW6.

The Annual General Meeting

Huddersfield Drill Hall, September 29, 1973

The chairman, Colonel of the Regiment General Sir Robert Bray, GBE, KCB, DSO, opened the meeting, which was attended by approximately 40 members, by welcoming all present and wishing the general secretary, Mr. Arthur Wood, a return to good health after his recent stay in hospital.

Secretary's report

Mr. Arthur Wood, general secretary, then read his report.

Accounts—year ended March 31, 1973

Over the year our income increased by £632 and the overall excess of income over expenditure was £2,026. This amount, together with surplus cash in hand totalling £6,377, has since been invested on the advice of our stockbrokers to the trustees.

Financially we are in a healthy position.

Of our surplus cash in hand £500 has been loaned to the Army Benevolent Fund.

Assistance during the year

There was a decrease of 26 in the number of welfare cases assisted during the year—160 in 1973 against 186 in 1972, but grants were increased to meet the rising cost of living, resulting in £452 more being paid out in 1973 than 1972 (£3,152 in 1973 against £2,700 in 1972).

In addition, further assistance was given by the Army Benevolent Fund through our Association for:

- Welfare grant: £250 towards cost of a kidney machine for dependent of ex-DWR soldier.
- Supplementary allowances totalling £136 made

to three recommended ex-soldiers or dependants.

- Three interest-free resettlement loans totalling £2,600 made to soldiers nearing completion of Regular Service.

The present position seems to suggest that although many cases of hardship still exist, the improved regulations of the Department of Health and Social Security appear to be dealing more adequately with common hardships but there are still many cases of distress which need the additional help of the Regimental Association and I ask all present to let me know of anyone whom they think might be in need of help, Dukes or any other ex-serviceman. If "Dukes", we will deal; other regiments, I will contact their respective Associations.

OCA Pensions

The number in receipt of this special allowance has been increased to 11.

Holidays

During the year, at the Lord Kitchener Memorial Holiday Home, Lowestoft, seven ex-soldiers of the Regiment have enjoyed a holiday at this excellent seafront hotel.

Holidays for two other families have been organised in conjunction with local welfare authorities.

Regimental sweepstake

Last week cheques totalling £194 were sent out to lucky ticket holders in the 1973 St. Leger sweepstake draw. This year the first prize of £100 came to Huddersfield, the rest spread around the country and Northern Ireland.

A profit of £195-83 will help our funds and I wish to thank everyone who helped to make this year's effort another big success.

Branches

It is heartening to report the growing numbers of branch membership which must necessarily result in ever-increasing social events. Quite honestly, social activities seem to fill half my diary entries (but I suppose this is one of the hazards of the job!)

We, too, are helping the European fraternity and already our Bradford Branch members have retrod Dutch soil on a visit to the Nijmegen area last week and Mossley are busily preparing for the reception of a party of ex-servicemen and families from Hem (twinning town in France of Mossley) who are coming on a goodwill visit early November. They will be invited to attend our Regimental Service in York Minster on November 3. Members from Mossley will visit Hem in France in mid-November and attend the Armistice Celebrations in France on November 11.

It's grand to be back in harness (especially with

large war cemeteries, the British cemetery and Canadian cemetery in Nijmegen, and the Airborne cemetery at Oosterbeek.

In the British cemetery we saw quite a number of the gravestones of comrades of the 7th Battalion who fell in and around the locality. Capt. Van den Bergh drew my attention to the grave of Lt. Ellis, an officer of the Battalion who was killed on a fighting patrol, saying that he would never forget this officer, as he, Capt. Van den Bergh, had accompanied the patrol.

We were surprised to find graves of men of the 7th Battalion in the Airborne cemetery, until it was explained to us that this cemetery was the last resting place for men who had fallen over a very extensive area including Arnhem and district.

The Canadian cemetery, visited late afternoon, also surprised us by containing graves of Dukes.

We were aware of the grand job done by the War Graves Commission in the layout of cemeteries, but the excellent condition of the graves, all extremely neat and tidy (many with fresh flowers), struck us as being extraordinary. Capt. Van den Bergh explained that Dutch schoolchildren, between the ages of 11 and 14 years, each adopted a grave, and tended it throughout each year, remembering birthdays, Christmas and especially the date of his death.

The now-famous bridge at Nijmegen, which so many ex-members of the Battalion have good and honourable cause to remember, along with Bemel and Haaldren, were visited. Capt. Van den Bergh explained in detail the positions of Battalion HQ and the companies during the battle for the bridge. Col. Hamilton was commanding officer at the time.

Lunch was taken in a hotel, at the expense of Capt. Van den Bergh, and was probably one of our best meals of the weeks holiday.

After lunch, we went along to see more areas of 7th Battalion interest, and in each area Capt. Van den Bergh added to our interest by detailing company positions, and recounting incidents.

One place on the edge of the Reichwald was very familiar to me because it was completely unchanged, whereas in other areas rebuilding and re-development had taken place. The HQ had been in the big house, and company positions in the surrounding woods.

During the course of the afternoon, we repaired to another hotel for tea and rum, the weather having become cold and wet.

Returning to Nijmegen, I and my family were taken to visit friends I had made during the war, and had not seen for 28 years.

The last half hour at Nijmegen was spent at Capt. Van den Bergh's home, where we were shown some excellent drawings of officers and transport personnel, including Major Pyrah, Capt. Farrar, and Capt. Denton, drawn by Capt. Van den Bergh himself.

When it was time to meet the coach to take us back to our hotel at Valkenburg, Mrs. Van den Bergh came along to see us off, a final gesture greatly appreciated.

Our party was unanimous in feeling that it has been an extremely interesting and enjoyable day, largely due to Capt. and Mrs. Van den Bergh's

help and friendly interest. We are greatly indebted to them, for making the day one of our holiday highlights.

BERT COPLEY

KEIGHLEY BRANCH

Being a newcomer, so to speak, I have up to now passed on the job of "notes" over to your friend and mine, Bill Smith, as trustee of the branch, but this time it is my turn.

As new secretary of Keighley Branch, I would like to start by saying "hello" to all other members and look forward to meeting you.

Our branch has strengthened in numbers and everyone is doing his bit for the Association.

On the occasion of Bill Smith's birthday presentation, I felt the evening was completed by the presence of Major Davis and our general secretary Arthur Wood. Thank you for coming and helping to make Bill's night such a happy occasion and giving our branch a chance to meet you both.

The recent reunion dinner proved to be a very enjoyable evening for the 28 members from Keighley; for many it was the first time and all enjoyed the events of the night. Winning a bottle of whisky and a book on the "History of the Duke of Wellington" of which, I am happy to say, I am the proud owner.

We all look forward to our trip to York Minster and Strensall.

Items of interest

A recent visitor to RHQ was Chris Potter who served with the 1st Battalion in Halifax, Bordon, and with the RAOC at Chilwell. He would like to hear from ex-members of the April 1939 intake to Paaredburg Squad, Depot Company, Halifax, under the control of Sgt. "Kitty Fisher". Mr. Potter's address is: 25 Victoria Avenue, Crook, Co. Durham.

Another old soldier enquiring for contacts is: 4613461 Cpl. J. R. Brown, who now lives at: 11 Wetlock Avenue, Leeds 9.

Jimmy Hough of Sheffield informs us that Sid Ludlam and Ben Dodd, both 2nd Battalion, who served in Ismalia, Singapore, and Cairo have died.

Jimmy, who lives at 17 Delf Street, Heeley, Sheffield S2 3GX, says he is always willing to act as DWR representative for Sheffield-based ex-soldiers.

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