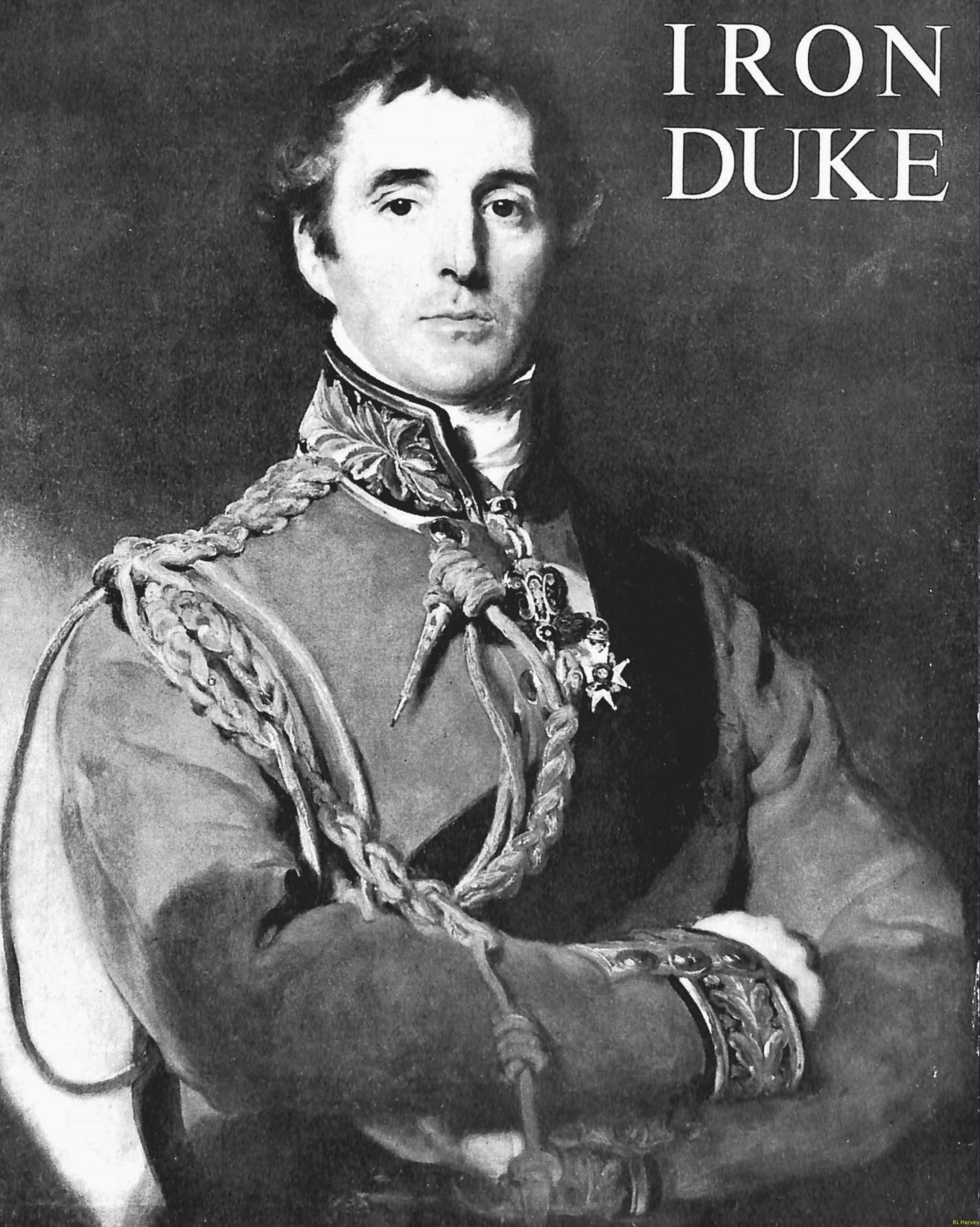


No.184 December 1980

THE IRON DUKE



THE IRON DUKE

The Regimental Journal of

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

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



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

Vol. LIII

DECEMBER 1980

No 184

BUSINESS NOTES

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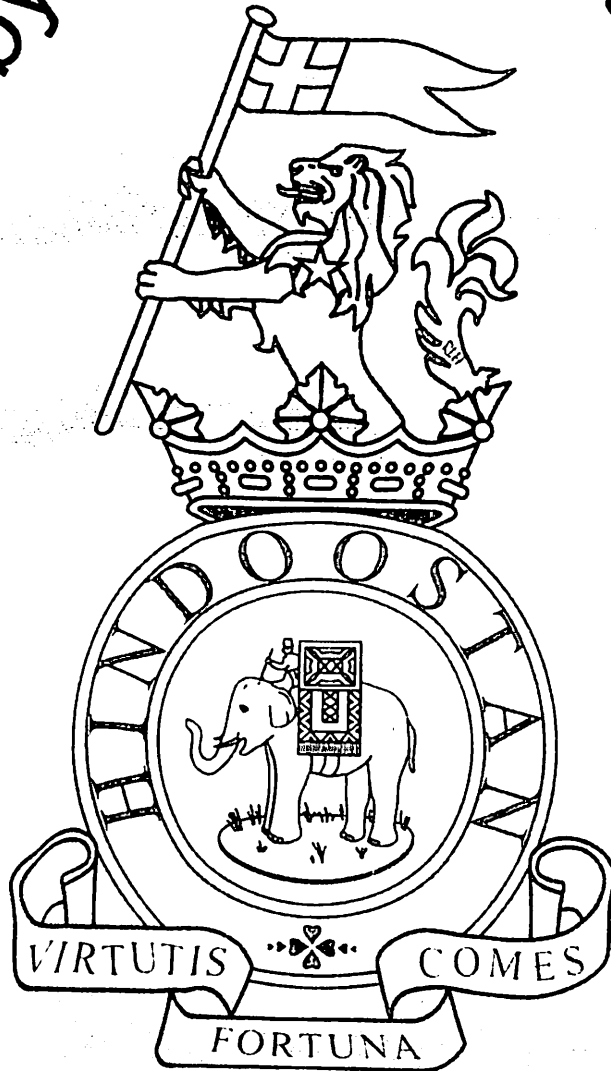
Acknowledgement

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

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Digitised by The Regimental Archives



THE REGIMENT

Colonel-in-Chief

BRIGADIER HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON, MVO, OBE, MC, BA

Colonel of the Regiment

MAJOR-GENERAL D. E. ISLES, CB, OBE

The Laurels, Denton, Grantham, Lincolnshire NG32 1JZ

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

Wellesley Park, Highroad Well, Halifax HX2 0BA

Regimental Secretary: Major G. C. Tedd

Assistant Regimental Secretary: Major J. S. Milligan

THE 1st BATTALION

Somme Barracks, Catterick Garrison, N. Yorks DL9 3TS

CO: Lt.-Col. W. R. MUNDELL Adjutant: Capt. S. C. Newton

RSM: P. Robinson

TERRITORIAL & ARMY VOLUNTEER RESERVE

1st BATTALION THE YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS

“C” (THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON’S REGIMENT) COMPANY

Wellington Hall, Prescott Street, Halifax HX1 2LG

Commander : Major T. R. Newcombe, LLB

3rd BATTALION THE YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS

“C” (THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON’S REGIMENT) COMPANY

St. Paul’s Street, Huddersfield HD1 3DR

Commander : Major M. Hawley

ARMY CADET FORCE

WELLESLEY COMPANY

(THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON’S REGIMENT)

Huddersfield area ACF

Commander : Major J. K. Tyler, 37 Woodside Road, Silsden, Keighley BD20 5AB

AFFILIATED C.C.F.

GIGGLESWICK SCHOOL CCF

CO: Major N. J. Mussett

Giggleswick School, Settle, N. Yorks BD24 0DE

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

Patron

Brigadier His Grace The Duke of Wellington, MVO, OBE, MC, BA

President : Major-General D. E. Isles, CB, OBE

Vice-President : BRIG. D. W. SHUTTLEWORTH, OBE, HQ The Kings Div., Imphal Barracks, York YO1 4HO

General Secretary : Mr A. Wood, Wellesley Park, Halifax HX2 0BA



'FOUR LEVELS OF COMMAND'

L to R: Brig A. K. F. Walker, Task Force Commander, Lt Col W. R. Mundell, CO 1 DWR, Lt Gen Sir Peter Leng, Corps Commander, Maj Gen J B Akehurst, Div Commander posing in front of the Colours prior to watching the Beating of Retreat

Regimental Headquarters

EDITORIAL

By the time this issue reaches you the 1st Bn will have returned from four years service in BAOR and be once again stationed in their native Yorkshire.

The Colonel and all members of the Regiment, past and present are very proud of the fine reputation the Battalion has built up over this period and extend to them a heartfelt welcome on their return home.

The highlights of the Battalion's first six months at home will be a tour of Public Duties in London

in February and March followed on the April 4, 1981 by the Presentation of New Colours by the Colonel in Chief representing Her Majesty the Queen. All members of the Regiment are looking forward to this Ceremony, one of the most moving in the British Army and one which will be a splendid and most significant event in the history of the Regiment.

Our readers' attention is drawn to the preliminary notes on this parade contained in the Regimental Association notes in this issue.

Regimental Notes

INCREASE IN SUBSCRIPTIONS

As briefly announced in the August edition, The Regimental Council have recommended to the Colonel of the Regiment that the annual subscription to **The Iron Duke** be raised to £3.50 per annum. The Colonel has agreed to this increase which is roughly in line with other journals of the King's Division.

This subscription will apply to all subscribers except the free list and is due on February 1, 1981.

All who pay by Banker's Standing Order will have received a fresh banker's order form, a new Deed of Covenant and covering letter from the business manager. If you have not already done so, please complete these forms and return to RHQ as soon as possible. At the same time please do not forget to request your banker to cancel the existing standing order.

Serving Officers will continue to pay the subscription through the existing 'Day's Pay Scheme' and no further action is required by them as regards payment. They will, however, be requested to sign a new Deed of Covenant.

Existing Seven-year Covenants will be cancelled on receipt of a new four-year Covenant from those subscribers who are already covenanted.

Those who pay by cash or cheque are asked to please pay the new subscription promptly on February 1.

In cases where this increased subscription will entail hardship to pensioners they are invited to submit an application, in the strictest confidence, to be placed on the free list. Such applications should be addressed personally to the Editor.

Annual Service in the Regimental Chapel, York Minster

All Saints Day, November 1, 1980

The Annual Regimental Service was held in the Regimental Chapel, York Minster, on All Saints Day.

The service was conducted by the Dean of York, The Very Rev Dr R. C. D. Jasper and the Rev Canon R. I. J. Matthews.

The address was given by the Rt Rev Morris Maddocks, Bishop of Selby. The lesson was read by the Colonel of the Regiment.

A large representative gathering of past and present members of the Regiment attended the service.

After the service, officers, their guests and families lunched in the Officers Mess at Strensall. The Regimental Association contingent were entertained by the WOs and Sgts of the Depot, The King's Division, in their Mess at Strensall.

A COATEE OF THE 76TH REGIMENT — EARLY 19TH CENTURY



The Coatee

Photo: North Western Museum and Art Gallery Service

In the December 1979 issue of *THE IRON DUKE* (ID No 181, page 211) we wrote of the acquisition of a very interesting old uniform, a coatee as worn by an officer of the 76th Regiment during the early 19th century. The date was considered to be of the period 1829 to 1855 — the dates between which the coatee was officially introduced (the Warrant of 1829) and its abolition and change to the first tunic in 1855. We made some comments on the garment in *THE IRON DUKE* and included a photograph of a button of the 76th as worn on the coatee. A fuller article on the coatee appeared in the *Journal of the Society for Army Historical Research* by Mr Dixon Pickup, late of the Duke of Wellington's Regiment (Vol LIII, No 215 of Autumn 1975, pages 170-171).

Because, as we said in the December 1979 *IRON DUKE*, there were many intriguing features about the coatee and the pair of shoulder wings which accompanied it we asked our Museum Staff at Bankfield if they would be good enough to examine the articles in detail and to comment as appropriate. Before he retired earlier this year Mr Innes, our then curator, did carry out an examination and a resume of his report is re-

produced below.

'This is a most puzzling garment and it is to be regretted that we don't have more information about the alterations carried out by earlier owners, one particular point being the addition of a button shown to be missing on the photograph opposite page 170 of the *SAHR Journal of Autumn 1975*. Either at that time a button was mislaid or subsequently a previous owner discovered a button and stitched it on. In my considered opinion the coatee is pre-1829 and was altered at that date to take the new buttons, or, these domed silver buttons were in use at an earlier date. My reason for this supposition is the shape of the sleeve, particularly the cuff button, and the length of the sleeve which is of a much earlier style than the existing coatees of the 1829 period.

'I am considerably unhappy about the holes on the shoulders to take the wings. These quite clearly have been carried out by some very inexperienced tailor or seamstress. The buttonholing is very incompetent.

'Notwithstanding the criticisms mentioned above, these items are without a doubt the most interesting received by the museum in my time as its curator.'

In the December 1979 *IRON DUKE* we printed a photograph of a 76th button on the coatee. With this article we publish a photograph of the coatee itself and one of the shoulder wings which accompanied it.

GCT



The Shoulder Wings

Photo: North Western Museum and Art Gallery Service

THE HISTORY OF RUGBY IN THE ARMY

In early 1982, the ARU is to publish the 'History of Rugby in the Army'. It will cover the game at Unit, Corps and Army levels, and recount some of the notable matches and personalities in Army Cup, Inter Corps, Territorial Army and Inter-Service Championship Matches from 1878, the first recorded year of the game being played in the Army. It will make fascinating reading with several pages of illustrations.

The author is a knowledgeable Rugby historian. The book will be attractively bound and contain some 350 pages. It is to be published in conjunction with Evans Bros Ltd of London and will cost service readers responding to this item £6, some 25% cheaper than the publication price.

In order that the ARU History Committee can draw up a reserve list and have some idea of income and demand, Regiments have been asked to estimate their requirements.

Will all readers wishing to obtain a copy please notify their requirements to the Assistant Regimental Secretary at RHQ not later than February 1, 1981, who will co-ordinate the provisional order.

Please DO NOT send any money at this stage.

8TH BN DWR/14SRAC

The 36th Annual Dinner was held at the St Ermyhs Hotel, Victoria, on Saturday, October 18. The toast to the Regiment was proposed by Maj

N. D. Pirrie and Maj F. J. Reynolds responded, who together with his brother Lt Ken Reynolds, over from Australia, were joint guests of honour. Maj C. F. Grieve was also a guest.

Lt Col L. Lusted, DSO, presided and 21 ex-officers of the Regiment sat down to dinner.

SERVICE WIDOWS PENSIONS

In November 1979 a scheme which enabled Services widows of Servicemen below the rank of Warrant Officer Class I discharged on or before August 31, 1950, to claim a part-pension on the death of their husband, was introduced. Hitherto, these widows have not been able to receive any part of their husband's pensions on their deaths.

Advertisements giving details and methods of application have been published in the National Press with further enquiries to Army Pensions Office, A7, Freepost, Stanmore, HA7 4BR (or RHQ DWR).

The most important conditions are that the husband was in receipt of a Service Pension during his lifetime, or, if he died in service, would have been eligible for a pension if he had been invalided on the date of his death; and that the widow was married to her husband while he was still serving.

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Wakefield Cathedral Centenary Appeal Bishop Treacy Memorial Hall

The 'parish' church of Wakefield celebrates its Centenary in 1988 as the Cathedral Church of Wakefield Diocese. There has been a church on the site for hundreds of years, and the present spire has been a landmark for more than 500 years.

Time and weather have taken their toll, and the present building, constructed originally as a parish church, can no longer properly undertake its adequate function as a Cathedral. Accordingly, the cathedral authorities decided to launch a centenary appeal to raise money for refurbishing, essential repair work and expansion. One of the principal aims of the expansion programme is to build a hall alongside the cathedral, which can be used for a variety of purposes. It is proposed that this hall shall be a permanent memorial to the late Bishop Eric Treacy who, as is well known, was the previous Bishop of Wakefield, and before that was Vicar of Halifax. More important for us he was our Honorary Regimental Chaplain for some 17 years. The Duchess of Kent has agreed to lay the Foundation Stone, and it is understood this will take place later this year.

The appeal was launched in late February by HM Lieutenant for West Yorkshire, Sir William Bulmer, who is President of the Central Appeal Committee. The Wakefield Diocese, embracing much of West Yorkshire, has seven Deaneries and each has been given a target to aim for. The total appeal is for nearly half a million pounds and the Halifax Deanery's allocation of this is £60,000. Within the half million the estimated requirement for the Bishop Treacy Memorial Hall is some £137,000. Interestingly enough the Halifax Deanery embraces the whole area of Calderdale, which itself is practically identical with the ancient Parish of Halifax. A local committee has

been formed under the Chairmanship of Colonel Freddie Crossley (ex RA/4 DWR (TA)), and the Regimental Secretary is a member.

The bulk of the money is expected to come from industry, commerce and major appeals launched through various other channels. Regimentally, our own contribution can only be modest. Not only that, it could fairly be said that with all due respect to their needs we, as a Regiment, have no connection or concern with Wakefield Cathedral as such, but would be more interested in being associated with Eric Treacy's Memorial Hall. If this is followed logically, and in proportion, the Halifax/Calderdale target with which we would be concerned, for the hall, would be approximately £18,000.

The Colonel of the Regiment discussed this project with the Regimental Council and it has been decided that this is a worthwhile cause which the Regiment should support. Accordingly the Regiment will contribute towards the target for the Memorial Hall and a donation is being made from appropriate Central Funds. It is hoped that the Regimental Association and the 1st Battalion may wish to contribute independently.

Finally, it is possible that there are individual members of the Regiment or groups such as our affiliated TA companies and Cadets who might feel they would like to be associated with the appeal — or those who knew Eric well and had dealings with him, were married by him or whose children were baptised by him — by making individual contributions.

All cheques, etc, should be made out to 'Wakefield Cathedral Centenary Development Programme' and sent to the Regimental Secretary at Regimental Headquarters in Halifax. We will ensure that whatever monies are received are forwarded and nominated for specific allocation towards the Memorial Hall.

Personalia

EXTRACTS FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE

Honours and Awards

The Queen has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards to members of the 1st Battalion in recognition of service in Northern Ireland during the period February 1-April 30, 1980.

The Queen's Gallantry Medal: 24150591 Sgt David Hayes, DWR; 24211937 Lcpl (Acting Cpl) Charles Elliott Tait, DWR.

Mentioned in Despatches: Lt Col William Richard Mundell, DWR; 24049033 Csgt Anthony

Goddard, DWR; 24134211 Cpl (now Acting Sgt) Ernest Pemberton, DWR.

(L.G. 21 Oct 80)

FIELD OF REMEMBRANCE

The following members of the Regiment and widows attended the Field of Remembrance on November 9, 1980.

Mr Eaves, Mr R. H. Temple, Mrs Bowman, Mr K. A. Waterman, Mr R. Ballard, Mr R. Owers, Mr G. Woodward, Mrs Bradley, Associate member Mr C. Cossins.

Regular Army

The following Lieutenants to be Captains September 9, 1980: G. A. Kilburn (497450), DWR; G. D. Shuttleworth (497508), DWR.
(L.G. 14 Oct 80)

Territorial and Army Volunteer Reserve Group A

Maj A. J. McCloy, TD (470715), 1 Yorks, to be Lt Col, June 5, 1980.
(L.G. 16 Sept 80)

RSM P. Robinson

We congratulate RSM Robinson on the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal awarded to him in September 1980.

Change of Address

Col R. M. Harms, MC, 42 The Street, Ash, Canterbury, Kent CT3 2EW.

Regular Army Commands and Staff

Brigadier C. R. Huxtable, CBE (420858), late DWR, is appointed Commander Land Forces Northern Ireland and is granted the acting rank of Maj-Gen October 22, 1980.

King's Division Promotion

The undermentioned Captain to be Major, September 30, 1980.

C. J. W. Gilbert (482733) DWR.

King's Division, Regular Army

2nd Lt (On Probation) (University Cadetship) C. A. Harvey (504832) DWR to be 2nd Lt (On Probation) July 4, 1980.

Short Service Limited Commission

2nd Lt J. C. Hill (510025) DWR. Commission is terminated September 29, 1980.

Maj Gen C. R. Huxtable, CBE,
Commander Land Forces Northern
Ireland



MR A. R. MARTIN, BEM

Mr Bob Martin has generously donated his decorations and campaign medals to the Regiment. They consist of:—

British Empire Medal
1914 Star and Clasp
British War Medal
Victory Medal
Meritorious Service Medal
1939-45 Star
African Star (1st Army Clasp)
France and Germany Star
Defence Medal
War Medal 1939-45.

Mr Martin, a very spry 91 year old, who still attends the London Branch Dinner, enlisted on August 1, 1908, was posted to the 2nd Bn at Litchfield and was trained as a machine gunner. In the spring of 1916 he was transferred to the Machine Gun Corps prior to the battle of the Somme and served with them until demobilisation in July 1920.

He re-enlisted in June 1940 and was posted to the Pioneer Corps serving in N. Africa and North-West Europe, reaching the rank of CQMS. He was finally discharged in December 1944.

We are most grateful to the grand old soldier for the gift of his medals and wish him many more happy years.

Maj A. C. S. Savory, MBE

We congratulate Maj Savory on his election as a member of the Council of the Society for Army Historical Research.

Officers Appointments

Col R. M. Harms, MC, has ended his tour as DA Caribbean and is currently on leave awaiting his next appointment.

Lt Col R. L. Stevens, MBE, has been posted as GSO1 LIVEOAK in Belgium, from April 1980.

Lt Col C. W. Ivey has been posted as GSO1 (DS) at the Staff College in Ghana, July 1980.

Maj S. J. Nash is to remain attached to HQ 1 (BR) Corps at the end of his current tour as a Project Officer, for six months from December 1980.

Maj D. M. Pugh, posted as DAAG (Ops) HQ 1(BR) Corps, December 1980.

Maj P. D. D. J. Andrews has been selected for GSO2 DNBC Centre, May 1981.

Maj C. G. Fitzgerald, posted as TISO 6 UDR, November 1980.

Maj P. J. Mellor, posted as Trg Major 1 Yorks, September 1980.

Maj T. J. Nicholson, posted as DAMS (MOD) (MS4), October 1980.

Maj A. R. Redwood-Davies, MBE, posted to 1 DWR, January 1981.

Maj P. D. Gardner, posted as GSO2 MOD (D Ops XCS) with ACDS, March 1981 (November 1980).

Maj M. P. C. Bray, posted as Trg Major 3 Yorks, November 1980.

Maj J. R. A. Ward, selected for GSO2 (J.Ex. P.S.) (Army) UKCICC, December 1980.

Capt (A/Maj) C. F. Grieve, posted to Depot King's Division as Coy Comd, November 1980.

Lt S. H. Dixon, selected as Pl Comd IJLB Shorncliffe, April 1981.

Lt D. Hughes, for QM 1 Yorks, December 1980.

Lt P. R. S. Bailey, for 1 DWR, April 1981.

Promotion Officers

To Captain wef September 9, 1980: Lt G. A. Kilburn, Lt G. D. Shuttleworth.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Maj Gen and Mrs C. R. Huxtable, HQ Northern Ireland, BFPO 825.

Maj and Mrs J. M. Newton, Farthings, 7a Burn Estate, Huntington, York YO3 9PZ. Tel 0904 763016.

Maj and Mrs P. J. Mellor, 17 Strensall Park, Strensall Camp, York YO3 8SF.

Capt and Mrs M. S. Sherlock, c/o GSD, HQ BAOR, BFPO 40.

Maj and Mrs T. J. Nicholson, 1 Edridge Close, Bushey, Hertfordshire WD2 3PF. Tel 01-950 4864.

Mr and Mrs Bob Middleton, The Fox, Boars Hill, Oxfordshire. Tel Oxford 735131.

Mrs E. M. Horsley, 3 Greenroyde Terrace, Skircoat Green, Halifax HX3 0RS. Tel Halifax 61834.

Maj and Mrs C. J. W. Gilbert, 4 Epsom Close, Camberley, Surrey.

Mr and Mrs A. C. Jowett, G. Hollin View, Leeds LS16 5NQ.

Correction

Lt Col J. R. P. Cumberlege's correct address is 61 Strenstall Park, Strensall Camp, York YO3 8SQ.

BRIGADES COME BACK TO BAOR

The eight Task Forces of the British Army of the Rhine under 1 (BR) Corps are to be re-titled as Armoured Brigades from January 1, 1981. At the same time the Berlin Field Force will be re-titled as the Berlin Infantry Brigade.

In 1974, in order to help find the manpower savings then called for, the Army Restructuring

Plan abolished the Brigade level of command in the Field Army. Subsequent experience showed, however, that if operations were to be conducted effectively, then an intermediate level of command between division and battlegroup was a necessity. Therefore, in September, 1979, Task Forces at 'one star' (Brigadier) command level were formally

established. In effect, although by another name, the brigade level of command had returned — but without restoring the brigade headquarters to anything like its former scale.

Historically, one star formations in the Field Army have been called Brigades. The title is an honoured one and well understood within the Army; it is also a title that is used by all our allies in NATO to describe their own one star formations. There is no doubt that our re-introduction of Brigade titles will be whole-heartedly welcomed both within our own Army and within

NATO.

This re-introduction will involve no internal re-organisation of units or movement of them and no increase in the establishment of either men or equipment. Equally, other than very minimal expenses (arising from such things as repainting signboards), no additional costs will be involved.

So far as the four Field Forces in the UK and the Gurkha Field Force in Hong Kong are concerned, the Army Board has decided to postpone any re-titling until further studies have been completed.

REVIEW

**Waterloo — The official guide of the
Waterloo Committee
By David Howarth
Pitkin Pictorial Ltd — 90p**

This is a beautifully produced guide to the battlefield of Waterloo, incorporating a potted history of the battle.

Written by David Howarth, one of the greatest living experts on the Battle of Waterloo, it presents an authoritative and uncontroversial picture of that fateful day.

The guide takes the visitor to the five best points of view, which are marked on the field itself by plaques erected for the Waterloo Committee by the Province of Brabant. A full description of the action which took place round each viewpoint is described in turn.

The guide concludes with a brief review of the weapons and tactics of the Napoleonic Wars and some useful notes for the visitor. Most of the well-known paintings of the battle are reproduced in the guide and make the book worth purchasing for this alone.

The foreword by His Grace The Duke of Wellington, President of the Waterloo Committee, carries a photograph of His Grace in his uniform as Colonel in Chief of the Regiment.

The guide can be obtained from various sites at Waterloo. It is also on sale in this country at Stratfield Saye, Apsley House, or from the Publishers, Pitkin Pictorials Ltd, 11 Wyfold Road, London SW6 6SG, price 90p.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

2 Park Hall,
Bradley Road,
Huddersfield,
West Yorkshire.

Sir,

To assist me with a BA History degree project on The Factor of Morale — An Army in Retreat, I should like to hear from anyone with interesting ideas on morale. More specifically, I am using the experience of the West Yorkshire Regiment in the Retreat from Burma, 1942, and should like to hear from anyone involved in that campaign with the Duke of Wellington's Regiment, I would then send them a questionnaire.

If anyone can help I would be most grateful, and can be contacted at the above address.

Yours sincerely,

Philip Dent
(Student at York University)

SOME RECOLLECTIONS OF THE 1ST BN 66 YEARS AGO

Lt Gen Sir Reginald Savory, KCIE, CB, DSO, MC

After the death of my uncle I came into possession of a large number of his private papers, most of which relate to his military career. My uncle was destined for the Indian Army, but first he had to do a years attachment to a British regiment, as was then the rule. Accordingly, early in 1914, he joined the 1st Bn which was then stationed in North West India.

The first document from which I have quoted is from the transcript of a taped interview he gave to the BBC for the programme called 'Plain

Tales from the Raj' only a small part of the total that was recorded on the tapes was actually broadcast.

The second quotation is from the draft of a book my uncle had at one time thought of having published, entitled 'A subaltern of the Sikhs, 1914-1920'.

The last quotation is from a letter he wrote to me in January 1980.

ACSS

I — EXTRACT FROM A TAPED INTERVIEW GIVEN FOR THE BBC

The first regiment that I joined before I actually went into the Indian Army was the 1st Bn The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, or, as they were called in those days, The West Riding Regiment. We all had to do a year before being posted to the Indian Army so as to find our feet in cantonments and military life. The Mess was a pretty rigid affair in those days. I remember the night we joined, after our long and dusty train journey from Calcutta, we were allowed to dine in the Mess in our plain clothes because we hadn't had time in which to unpack our Mess kit: but we were in a separate room from the others. We dined in what was called the dining dirty room, which was very seldom patronised. We changed into Mess kit every single night of our lives. The Dukes were I think one of the finest Regiments I've met. A good old tough English country regiment. The Mess was pretty stuffy. I am talking now, of course, of my recollections of a youth of about 19 and possibly rather less. I was terrified of the commanding officer. Everybody was, they jolly well should be. I was equally terrified of the majors, one of whom rejoiced in the name of Wellesley and a Wellesley in The Duke of Wellington's Regiment was a man to be recognised. We stood to attention and called him Sir. The captains we treated with some respect. The senior subaltern put the fear of God into us. Altogether it was a little bit, to use a civilian word, regimental; but then all this was pre1914 when, I think, we were, the army was, a little bit more blimpish than it became later on when the war had taught us a thing or two. Every night we changed into Mess kit. Every night the silver was on the table. Every night the Mess Sergeant, Sergeant Burberry by name, would take round the wines, nudge you . . . 'Port, madeira, marsala, Sir, please?', I remember he always to say. You had to have a glass of port or madeira or marsala. You jolly well had to do it and that was rather expensive on the pay of 5/3d a day. No wonder we were all in debt by the time we joined the Indian Army: But it was a good Mess in a good regiment and I shall never regret having been brought up in that atmosphere.'

II — AN EXTRACT FROM 'A SUBALTERN OF THE SIKHS'

Regimental soldiering in the Himalayas during the spring and summer of 1914, was a carefree life for a second-lieutenant aged 19. I was one of a batch of Indian Army subalterns, just out of Sandhurst, attached to a British regiment for training, pending posting to our Indian regiments. Our regiment was the 1st Bn of the West Riding Regiment, then stationed at Lower Gharial, near Murree, on the road to Kashmir.

We lived hard and played hard. We thought nothing of walking a thousand feet and more down to the Jhelum river to fish; of clambering back in the evening with a basket-full of snow trout; and of then changing into tail coats, mount-

ing hill-ponies, and riding into Murree for a dance. We tucked our tails into our trouser-pockets, galloped in, danced into the small hours, and galloped back in the dark.

Once or twice we had minor mishaps. The worst in my own experience, was when my saddle slipped and I was dragged some way, with my dancing-shoe stuck in the stirrup and my hands clasped behind my head as a buffer against the stones. Somehow, I freed myself and walked home, my coat torn, my hands bleeding, covered in mud, but otherwise unhurt.

We trained hard too. I had been put in charge of the regimental scouts, and we spent much time bivouacking, climbing hills, and generally performing the 'boy-scout' type of duties which appeal to the young soldier.

It was a good life, amidst beautiful scenery of pines and mountains, hill-tracks and gorgeous sunsets. The smell of pines and wood-fires remains with me to this day.

Once a week, there was the Sunday church-parade, when we fell-in 'as strong as possible' and vied with our neighbouring regiments, the 60th Rifles and The Rifle Brigade. It was the weekly ceremonial parade. We wore our red coats and white helmets; carried our arms (ever since the Mutiny, the British troops had attended Divine Service, armed against eventualities); and after the service was over, the band played until lunch-time with the regimental ladies and a few guests attending.

Life had its gentle rhythm. We were happy enough, though our interests were rather circumscribed. We scarcely bothered about the outside world. Some of us wandered into the Murree club, now and again, to read Reuters and bring back the latest news to the Mess, and to watch the arrival of the mail-tonga from Rawalpindi, with its two horses and its driver blowing a bugle. The Tonga-terminus, in the evenings, was a constant attraction. Here newcomers were met after their two-day journey from the plains; their baggage was unloaded and stacked on to the backs of coolies, who trudged with their heavy burdens to their destinations, while their masters rode ahead. One day, a car arrived, followed by a crowd of urchins. It belonged to our commanding-officer, Col Watson, who had just brought it out from England, where he had been on leave. It had created consternation on its way up from Rawalpindi. All the tonga ponies had shied; some of them had bolted. Its engine boiled on the way, and had constantly to be refilled from watercans carried on the luggage carrier; its petrol had to be sent ahead by tonga to prearranged filling places. There were, of course, no garages. Our colonel's motor-car was definitely a regimental status symbol. No one else had one, that I can recollect. We were one-up on the 60th and the Rifle Brigade.

The assassination at Sarajevo, on June 28, meant little to us at the time; it was not until nearly a month afterwards that one of the more senior officers mentioned, rather casually, in the Mess the possibility of war. WAR? It sounded far too good to be likely. From then, we started to

take an almost personal interest in international affairs. An officer was detailed to go daily into Murree to read Reuters, copy out the news and bring it back. We were agog. One day, however, we were thrown into the depths of depression. The officer returned from Murree. We looked at his face and knew the worst. 'It's no good,' he said, 'It's no good! There's going to be no war! Reuters say that Paris is placarded with proclamations saying "Order Demobilization".' This was clearly of sufficient importance to require checking. Another officer was sent while we waited in dejection. He was away an hour or so. He returned with his face shining. 'It's all right! It's all right!' he said, 'Horsfall was wrong. It isn't Demobilization, it's "Ordre de Mobilization"! That night, Horsfall was called on to stand drinks all round, when the port was passed in the Mess.

A fortnight later, we were on the move. My company went ahead to relieve the Connaught Rangers in the Fort at Ferozepore. We marched on August 11, at noon, and arrived at Rawalpindi at 10 o'clock next morning; a distance of some 39 miles, downhill most of the way, with our toes ramming into the toes of our boots, and getting hotter each hour. The last stretch from the foot-hills into Pindi were torture. I had been appointed transport officer. This entitled me to wear breeches, leggings and spurs; but I had no horse and so had to walk all the way. There were no 'shirtsleeves' in those days. Khaki-drill, Sam Browne belt, collar and tie, and sword was the order of dress and as

I marched, I cursed.

Our old friends the Rifle Brigade met us at Pindi and I shall never forget their kindness to us and our men. By the time we had arrived, we were exhausted. Shortly afterwards I received orders to join my new regiment, the 14th (King George's Own) Ferozepore Sikhs.

III — EXTRACTS FROM A LETTER FROM RAS TO ACSS DATED JANUARY 24, 1980

'Here is the "Iron Duke" for 1963. The group of officers in Ambala in 1911 fascinates me. I knew nearly all of them. Teddy Gatacre and Willy Broad were special friends of mine. So were Glenn and "Snickey" Owen. Bowes-Wilson was a charmer. "Stuff" St Hill was adjutant when I joined in Lahore in February 1914. Watson was commander.

'I miss Faulkener, Tidmarsh (the younger) and Fleming. They all joined later. What a fine lot of officers they were! When I left Sandhurst in 1913 "The Dukes" were recommended to me as the best in India: and as being particularly good to their Indian Army "attaches".

'I don't see Trench in the Group. He was my company commander. I have valued my association with the Dukes for the past 66* years; and I hope to be able to continue to do so for a few more years . . . Reg.

*An appropriate figure (33 x 2)!

This was one of the last letters I received from him. He died in June 1980.

1st Battalion

COMMANDING OFFICER'S INTRODUCTION

The Band and Drums are playing as the RSM puts a drill squad through its paces in preparation for the farewell parade of Commander Northern Army Group. We are to represent the British Corps. The other predominant sound is that of packing — our time in BAOR is rapidly coming to an end.

The last four months have been busy, rewarding and a fitting climax to our mechanised tour. Soltau was what it was meant to be, a hard relentless two weeks, with no tents, ending with a week's battle group exercise Ex Muji Kas VI. The sight of Johnny Thorn under pressure on day six in NBC kit, trying to get a pencil out to sign the firing order for a reserve demolition, will remain with me for a long time. We got our procedures right, kept our vehicles going and we dug!

It was, of course, a build up to Ex Spearpoint in September. On this massive exercise, the Dukes, mixed with the Life Guards had perhaps the best role in the Corps in that we were involved in every phase; initially as part of the NATO forces and

then as Orange enemy forces. I am sure that the Company notes will add flesh to my notes on this exercise; suffice to say that we looked good, we were good and the ensuring praise was most satisfactory. We will not see the like again in our service-time.

It was then back to Minden to sort out the equipment, the barracks and the vehicles in preparation for the handover. On October 10 we Beat Retreat as a farewell in front of the Corps Commander, the GOC, The Task Force Commander and the Stadt Direktor. With the limited time available the performance given by the Band and Drums was excellent. I quote Gen Akehurst 'I do not remember a more impressive Retreat by Infantry Band and Drums. The display was well conceived and brilliantly executed'.

Our Colonel and Sheila Isles visited the Battalion at the end of July. He presented the Inter Company Shield to Alma, met lots of soldiers, and helped the officers sort out the sergeants in the squash court. It was great to

have them both with us.

Well it's now Catterick here we come. The winter sportsmen are already flexing their muscles. We are looking forward to coming home. I end on a sad note; Charles Bunbury, the 21C, has left the Battalion (for Barbados!) together with Tim Nicholson, Peter Gardner, Bill Synnott and others on posting. I will miss him, and them. The new

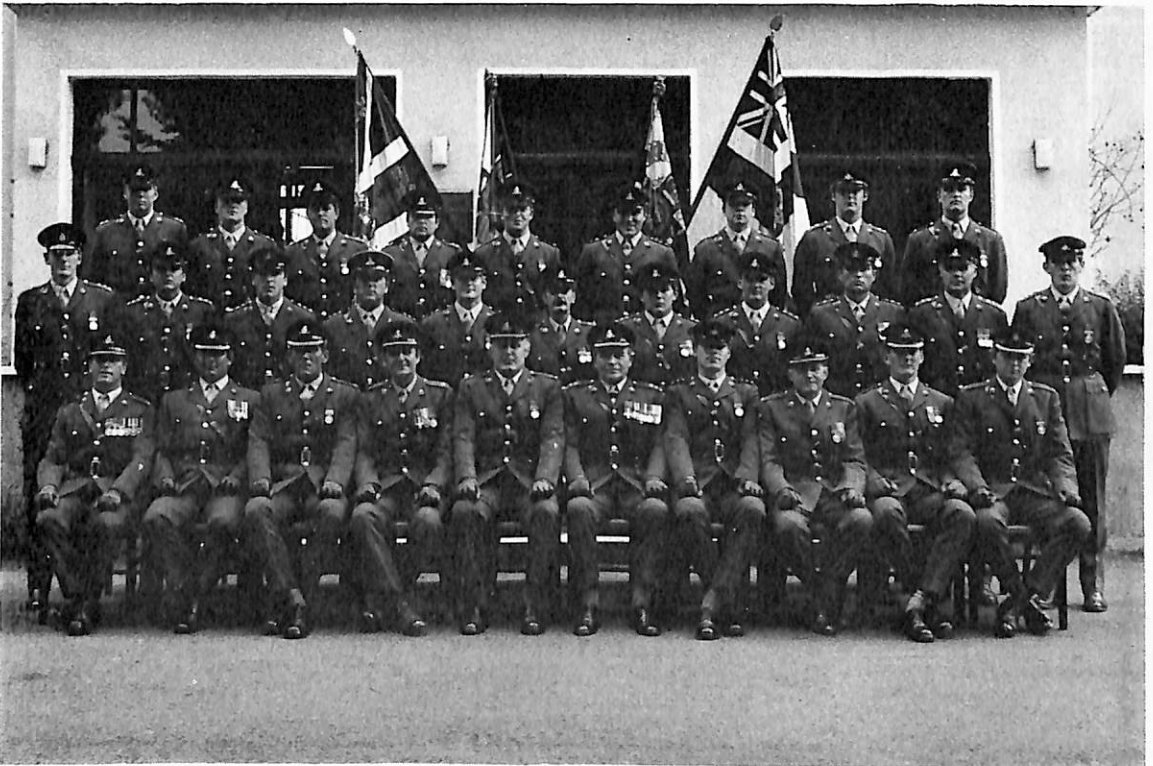
regime opens in Somme Lines at the end of November!

Stop-press: I am delighted to be able to congratulate the following on receiving awards for our last Northern Ireland tour: Sgt Hayes, QGM; Cpl Tait, QGM; WO2 Goddard, MID; Cpl Pemberton, MID; Sgts Allan, Butterworth and Elgar, all GOC's Commendations. A good haul.

OFFICERS MESS

Our sojourn in Germany has now come to a close and it is off to the happy hunting grounds of Catterick. Our departure has not passed unnoticed, especially by the local SKC chief (or was it the Headmaster), who complained to that feared organisation 'Higher Authority' about the raucous behaviour and excessive noise being made in the early hours of one particular morning. Maybe he was peeved at not being invited to our guest night or was it that his untrained musical

ear did not appreciate the finer points of Bill Synnott's bugle calls at 5 am! Nevertheless, the evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended, including Brig Tony Walker, whose comment on receiving the complaints was 'I obviously left too early'. Apart from the impromptu bugling of the TQM the highlights of the night were some excellent speeches and Charles Bunbury's inspection of the bird's nests atop an Eager Beaver as he was towed out of camp.



The Colonel of the Regiment and Officers 1st Battalion, 31 July 1980

Back row, L to R: Lt S. J. N. Morgan, Lt R. B. Loughton, Lt M. White, Lt D. Hughes, 2Lt R. J. M. Pugh, Lt J. W. Wood, 2Lt J. C. Hill, Lt P. J. Harvey, 2Lt M. A. Chapman.

Centre row, L to R: Capt M. J. O'B. Minogue, Capt M. J. Stone, Capt A. D. Meek, Capt W. S. Higginson, Capt W. A. N. Atkinson, Capt D. Whittaker, Capt G. A. Kilburn, Capt G. D. Shuttleworth, Capt T. J. Isles, Capt T. Pickersgill, Capt M. J. B. Drake.

Front row, L to R: Maj (QM) R. A. Tighe, Maj J. M. Thorn, Maj P. D. Gardner, Maj C. N. St P. Bunbury, MBE, Lt Col W. R. Mundell, Maj Gen De Isles, CB, OBE, Capt S. C. Newton, Maj P. B. L. Hoppe, Maj T. J. Nicholson, Maj D. L. J. Harrap.

The Silver Putter
 Played at Bad Salzuflen October 9,
 1980. Winner Maj J. M. Thorn.
 Wooden Spoon Capt T. Pickersgill



The major social function of course was the Beating of Retreat, a detailed report of which is given elsewhere in this edition. All the Dukes in BAOR came for the evening and the party after the official events of cocktails and Retreat Beating went on into the small hours, this time without complaint (we obviously got the guest list right that time).

The success of our social life can all too often be taken for granted, but thanks are due to the Mess staff who have worked long hours uncompromisingly. Ssgt Budden now leaves the Mess (with his camera) and Cpl Dalladay remains to take over once he returns from his course at Aldershot. To all the staff our grateful thanks for all their efforts throughout our time in Germany.

The departure for Catterick sees an unequalled change in personalities within the Mess. Charles and Veronica Bunbury to Barbados, Tim and Sheenagh Nicholson to Stanmore, Peter and Pauline Gardner to London, Andrew and Sandy Meek to Sandhurst, Dave and Ruth Hughes to York, Bill and Theresa Synott to Warminster, Mike and Kay Stone to Netheravon, David Richardson to Lisburn and Jeremy Hill departs us and the Army for University. We also leave Mark and Fiona Jeffery in Minden.

On the credit side Johnny and Suzy Walker are awaiting our arrival in Catterick as are Simon and Suzy Dixon and Mick and Anne Carter, whilst Tony and Angie Redwood-Davies travel north from York after Christmas.

WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS MESS

4 PLATOON

As we approached our final weeks in Minden before departing for Catterick life for most Mess members has been one of conflicting priorities. 'Exercise Spearpoint' was the cry from the CO, 'but what about the handover' pleaded the QM. The rest of us were somewhere in between.

However, Exercise Spearpoint has come and gone and as these notes are going to print RQMS Conley and his band of administrative rogues on the advance party are about to leave Minden for Somme Barracks.

Despite our obviously busy programme over the last few months we have still managed to maintain our equally full social life. The dinners and social evenings have been too numerous to mention all in detail, but the climax of our Mess life in Minden—our Farewell evenings have been a bit special. On October 10, the evening of the Beating of the Retreat, we invited many of our

friends from outside Messes to watch the parade and then join us in the Mess for a Social Evening. The parade was excellent, even though the evening was cold for some of the girls in evening gowns; could it, I wonder, have been the weather that kept some of our guests in the Mess so long? Our final 'Farewell' was much more of a 'Family' affair. During our four years in Minden the Mess strength has swelled by the many attached members, mainly from the REME, that it takes to keep our metal monsters (APCs) on the road. In addition we say farewell to some of our catering staff, in particular SQMS Dave Ash. We also made a somewhat belated presentation to Ssgt Mat Hall (of Rugby fame).

On the sports field the Mess plays a particularly full part with RSM Robinson, Sgts Graham Walker and Deck Allen all playing Rugby for the Battalion—even CSM Sam Basu occasionally



The Colonel of the Regiment presenting WO2 Heron with his Warrant in The Warrant Officers and Sergeants Mess, July 31, 1980

still stretches his legs on the field—they need experience he says. CSM Bob Heron, Csgt Brian Sykes, Sgts Benny Coroner, Smiler Hughes, Tex Woodward and Max Ijeh all represent the Battalion at soccer. The Mess soccer team after an unbeaten run of about 12 months finally met its match against the Corporals Mess side in October, after leading 2—0 at half-time, a goal-keeping error (no names mentioned but he wears the biggest badge of rank in the Mess) allowed the Corporals back into the game, finally running out winners by four goals to two.

On a more serious note we would like to welcome Sgt 'Harry' Harrison 'back' into the Mess after a few years in exile, and congratulations to Ssgts Tosh Goddard and Eddy Craven on their promotion to Warrant Officer.

Congratulations are in order to Ssgt Brian Noble and wife Kathleen on the recent birth of a daughter, Beverley Ann.

As always we have to say farewell to some of our members. Sgt Brian Hall is leaving the Battalion on posting to 1 Yorks (V) to finish his service—come and see us in Catterick, Brian. WO2 Les Shaw is also leaving us on transfer to the 'Computer Corps' (RAOC I think) but we will

be seeing him again at the Christmas Draw on December 12.

The following Mess members have been posted and we look forward to seeing them again in due course:

Sgt Bas Hey to Bmatt, Zimbabwe (you lucky little man);

Sgt Len Hepworth to Depot, The King's Division;

Sgt Mick Nuttall to IDB Warminster;

Sgt Dave Porter to AC10 Halifax.

Congratulations are in order after the following presentations:—

Northern Ireland Awards: Sgt Dave Hayes—QGM; WO2 Tosh Goddard—MID; Sgt Deck Allen—GOC's Commendation; Sgt Butch Butterworth—GOC's Commendation; Sgt Rod Elgar—GOC's Commendation.

Long Service and Good Conduct Medal: RSM Robinson, Ssgt Bob Frear and Sgt Baz Sherratt.

Sgt 'Butch' Butterworth is sadly in hospital following a serious illness and we all wish him well on the road to recovery.

Let me finish by saying to our many friends and honorary members in Yorkshire, you know where we are, so come up and see us.

ALMA COMPANY

This current period was started in excellent fashion with the Colonel of the Regiment presenting CSM Grey with the Champion Company Shield for which we had competed since Northern Ireland. There were eight events and we achieved three 1st, one 2nd, two 3rd and one 4th place.

We won the football (the team consisted of Capt Atkinson, Sgt Walker, Cpl O'Gare, Cpl Shinn and Cpl Kenny, Lcpl Ayrton, Ptes Capewell, Adamson, Kenny, Bacon, Samerson and Dooley). We also won the boxing (the team consisted of Cpl Dowdall, Lcpl Varley, Lcpl Whiteley, Cpl Kenny, Ptes Adamson 79, Adamson 32, Dooley, Block and Devaney). We also won the Administration competition. The amount of effort involved in all aspects from the Block to the vehicles was tremendous and well rewarded.

The fervour generated inside the OC's Office over the length of the competition was a sight to behold. We had written ourselves off after a poor Isaac and BFT but as the lead narrowed a daily conference was held to count up the possible points tally and I, for one, know that Maj Gardner was not convinced till he saw the shield being presented to the CSM after we had won the boxing finals.

With the competition behind us attention was focused on Crusader 80 and more precisely, Exercise Spearpoint. Our training for this was broken down into three main phases. Phases 1 and 2 at Soltau consisted of company and individual re-training covering all aspects of mechanised drills, including perfecting Soviet tactics which faced us with a totally different concept of commanding and basic soldiering skills. The second phase was the Commanding Officer's mini Spearpoint and it was this exercise that demonstrated to us the amount of travelling we would be doing on the real exercise. This Soltau period was excellent training and knitted the new company together as many soldiers had not previously been on a mechanised exercise.

After the end of Soltau and Muji Kas it was back to barracks and some deserved leave which could not have been better timed. The company was in top form and the morale was high.

On return from leave we found the rest of the Battalion preparing hard for Spearpoint and we were soon moving about the countryside in White Elephants (buses) covering the exercise area, being briefed on each stage and finding out exactly where we were going to die. One of the hardest and most frustrating task was map marking with the traces changing almost every day, but it must have improved our map marking; another military skill practised!

The final practice exercise was a Task Force exercise held at Begen/Hohne over one weekend. The vehicles moved up by train and it was a new experience for most of the drivers as they crawled along a quarter of a mile of flat beds

with about 6in to spare on either side.

It was at Bergen/Hohne that the combat teams married up with all their supporting arms and we got to know each others idiosyncrasies, especially T22C who proceeded to bog himself in 30 minutes after the start of training. It took him the rest of the day to get out. This was not the last we heard of T22C. We believe he won first prize in exercise damage during Spearpoint. It should be noted that after Spearpoint he was given four tanks to command. At the end of the weekend everyone was happy and we all felt that exercise Spearpoint couldn't come soon enough.

When the Battalion deployed on Monday, September 15, 1980, one had the feeling that everything would go right especially for the Alma as all the wagons made the journey in good condition. Our first deployment was to the village of Calbecht near Saltzmitter — Bad. We spent the first three days here and the local population was extremely friendly as OC 3 Platoon could verify. This friendliness was a common aspect throughout the exercise period and it was tested once again when we had a 24-hour break at a small village called Lesse. The Coy 2IC took 2½ hours to use a private householder's ablutions.

As in all exercises there were ups and downs and it was fortunate that the exercise moved along at a good speed; something quite unusual for such a large exercise. It was a shame that both our defence phases became non-fighting positions due to too much damage being caused by the attackers. Because of this the company was left in very well-defended woods with our one chance to fight and die with sufficient pyrotechnics to go out with a bang. Looking back at the biggest exercise since World War II it must be said that World War II was more realistic when it came to umpiring decisions. Most soldiers and officers will never partake in an exercise of this size again. There were many good times and a few disappointing moments to remain in our memories.

On returning once again, and for the final time, to Clifton Barracks (just as complete as we set off) it was a case of cleaning everything up but this time with the emphasis of handing over to 2 RGJ. We could now see the light at the end of the tunnel. As the band and drums prepared for our farewell to Minden with a Beating of Retreat, the garages, CQMS stores and signal stores took on an appearance seldom seen in the last four years. The only thing that didn't change was the impossibility of signing out kit.

Beating Retreat was a great success and the final scene of soldiers on top of APCs silhouetted by trip flares was very impressive and was mentioned by Gen Leng in his letter. (It must be noted that OC pyrotechnics was Sgt Arundel (Alma).



Obstacle crossing during Exercise Mujs Kas VI

We are now starting a training programme to get the soldiers back into the swing of life after a long period of scrubbing floors. These last six weeks will pass slowly but I think most of the Company cannot wait to get back to Yorkshire.

We leave Minden as the Champion Company and arrive at Catterick as the same but in the middle there is a vast change within the company. Maj Peter Gardner and his wife bade farewell to move to the MOD complete with broly, briefcase and bowler hat. He was pleased to leave us as Champion Company and the Company was pleased they could do it for him. The new OC is Maj Tony Redwood-Davies and we await his arrival in Catterick. With the stories that remain of him since he left in Ballykelly many people are wondering what we have been let in for. We say farewell to CSM Grey who moves to Halifax for the TAVR and we know we are losing a very good cook. His job is taken

by CSM Goddard who moves upstairs from the CQMS stores and it is here that we should congratulate CSM Goddard on being awarded his second MID for our last Op Banner tour. Sgt Hall (MT Sgt) now leaves us (as we have no vehicles) for the TAVR where I think his job will be just as hectic. Sgt Frear, Pl Sgt 3 Pl, has gone to the Milan Platoon which will be an experience for us all.

Lcpl Plummer has gone to count sheets in the Depot, Lcpl Lowther, determined not to be parted from his 432, goes to Warminster to drive one all over the plain. We also say farewell to Cpl O'Garro who is now instructing at the Depot. As we move we also say goodbye to Lcpl Ayrtton and Lcpl Walters who leave the Army and have been closely associated with Coy HQ. I am glad they leave at the end of a posting and not in the middle as they leave a big hole which will be difficult to fill.

BURMA COMPANY

COMPANY HQ

We left you last time with veiled comments as to the shortage of certain members of the hierarchy and little has changed apart from those who were holding the fort are no longer, and those who weren't now are. I will explain. We bade a sad farewell to Maj and Mrs Nicholson who have departed for the MOD and Bushey for a spell. We all wish them the very best of luck for the future. Capt Isles has returned from his Bisley exploits to assume the reins. CQMS Craven has been able to step back downstairs with the return from Bisley of CSM Heron, but he did get promoted to WO2 for his efforts. A lot of

changes are also afoot. Lcpl 'SAS' Bracewell has left us for the Dental Corps after doing a sterling job in the company clerk's chair and Lcpl Smith 79 goes to try his hand in civilian life with dire threats of returning if he doesn't like it. Also departing is Lcpl Unnuth after seeing to our accommodation side of life so well. We welcome from 4 Pl Lcpl Kerry to assist the CQMS, Lcpl Green who has replaced the stoic Cpl Haigh as our company pay clerk, and lastly our new clerk, Pte Price. Eighteen months at the Depot didn't do much for his waistline, but plenty of effort around the BFT course is giving him a new shape.

Accomplishments

As always, we have not been idle. The Battalion work-up period was successful; Burma acted as a professional enemy to the rest of the Battalion and much was learnt by all. A well-earned period of leave followed with destinations stretching from North Yorkshire to Yugoslavia. Smiling faces on return suggested that an enjoyable time was had by all. Then preparation for what we had all been waiting for — Spearpoint. Endless briefings, map marking, traces, trial runs, dress rehearsals and we were ready. Off we rolled on September 15 for what should be described as a testing, successful hitch-free exercise. Burma Coy formed up as an armour heavy combat team welcoming to its fold T11 and T42 from the Life Guards to replace its lost 122 and 123 callsigns. Much ground was covered during the two weeks and some firm friendships made.

As we write we are deep into another new form of warfare with brushes and soap as the main weapons. Not the most satisfying form of combat but victory is not far away. Despite all the above, time has permitted us to continue our sporting achievements. Our boxers claimed a notable success in the Inter-Company Competition, achieving second place. Well done, Ptes Draper, McConnell, Kelly 10, Oroszlan, Sharp, Sherwood, Dick and Wetherall; a very good effort. And of course this team has no less than four boxers who represent the Battalion. Just as we go to press the Tug of War Competition gave us a chance to prove our muscle. 5 Pl were runners-up to the LAD in the final and 4 Pl were winners of the Plate Competition. And lastly in a gentler but equally exciting sport Pte Dean must be congratulated on winning the novices class of the Army Hang Gliding Championships. Not a bad all-round record at all.

4 PLATOON

Well, the last exercise in Germany is over. This exercise, Spearpoint (for those who missed it), had more men and vehicles operating in Europe at any time since the Second World War. As a platoon we didn't see too much of the action, not even a Red Freds van, but the sight of 13 Chinooks made up for this. I would not say our first position was hard but we might have well opened up a chalk quarry, the digging was so hard, and as always the mechanical digger came when we had finished. Hooray for the Sappers. Now we are back in Minden, it's time to start the big clean up for the handover to the Green Jackets; talk about rub and scrub scrub. At the moment the Platoon Commander is away on a COP Course—all the best on this one 007 Wood. The Platoon Sergeant is also away. Is it right that they are trying to re-educate you, Sgt Ennis?

We are now steadily getting down to the art of drill once more, ready for Public Duties in 1981. The best boots are coming on well. When

these notes come to print we will be in England at Catterick, and for those who do not know where that is, it's north of the Humber and south of the Tyne, which is pretty close to home for most of us.

We would like to wish all the best to Pte 'Spike' Linsel who has left us for civvy street. We would also like to welcome to the platoon Ptes McCabe, McBride, England, Atkins, Lyons and Hollinshead, and hope they have fully settled down and are enjoying life. Finally, but by no means least, congratulations to Ptes James and Greenwood on attaining the dizzy heights of Lance Corporal. Well done.

5 PLATOON

Here we are at the end of our tour in Minden, looking forward and happy that England looms near. Besides saying goodbye to Germany we also say goodbye to Sgt Derek Dent who by this time will be putting his new platoon through their paces, at Strensall. We welcome Sgt 'Tex' Woodward in his place. We would like to welcome back 2Lt Pugh who has just completed an NBC Course at Winterbourne Gunner and can now carry out foot inspections successfully. Or was that his other course?

Crusader was a great success where we practised all the techniques and drills and put them together with the knowledge gained from smaller exercises, such as Soltau. We teamed up with 'D' Squadron of the Life Guards for the whole exercise and that made for a pretty busy time.

Cpl B. J. Doyle was one of the lucky people to see a woman after being taken ill on the exercise. But as the exercise neared the end, he came bouncing back with a smile on his face—he never did tell us how those nurses cured him.

Everyone will be pleased to land back on English soil with our move back to Catterick. Christmas should be a better one this year.

Battalion boxing has claimed our smallest member of the platoon for the team so congratulations to Pte 'Radar' McConnell who we hope does as well in the Army Championships as he did in the inter-company boxing. Success came our way in the Battalion Tug of War as we were runners-up to the 'Hulks' of the LAD. The team being:

Lcpl Jimmy Ellis	Pte Mick Hirst
Pte Jonah Jones	Cpl Stuart Hunt
Pte Ginger Wootton	Cpl Pete Williams
Pte Mac Mcevoy	Pte Big un Sherwood
Lcpl Animal Gregory	

And last but not least our team captain was Cpl B. J. Doyle.

6 PLATOON

Since our summer leave life has, as always, been busy. The highlight of the period has to be Ex Spearpoint. We were attached to the Life Guards



The Taylor Miles Award
The Taylor Miles award for 1980, awarded to the most promising Junior NCO has been won by Cpl D. A. Hughes who is here seen being presented with the award by the Brigade Commander, Brig A. K. F. Walker

Battle Group, which made an interesting change and gave us a real insight into the world of heavy armour. Spearpoint meant lots of movement for us but only a couple of contacts. However, on these two occasions we did manage to make them really count. The exercise did have its lighter moments too. On one occasion we were not able to move our vehicles to get to the mobile bath unit so a bit of ingenuity soon had a nearby

stream dammed. The sight of 'Link' Barlow wallowing about in the mud like a hippopotamus will not be forgotten easily.

The exercise now over we have a big task ahead to hand over our vehicles and stores in a clean and serviceable state to 2 RGJ. We are also looking into the future with periods of drill and preparing our kit for Public Duties and the Colour Parade.

CORUNNA COMPANY HQ

The month of July saw Coy HQ preparing for Soltau, which was an interesting exercise, learning new tactics and moves. We even practised Russian tactics in preparation for Ex Crusader. The OC found the Soltau soil harder than he thought when, dismounting for an attack and shouting 'forward Corunna' he fell off the top of the APC. Pte Allanby found Coy HQ life very different from a Pl's, as it was his first ex with us. He found sleeping in any position no problem. The weather was up to its normal standard for Soltau; it rained. Then came the day and off to Ex Spearpoint. Ex Spearpoint was interesting. The CSM found debussing with the OC and running with him very tiring; in the end he resorted to handing him his webbing and climbing back into the wagon. However, we were grateful for his know-

ledge of German and for booking us into barns. On return to barracks, life became more hectic, cleaning of wagons, blocks, etc. The CSM needed his garden weeding before handing over his quarter. A mysterious gardening cadre appeared on Coy detail. To the CSM's surprise he found quite a number of budding Percy Throwers! The Company now looks forward to going to Catterick after a hard four years in Germany. Sadly we say farewell to Lcpl Peat who is staying over here as a civilian. The last words come from the CQMS: 'Bill him.' We must be leaving soon.

7 PLATOON IRON DUKE NOTES

No one would listen when I assured them that 7 Pl did not need a pre-Crusader exercise; 'the rest of the Battle Group is going so you will have

to go too!' So off we toddled to Soltau. After we had all got it right at platoon level we advanced on to the company exercise. Confidence and morale was at its peak backed up with the knowledge that 7 Pl had 'clicked' and the reassurance of our Platoon Commander, Mr Morgan, that the company Ex would be a 'doddle'. If we had only known what the OC had up his combat jacket sleeve.

Sense of humour failures ran amok through the normally cheerful ranks of our wardogs. The one exception was 31B and their unpredictable driver Pte 'Mork' Rowson who were always too busy re-fitting tracks to realise that there was a Combat Team exercise going on around them. Every time a track was thrown, burnt offerings in the form of cam nets were given to the Gods of War; however, they did not show their gratitude! Things could only get better and indeed they did. 7 Pl put in some excellent sub aqua attacks as the OC and CSM stormed the bridges and threatened to repel any friendly forces, ie Corunna, who dared to use them. Arguments were raised by those who tried to use the bridges which always ended in a gurgle of muddy water. All considered 7 Pl did well on the ex and worked very hard and deserved the rest, Bar-B-Que and the beer we received to draw us into a false sense of contentment prior to Muji Kas VI.

To dwell on Muji Kas might cause the recurrence of nightmarish memories for too many good men who have managed to erase the scars on their minds, not to mention the ones that the blisters left. So to say we worked very hard for good results will suffice. As I look back on Soltau we did get wet, blistered feet and everything else it's possible to get. To balance this there were the humorous times and the satisfaction of achievement. We all enjoyed ourselves—on second thoughts . . . ?

Crusader Phase 1—Bridge Demolition Guard. We all got there in one piece, on time, excellent news. We are detached from Corunna to do a bridge demolition guard, fine. We get to the bridge, dig in and wait. Engineers turn up, they don't know anything about the bridge—'just here to mine the road'—been planned for years this ex! Waiting continues, no enemy seem to know about 7 Pl so we pack up our kit and go on to better things on distant horizons.

Phase 2—Orange forces—everyone says this is a long, hard advance to contact, with a PR thing with the Americans. Bags of press and TV, 7 Pl are going to be stars at last.

I recall us de-bussing once on the advance to contact and certainly never had a chance to swap uniforms or use my American accent—did I miss something?

Phase 3—Goodwood phase—we realised all too soon that this phase was here to remind us we were on exercise and that hard work was to be had by all. Numerous battle group attacks that left you drained of energy and cursing the umpires, the ever alert Scots of Uniform 45C. The umpires seemed to have unlimited reserves

of bionic enemy forces with nine lives each and an assortment of weapons that were far in advance of ours (we in 7 Pl being mere earthlings). Yes this phase was a killer—Lcpl Gale got killed three times—and a lot was learned by all. Uniform 45C even learnt not to argue with Maj Thorn.

Phase 4—More digging—so we dug in again and waited again. Highlight of day one came in the form of a 60-year-old man who appeared to be returning home after a 59-year-long binge on the hard stuff. He decided to make his bed between our HQ trenches. Sgt Allen didn't get on with him but Capt Meek had a veritable debate with the gentleman; makes you think! Well to cut a short story even shorter we never got attacked even though one soldier claimed he saw an enemy tank, but he's from a dubious background in Barnsley.

We came back from Crusader a lot better for the experience but with questions still to be answered:—

- (a) How did Cpl Broadhead always manage to park up near a house whose occupants insisted on waiting on him hand and foot?
- (b) Did Cpl Chapman's self appointment to General in the field and the subsequent promotion of all his section to Colonel in the field really play an important strategic part in the battle?
- (c) Is Pte 'Mork' Rowson a Soviet subversive agent or a harmless offshoot of modern day society?
- (d) Who took the best photographs? The inquest goes on. So does life in 7 Pl.

Since the last notes our orbat has been lengthened by the arrival of Ptes Wilson, Nelson, Lilley, Holmes, Rosier, Savory, Head, Johnson, Dowson and Booth—all from the Depot.

On the sports field we entered the Inter Platoon Sevens with a squad that had the weight but not the speed. However, under the captaincy of Cpl 'have a go' Broadhead we managed to earn the runners-up prize—well done the whole team.

To finish off, the whole platoon would like to say goodbye and good luck to our CSM, WO2 G. Cookson, who leaves us early next year for 3 Yorks; many thanks from everyone!

8 PLATOON IRON DUKE NOTES

Preparation for Crusader was well on its way, the whole camp was thrown into turmoil just at the mention of the name, but we had to have a training exercise first.

Soltau — a name to make the strongest men quake, we went for just two weeks. The exercise went well for the platoon with platoon commanders Mr Hill and Sgt Porter getting to grips with the job. This exercise was the first one for a number of the platoon, Pte's Corkery, Collins, Lawrence, Moore, Sedgwick, Thomas, Walton, Watson, Zina, all men fresh from the Depot, but as the two weeks progressed, they turned into steely-eyed warriors of the night.

After Soltau we said goodbye to Cpl Pont Teasdale who has gone to teach recruits at the Depot. Just before Crusader the vehicles had a weekend in Hohne to practise Soviet vehicle formations. Well if the Soviets are as good as us, we have nothing to worry about!

At the end of all this preparation, it finally came, the Big One. After the Active Edge siren on Sunday night we all assembled in camp. The next morning we set off for phase 1—the defence phase. For some reason we did not get attacked on this phase but that seemed to be the story of the exercise. The platoon HQ was a joy to watch in themselves, they had two platoon commanders, a platoon sergeant who was a Corporal and two platoon radio ops! Lt Hill had his own idea of radio stags, he preferred the prone supported. It was very rare that he heard messages, but he often heard the 'see me later's'. On return from Crusader we got down to training for the inter Platoon rugby sevens. The Platoon did well in winning the competition defeating the Milan Platoon in the final 36-4, an impressive win. The team was Cpl Tracker Oakley (captain), Ptes Thomas, Lawrence, Sedgwick, Machen, Lcpls Lawrence, and Dobbs. Well done to all these players in adding the rugby championship to the football which we already hold and are training to retain.

There have been changes within the platoon and sadly we have some farewells to say. Good luck to Mr Hill at college and also to Sgt Porter who has gone recruiting in Halifax. Cpls Geoff Mitchell and Pont Teasdale have both gone to the Depot, good luck from the lads. We welcome to the Platoon Ptes Richmond and Walton.

9 PLATOON IRON DUKE NOTES

Prior to Crusader 9 Platoon warmed up with two weeks at Soltau which incorporated another Muji Kas. The ex proved that it is possible to fit the whole Platoon in one vehicle! A letter of entry is on its way to the Guinness Book of Records. Soltau was then followed by a weekend at Hohne for all the commanders and drivers to practice Soviet formations.

Then came what we had all been waiting for, Ex Crusader. This began early Monday morning, with a long drive to the ex area. All the vehicles made it except 3C who just would not move off a crossroads. Phase 1 was defence, and although a hair of the enemy's head was not seen, it did rain! This probably accounted for the enemy never appearing. Phase 2, and a very welcome attachment to 'B' Sqn the Life Guards, whose commander soon became known to us all as Charlie Carlsberg (for reasons too numerous to mention). This phase was an advance to contact with not much action. Phase 3 was the Goodwood phase, where we saw plenty of action and much hard work. Phase 4 was another defence phase, this time we were to hold a village which certainly was an improvement on the wood in phase 1. As the enemy came in to view at a distance of 2 km, the End Ex Message came across the air!

So it was a 'dry' weekend in the leaguer area

with some of the platoon going to a very good CSE show.

In Minden we are working hard for our hand-over to 2 RGJ, before returning to UK and a well-earned leave. We would like to take this opportunity to say goodbye to CSM Cookson and his wife. We wish them well in their future life. Also goodbye to Lt Peter Harvey who through no fault of his own had to work with us (or was it vice versa?)

ANTI TANK PLATOON

Since being equipped with Milan we have noticed that there is a tendency to use the Platoon mainly in the defensive role. We have done two exercises this year; one at Soltau and Spearpoint. During both these exercises the platoon saw far more of their spades than anything else.

After Soltau (Dig In) the CO held a 'wash up' conference. During this conference the platoon commander decided to mention that the Anti-Tank Platoon did have a role in aggressive operations. The CO made the note 'Offensive Milan'. We are still not sure if he was referring to the weapon system or to the platoon commander.

Apart from the exercises we have had a short spell of leave. Immediately after this the Company Commander found himself at less than peak fitness. He looked around the company and discovered he was not alone. The result has been some form of fitness training daily. Even the older and fatter members of the platoon are now becoming quite fit.

The BAOR experience should help the Platoon in their new role in Catterick. Most have enjoyed their time out here, but are looking forward to getting back to Yorkshire and real beer.

A few members of the Platoon have recently left to try civilian life. We wish them all the best of luck. Sgt Butterworth also had to leave us part-way through the year. He is at present in hospital in London. We wish him a speedy recovery and all the best.

At the end of Spearpoint Lcpl Carter recited two poems: one was 'Exercise Crusader' which is below and the other 'In our Wagon'. We would have liked to publish both, but 'In our Wagon' in its basic form was unprintable and once censored unreadable.

"SPEAR POINT" A POEM BY Lcpl CARTER

Men of many nations are gathered round this place,
But these are no olympics, we are not here to race,
We come in search of conflict, to arms we have been called,
And into mighty motion our forces have been rolled.

Not all these men do full time fight some are not soldiers full,
But tell you not the difference when the fighting actions lull,

They leave their quiet normal life for a fortnight
 full of fight,
 Two weeks behind a machine gun butt and not a
 wife in sight,
 Throughout the week they hear it said, 'It's the
 biggest yet they say,'
 Two Corps of that a brigade of this are but a mile
 away,
 Stand to, stand to, they hear the call part-time,
 full-time alike,
 As they tighten their grip on a quiet gun and stand
 prepared to fight.

O'er top the hill we see them come like a horde
 of searching ants,
 Mile after mile of churning tracks headed by the
 mighty tanks,
 As they move across the farmer's land their for-
 mation spread out wide,
 Their guns search every arc of fire as they swing
 from side to side.
 But still they hide not to be seen so good's their
 discipline,
 That they'll not be spotted by the enemy until
 it's time to win,
 The time is ripe it's plain to see they're in a trap
 that's true,
 As into the sights of a missile scope the last enemy
 come into view.

From afar come balls of fire like vengeance of
 the gods,
 These are the mighty swingfire set hunting from
 their pods,
 As if a sign all hell's let loose the area's covered
 in smoke,
 And the enemy reel in disarray their mighty
 advance is broke.
 Fear not for broken bodies of corpses bent and
 burnt,
 This is not for real, though real lessons have been
 learnt,
 Not a harmful shell in anger fired, to have done
 would be murder,
 For all these men have taken part in Exercise
 Crusader.

G. A. CARTER

HOOK COMPANY

The highlight since the last notes has been our
 involvement in Exercise Spearpoint. Everyone in
 the Company took part in one or the other of the
 Battalion's Echelons (F, A1, A2, B or Damage
 Control). The Band deployed in their secondary
 role as medical assistants and joined elements of
 4 Armd Div Fd Amb for the duration! A few
 lucky ones remained behind as rear party and had
 the hardest time of all, having to follow each other
 on and off guard. The weather was kind and the
 Exercise went well.

Now all eyes are on Somme Barracks, Catterick.
 On the news the other day 'In what the papers say'
 we are already there and about to be deployed

guarding HM prisons. Is this shade of things to
 come?

The Company congratulations list and hail and
 farewell column is quite lengthy as many changes
 are about to take place. Firstly, very many con-
 gratulations to Cpl Tait on being awarded the
 Queen's Gallantry Medal for his brave action
 under fire during the last Northern Ireland tour.
 Well done indeed Cpl Tait, QGM. Congratulations
 go to Ssgt and Mrs Noble, Sgt and Mrs Rance,
 Cpl and Mrs Harrison and Cpl and Mrs Gilbert
 on the additions to their families.

The list of those about to leave is a long one
 and includes; Capt Synnott — posted to Warmin-
 ster, Capt Richardson to N. Ireland, Capt Grieve
 to the Depot, Cpl Meade to the Depot, Sgt Jack-
 son and all the Battalion's Royal Signal Section
 who join 2 RGJ. Sgt Songhurst, Cpl Maddocks,
 Cpl Tovey and eight other of our ACC cooks
 together with their leader, SQMS Ash, leave the
 Battalion for postings to other units. Thank you
 one and all for your work and play with the
 'Dukes' and good fortune in the future.

Within Company HQ Cpl Beck has moved to
 the BOR and Lcpl Cowburn is now in the Com-
 pany Clerks' Hot Seat.

Last, but not least, the Company and the
 Signal Platoon in particular, would like to say
 farewell and good luck to WO2 Shaw and his
 family, who are about to leave us after many
 years of faithful and loyal service to start a new
 career with the RAOC (programming compu-
 ters). Keep in touch, we will look forward to see-
 ing you at the Colours Presentation.

DRUMS PLATOON

Once again we have changed company. This
 copy of THE IRON DUKE finds us in Somme
 Company as that strange anomaly the 4th section
 of the Milan Platoon. Quite a change from No 1
 Platoon, but one that has proved for the better,
 allowing us to devote much more badly needed
 time to drumming.

Our first task, however, was not to drum but
 to acquire the basic skills in handling the Milan
 and in Armoured Fighting Vehicle recognition—
 both somewhat alien tasks to us. Then there
 were the vehicles and equipment to take over,
 maintain and service. All this was essential to
 give us a viable military role in war that would
 allow us sufficient flexibility to carry out the
 other side of our life—drumming.

In June, while the remainder of the company
 was on leave, we had the first opportunity in
 nearly 11 months to concentrate on some serious
 drumming and bugling. The result was a steady
 improvement in our drumming skills, some very
 sore fingers, swollen lips and a families officer
 who never fails to whistle the regimental march.
 His office is directly above our stores and prac-
 tice room. Not for long; we were soon back to
 soldiering with the remainder of the Milan
 Platoon on exercise at Soltau. With horror we

realised that instead of just digging a basic trench, for a Milan we had to dig in something the size of a small house with a roof in top. The Drum Major wisely retired to lighter duties around the Battalion headquarters leaving us to the tender (so called) mercies of Capt Kilburn. After this, leave was welcomed.

Back off leave we had once more a quick change of hats. Our first parade with the Band for 13 months, when we marched through Minden, was immediately followed by Exercise Spearpoint and Milanning. The Milan Platoon has said all that should be said about Exercise Spearpoint and our role in it. After Spearpoint we had only two weeks of intensive preparation for the highlight of our year, this year's Beating of Retreat.

It was a very successful night and worth all the effort put into it. The weather was fine and clear, everyone got their part exactly right. By all accounts it was a most impressive event to watch and we certainly enjoyed taking part.

We now look forward to an arduous but challenging year in 1981 with both Public Duties and the Colour Parade.

MORTAR PLATOON

Since our last notes the platoon has been fully committed to training and preparing for Exercise Spearpoint and the handover to 2 RGJ.

EXERCISE SPEARPOINT

As a build-up to Exercise Spearpoint the platoon moved to Soltau to train for its role on Spearpoint as an Eastern Block support platoon; a lesson in concentration of fire power, but on reflection we still prefer to do it the 'British Way'. Exercise conditions gave way to reality, when four wagons lost tracks at the same time. Because of this the platoon reverted back to the manpack role, a fate worse than death. The actual exercise started with the platoon driving 100-odd miles to the concentration area (no wagons lost). Because of the number of units involved in the exercise it tended to be slower than usual, but the lads maintained a cheery outlook throughout, our only casualty was Pte Kendrick with a broken finger after an argument with a mortar hatch.

THE HANDOVER

To the cries of paint this, clean that, make this, check that, the platoon is now ready for handover to the 2 RGJ. Anybody standing still for more than 30 seconds has been painted green and black. Messrs Atkinson, Hughes and Lofthouse made a quick exit on to education—the definition

of the impossible — and left with the task was Sgt 'Snowy' Maillard. We can now reveal he does wear hair dye. But on a serious note the work for handover could not have been finished at such a high standard without the enthusiasm of the whole platoon. Well done, we all look forward to an interesting tour in Catterick (not to mention Newcastle Breweries). We would also like to take this opportunity to say farewell and good luck to Capt Jed Stone on his posting to Netheravon.

PERSONALIA

We would like to say farewell to the following from the platoon: Cpl Mick Jarman, Cpl Buggy Bucknor, Lcpl Tich Mastone, Lcpl Tadge Sulich and Pte Gordon Hill. We wish them all good luck in civvy street.

We would like to welcome back to the fold after an extensive and rigorous three months in Canada, Sgt 'no more to wander' Sweeney.

Get a little Xtra help
from the Halifax

SOLUTION

ACROSS

1. Building Society
7. Pattern
8. 10. & 11. Net Return
12. Enter
14. Timid
15. Sales
16. Neath
18. 19. & 21. Pay Master
22. Squared
24. Dividend Warrant

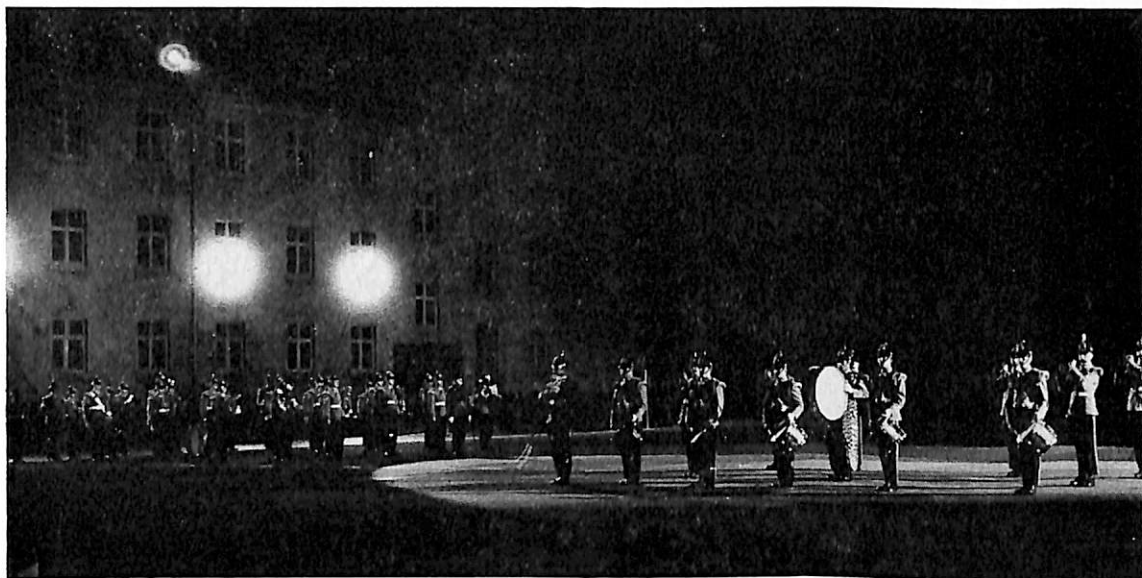
DOWN

1. & 4. Balance Sheet
2. 13. & 22. Depressed

3. Noter

4. See 1. Down
5. 14. Down & 23. Contender
6. Yearned
9. Totally
11. Unmeant
13. See 2. Down
14. See 5. Down
15. Saphead
17. Hard Hit
19. Mourn
20. Screw
22. See 2. Down
23. See 5. Down

BEATING THE RETREAT — MINDEN, OCTOBER 10, 1980



Beating of the Retreat, Clifton Barracks, Minden. October 10, 1980

The occasion began with a party in the Officers Mess at which the Corps Commander, Lt-Gen Sir Peter Leng, and The Stadt Direktor, Herr Nierman, were guests of honour. The party then moved along a torch-lit route to the square to join the large crowd of spectators. The Retreat started with three volleys of rifle fire by 40 riflemen assembled in line at the far end of the square. This was the cue for the band and drums to begin their programme in the beams of four

spotlights controlled from vantage points around the square. From Beethoven's 'Ode to Joy' to 'My Girl's a Yorkshire Girl', the performance was superb. The display reached its climax with flares silhouetting infantrymen standing on their armoured personnel carriers and the band and drums marching off into the fading light to the strains of the Regimental March; a fitting gesture symbolic of the Duke's departing from Minden and BAOR.

BISLEY 1980

This was the Battalion's fifth successive year at Bisley. It brought together a number of those who restarted 1 DWR's interest in the field of competition shooting back in 1975, and it was the team's most successful year yet. Those that follow shooting will know that the Regular Army Skill at Arms Meeting has become tremendously competitive, some unit teams training for nine months or more. Not surprisingly standards are very high and they improve as each year goes by. Teams are therefore faced with improving their standards noticeably just to remain in the same overall position as they achieved in the previous year.

It has always been 1DWR's policy to have a relatively short build-up training period on a range complex somewhere in the UK. For 1980 the old favourite of Altcar was dropped in favour of the Sealand Complex, sited near Chester. Our qualification to go to the UK depended on the team being placed highly in the 4 Div SAM held on May 19 at Sennelager. We won this competition, which provided a touch of overkill but it was

good for morale and two days later we were bound for Chester and five weeks on the sort of ranges that do not exist in BAOR. This build-up training was necessarily intensive due to the team's late start and included a shooting weekend with C Coy 4 (V) QLR, now commanded by Maj David Massey. Whilst gallery ranges provide the nub that every shooting team needs to build from, Bisley also requires mastery of electric and moving target ranges. This meant travelling to ranges all over the North of England, from Beckingham in Nottinghamshire to the Catterick complex in North Yorkshire. The 0330 starts were not always popular.

Training over, we headed south for the quaintly ancient clubhouses that take up part of Bisley Common and prepared for the second week competition to follow. Bisley requires a high overall standard in the rifle, GPMG and SMG so the pressure is never off any team member during the whole competition. We had put particular emphasis on the rifle this year as it carries the most

scoring points, but the other two weapons were far from neglected. As in all sports, the team went through moments of euphoria and disappointment but at the end we left feeling fairly pleased with ourselves. As a team we came 22nd overall, our best yet, and for the first time in this Bisley cycle we got two men in the Army Hundred, Sgt Hepworth and Lcpl Smith, 35. This last fact was particularly pleasing because it means that as a team you have 'arrived' on the Bisley scene.

So it is over for another year and sadly, commitments and the general ageing of the present nucleus of shots mean that a lot of new faces will appear next year. However the all-important expertise remains in the Battalion to be imparted when and where necessary.

The squad: Capt Isles, WO2 Heron, Ssgt Hirst, Sgt Mann, Sgt Hepworth, Lcpl Smith, 35, Lcpl Findley, REME, Lcpl Brown, Lcpl Whelan, Pte Hughes, Pte Cracknell, Pte Bates, Pte Wright, ACC.

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

OFFICERS MESS

Since our last inclusion in THE IRON DUKE there have been quite a number of changes. At the same time we said a fond farewell to Lt Col 'Chuck' Ivey, and welcomed the Bn Second in Command in his new capacity as CO (Lt Col John McClay), we also at Halifax had the pleasure of welcoming our new Coy Comd Maj Tim Newcombe — our old boy Second in Command (who said normal promotional channels do not operate in the TA?).

Incidentally Maj Tim had got straight down to his task, and apart from developing the Coy esprit de corps he also managed to earn himself the affectionate title of the 'smiling assassin'.

To fill the vacancy of Coy 2i/c we were particularly pleased to welcome back Capt Nigel Tetley. Nigel started his TA career with 'C' Coy, but unfortunately for the last couple of years he has been forced to suffer the ordeal of Bn HQ. However, the Doc states that the damage isn't lasting, and even though he was RSO we should still be able to hold a semi-normal conversation with him.

I can also report that by the time you read these notes we will also have a new member of the Mess, O/Cdt Sean Errington. It's too early to account any gossip about Sean. However, he comes to us well qualified, being a local teacher with extensive contacts. Needless to say the subalterns are making him welcome. You will not be surprised to learn that 'C' Coy once more demonstrated its efficiency whilst at annual camp. Camp this year was taking the form of Ex Spearpoint in Germany. The camp took off with a flying start (by jumbo jet no less) and continued to be both enjoyable and informative. Without a doubt 'C' Coy once more proved to be the best Coy in the Bn (modesty prevents ourselves from extending this claim to its proper limits).

Congratulations to 2/Lt Dan Hackston who was the only subaltern to have been extensively reported in the local press. Some say his smooth Lancashire accent, and equally smooth 'hip flask' helped the Brighouse Echo's reporter's memory

recall.

However, it is true that his platoon did see more of the enemy than the rest of the Company. Unfortunately there were usually more enemy than 9 Pl! Such is war.

Special mention must (I suppose) be made of Lt Peter Williams. Whilst on Spearpoint his platoon succeeded in obtaining the highest SAS exercise 'headcount' in the Battalion. The SAS were playing enemy and 7 Pl were fortunate in being able not only to prevent infiltration of Coy HQ but also wipe out over 80% of the enemy with no casualties on their side. Naturally this act (and others) could not go by without some recognition, and the other platoon commanders christened Peter 'grow bag'. Such is peace.

We are particularly proud of Lt Andrew Carlin, who led 'C' Coy's team in the NE District March and Shoot Competition. Andrew and his team performed exceptionally well, and were only narrowly beaten into second place (within the Bn) by 'B' Coy, who incidentally were overall winners of the entire competition.

Finally, I must finish on a sad note. Just prior to camp, the Mess had to say farewell to Lt Martin Walker. Martin's notable abilities are well known. Therefore the Col John had no difficulty in selecting our 'troubleshooter' to assist another Coy. Martin is now at our Leeds Coy where his experience and dedication is needed. We wish him well, knowing that recognition should not be long in coming.

SERGEANTS MESS NOTES

Well it is quite a while since we last wrote in the 'Duke' and much has happened in that period of time.

First we must say a fond farewell to John 'Joe' O'Neill who has left us for the 3rd Battalion, also John 'The Eye' Ashton who has gone to HQ Coy (they must have a good shooting team by now?). They have done a terrific job here for us, 'Good Luck Fellas'. Last but not least a belated farewell to Fred Kendrew who has by now we hope, rejoined the Duke's.

In their places we welcome Wee Joe Walker as PSI C/Sgt and his wife Margaret. On the promotion side we have two new members to the Sergeants Mess, in Donald (Musarawa) Sunderland and Jim 'The Wheel' Collins and their wives Christine and Marilyn respectively, and hope they have a pleasant stay with us.

Congratulations to Mick Kennedy on his promotion to CSM and Jack Simpson to Colour Sergeant, both have been good members of our Coy and should do a first-class job for us. Finally to finish, by the time this article gets to press, we will have lost Frank 'The Tank' Lowney, our PSI

CSM, who will have finished his very distinguished career in the TA, 'Good Luck' for the future, Sir. Frank is to be replaced by PSI CSM Grey who no doubt after finding his feet will carry on the good work.

PS. Is it true that Pete Sugden is a marksman on the 'Space Invader in The Crazy Horse?' Pub. After a very successful annual camp in BAOR, where unfortunately time and circumstances did not allow us to pay our customary and eagerly looked forward to visit to the Sgts Mess of the 1st Bn, we are now preparing for the hectic rounds of Christmas festivities.

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

The Company has been very busy since the August issue. Pre-camp training culminated on the weekend August 29-31 when the Company was wholly involved in a full-scale Battalion weekend on the Catterick training area. The weekend proved to be a good indication of things to come and provided valuable training for annual camp; the Company being involved in its probable role.

September 6 and 7 were devoted entirely to pre-camp admin and the benefit of the hard work put in by all who attended was later apparent on Ex-Crusader 80. The latter proved to be a great success for the Company. 7 Pl were deployed at Hornsea, where the platoon commander was killed by a bomb (although it was rumoured by some that he committed suicide to get four hours sleep!). The code word for this latter venue was 'Fat Frog', a name which has subsequently (and affectionately) been used as a nickname for 7 Pl Sergeant and Ex-Duke, Sgt 'Stumpy' Sullivan.

8 Pl found themselves at sunny Toley, where they received a visit from the TV cameras, and a lot of mud. Still, it was better than the Colour Sergeant's cooking.

Both platoons suffered a constant barrage from 1 Para and the rain, and the only one not to get his boots filthy was the current PSI, Sgt Arrow-smith, 1 DWR.

Towards the end of the week, both C Company platoons were moved away from these locations as the Battalion re-grouped and a heli-borne assault was made on Strensall Common. The aim was to search and destroy the enemy; once again 1 Para, who had re-grouped on the

Common. No sooner was the exercise completed than information was received regarding enemy movement on the Catterick training area. This led to a full-scale battle with 1 Para on the latter area. The enemy were duly 'wiped out' and the entire Battalion moved to Otterburn for week two of annual camp.

Most of the week was devoted to shooting, but an excellent dress rehearsal for Ex Stainton Chase took place on the Thursday. The two Company teams came second and fourth out of more than 10 teams.

The Company returned to Huddersfield on September 27 and training was aimed in a new direction — Ex Stainton Chase. Drill nights and the weekend, October 10-12 were devoted entirely to knocking a good team into shape for this tough annual event. The Ex was held on October 18 and C Company were away at 1015 hrs. The benefit of the training was immediately obvious, as the team recorded a very fast 7 mins 11 secs on the 1300m speed march. The Company did very well once again (approx 16th out of 84 teams).

Promotions

Congratulations to the following: Lcpls Dean and Brown to Cpl; Ptes Binns, McPherson, Walsh and Ex Gunner Horsfall to Lcpl.

New Recruits

Among the recent new recruits to C Company was Pte Donaldson, J. (Ex 1 DWR).

Giggleswick School Combined Cadet Force

During the past summer the Corps has celebrated its 70th Anniversary. The biennial inspection in May was taken by the GOC North East

District, Maj Gen I. H. Baker, CBE. Demonstrations of the usual aspects of training which occupy our time were given and a favourable

report was subsequently received. A dinner was also held, but unfortunately representatives from the Regiment were prevented from attending on account of the Old Comrades' Reunion in London the following day. To coincide with the anniversary, an illustrated history of the Corps at Giggleswick was published and for which the Colonel of the Regiment had written a message. Maj Gen Isles also kindly agreed to sign copies of the subscription edition. Some of the proceeds from the sale of this edition will be given to a presentation which the Corps is making to the Regiment. Copies of the book have been given to the Battalion and RHQ.

Two excellent camps were held in Scotland during the summer, including a week's adventure

training with the contingent's new hovercraft. Eight former cadets have entered the services during the past year and a former CSM, Jonathan Turner, has been appointed an Inspector with the Hong Kong Police with Jonathan Tedd. Michael Peek has taken charge of the chemistry department at the school and has transferred to the school's contingent from William Hulme's Grammar School CCF. We have, once again, a strong body of cadet NCOs who will be largely responsible for training the fifth form recruits for their final proficiency examinations in December. We look forward to seeing more of the Battalion when it moves to Catterick in the autumn.

NJM

Wellesley Company

Huddersfield Area
(The Duke of Wellington's Regiment)
Yorkshire Army Cadet Force

Personalities

Farewell — with regret we part company with Capt Steve Lancaster of Skipton who for business reasons is unable to soldier on.

Hello — firstly to Paul Laycock who joins us in the first instance in the rank of Under-Officer and posted to Mirfield. Paul is a former cadet sergeant; — secondly to Mark Pickard who is also a former cadet sergeant. He enters as an S.I. with Heckmondwike Detachment thus providing 2/Lt Steve Baker with the adult support he so badly needed.

Annual Camp 1980

Wretham 'B' Camp at Thetford in Norfolk was the setting. The weather was kind and we had a super camp.

Training exercises, rangework, bivouac camps, sport galore provided a fun-filled bag of goodies which our 120 cadets thoroughly digested.

We didn't win any 'pots'; in fact a last minute adult switch in the Guard Mounting competition caused matters to badly misfire and our placing was most embarrassing — particularly as the Divisional Brigadier was there to witness same — however, in true 'Dukes' style, we carried on smiling ready to win another day.

On Tuesday Maj Gen Donald Isles visited our Cadet Company to see the training and in the evening joined all the officers and instructors for the Annual Camp Dinner at "The Bell" — a most convivial evening — Majs Derek Roberts and Bill Burke also shared our table as did Cols John Howarth and Derek Hooper.

Brig Dennis Shuttleworth toured 'W' Company training as mentioned elsewhere and watched our



The party of Wellesley Coy Cadets who attended the Mossley Branch OCA joint Remembrance Service with the Branch Chairman, Mr Jack Powell

Photo: W. T. Robbins

activities with his usual detailed interest. Brig Shuttleworth is, of course, the affiliated Formation Commander for Yorkshire ACF.

Our little band continued to make slow but sure progress and at Camp they led the Commandant's County Parade with great credit. They will surely grow and grow in both size and quality.

Operation — Purge

1. Officers/Instructors—a concentrated campaign to recruit suitable personnel to man our officer and instructor ranks is now on — some 20-plus applications have been received and 10 were given a provisional introduction to the ACF at TAC Huddersfield in October — we hope fruit will bear.

2. Small Detachments — Col Gerry Delaney our Commandant spearheads a campaign in conjunction with MOD to review small detachments and we are not excluded in having some in that category although overall we total 218 active cadets. The Area Commander frantically writing to some seven local newspapers; Detachment Commanders, distributing leaflets and posters to schools; cadets being urged to bring their 'pals' — all in the hope that we can expand Wellesley Company and divert the beady eye of HQ Yorkshire ACF and MOD.

Remembrance Day 1980

As these notes are written, we are scheduled for parades at Huddersfield, Mirfield, Keighley

and Silsden. 'Dukes' cadets will play a prominent role with pride once again.

Mossley

Once again we provided a small party with buglers for the popular Les Ancienne Combatants de Hem visit to Mossley in early October. We always enjoy this day and look forward to next year.

Exercise Square Leg

We sent a contingent on this exercise with 3rd Bn Yorkshire Volunteers and what a splendid time they had. Part of the overall NATO exercise Crusader, we are informed that our cadets excelled themselves and opened the eyes of our TA colleagues with their military knowledge, zeal and ability to harmonise swiftly with the more adult organisation — be assured, Dukes cadets did you proud.

Nijmegen Marches

Our Halifax Detachment once again bid for the honour to participate in 1981. With two successful marches already tucked safely under their belts, we hope that once again they will be chosen to represent Yorkshire ACF.

Yes indeed it all happens with the 'Dukes' cadets — call any evening at any one of our seven detachments to say hello and have a coffee — we love visitors — you will be made welcome (but watch out, we may recruit good men).

Obituary

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

Canon E. A. Berrisford, MC

Canon Edwin Aris Berrisford, MC, died at Manorhead, Hindhead, on July 10, aged 89.

Canon Berrisford was born in Sheffield and served in the Regiment during the First World War, being awarded the MC. As a result of his experiences he decided to enter the Church. From 1933 to his retirement in 1966 he was Rector of Bramshott.

Col J. B. Cockhill, DSO, MC

Col John Cockhill died at his home in Honley on September 12, 1980. Col Cockhill was a very well known and gallant member of the 5th Bn having served throughout the First World War with them winning the DSO, MC and Bar, and being Mentioned in Despatches.

Mr A. Hollingworth, MSM

Mr Arthur Hollingworth died at Huddersfield on October 13, 1980, aged 92.

Mrs K. Firth

Mrs Kathleen Firth, widow of the late Major (QM) Frank Firth (7 DWR), died at Huddersfield on August 18, 1980, aged 78.

Mr J. Taylor

Mr Joe Taylor died suddenly at his home, 37 Primrose Hill Road, Newsome, Huddersfield, on October 6, 1980, aged 64.

Major G. M. Holroyde

Major G. Michael Holroyde died on November 13, 1980 aged 68.

A former TA officer he served throughout the 2nd World War in the Regiment. In civilian life he was a partner in a firm of Chartered Accountants retiring in 1977.

Mrs A. Code

Mrs Ann Code, wife of Mr Sidney Code, died at her home 2 First Avenue, Moss House Lane, Stalmine, Preesall, Blackpool on November 29, 1980 aged 73.

Regimental Association

NEWS ITEMS—NOTES OF INTEREST

London and Home Counties Dinner — 1981

Saturday, May 9, 1981, in the Carisbrooke Hall, The Victory Club, Marble Arch, London, 7.30 for 8 pm. Full arrangements have not yet been finalised but anyone requiring further information should contact the new London Branch Secretary: Mr Rod Owers, 12 Waterfall Road, London, N11 1JD. Tel (evenings) 01-368 1821. **Northern Contingent.** A few spare seats on the coach leaving Halifax, Huddersfield and Mossley are available. Please contact Halifax Branch Secretary: Mr E. Hale, 20 First Avenue, Manor Drive, Halifax HX3 0DL.

PRESENTATION OF NEW COLOURS CATTERICK GARRISON, APRIL 4, 1981

As briefly announced in the August issue, the 1 Bn will be presented with New Colours by the Colonel in Chief on Saturday, April 4, 1981, at Catterick Garrison.

All ex-members of the Regiment will be most welcome at the parade.

The ceremony will commence at either 1030 or 1100 hours, to be confirmed later. At the time of writing no detailed planning has taken place and full details cannot be given here.

It is therefore essential that OCA Branch Secretary forward final lists of their members and families who would like to attend, to the General Secretary at RHQ as soon as possible and not later than **FEBRUARY 1, 1981.**

Individuals, not members of branch parties, who wish to attend, should also send full details to RHQ by the same date.

These details are required as it is likely that admission will be by ticket only.

Due to the large number of ERE Sergeants and Corporals plus private guests attending it is regretted that the numbers of Old Comrades which the Sergeants and Corporals Messes can entertain, may have to be limited. Should this

occur, Old Comrades will be accepted on a 'first come' basis — hence the importance of a prompt notification to RHQ.

Accommodation can be made available for up to 60 unaccompanied Old Comrades but accompanied members must be prepared to book their own accommodation in local hotels, etc.

It is suggested that all attending from within a radius of 75 miles of Catterick Garrison should plan to travel on the Saturday — the day itself.

Once final details are firm all those who have sent their names to RHQ will receive full details by letter. Once again the importance of a prompt reply is emphasised.

In Civilian Life



Enjoy Service and Comradeship in THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

Your service to Queen and Country needn't stop when you leave the Forces. The Royal British Legion has as much interest in and responsibility for young ex-servicemen and women of today as it has for those of two world wars and looks to them for its leaders of the future.

**THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION,
48 PALL MALL, SW1Y 5JY.**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING — 1980

Preceding the Annual Dinner on Saturday, October 4, 1980, the AGM was held in the Sergeant Mess, 3 Yorkshire Volunteers, St Paul's Street, Huddersfield, at 6.30 pm.

Presiding, The Colonel of the Regiment, Maj-Gen D. E. Isles, CB, OBE, welcomed the 42 members present and told them that a gathering of over 300 was expected that evening.

The Minutes of the last meeting were read and approved on the proposal of Maj Gen C. R. Huxtable, CBE, seconded by Mr B. J. Howe. There were no matters arising.

Accounts

Copies of the audited accounts were available for inspection and the Colonel apologised that although the accounts had been approved by the Finance Committee and had been available for inspection by the Secretaries of Branches, they had not yet been finally approved by the Managing Trustees. The next Trustees Meeting was on October 17, 1980, when the accounts would be inspected. On the proposal of Mr Middleton, seconded by Mr Wilkinson, the accounts were accepted subject to any observations by the Trustees.

General Secretary's Report

Mr Arthur Wood in his report spoke of the enthusiasm which this year's reunion had aroused; how the demand for tickets had exceeded the seating capacity in the hall and that, despite the gloomy and dreary world-wide news, his report for the Dukes Regimental Association was certainly not in that vein. His report:—

Financial Assistance during the year

- a. Grants totalling £5,328 were distributed to 91 cases. (In 1979 we had 106 cases and paid out £5,142.)
- b. Seven recipients of the OCA 'Special Allowance' each received an annual grant of £60. Total distributed £420.
- c. One welfare (educational) grant of £30 was made from the War Memorial Fund to enable the son of a DWR Korean veteran to buy equipment for night school.
- d. Five ex-soldiers enjoyed a two-week holiday at The Lord Kitchener Memorial Holiday Home, Lowestoft, arranged and sponsored by our Association.
- e. The Army Benevolent Fund gave aid in direct support of DWR personnel amounting to £974.

The number of cases assisted this year (91) is 15 less than last year. Considering the state of the economy, financial problems everywhere, this may seem surprising but on enquiry I gather from other welfare bodies and organisations that this is the general trend at the moment so once again I ask all present to let RHQ know of any cases

they consider might need a helping hand. (Every case is treated in very strict confidence.)

Other business

The Colonel explained briefly the system on which the running of the Regiment is controlled — The Regimental Council, Committees, CCA Regimental Association, etc, and how some Regiments have larger Committees than we have. He asked that if any members felt there was any comment or question about the Regiment and the way it is being run he would be glad to hear from them.

He said how sorry we were to be losing Ken Waterman on his retirement and move from London, of the great help that Ken had been to the London Branch and how we wished him and his family every success and happiness in the future.

He also congratulated Jackie Horne on this special day, October 4, 1980, which was Jackie's 77th birthday; also just 75 years to the day since he sailed with his parents on HMT Plassey from Southampton to join the 1st Bn in India, the Regiment he served throughout his life and with whom he was still very strongly associated.

The Colonel also gave details of the reasons for his appeal for funds to the 'Friends of the Regiment' which appeared in the August edition of The Iron Duke.

**ANNUAL REUNION DINNER
HUDDERSFIELD, OCTOBER 4, 1980**

The Drill Hall in St Paul's Street is a huge hall and it looked a splendid sight, all set to receive members and guests, centred with the Colours floodlit, arising out of a floral base. Music by the Band of The Yorkshire Volunteers under the Directorship of Capt Roy Bedford brought the air of military splendour, memories of the past, the excitement of the evening to that vast crowd.

Our chief guest, Maj Andy Hardy (KOYLI) Adjutant/Adm Officer, 3 Yorkshire Volunteers, toasting the Regiment said that although an outsider to the Dukes he had been closely associated with them during his 41 years of military service — but far be it from him to tell members present, the makers of Dukes history over the past decades, the many qualities of the Regiment — but he would try to tell all present the things that they may not be aware of. He then described how Officers and Men of the Dukes contributed to the British Military Machine, not only with a Regular Battalion but with manpower and instructors in military establishments, schools, specialist training units and other establishments throughout the world. Their quality was outstanding.

Replying, the Colonel of the Regiment spoke of the activities of the 1st Bn, their return from Germany to Caterick in November and of the forthcoming Presentation of New Colours on April 4, 1981.

Dinner, speeches over saw 'Recce' 'O' and countless other type groups forming whilst assault troops poured wave after wave at the bars and soon that undescrivable 'din' of voices, glasses, snatches of music, beckoning arms mingled with a hazy probe down memory lane for a name to fit a face — India, Germany, Asia, Burma, Ireland, Hong Kong, Italy, France, Korea — and a new scene emerges — perhaps next year!

Present include: Maj Gen Donald Isles, Maj Gen Charles Huxtable, Brig Dennis Shuttleworth, Col Michael Bray, Lt Col Barry Kavanagh, 'Tug' Wilson from Southampton with his pal 'China' Gill from Gosport, George Machen, Bob Chilvers, Johnny Sargeant, Jack Sykes from N. Ireland, Tommy Rawnsley (apologies from Jimmy Imray), John Streatfield, Noel Wimpenny, Bernard Ellam, Joe Perrin, Chris Borwell, Paul Wilkinson, Henry Crowther, Pat Haws, Gordon Ashton, Tommy Taylor, Edna Fairclough, Michael John, Cpl Stodart, Norman Field, Ella Stringer, Raymond and Margaret Norcliffe, Bill Smith — to name but a few.

It would be ungracious that if in these notes mention was not made of our appreciation and very grateful thanks to all who helped make the 1980 Reunion such a success. These include:

Officers and Permanent Staff 3 Yorkshire Volunteers;

Soldiers and WRAC 3 Yorkshire Volunteers;

Caretakers, St Paul's Street;

Bar staff;

Tom Mason, flowers;

Mr Brasher;

Caterers (Gilpin-Leeds).

(Roger Gaukroger has been seen making mysterious measurements in the Drill Hall at Halifax. Rumour has it that he has some ideas about the 1981 Reunion — at Halifax.)

REGIMENTAL SERVICE NOVEMBER 1, 1980 (All Saints' Day)

On this crisp autumn morn coaches left Halifax, Huddersfield and Mossley for our annual attendance at York Minster. The City of York was teeming with shoppers, visitors and traffic, but as serving, retired and ex-officers and men met in the ancient St Williams College for coffee and biscuits before the Service it was a dignified, quietly sociable gathering who later filed into our Regimental Chapel to attend the Service.

After the Service another pleasant drive along the autumn tinted tree-lined route to Strensall, once again to be royally entertained to lunch-time drinks and buffet by the WOs and Sgts of Depot, The King's Division, with DWR Staff and Instructors well to the fore. This is indeed one of the highlights of our year and the word 'pleasant' is a weak definition of a word to describe our thoughts and feelings after each visit.

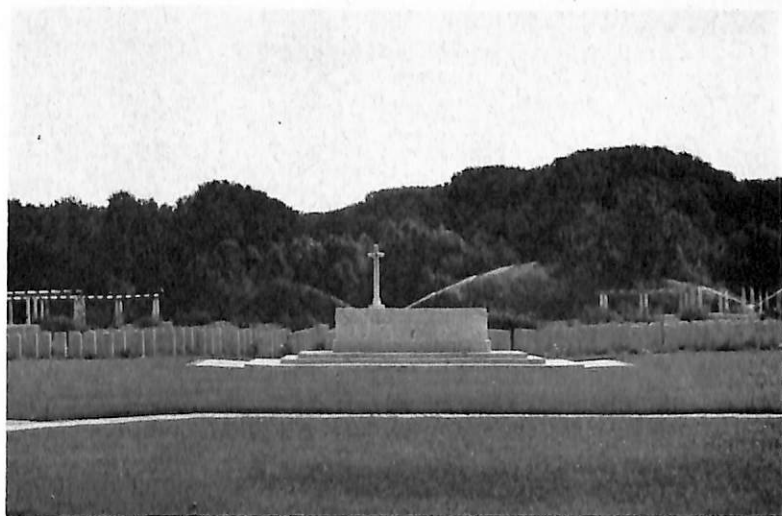
Back to York, a brief stay, then back to home bases via various routes. Mossley via Guisely with tea at Harry Ramsdens, others a 'breather' then on to a grand social evening in Huddersfield Drill Hall arranged jointly between our Huddersfield Branch and The Burma Star Association (Huddersfield). Music, wine, song and dance. Very Good — but Oh dear!

LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES BRANCH

One-hundred-and-ten members attended another excellent reunion dinner in Carisbrooke Hall, The Victory Club, Marble Arch, on May 24, 1980, arranged and organised by Mr Ken Waterman. Ken is retiring from his present employment and secretaryship of the London Branch in November and moving to Lancing in Sussex near his old friend Donald Seed.

This summer Ex-CSM 'Tug' Wilson visited the War Graves Cemetery at Anzio and found it very well cared for and in good condition. He took many photographs, two of which we reproduce here:

A general view of the cemetery



The grave of Pte F. Jackson, just one of so many Duke's resting in peace in Anzio



The AGM of this Branch was held on September 29, 1980. Mr F. Richardson was re-elected Chairman for a further year and Mr Rod Owers appointed new Secretary/Treasurer vide Mr Waterman. Mr Owers address is 12 Waterfall Road, London, N11 1JD, Tel (evenings) 01-368 1821.

Ken Waterman who has been Secretary/Treasurer for the past six years, and Mrs Waterman will be very much missed for all the hard work, kindnesses shown and expertise and knowledge on branch matters that they have afforded to the well-being of the Regiment and Branch. Ken's career, to date, is worthy of mention: Joined DWR May 20 '31 until November 14, '41; RAC Nov 15, '41-May 25, '42; DWR May 26, '42-Nov 8, '42; AAC Nov 9, '42-Jan 14, '47; DWR Jan 15, '47-Jan 31, '57; retiring in the rank of WO2 (Band Sergeant Major) — 26 years. Since leaving the Regular Army Ken has also completed six years (1962-68) as Bandmaster WO1 of the South Staffs TA Band, also as a Conductor in the West Midlands Police Special Constabulary Band.

A welcome new member at the Reunion Dinner this year was Maj (Ret) Leslie Hill, RAPC ex DWR.

Maj Hill joined the Dukes as a private soldier in 1938, completed his training with the 1st Bn in March 1939, was then attached, later transferred to the RAPC in September 1939. Discharged to Commission on February 1, 1970 (Asst Paymaster). Retired April 2, 1980, in the rank of Major.

Peter Lord, ex Cpl 1st Bn, medically discharged after injuries received in Northern Ireland, writes from New Aycliffe to say how he is looking forward to meeting his old pals in the Battalion when they move to Catterick.

Arthur Hollingworth, MSM, old oldest Huddersfield Branch member (92) who died

recently was a remarkable man who lived a very active life until a few months before his death.

His Army career started on June 6, 1910, when he enlisted at Slaithwaite Drill Hall and served with the Territorials and went to France in April 1915. Appointed RQMS on August 2, 1915, and Acting QM September 1961, he served on the Somme. Awarded the MSM on January 1, 1918, and commissioned as Lieutenant on March 17, 1919, the rank he held until demobilisation in January 1922. On return to civilian life he became an Inspector of Labour Exchanges and a shop-keeper.

Recalling his younger days he spoke of his job as a Postman in the Colne Valley and of the daily uniform inspection they had to undergo before duties commenced.

4611294 Pte G. H. Bradley. — Any information regarding this man who enlisted in Leeds on January 8, 1931, would be appreciated by RHQ at Halifax. (DWR/6/2 October 7, 1980.)

25262 Pte (Lcpl) Bertie Linsley, DCM, MM, 5DWR, WWI (1914-18). — Will anyone who has any information about the above soldier please contact RHQ DWR. (DWR/6/5.)

Bob and Angela Middleton have moved from the Newland Inn, Eynsham, to The Fox, Boars Hill, Oxon (Tel Oxford 735131). A hearty welcome to all friends.

Ahmednagar 1928

During the march out — march in from the Middlesex Regiment to The Dukes, the front rank of The Middlesex Regimental Band had trombones of which the right hand man was A. R. Drane, now of 11 John Dee House, Mortlake High Street, SW14 8HW. The Dukes band had a front rank of basses of which the right hand man was a chap named Alex Cowley from Ponders End, Enfield, Middlesex. Mr Drane would be happy for any news of Mr Cowley.