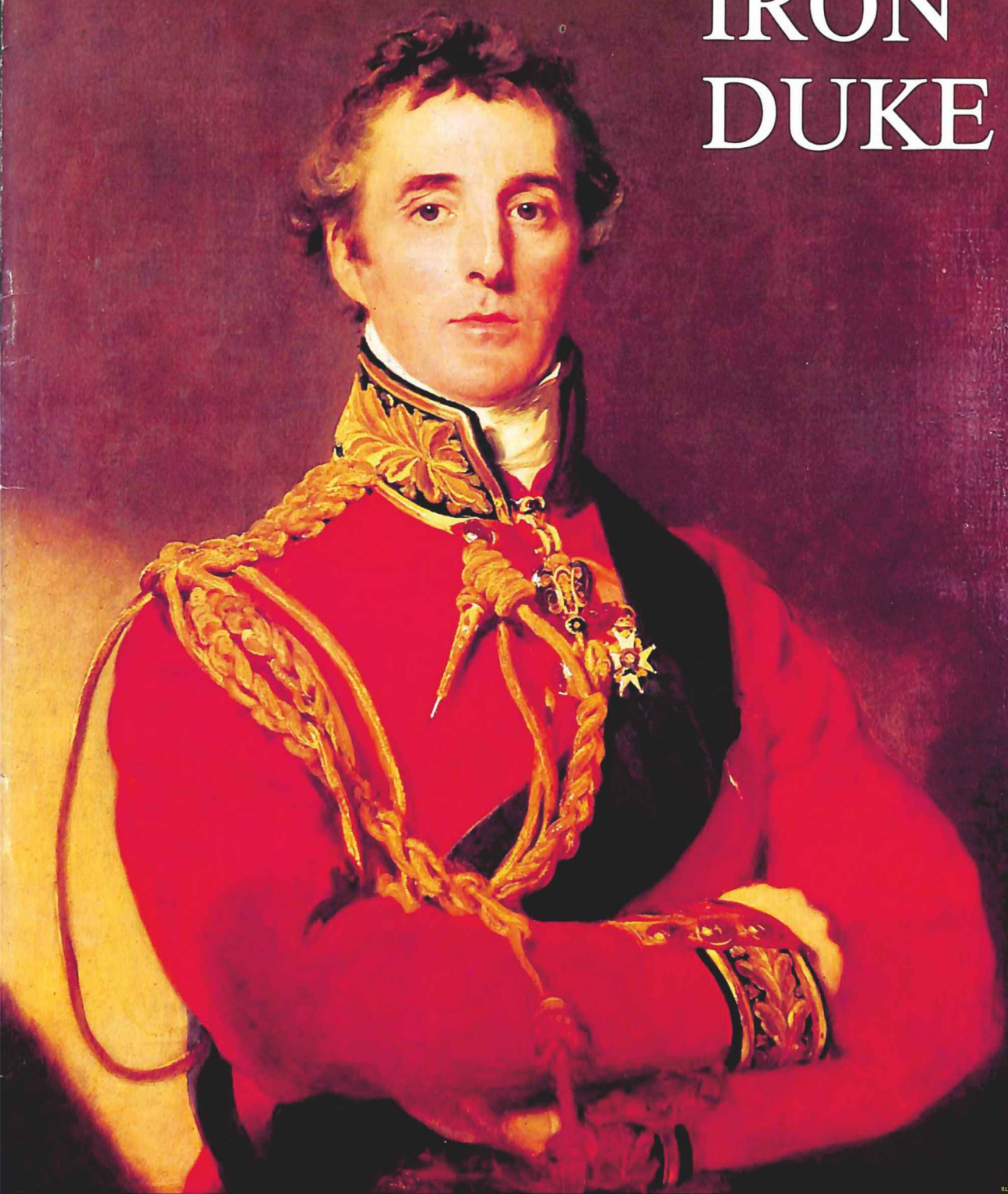


No.211 Winter 1989

THE IRON DUKE



THE IRON DUKE

The Regimental Journal of

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

(WEST RIDING)

*Dettingen
Mysore
Seringapatam
Ally Ghur
Delhi 1803
Leswarree
Deig
Corunna
Nive
Peninsula
Waterloo
Alma
Inkerman
Sebastopol
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 Suvla
Afghanistan 1919
North-West Europe
1940, 1944-45
Dunkirk 1940
St Valery-en-Caux
Fontenay-le-Pesnil
Djebel Bou Aoukaz 1943
Anzio
Monte Ceco
Burma 1942, '43, '44
Sittang 1942
Chindits 1944
The Hook 1953
Korea 1952-53*

Vol. LVIII

Winter 1989

No. 211

BUSINESS NOTES

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The opinions expressed in the articles of the journal are those of the
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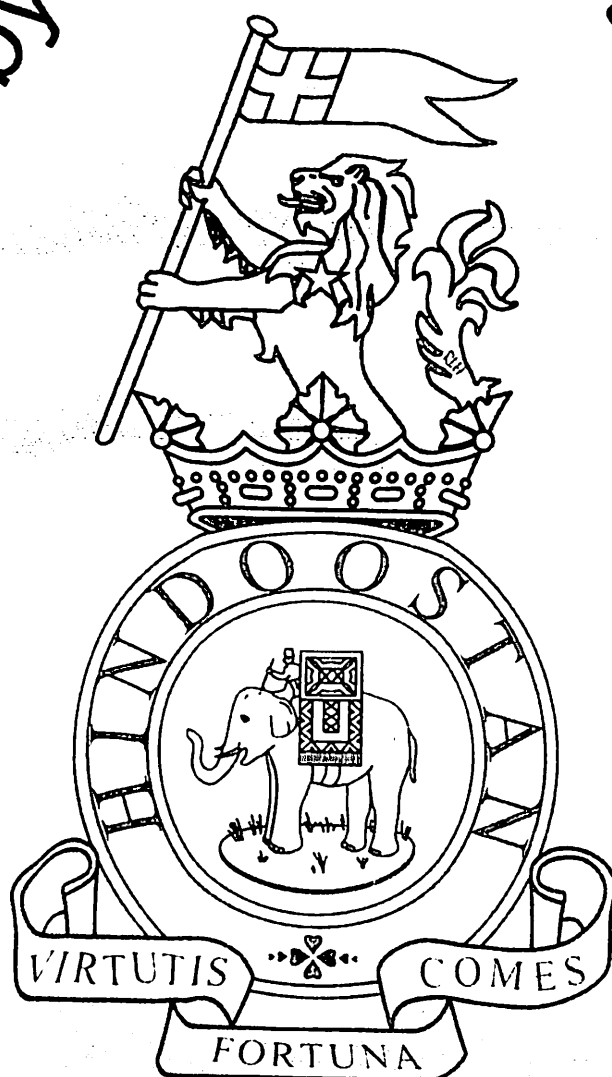
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CONTENTS

Regimental Headquarters	81
Honours and awards	
Promotions and appointments	
Regimental Museum and Archives	
Lieutenant Colonel A. D. Meek	81
1st Battalion	82
3rd Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers	97
4th Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers	98
Yorkshire ACF: Wellesley Company	99
Book Review	99
33rd Regiment in the Carolinas: 1781 - 1782	100
Extracts from the letters of Pte. F. A. Smith 1/5 DWR: 1915	103
2/6th Battalion in France: May/June 1940	108
Regimental Association	111
Trustees meeting	
Annual General Meeting	
Annual Dinner and Dance	
5 DWR officers' dinner	
6 DWR Old Comrades reunion dinner	
8 DWR/145 Regiment RAC officers' dinner	
London branch	
York Minster service	
Pilgrimage to Poland	
Keeping in touch....	
Change of address/new subscribers	
Regimental Association accounts	
Obituaries	118
Notices	120

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THE REGIMENT

The Colonel-in-Chief

BRIGADIER HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON, LVO, OBE, MC, BA, DL

Colonel of the Regiment

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Headquarters United Kingdom Land Forces, Erskine Barracks, Wilton, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 0AG
ADC: Captain S. R. Neath

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Halifax, HX2 0BA*

Regimental Secretary, Lieutenant Colonel W. Robins, OBE.
Assistant Regimental Secretary, Major C. D. d'E. Miller

1st Battalion
*Clive Barracks,
Tern Hill,
Shropshire, TF9 3QE*

Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel A. D. Meek
Adjutant, Captain D. S. Bruce
Regimental Sergeant, Major P. Ennis

AFFILIATED COMPANIES OF 3rd BATTALION YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS

"C" (DWR) Company,
3rd Bn Yorkshire Volunteers,
*St. Paul's Street,
Huddersfield, HD1 3DR*

Officer Commanding, Major D. R. Dunston

"D" (DWR) Company,
3rd Bn. Yorkshire Volunteers,
*Wellington Hall, Prescott Street,
Halifax, HX1 2LG*

Officer Commanding, Captain P. D. Buczko

ARMY CADET FORCE

Yorkshire ACF (DWR)
Wellesley Company
Affiliated Detachments

Halifax **Heckmondwike** **Mirfield** **Thongsbridge**
Huddersfield **Keighley** **Skipton**

DWR Liaison Officer and OC Huddersfield Area: Major D. L. Bennett ACF

COMBINED CADET FORCE

Giggleswick School CCF
Officer Commanding, Major N. J. Mussett

Leeds Grammar School CCF
Officer Commanding, Squadron Leader C. Templeman

ALLIED REGIMENT OF THE CANADIAN ARMY

Les Voltigeurs de Quebec

Honorary Colonel: Colonel J. T. P. Audet
Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Y. Lachance

ALLIED REGIMENT OF THE PAKISTAN ARMY

10th Bn The Baluch Regiment

Colonel Commandant: Lieutenant General Abdul Hameed Khan (Ret'd)
Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Shahid Aziz

AFFILIATED SHIP OF THE ROYAL NAVY

H.M.S. York

Captain P. J. Cowling RN

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

Patron:
President:
Vice-President:
General Secretary:

Brigadier His Grace The Duke of Wellington, LVO, OBE, MC, BA, DL
General Sir Charles Huxtable, KCB, CBE
Brigadier D. W. Shuttleworth, OBE
Mr. J. Russell, Wellesley Park, Halifax, HX2 0BA



Lieutenant Colonel A. D. Meek

Regimental Headquarters

Regimental Notes

HONOURS AND AWARDS

The following awards for service in Northern Ireland were announced in November 1989:

BEM, Sergeant M. P. Kerrigan.

Mentioned in Despatches, Captain J. C. Preston and Private P. D. Walton.

The following members of the 1st Battalion have been awarded commendations by the GOC Northern Ireland:

Major P. Robinson, Corporal P. A. Archer and Private D. Rape.

APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS

Lieutenant Colonel A. D. Roberts, MBE, was appointed SO1 MS4 MOD Stanmore in September 1989.

Lieutenant Colonel J. M. Thorn, OBE, was appointed SO1 Inst. Ghana Staff College in September 1989.

Lieutenant Colonel A. R. Redwood Davies, MBE, assumes the appointment of SO1 PS 2(A) DGPS (A) in January 1990.

The following were commissioned into the Regiment from Sandhurst in December 1989:

2nd Lieutenant J. R. Mundell and 2nd Lieutenant N. M. B. Wood.

MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

—Recent acquisitions for the Museum or Archives include:-

—From MOD sources - Rifle 7.6mm L1A1, Rifle 4.85mm IW, Machine Gun 4.85mm LSW.

—From Mr. K. A. Hartley of Keighley, the DCM MM and WW1 medals of his father Sgt. R. Hartley DCM MM 9 DWR.

—From Mr. N. Tansley of Lindley, Huddersfield, the DCM, Queen's South Africa Medal with 5 clasps, and WW1 medals of A/CSM L Taylor DCM 3 Militia Battalion DWR.

—From Mr. J. H. Green of Leeds, photographs of 2 DWR 1945-46 period.

—From Mr. E. Nicholson of Bradford, and album containing photographs of 2 DWR in India in the 1930's.

—From Rev. Canon D.I. Strangeways DSO OBE MA, three hand written messages relating to the actions of 1 DWR at Dunkirk.

—From Mr D.Cox of Sheffield, notebooks, maps, pamphlets and other documents originally belonging to Capt. P. Green 2/4 DWR in WW1.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL A. D. MEEK

Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Meek succeeded Lieutenant Colonel Alistair Roberts, MBE, as Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion on 1st September 1989. Lieutenant Colonel Meek was commissioned into the Regiment from Mons OTS in 1971. From 1973 to 1974 he was IO of the Battalion in Northern Ireland, UK and Cyprus. In 1975 he was posted to the School of Infantry as an instructor in the Small Arms Wing. He returned to the Battalion as Adjutant in 1978 and served in Minden and Belfast before being appointed an instructor at the RMA.

In 1983 he attended the Command and Staff College, Queenscliffe, Australia following which he went as COS to 11 Armoured Brigade in Minden. In 1986 he re-joined the 1st Battalion as a company commander. Prior to assuming command of the Battalion he was an instructor at the Staff College, Camberley.

Lieutenant Colonel Meek is married to Sandy. They have three daughters, Georgina (13), Edwina (9) and Claudia (2). His interests include the theatre and photography.



THE LIQUEUR YOU PREFER TO BE OFFERED

IN YOUR MESS NOW



1st Battalion

COMMANDING OFFICER'S INTRODUCTION

The culmination of the year's training (and our return to conventional soldiering) was the 5 week exercise in Wainwright, Canada. The exercise, "Pond Jump West 3", was an undoubted success: we have learnt many new lessons (and learnt many old ones) and by the end proved ourselves fit for war. The programme, for which I can take no credit, arriving as I did a week before deployment, was imaginative, testing and I think enjoyed by everyone.

We owe a debt to the numerous units who supported us during the Exercise. 170 (Imjin) Battery, from West Yorkshire, laid on some of the best live artillery fire in support of infantry I have ever seen, while at the same time giving the Mortar Platoon much valuable encouragement and assistance. Many units released manpower to increase our numbers, notably 2 UDR, 6 UDR, 1 YORKS, 3 YORKS and 4 YORKS. Their assistance enabled us to take to the field with a full orbat and I am most grateful to the units for releasing them but also to the individuals who went to considerable lengths to join us for 5 weeks. One particular aspect of the exercise I would like to mention is the Adventure Training conducted in The Rockies. A good deal of genuine adventurous training took place and many members of the Battalion learnt an awful lot during their 5 days

in the Jasper area and much thanks is due to the Adventure Training staff. While in Canada we had a number of visitors. We were particularly pleased that the Colonel of the Regiment was able to spend 3 whole days with us, which enabled him and Lady Mary Huxtable to see nearly everything we were doing (including the band on a CQBR!)

We are now back in Tern Hill where all the usual pressures of UK soldiering are quickly back on all our desks. Planning for the forthcoming Falklands tour by a composite company group (to be called Waterloo Company) has started. Much thought is also being given to the UKLF Milan Concentration which those of us that remain in England will run at Otterburn in July. At the same time we must not ignore recruiting. We will be doing all we can to be seen around the West Riding next year. Meanwhile the cross country runners are training hard and have the army finals in February in their sights. Also the Battalion is entering a team in the UKLF Canoe Championships later this month and much is expected from them. Soccer is being played as is a host of other sports and there is a small matter of a certain Rugby Cup that is required in its rightful home! This all goes to show that at the end of the day nothing really changes that much!

ALMA COMPANY

OC
CSM

Major M. J. B. Drake
WO2 P. Elwell

1 Platoon
2 Lieut. J. Purcell

2 Platoon
Lieut. M. Norman

3 Platoon
2 Lieut. A. Hadley

Alma Company at the seaside: 2nd Lieut. J. M. Purcell

The day started well with a cavalcade of cars leaving Tern Hill in the direction of Wales. A few of the group had been sea fishing before but most of us treated the whole idea with some anxiety. The thought of bobbing up and down on the open sea for eight hours was enough to make you feel sick without actually having to participate.

2 Platoon had made the trip the day before with a great deal of success catching several fish and one small boy. To the amazement of the platoon Private Windle launched himself into the water to rescue a small boy who had fallen into the channel and was being swept out to sea. Windle himself could not swim.

We eventually arrived in Rhyll and discovered the Blue Shark fishing establishment opposite the harbour and were introduced to our captain for the day.

1 Platoon boarded the boat with some light refreshment which we had brought with us, and made our way out of the fishing grounds. Our first couple of drifts were fairly successful with a few mackerel being caught. These were promptly dissected and used as

bait for larger fish. After moving about a bit we eventually dropped anchor and started the serious business of sea fishing.

It was obvious after the first chaotic few minutes that the correct method of casting had to be mastered. After repairs to the lines of the novices amongst us we soon settled down to the routine. The fish started to be reeled in, not just in ones and twos but in the dozen.

The whole day was a great success and there was enough fish to supply the OC and SQMS with a liberal share of the day's catch.

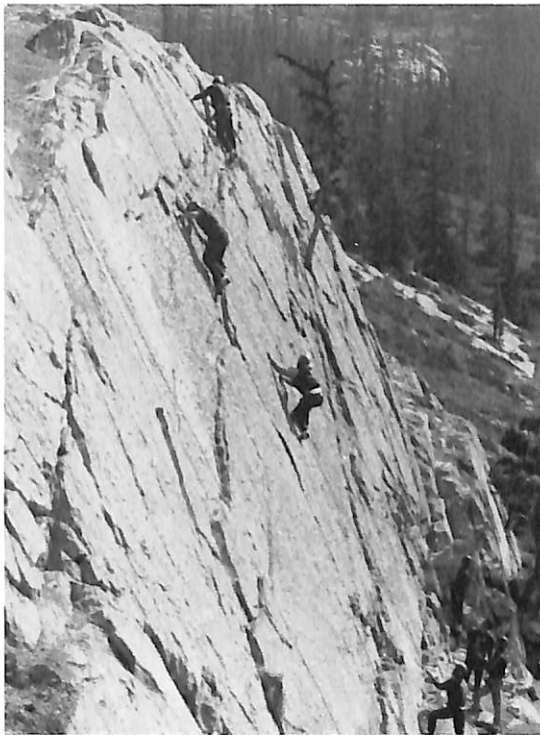
Adventure Training, Jasper National Park:
Lieut M.D. Norman

"It's just like Brecon, but bigger!"

"Your driver is Brent Dion" the sign announced as we bundled into yet another bus on "Pond Jump West 3". Another bus and another Canadian wearing yet another baseball cap. Alma Company minus the pit digging crew (CQMS & Co) was embarking on a six day adventurous training package into the Rocky



Adventure Training
White water rafting



Adventure Training
Climbing in the Rockies

Mountains - Jasper National Park. Home of sun, snow, Labatts Blue, Sgt. Cockshott and bears.

The transition from the seemingly endless plains of Alberta to the staggering beauty of the towering Rockies was quite spectacular. The snow peaked mountains loomed from emerald green lakes and opaque rivers fed by the glaciers were bordered by a massive carpet of evergreen forest fringed with browns, reds and oranges.

We eventually reached Jasper after 550 kilometres of "it's just round the next corner" jokes (the Canadians having taken a leaf out of the Romans' book, and not allowing bends in the roads). We arrived in Jasper to find the adventure training team had re-incarnated the MASH 1477 set. A cold tented area with even colder running water, a cookhouse, a rather incongruous lorry trailer and a lake.

The Scots Guards had been at the site but two hours previously - a legacy of which was a white washed stone inscription "The Scots Guards" on the lakeside - it took 2 minutes 32 seconds to change that to "The Dukes" and 3 minutes 40 seconds to add "Alma Coy" - there's no place like home!

It was then down to the serious business - the adventure training. The Company would partake of 7 activities - all for the price of \$9, the price of a jug of beer.

Cycling, horseriding, canoeing, white water rafting (you spent more time in the water than on the raft), hillwalking, climbing, abseiling, watersports (waterskiing, windsurfing, jet skiing), dingy sailing and sunbathing. Finally swimming (a jacuzzi, a couple of lengths of the pool and a quick steam bath and you were a different man, well, cleaner anyway).

It was a chance in a lifetime we were told and everyone grasped that opportunity.

The British Army is the only military unit allowed to exercise in Jasper National Park. The Canadians are extremely strict with their conservation laws; the result is an unspoilt clean and refreshing area of

natural beauty. (Though it is debatable how many of the Alma Company personnel appreciated their good fortune at 0630 hours each morning!)

The adventure training package was a great success and a credit to the hard work of Sgt Cockshott and his team.

BURMA COMPANY

OC	Major G. A. Kilburn
2IC	Captain I. G. Kelly (3 Yorks)
CSM	WO2 A. L. Jackson

4 Platoon
2 Lieut. B. Faithful

5 Platoon
2 Lieut. B. Montieth

6 Platoon
2 Lieut. F. Murray

Shortly after arriving in Canada the company moved out of the comfort of Camp Wainwright into a tented camp some 15 miles to the South and for 11 days did its own thing. The first 3 days were all dry training and the use of fixed ranges, the next 5 days were live firing and the final 3 days were the company exercise.

The initial 3 days proved to everybody just how difficult navigation in Canada can be. There were many comments like, "But the map showed it would be different" and "My compass doesn't work here" and "How many paces is that" - "I don't know, I didn't think it was my turn to count." Although many of the problems were sorted out, navigation was to be a recurring headache throughout the exercise.

Having completed the dry training we then went live and for the next 5 days all the principal training was live firing. We progressed from individual fire and movement, through pairs fire and movement, live grenade stalks, section attacks (both with and without grenades) to a platoon live firing attack. Safety regulations were pressed to the limits and a thoroughly realistic exercise was the result.

The company exercise followed. This started with several walk through/talk through exercises and went on with a minefield crossing, a deliberate dawn attack, an advance including 3 quick company attacks and finally the inevitable final night (nearly dawn) attack.

At the end of the camp the company was tired to a man, but morale was high and everybody was looking forward to adventurous training and R and R.

6 Platoon battle run: 2nd Lieutenant F. Murray

6 Platoon was the last to march the 12 kilometres from the Camp to the live firing area. We were equipped as if for war with not only our normal kit, but full scales of ammunition. A jubilant 4 Platoon sped by us in a 4 ton Bedford, singing as they went. With their attack accomplished and 5 Platoon's under way they could afford to smile.

On arrival at the range the Platoon got down into a defensive hide where lunches were eaten and the plentiful ammunition redistributed. Extra magazines were given to the gunners to bring them up to 12 each in order that maximum firepower be brought to bear on this, the highlight of the company training camp. No sooner had I learnt over the air of 5 Platoon's success than the Company Commander was issuing me a quick set of orders and the opportunity to copy

up map markings. Whilst the last magazines were charged I issued an equally brief set of orders and 6 Platoon's battle run started.

I set Cpl Smith and 3 Section off as point along the axis of Khaki Trail and they advanced tentatively to contact. Contact was a long time coming for when it did nearly 3 kilometres had passed underfoot. I ran forward to question Cpl Smith and observe for myself. Before I could confer Major Kilburn was upon me asking the same questions. "Where? How many?"

Over the brow of the hill six positions were located. Too many for a lone section. Before I had time to suggest a fire mission the OC had tasked a machine gun section to provide fire support and was questioning me for the site of a good FUP (Forming up point for an attack). This I identified as a track in dead ground alongside the enemy positions. Without further ado I was given an H hour five minutes away. I learnt my first lesson in the three unnecessary minutes it took me to issue redundant battle orders for at the end the Company Commander was upon me once more, "Get around, get a move on, get moving!" or words to that effect.

I led my platoon around to the FUP which I was gratefully assured we had reached in time. Platoon signaller Pte Towler had a wry smile on his face for I had maintained my unbroken record of tripping over in every operation we rehearsed. Thereafter the attack was underway.

Live firing is the high point of a soldier's training for it is the closest thing to real battle. Every shot must be aimed and the soldier must act responsibly. With good fire control the first two positions were taken by Cpl Harvey and 1 Section and then Cpl Elcoate and 2 Section. Thereafter 3 more positions were very close. I tasked Cpl Elcoate with a trench on the right. This he took before taking a further trench on his own initiative. Meanwhile Cpl Harvey and 1 section embarked upon a position on the left with Cpl Smith and 3 section suppressing the depth positions. By now I had learnt a second lesson. That once the platoon commander had tasked a section with a position it is left to the section commander to deal with. In attempting to tell Cpl Harvey what route to take I had committed a third mistake. I then learnt another lesson from the Regimental Sergeant Major who suggested as an onlooker, "The Company Commander's in front of you." I looked up and saw this to be true whereupon I dashed forward to rectify this fault. Towler was by now stumbling himself!

By this stage Cpl Smith and 3 Section were clearing the remaining depth positions and "reorg" was then called. When everyone had taken up arcs a series of targets appeared beyond the final objective to represent a counter attack. These were engaged and fell when hit. When the cry "STOP! Make safe." was heard I knew the attack had been a success. I was aware that in ten minutes not a moment elapsed when some fire was not to be heard suppressing enemy positions. This particularly and vital skill of fire control had been constantly practised in the days prior to the platoon live attack. Here on the day 6 Platoon had got it right. The movement had been well drilled and slick. The attack as a whole was as realistic as it is possible to achieve in peacetime whilst for Cpl Elcoate's section, and more particularly the grenadier, the attack had been at times a little too realistic as fire had been brought to bear closer to him than he would have liked.

Burma Company's part in the FTX: 2nd Lieutenant P. Montieth

The day of the Battalion FTX (Field Training Exercise) dawned clear and bright and the brilliant Canadian sun shone down upon the heaving, straining backs of the men of Burma Company as they dug madly, attempting to get 6 feet down before dark so they could smoke without the OC catching on. Yes - it was defence at last.

We had smashed the Phantasians, annihilated the Canadian Liberation Army, we had even taken on and defeated mad Colonel Strutter's deranged band of oil hungry terrorists, but this time things were serious. It was the real thing. The 25th Motor Rifle Regiment was advancing on Wainwright from the West and 1 DWR was deployed to meet it. Alma Company was forward doing a bridge demolition guard, Burma Company was to occupy a blocking position on the major W-E axis and Corunna was to the rear.

We started to dig, then some moved and dug again - when the OC decided we had not got it quite right. We then revetted (supported the sides of the trench with tin and pickets). One fire team had to revet about six times in the face of some serious structural defects in the trench design (ie. it kept falling in). Eventually, however, 5 Platoon was underground.

The next day dawned equally clear and bright, the

enemy was a little closer to Alma Company on the bridge and the Company was a great deal colder and somewhat more tired.

The Company settled down to routine in defence throughout the day, which belied its bright beginnings by pouring down with rain. We listened to the progress of the battle, Recce and Milan's fighting withdrawal, Alma's bold defence of the bridge, followed by the sad demise of CSM Elwell as the bridge was blown beneath his feet and the enemy's infiltration to our rear, capturing much of the luckless Corunna Company's position in the brief attack.

Corunna was almost completely overrun and it was clear that the position had to be restored. A large amount of artillery and mortar fire was dropped on the enemy and Burma Company left its trenches to mount a counter attack. All went well until the first platoon position was retaken. Several casualties were taken and the enemy then started to surrender. An entire platoon was occupied dealing with them and the whole attack slowed down. There was considerable confusion and at one point Burma, believing the enemy to have fled or be ineffective, moved without fire going down. We were engaged and immediately mounted an attack capturing a trench occupied by the remnants of Corunna. This blue on blue, although accepted as unfortunate, was seen as entirely realistic. The CSM then dealt with casualties and prisoners of war and according to the gunners playing enemy should now be treated as a war criminal.

We eventually returned to our defensive position and were quickly given orders to withdraw. A battalion attack including an obstacle crossing followed and most expected a straight forward final attack. Our intelligence was clearly not up to much as the selected FUP was occupied by the enemy and a short but bitter fight ensued to wrinkle them out. From the FUP Burma was then launched into an assault against what was believed to be a platoon. It quickly became evident that there was at least a company in position and the attack had to stop whilst two thirds of the position was neutralized with indirect fire. Burma having seized its objective then provided fire for the other two companies and about one hour later the position was secure. The reorganization was started and soldiers had just begun to take entrenching tools from their backs when ENDEX was given.

CORUNNA COMPANY

OC
CSM

Major S. J. N. Morgan
WO2 B. Thomas, BEM

7 Platoon
2 Lieut. J. Mayo

8 Platoon
2 Lieut. C. Buss

9 Platoon
2 Lieut. R. Berry

Undoubtedly the highlight of this period has been the deployment to Canada on exercise "Pond Jump West 3" in September and October. This had all along been billed as a unique training opportunity and we were assured it would be a stern test of company training standards, morale, battle procedure and tactics. It was therefore fortunate that the company was able to fly out to Canada with probably the strongest team in terms of numbers and qualified

personnel that it had been able to muster in recent years. Platoons were put up to full strength by additions from 6 UDR and 3 Yorks and we had been able to wangle a full complement of platoon commanders and platoon sergeants. We even managed to find a Coy 21C in Canada:- Captain Holroyd, who joined us from his stint at BATUS.

Our experiences on company camp, R+R and adventurous training were much the same as those of



Lieutenant John Mayo leads members of Corunna Company during a beach landing on exercise "Pond Jump West 3"

the other companies apart from our barbeque record that gave the rest of the battalion a high standard to try and match! Indeed on the company battle run many of the safety staff expressed surprise that we didn't throw another barbeque after we had dug in on the first night!

Our activities were marked by an intense desire to make the most of what was on offer and to do well. This was particularly apparent in the finale to exercise "Pond Jump West," the inter platoon competition. Due to the roulement that each Company had to follow we had no break from coming back from adventure training on 5 October through the Company battle run and the Battalion FTX to the start of the competition itself. This meant that the company was quite tired. In hindsight actually this problem contributed to our main success rather than hindered us as we had no time to lose the edge we found in the company battle run.

The competition itself consisted of 14 stands. Platoons would start at a different one and proceed over 48 hours to complete all 14. The night was taken up with a night harbour and 4 man recce patrol where the resulting patrol report was marked. Stands varied from the obvious such as NBC and first aid to the more exotic with a complicated engineer controlled command task and a stand requiring the platoon commander to control his men in the assembling of a SLR whilst they were blindfolded.

All three platoons attacked the competition determined to win although we were not well fancied, with the Recce Platoon clear and obvious favourites.

The OC, however, felt 9 Platoon held the company's best chances. His confidence proved justified as at the end of the first day Recce was uncomfortably aware that 9 Platoon was right behind it but gratifyingly 8 and 7 Platoon were all up in the same area. The next day brought an early catastrophe as 8 Platoon had to miss a stand due to the common C Company subaltern problem of geographical embarrassment. However, they recovered well and all three platoons moved steadily on and showed increased grit and determination as feet started to hurt and fatigue to tell. Due to their start points all three platoons had to hit the most physically demanding stand, the assault course, towards the end of the circuit. First was 7 Platoon with a time to beat from Alma Coy of 9 mins 42 seconds. We hoped they would get close to give the other 2 platoons a good target to aim for. Well they did not only get close but smashed the time by 30 seconds to come in in 9 minutes 10 seconds. This was a truly outstanding performance and was just the incentive the other two needed. In the end we took 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the assault course and got maximum company points.

When the Battalion gathered at the range for the final event, the shoot, it was clear we were close to doing very well. The company with the best average mark among its platoons was to be the winner as far as the 'inter company competition' was concerned. When the results were announced this is what we achieved with our platoons gaining 5, 6 and 7th place. An extremely gratifying and well earned achievement.

SOMME FIRE SUPPORT COMPANY

OC: Major S. C. Newton
CSM: WO2 G. O. W. Williams, BEM

Recce Platoon
Captain R. G. Best

Mortar Platoon
Captain M. A. Lodge

MILAN Platoon
Captain M. J. Tinsley

Medium Machine Gun Platoon
2 Lieut. A. J. Wheatley

Somme Company is presently organised as follows:-

HQ	(2 + 13)	
Mortar Platoon	(1 + 55)	8 x 81mm Mortars
MILAN	(1 + 27)	6 x MILAN Firing Posts
Recce Platoon	(1 + 23)	3 x Recce Sections
MMG (Drums) Platoon	(1 + 23)	9 x GPMG (SF) in 3 x Sections
Asslt Pnr Platoon	(0 + 13)	2 x Sections
TOTAL -	6 + 154	

On return to Tern Hill, Somme regrouped and retrained to form a Fire Support Company - in itself a considerable challenge as many of the skills had been lost during two years in a rifle company role in Northern Ireland. That task complete, the company has been involved in numerous independent tasks this year - from running both the District TA Patrol Competition and the UKLF Orienteering Championships (at the same time!) to supporting the Battle Group during live firing in Canada (which included the running of the rifle company battle runs). In addition, the whole company has adventure trained in UK as well as Canada during the year, the Recce platoon has raised in excess of £5000 for various charities, the Mortar platoon has sent 3 NCOs to Sardinia in support of AMF(L), the Recce platoon has also won the inter-platoon competition, and the Company is now about to run the Battalion Potential NCO Cadre - so things are looking up for Somme!

Mortar Platoon - live firing

"Bed in Fire Mission 4 Mortars Grid 239476 altitude 550 direction 0600 enemy platoon debussing section right over". There was a pause and then the words were echoed. Minutes later four hollow sounds in the distance and over the radio "shot one 39, shot 2 shot 3 shot 4". Then nothing! Eventually four neat spurts of dirt appeared in the distance each accompanied by a very obvious crump sound. "Damn, a crossed belt".

To the observer it must seem a complex and slow business. Indeed it was slow, very slow, but then speeding up reactions and improving drills was the reason why we were spending two weeks at the Support Weapons Wing Netheravon.

Exercise 'Mortarman' was for all of us a great success. It had been some years since the Platoon had live fired. For many it was the first time ever. It wasn't all 'rounds in the air' of course, much of the time was spent in dry training, attempting to foster the teamwork that is so essential to a mortar platoon. At the end of the training the aim had been achieved,

individual skills and platoon drills were much improved.

The emphasis on teamwork was continued on the following weeks adventure training at Kymnel Park in North Wales. After a doubtful start the fine weather stayed with us as we put sail to wind, paddle (or was it bottom) to rapid and light to darkness. The platoon is well endowed with sportsmen. It was an excellent week enjoyed by everyone who took part.

Reconnaissance Platoon: Exercise mountain cycle charity challenge

The large Welsh mountains loomed out of the darkness, slowly getting closer as the cyclists frantically pedalled towards their goal. The night air brushed their faces and the nipping cold ate into their fingers. At the foot of Cader Idris it was off the bikes and at a quick pace up the darkened slopes. The day broke on the descent and it was on to Snowdon. Legs still strong, bikes now finely tuned and an appetite for cycling stronger than anyone had anticipated.

A 300 mile cycle relay broken with two mountain runs around North Wales, an idea borne in the Recce Platoon office but raised into reality through the enthusiasm and motivation of soldiers in search of a physical challenge. The ground rules were laid down, a team of 3 cyclists would cycle for one hour before handing over to a second team, there would be four teams in all and a willing back up or administration team. All cyclists would run up the two mountains. Cader Idris 892 metres and Snowdon 1085 metres. At an average speed of 13 miles per hour and with the likely onset of fatigue, 48 hours seemed an ideal constraint in which maximum effort would have to be maintained.

Not satisfied with the physical challenge alone, the potential for good publicity for the Battalion as well as the Reconnaissance platoon was developed. Two charities were chosen, The Halifax Scanner Appeal and the Leukaemia Research Fund, and so the challenge of raising sponsorship was underway. A number of fun runs and half marathons were entered



The Mortar platoon team on the engineer 'command task' during the inter-platoon competition.



The Colonel of the Regiment meets the Mortar platoon on the mortar line.



Captain Richard Best, Recce platoon, receiving the inter-platoon competition prize from Brigadier Nash, Commander 143 Brigade.



Private Gilliland presents a cheque for £5,000 to the Halifax branch of the Leukaemia Research Fund in the presence of the Mayor of Calderdale and members of the Recce platoon.

in Yorkshire and the sight of bergan carrying soldiers pounding the Yorkshire hills became a frequent one. Not only was this good training for our conventional soldiering role but it was excellent strength training and its effect would become apparent on the cycling. Fund raising from these runs gained momentum and given the press coverage it was clear a substantial amount could be raised.

The weekend arrived, the route and mountains had been reced and with a wave from the Mayor of Market Drayton, the first team was on its way at 8.00 pm. The remainder following in back up vehicles went from pub to pub collecting. It was clear from the start the speed was quicker than anticipated but fatigue had not yet set in and the two mountains had not taken their toll.

Through the cold night the cyclists sped, nose to tail all the way, minimising the wind resistance, cheered on by the rest of the team. By 0500 on Saturday Cader Idris had been reached and was quickly ascended in the dark, as dawn broke the cyclists quickly descended. The team was still fresh but a long way ahead. Would we arrive at Snowdon with sufficient daylight? By lunchtime we were there, far from fatigue setting in it appeared we were getting stronger. Snowdon proved to be steep but conditions were ideal and "we made it to the top" in just under three hours. Descending proved no problem and the ride continued. It was now clear that 48 hours was a little generous. The plan changed and money raising on the North Coast of Wales and Chester became the priorities. By midnight on Saturday some 28 hours after the start the final team completed the last leg, still

relatively fresh and with a knowledge that thousands of pounds had been raised for charity.

On the Thursday prior to the cycling six youngsters suffering from Leukaemia and with a constant uncertain future had spent a morning with the Recce platoon, it was for them and others like them that had inspired a team of cyclists. Over £5000 was raised and an example set to the rest of the Battalion that with a sound idea, enthusiasm and good motivation, 24 men can produce the goods.

The Company Battle Runs

As a culmination to the live firing phase of exercise "Pond Jump West 3", each rifle company took part in a 26 hour live firing battle run during the period 6-8 October 1989. The exercise was set-up and run by Somme Company, and elements of all supporting arms with direction and coordination from the CO and Major Simon Newton.

The exercise was designed to be free-flowing and realistic, giving the company commander as much tactical freedom as possible, bearing in mind the normal safety limitations connected with live firing.

Day one started with the movement of the company group (one of the three rifle companies with attached elements of the MILAN, MMG and Mortar platoons and artillery battery) out to the training site followed by orders and extensive battle preparation. The primary objective was a bridge some kilometres away, but as the companies advanced to contact, they found their way barred firstly by a standing patrol OP and secondly by a platoon size defensive position. This



Members of the MILAN platoon on a company battle run.

obstacle called for and was met by a company level quick attack also included the live 'posting' of grenades and the firing of the 21mm sub-calibre device for the 66mm anti-tank-rocket against a moving enemy armoured vehicle. After rapid re-organisation, the company moved to find the bridge itself undefended and consolidation in the form of a bridgehead on the far bank was established.

New orders were then designed to move the company group on to a suspected enemy hill-top position some 6km distance. (It was at this point that some of the company 21Cs found themselves thrown in at the 'deep end' as their company commanders left the scene to assume the role of CO). The move to the secondary objective was barred by a minefield, which was breached overnight with the assistance of the Royal Engineers troop with live SF, artillery and mortar support throughout the night, if requested.

The culmination of the exercise followed at dawn the next day with a deliberate company attack proceeded by a heavy artillery and mortar HE and smoke on the enemy. The clearance of the position was again assisted by the use of GPMG SF and live grenades and during the re-organisation phase, platoon commanders were able to adjust artillery and mortar fire on to depth targets for real. And quite a fireworks display it was too!

The exercise was a great success. Only on a battalion deployment are the resources available to run a live firing exercise on that scale, and with the training restrictions in the UK, that opportunity comes round all too infrequently. All the soldiers who participated benefited from some excellent, realistic and physically demanding training - and they enjoyed it as well!



Private Arthur Walford in action during exercise "Pond Pump West 3".



Sergeant Stead clears the obstacle during the Falling Plates shoot in the Inter-Platoon competition.

HOOK COMPANY

OC: Major B. Coll
CSM: WO2 M. A. O'Garra

Signal Platoon

The "Standard two" cadre finished at the beginning of June and the Platoon had a few weeks respite before deploying on OP 'Rodger' and OP 'Adamant.'

The platoon moved into its busiest period of the year with the packing of all our equipment for Canada. Seventy two boxes totalling 11,000 lbs were packed, unpacked and finally packed before and after leave. Eventually the boxes and the platoon departed for Canada.

The first block of "Pond Jump West 3" saw the company detachments getting to grips with clansman communications while on company battle camps. The Signal platoon established a successful HF link to Jasper (500 km away) which the 2 previous battlegroups had been unable to do. The action was fast and furious and due to the workload the platoon was not able to take adventure training. R & R was taken and the majority of the platoon headed for Edmonton.

The FTX was soon upon us and the line team laid over 10 miles of cable. Many members of the platoon learnt practical signalling lessons while on the FTX.

Catering Platoon: SQMS Wyatt

Since arriving in Tern Hill the Catering platoon has been very busy in supporting the Regiment in its many varied commitments from one end of the U.K. to the other.

We have become the ACC Western - District Volleyball Champions and have hopes of becoming the ACC District 5-a-side champions. The highlight of our year must have been exercise "Pond Jump West 3" in Canada, feeding 800 people in many varied locations and all in the field. Eleven T.A. chefs joined us on the battle group and went away much the wiser for the experience. The chefs worked many long hours either in Jasper in the Rocky Mountains or on exercise with companies or in the great tented kitchen in Camp Wainwright. They always produced the culinary skills expected of them. The highlight of the tour must have been the adventure training and of course the R & R which always re-vitalises the lads morale. My three years with the Dukes have not only widened my catering knowledge but have also been very enjoyable.

Regimental Band.

The Regimental Band undertook a varied and challenging programme during exercise "Pond Jump West 3". Several of the band engagements were given in the local community at Wainwright. These included a Beating of the Retreat ceremony for the town shortly after our arrival in Canada, as well as a joint concert given with the Wainwright High School Band. The latter event proved popular, both for the young musicians who joined in with band, and also the capacity audience.

Band engagements further afield included playing at a Rugby International match in Edmonton between Canada and Australia and also a three day trip to Humboldt High School, Saskatchewan, where members of the band were given the opportunity to demonstrate their musicianship by giving a Schools Workshop, culminating in a joint concert. Amongst the audience was Mr Brian Bowyer, who was Bandmaster of the 1st Battalion from 1958 to 1966. Mr Bowyer was instrumental in arranging our visit, as he is now living in Saskatoon, Canada, and was at one time a music master of Humboldt High School. Military activities gave members of the band the opportunity to experience Close Quarter Battle training, and during the platoon competitions we demonstrated our medical knowledge by providing a First Aid Station, complete with 'Hammer House of Horror' casualty simulations.



The Colonel of the Regiment was the Inspecting Officer at the recent WRAC Passing Out parade at Guildford when Kay, the eldest daughter of Sergeant Philip Clough, Regimental Band, completed her training.



The Regimental Band performing in the town of Wainwright, Alberta, Canada, during exercise "Pond Jump West 3".

OFFICERS' MESS

The mess was very busy in early August with leave being close and the wedding of Duncan Bruce being the major event. 180 guests attended the reception which seemed to fill most of the Mess and went on to the small hour. Even the bride and groom enjoyed themselves to such an extent that they did not leave until after midnight. On return from leave we dined out Colonel Alistair as Commanding Officer. The highlight of the night was the chariot race devised by Richard Berry. Two trolleys wrapped in blankets were pushed round the Mess at great speed in a no holds barred relay race. The result was mayhem and devastation mitigated only by the fact that the Commanding Officer's team won, (due in no small part to his ability to cheat more effectively than others).

Soon after Colonel Andrew took over we moved to Canada and faced the challenge of turning a pretty basic building into a Dukes Officers Mess. A little silver, a few pictures and some minor adjustments later the place was much improved and we prepared for a joint party with the Canadian Mess to welcome us to Canada and to give us the opportunity of meeting the local population, both military and civilian. The venue was the Canadian Mess and our band played, causing more than a few Canadians to go slightly green with envy as they have had to give up their military bands for the most part. Our first visitor, Brigadier Brembridge for UKLF, came with us to the joint party, and despite the difficulties we managed to entertain both the Colonel of the Regiment and the Commander 143 Brigade during their visits to the exercise.

WARRANT OFFICERS' AND SERGEANTS' MESS

Training for Canada involved the knitting together of individual and platoon skills. The platoon sergeants worked hard to achieve this both in the training and administration, the latter involving SNCOs in the logistic support by HQ company. Canada proved very testing with the platoon competition being the highlight.

Functions were rare due to the mess being split with companies at Jasper Adventure Training and under

canvas on exercise. However, a meet and greet with the Canadian forces Mess proved a success. Sergeant Doyle (now CSgt Doyle) did the Yorkshiremen proud by staging a skit based on RSM 1 DWR and RSM Camp Wainwright. As always it was taken in the correct spirit.

A farewell to Wainwright social evening again went down very well with both messes enjoying excellent food, good company and comradeship.

A TOUR THROUGH THE ROCKIES: BY CAPTAIN D. A. ROSS - RAMC

Two intrepid officers pulled out from downtown Edmonton in their "rent a wreck" Dodge and set off to the West Edmonton Mall. The Mall is the biggest shopping centre in Alberta, and besides shops, also has a water sports centre and a fun fair. The fun fair is notable for two rides, namely the "Drop of Doom" and "The Mindbender Roller Coaster". An evening was spent in Chinatown, where the officers had a Vietnamese meal, which is very similar to Chinese, but slightly more spicy.

At the crack of dawn, the "Rent-a-Wreck" edged out of the parking lot, and set off to Calgary. Four hours later, cruising at a maximum speed of 110 km/h, the car pulled into Calgary. Getting out of the car one noticed how the temperature was markedly lower than in Edmonton, and snow was evident in the distance. Calgary appeared to be a rather dour town; although to be fair, it was a Sunday. A visit to Heritage village, which is in the suburbs, took one back in time, and one got a good idea how mining and oil became great commodities in Canada, as well as seeing how Canadians lived in the 1800's.

Calgary is renowned for its Tower which has a revolving restaurant at the top, and during the last Winter Olympics had the flame burning from there. Breakfast (including entrance) is recommended, and we got an amazing view with our scrambled eggs of not just Calgary, but the Rockies.

Feeling full, we climbed back into the car and started driving through the Rockies to Banff. Banff is a "yuppie" tourist town which seems to be over-run

with oriental people. There is no shortage of excellent restaurants, and places to stay. Perhaps one of the most amazing things one can do is to go swimming in the hot springs. At -4 degrees C, I never thought I would go swimming in the open air, but when the water, which is natural spring water, strong in sulphur, is at 41 degrees C, it makes it irresistible. Feeling thoroughly clean and relaxed, the, by now "Reliable Wreck," moved off for a look at Lake Louise - which owes its vivid green colour to the way the sediment filters out the colours of the sun rays. It really is a sight not to be missed, and if one were wealthy, the hotel (palace) overlooking the lake, with snow covered mountains arising out of it, would make a wonderful start to every morning. Plenty of walks around the mountains would make it quite easy to spend more than a few hours just taking in the view.

So back to Banff, for a first rate meal at the Grizzly Bear which specializes in fondues.

"Reliable Wreck" then took us through the varying colours of the Rockies, from the orange coloured mountains before Banff, to the snow covered mountains, including the Columbian ice fields at Jasper, before turning rather grey, after Jasper.

All too soon 5 days had elapsed, and after stopping overnight in Hinton, and making the boring drive back, we found ourselves saying farewell to the "Reliable Wreck", and wishing we were back in the Rockies.

EXERCISE "FILLIES FOLLY"

Thursday 13 July 1989, thirty wives said they could do as well as the men, for a day at least! The standard of turnout was high, even if a shade too big. Webbing and bergans packed by husbands were found to be lighter when emptied of bricks and sand.

Muster was a 0900 hrs outside Battalion HQ and a quick briefing told us what to expect for the next 24 hours; drill, assault course, ranges and a night exercise. Captain McNeill's question as to whether we wanted it easy or not, was met with howls of derision: "Hard". We were men for the day was the unanimous decision. First of all in true soldier style we retired to the cookhouse for NAAFI break.

WO2 O'Garra instructed drill, with WO2 Jackson demonstrating the movements and how to stand erect and square to the front. Once it was established which way left, right and about was, drill was 'mastered' and there were shouts of "let's get on to the real soldiering."

Then into the cookhouse for lunch. All those lovely appetizing salads, for us we thought, but no, compo and chips in the corner was a soldiers fare.

With very high spirits, the assault course was tackled and mastered by some. A few even managed to get over the rigging, cheered on by those less brave. Split into three platoons of ten a race was organised minus the rigging, then onto count and compare bruises. "That didn't hurt" said one lady hobbling along, "soldiers don't cry".

Enthusiasm was high for the ranges, especially with live rounds and real SA 80's.

Before leaving camp for Nesscliff Training area, we were shown how to erect a basha, cook and eat more compo and how to dig a toilet along with delights of cam cream.

Basha's organised and with darkness drawing close, the high spirits sagged a little at the thought of hourly stags. Cries of "I'm scared of the dark" and "the bushes will do, but watch no-one's looking" were heard. The sensible ones slept.

At 0120 hours a flare went up and caught two ladies adjusting their dress across the field. "Just a practice", mused WO2 Jackson, who revealed he couldn't sleep for excitement.

Intelligence had reported "Enemy" in the area, bogey men and strange lights were in abundance, due to thoughts of a possible attack. Shouts of "who the hell's that", and "don't shoot, it's me" could be heard, the "Enemy" certainly wasn't going to suprise us. When 'stand to' was finally called, the enemy didn't have a chance.

With everyone wide awake now, the dawn attacks were mounted. At last real soldiering, we were going to get them. Still in three platoons and with the previous evening's brief fresh on our minds, we went off in separate directions to ambush the enemy. This was carried out with great success, with many offers to search the 'dead' men!

The rest were captured and marched back to camp for interrogation.

A very quiet journey in four tonners saw thirty very tired and worn out females returned to HQ at 0630 hrs to receive their Commanding Officer's certificate of merit.

Then bath, breakfast and bed was the overall opinion of the hardened war veterans, and when is the next one!

Yvonne Thomas



"Fillies Folly"

CSM Jackson briefs the participants on the delights of the compo ration.

SPORTS, GAMES AND RECREATION

Rugby

Because of the exercise in Canada, the season hasn't really taken off yet. The squad commenced training early in August building up to training matches against Halifax, Halifax Vandals, Market Drayton and for the second team squad RAF Shawbury. The weekend in Halifax proved to be of great value, nearly 30 players took to the field during both matches. The most notable difference from last season is the increase in weight in the forwards and WO2 Williams' ability to get them playing as a unit. The results in Halifax were wins for the Dukes 7 - 6 against Halifax and 24 - 6 against the Vandals.

To increase the Battalion rugby squads in size an Inter Company 7s Competition was held in late August, with no established first team players being allowed to play. The final was a thrilling encounter between Burma 'A' and Corunna 'A'. Corunna won the match with a last second penalty by Pte Battersby

who proved he is now fit again to contend a first team place. A good dozen players emerged from the competition, those with the most potential being Pte Shirt - Centre, Pte Morris - Prop, LCpl George - Stand Off; Lt Hadley - S/Half; Lt Monteith - Hooker.

Canada gave the opportunity to play some of the local Edmonton sides such as St. Albert, The Leprechauns and Druids. The matches were not as hard as expected, resulting in easy wins for the Dukes. However they proved very useful in keeping the fitness topped up. One match has been played since return from Canada resulting in a good win against Sale 2nd XV, 13 - 6.

Three players attended pre season training with Moseley, two are currently in their first team, Lt Adam Wheatley and Sgt Chris Spowatt. Lt Gary Knight is in the second team making a strong bid for the 1st team.

Army Rugby Cup details are as follows:-

1st Round: 1 DWR v 27th Regiment RA. Won 32-3

2nd Round: 1 DWR v RAC Centre. Won 64-0

Qtr. Final UK on 10th January 1990

Semi UK on 31st January 1990

UK Final on 14th March 1990

Army Final on 4th April 1990 (In BAOR)

Football

The 88/89 season has started but, having just returned from exercising in Canada, we find that it got off to a start without us.

We shall be kept busy catching up, as we have an Army Cup match against 11 Signal Regiment to complete. We also have an Infantry Cup match against the Green Howards to play.

Outside the cup games the unit has entered two teams, senior and junior, in their respective divisions of the West Midlands Inter-Service Football League. We have not had two teams competing for a long time, but we are fortunate in having quite a large group of volunteer trainers and officials this season. Last year we won every game before Christmas and continued doing just as well through January. We were looking good for cup competitions. However, having to leave

Northern Ireland before the season finished meant the loss of the League championship. We then lost in each cup competition. As a result we won no trophies. However, we do have the talent, and with luck will be able to prove it this season.

Lasses Ahoy

In July this year, two groups of wives from the 1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment went sailing in the Solent on the Infantry Sailing Association yachts "Bold Fusilier" and "Bold Warrior."

We were blessed with perfect weather for both five day cruises. The skipper warned those whose only previous experience of sailing had been the Belfast to Liverpool ferry, conveying them from their previous posting in Northern Ireland, that sailing can be a chilly business, even in summer, so all came equipped with thick sweaters and woolly hats, but shorts and t-shirts - even swimsuits - became the order of dress, as temperatures touched 90°.

Only two or three of the eleven wives who took part had any previous sailing experience - indeed, most had not even set foot in a rowing boat! There were a lot of strange words to learn and skills to acquire, but in a short time the novice groups became efficient crews, able to tie their bowlines and clove hitches, and tell a jib from a halyard. Each crew member had the opportunity to handle warps, change sails, and helm and each night was spent in a different harbour. After a little practice the crews became quite slick, and it



Lasses Ahoy

Crew 'A': Left to right. Elke Cohen, Alison Heaton, Carolyn Roberts, Lynne Naylor and Deborah Wade.



Lasses Ahoy

Crew 'B': Standing. Julie Booth and Carol Gardner. Seated, left to right: Tracy North, Jo Drake, Carolyn Roberts and Anne Bray.

gave us all an enormous kick to see passing boats' interest in our all-female crew - a rare sight, even today.

The Solent is an ideal area for one's first experience of sailing, as there is a lot to see and several places to visit, all within easy cruising distance. We saw submarines and aircraft carriers in Portsmouth Harbour, Admiral's Cup contenders in Southampton water, numerous sea birds at the Nature Reserve at Newtown Creek, and some curious human specimens from our anchorage at Studland Bay. The Red Arrows even laid on a spectacular performance for us over Cowes - with all eyes turned skywards it was more by luck than judgement that we didn't run aground!

The ISA yachts are Sadler 34s, sleeping up to 7 persons, and novices were relieved to learn that they are virtually unsinkable. They are less than three years old, are very comfortable, and come fully equipped with all modern navigational aids, including a full-time bosun. The ISA accepts bids from units early in the season, and booking dates are filled very quickly. Full details are available from the Yacht Manager - Major Norrington - Davis, 1 RRW, Battlesbury Barracks, Warminster.

Our wives' trips were a great success, and something of an innovation, being the first wives-only charters the ISA has handled.

Carolyn Roberts

3rd BATTALION YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS (WEST YORKSHIRE)

Most of the Battalion had its 1989 annual camp in Shornecliffe, Kent, but 120 lucky individuals, formed around 'A' (Champion) Company, went on Exercise 'Marble Top' for two weeks in Gibraltar.

The main training theme this year has been individual and sub unit skills. The two week package in Kent provided everybody with the opportunity of learning new skills through having attended one of a series of cadres run by the Battalion. It was perhaps a pity that the highlight of the two weeks was to be the

first 2 days which were spent on the outstanding range facilities at Lydd and Hythe, with the danger that anything that followed would be an anti-climax. It is not often that we are given the opportunity to fire 74 x 84mm HEAT rounds. The range package was followed by cadres covering signals, assault pioneer skills, medic, recruit, SF and GPMG, JNCOs and recce. All were excellent value. Everyone knew what to expect for the first 10 days of Camp. What was to remain a mystery, however, were the last couple of

days. The actual plans were known only to a small circle of key players. What was to be known as the Commanding Officer's Insanity was designed to regenerate Rifle Company Identity and to finish, as all good Camps do, with a testing, but fun competition. Issued only with a warning order, giving them the barest of information, company commanders launched into the Insanity with their troops behind them (in the majority of cases). Spread over a number of training areas north of Shornecliffe, stands tested companies on military skills, relating to a Home Defence role, a company quick attack, navigation and

initiative. The Halifax lads of 'D' (DWR) Company won by a clear margin.

The 'other' Camp took place in Gibraltar. The package consisted of a good balance of both military and adventurous training. The Rock has not changed much from the time that 1 DWR was there 4 years ago, but the impending withdrawal of the Resident Battalion is apparently deeply felt.

1989 has been a good year for the Battalion, our soldiers have been to Gibraltar, Kent, Canada with 1DWR, and we have even had two NCOs sent on an exchange with the US Guard to Ohio.



3rd Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers

Members of D (DWR) Company, led by their OC Major Philip Buezko, taking part in the initiative test stand during the Commanding Officer's Insanity.

4th BATTALION YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS (SOUTH YORKSHIRE)

Having brought our Annual Camp to a successful conclusion with our Colours Parade in June, we started preparations for a two week exercise in Gibraltar. This meant a second camp for many, but there was no shortage of volunteers and a composite company of 6 officers and 111 soldiers, 16 of them WRAC, duly departed by Hercules for 2 weeks training on the Rock in early September.

Those who served with the Dukes on their recent tour in Gibraltar will recall the TA staging in South Barracks during exercises called "Marble Tor". They will know what a splendid opportunity it means to the TA to travel, train and generally take advantage of the many varied facilities and opportunities Gibraltar has

to offer. The training programme embraced all aspects from exercises on the upper Rock and Buffadero, assault landings, cave tours, the popular Fleet Tender trip and the various pursuits offered by the Adventure Training Centre. These included dinghy sailing, canoeing, abseiling and rock climbing. In addition a brief period was set aside to visit Spain or Morocco and all members of the company group managed to spend a day away from the Rock.

In tandem with exercise "Marble Tor" the Battalion mounted exercise "Tiger Peak" to the Alps. "Tiger Peak" is a 3 phase expedition, staged over 3 years with the objective, in 1991, of scaling an as yet unnamed peak in the Himalayas. Phase 1, the Alps

proved a tough, gruelling period of training which culminated in the assault of Mt Blanc, some 17,500 feet. The team of 16 was left in no doubt after this phase as to the high standard of fitness, team work and training required to meet the challenge. Phase 2, an assault on Mount Kenya next year will see a leaner, fitter team tackling a harder, more demanding phase of the operation which will hopefully see them ready for the Himalayas.

A small party from 4 Yorks, serving with the Dukes in Canada, sent news 'back home' that life is tough but enjoyable. Finally, and still on travel, HMS Sheffield, our affiliated warship, has kindly offered places for 10 members to fly out to Cyprus and join them on their return trip through the Med to UK with a stage at Barcelona.

All in all a busy year with much scope for travel and adventure. 1990 sees a trip to the USA.

YORKSHIRE ARMY CADET FORCE: WELLESLEY COMPANY

Annual Camp was held at Penhale, Cornwall and sixty cadets from the Company attended. The marvellous weather made for a very enjoyable camp. The cadets took part in abseiling, watermanship, GP Rifle and LMG live firing, and a 24 hour exercise on Bodmin Moor. The Camp was most successful. We were:

1st: Billet competition

1st: Drill competition

2nd: Orienteering

2nd: March and shoot

and unfortunately last in the assault course.

While at camp Captain Peter Cole was presented with his Bar to the Cadet Force Medal on the final parade by our Cadet Commandant, Colonel Seymour.

The first weekend in September saw us at Anzio Camp, Leek, where Colour Sergeant Smith and

Sergeant Acklam of the Training Wing 1 DWR organised and ran an exercise for us. The cadets thoroughly enjoyed a "regular style" exercise and we are much indebted to the two NCOs for organising and running it.

Under Officer Ian Lomas who was recently commissioned has moved from Huddersfield to Mirfield Detachment. We also welcomed ex Cadet Sgt Major Pegg into the Officers Mess in the rank of under Officer. SI Jim Scott has joined Thongsbridge Detachment. He previously served in the 4/7th RDG.

Cadets from Halifax Detachment, lead by Cdt Sgt Maj King, pulled a Land Rover from Halifax to Huddersfield in three and a half hours to raise funds to help an ATC Cadet suffering from shilders disease to go to America for treatment.

BOOK REVIEW

"UBIQUE" BY A.M. Cheetham MC. 227 pp. £5.50 (inc p & p). Obtainable from Freshfield Books, 80, Freshfield Road, Formby L37 7BQ

During World War II the 3rd Infantry Brigade of the British 1st Division relied upon the 2nd Field Regiment RA for its artillery support from France and Dunkirk, through North Africa to Italy and finally Palestine and Egypt. In Italy, the FOO to the Dukes was one Ronny Holly whose brother Tom had been a well-known centre-half for the pre-war Leeds United team. Ronny's counterpart FOO, looking after 1 KSLI, was Arthur Cheetham, MC, who has written a splendid account of his army service from leaving the OTC at Oxford University to the time of his demobilisation from Palestine in 1946. Arthur Cheetham, apart from being a FOO was also a rugby player and played in both the Brigade XV and in the Middle East 'Internationals' in Cairo along with Fred Huskisson, Jeff Reynolds and others of us in the Dukes. In him we have an author who knows the Dukes well and while, perforce, his book covers operations mainly as seen through KSLI eyes, his accounts of the battles cover much of what the Dukes and 2nd Foresters were also about at the same time. So much so that anyone wishing to know what 3 Brigade did and achieved in the war will find most of it in this admirably written book which is illustrated with the clearest of maps.

To those of us who were there for some or all of the campaigns and battles the book will bring back very

vivid memories and not a little nostalgia. For the young officer and soldier there is much to be learned about practical wartime gunnery; how a FOO works and what makes him tick; how vital is the cooperation between tanks, infantry and gunners, and above all, what the devastating effects of coordinated, concentrated artillery fire is like. The descriptions of 'Mike,' 'Uncle' and 'Victor' targets with fire first from the author's beloved 25 Pounders escalating to the Corps regiments mediums and heavies, to say nothing of the infantry support battalions' 4.2 inch mortars, are illuminating in the extreme. Since the war only Korea has seen the like from British gunner regiments.

Operations in the Anzio Beachhead are covered in the greatest of detail, but the advance to and the breakthrough of the Gothic Line in the Appenines north of Florence are also well documented with all the actions of the Duke's covered, at least in outline and as essential background to the activities of the KSLI. There is much humour in the book and a wealth of detail on the operation of a gunner OP with all the many difficulties of supply in the Appenine mountains in winter. Supply was mainly by mule train but often involved the gunners lugging up compo boxes, wireless batteries and all that paraphernalia so necessary for existence in the line. The devotion of the Gunners to looking after their infantry is the main thread of the book, whose profits on sales all go to the RA Charitable Fund - a most kind gesture on Arthur Cheetham's part.

D.E.I.

THE 33rd REGIMENT IN THE CAROLINAS: 1780 - 1781

The war of American Independence started in April 1775. A year later a large number of reinforcements, including the 33rd, was sent to America under command of Lord Cornwallis. After a stormy voyage, which lasted three months, the reinforcements eventually arrived at Staten Island where Lord Howe, the C in C, was assembling his army prior to an attack on New York.

During the following three years the 33rd took part in a number of battles and engagements in the state of New Jersey, in particular those at Germantown, Brandywine and Monmouth Court House.

In December 1779 General Clinton, who was by then the C in C, with Cornwallis as his second in command sailed from New York with a force of 6000 men with the aim of capturing the port of Charleston and thereafter rallying the large number of loyalists who lived in the Carolinas. With their aid it was hoped to suppress the rebels once and for all. After thoroughly defeating the Americans at Charleston Clinton sent off columns to try and subdue the rest of South Carolina. One of these, under Cornwallis, was despatched to occupy Camden. At the same time active steps were taken to recruit loyalists. Having set these moves in train Clinton returned to New York, leaving Cornwallis to pacify the rest of the South.

South Carolina: The Battle of Camden. 16 August 1780.

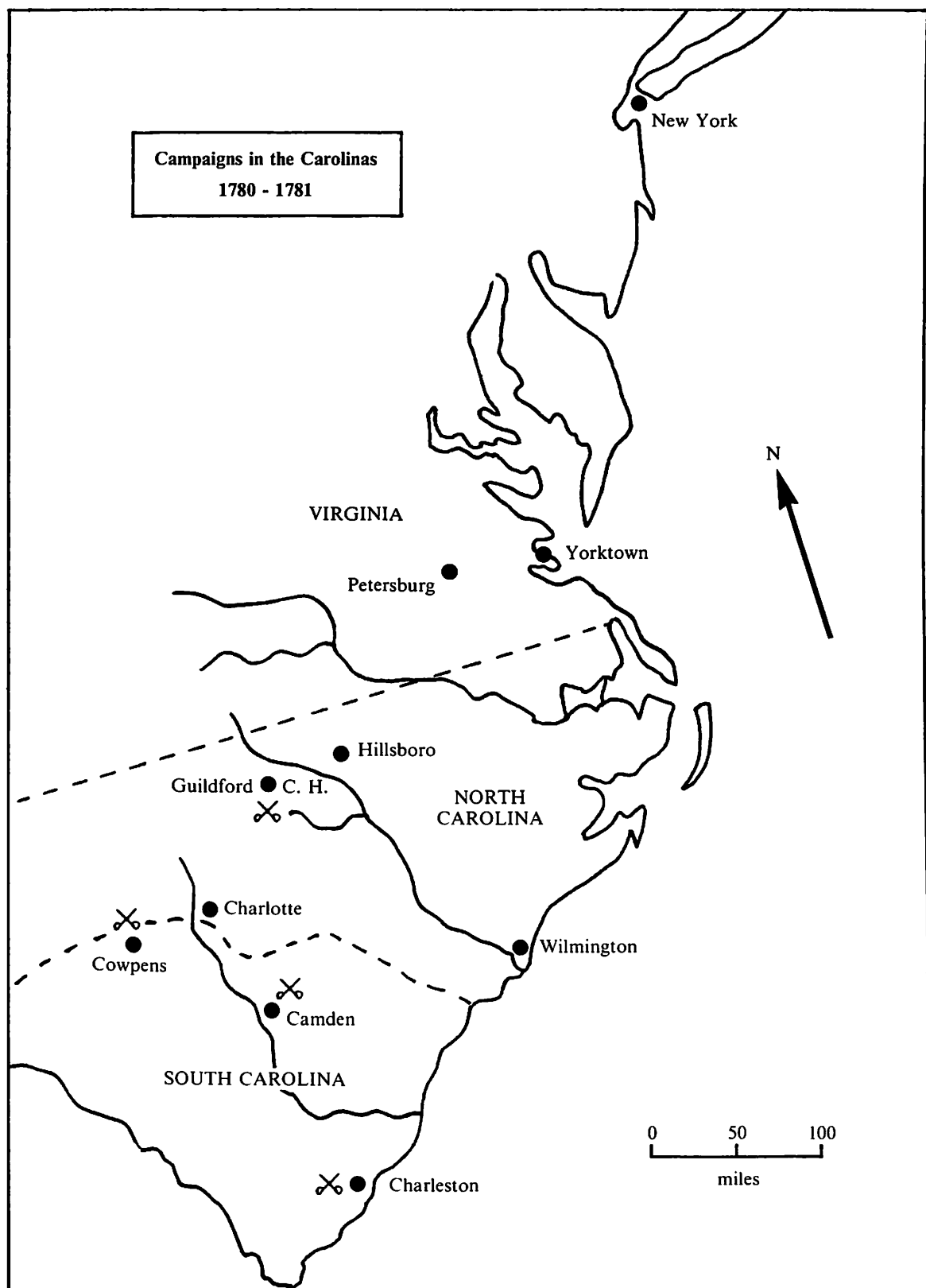
In August 1780 it was learned that the victor of Saratoga, General Gates, was marching south to give battle. Gates set his sights on Camden where Colonel Lord Rawdon was in command of a small force consisting of the 23rd, 33rd, 71st (Fraser's) Highlanders and Volunteers of Ireland (composed of deserters from the American army). On 14th August Cornwallis arrived from Charleston and assumed command determined not to give up his base at Camden with its vast quantity of stores as well as 800 sick soldiers. From prisoners Cornwallis learnt that Gates had about 4000 men. He himself had less than 2000, but nevertheless decided to strike first and attack at dawn on 16 August. Meanwhile Gates was informing his commanders of his own plan which was to approach Camden by night march. Considering that over half his force consisted of militia who could scarcely perform military manoeuvres by daylight, let alone by night, this was a fool-hardy decision. To compound their problems Gates ordered that his troops should be given molasses instead of the more normal rum ration. The nostrum acted as a powerful laxative which had a debilitating effect on his soldiers. At ten o'clock on the night of the 15th Gates commenced his march, at precisely the same hour as Cornwallis moved north from Camden. After the Americans had been marching for four hours the two armies made contact. The Americans attacked and the 23rd and 33rd deployed to meet them. There was desultory fire for about 15 minutes and then, as if by common consent, the firing ceased. Neither side wanted to fight in the dark. Next morning the Americans advanced to find that the British were already deployed in line. Cornwallis, noting the halting movements of the American militia, ordered Colonel James Webster (C.O. of the 33rd), in command of the Right Brigade, to charge. With a loud

hurrah the 23rd and 33rd, led by Webster, advanced in solid ranks. They fired one volley and then charged with the bayonet. The militia, who had never before seen such an enemy, fell back in disorder. An overpowering fear seized them; they turned, threw away their muskets and ran for their lives. Without having pulled a single trigger they burst through their reserve brigade, throwing it into complete confusion, and headed north. Webster distained to pursue them but instead wheeled his brigade in order to join Rawdon, commanding the Left Brigade, in the attack on the American troops. The fighting that followed was of a desperate nature and the Americans only broke on the arrival of the British cavalry. In the meantime their commander, General Gates, mounted on the fastest horse in his army, left them to their fate and fled for his life, not stopping until he had managed to put 60 miles between himself and Cornwallis. After three days this had been increased to 150 miles. Rarely has a general gone so far so fast after a battle. In less than an hour Cornwallis had shattered the only American army in the South. He also captured considerable booty. At the battle of Camden, of which it has been said, "Never was victory more complete, or a defeat more total", the Americans had 1000 killed and wounded and more than 1000 prisoners. The British losses amounted to 324 killed and wounded. The casualties of the 33rd were 18 killed and 81 wounded out of a total strength of 237.

North Carolina: Guildford Court House, 15 March 1781.

Following his victory at Camden, Cornwallis quickly consolidated his hold on South Carolina. He then took steps to carry the war into North Carolina, but owing to difficulties in acquiring wagons to maintain his army in the field he was not able to move until 18 September 1780. Cornwallis's first objective was Hillsboro which he planned to turn into his main base. From Hillsboro he hoped to be able to conduct operations throughout North Carolina. While his army was plodding north, the loyalist militia under Major Fergusson was scouring the country to raise more loyalist soldiers.

In the course of these operations, Fergusson had an engagement with the Americans in which his force was badly defeated and he himself killed. As a result Cornwallis withdrew into winter quarters in South Carolina where, in January 1781, he received 2000 reinforcements sent to him by Clinton. Soon after they had arrived Cornwallis set off again for Hillsboro. At about the same time Nathanael Greene, one of the more competent American commanders, replaced General Gates. Greene divided his force into two, and Cornwallis was obliged to follow suit. One part, under command of Colonel Tarleton, consisting of the cavalry and two infantry regiments, met the Americans, under General Morgan, at Cowpens. The ensuing engagement resulted in a complete victory for the Americans. This was a severe setback for Cornwallis but it did not delay his advance for long. At the end of January he pushed forward, through drenching rain, to try and catch Greene and Morgan and occupy North Carolina. Greene fell back rapidly and a day and night chase continued through North

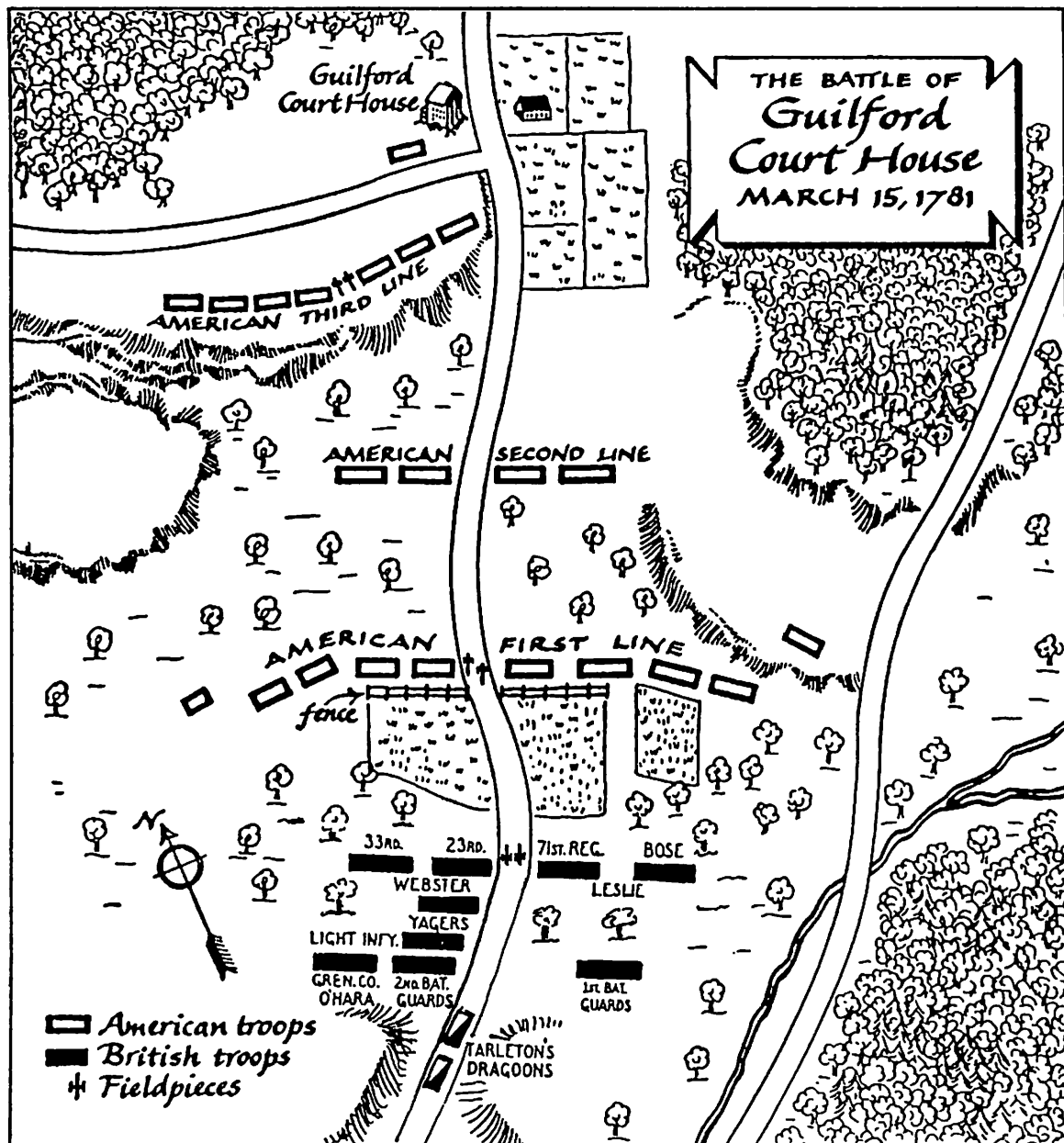


Carolina until Greene crossed into Virginia. In the middle of March he re-crossed into North Carolina and took up a position at Guildford Court House, where he had resolved to meet Cornwallis. Green's force consisted of about 4300 men, over half of whom were militia. Cornwallis, who lay about twelve miles away, only had 1900 men to oppose Greene but was determined to give battle.

Greene deployed his troops in three lines. His first, manned by militia, was placed across the main road behind a fence on the high side of a clearing 500 yards from the defile through which Cornwallis would be obliged to approach. The second line was about three hundred yards behind the first and also consisted of

militia, though of more experience than those in the first line. Included among them were some who were detailed to shoot at those in the first line who might feel inclined to retreat. Greene placed his third and principal line, consisting of the cream of his force, about five hundred yards behind the second line, but set at an angle to the road. After posting his army Greene rode along the militia, encouraging them by pointing out the strength of their position and calling out to them, "Two rounds, my boys, and then you may fall back".

At dawn on the 15th, without pausing to give his men breakfast, Cornwallis started for Guildford which he reached at mid-day. He immediately made



his dispositions for the attack. The right of his line, under General Leslie, consisted of Bose's Hessian Regiment and 71st (Fraser's) Highlanders, with 1st Battalion Guards in support. The left was commanded by Colonel Webster, who had the 23rd (RWF) and 33rd with the grenadiers and the 2nd Battalion Guards in support. He also had a small corps of German Jäger. The cavalry, under Tarleton, was held in the rear. At half past one the battle commenced with the thin red line of British infantry marching forward as if on parade. The Americans fired a volley but the line continued to advance until within a musket shot when they delivered their own volley. Then, at Colonel Webster's command, they charged forward only to come to a halt fifty yards from the fence because, said Sergeant Lamb of the 23rd, it was perceived that the Americans' "whole force had their arms presented and resting on the rail fence...they were taking aim with nice precision..." At that point Webster rode forward and urged his troops on. The American militia, having delivered their two rounds, turned and ran without a moment's hesitation, not stopping until they were well behind the second line. The British were now coming under increasing fire from their flanks. On the left the 33rd and the Jäger wheeled to the left while on the other wing the troops swung to the right. The gap was filled with grenadiers and the 2nd Guards. Without waiting to finish off the second line Webster next led his weary men against Greene's third line. Selecting the nearest point for attack he encountered, as it happened, the finest Battalion in the American army which, having fired a volley, then charged with the bayonet and drove the British back with very heavy loss. Had Greene followed up he might have made it fatal for Cornwallis. A further attack was made by the 2nd Guards and the grenadiers who were supported by the 23rd and the 71st. All was going well when they were attacked by the American cavalry and the situation was only saved when the British artillery fired grape shot on the Americans, though in that process terrible destruction was inflicted on the Guards who were intermingled with them. Cornwallis reformed and

ordered up his cavalry to attack the American right flank at which Webster, although wounded, again rallied his men and advanced on the enemy. The Americans' men fell back and Greene, considering his object done, having severely crippled his enemy, ordered a withdrawal. Thus ended the battle of Guildford Court House. Cornwallis could claim a victory, but it had cost him dear. His total casualties were 93 killed and 439 wounded - over a quarter of his force. The 33rd had 11 killed and 63 wounded from a strength of about 300. Their greatest loss was that of their Lieut Colonel, who died a fortnight after the battle. It was acknowledged that "his skill as a commander and his bravery as a soldier was scarcely equalled among his contemporaries".

An American historian (Christopher Ward) summed up the battle as follows: "...the laurels for military achievement must be awarded to the British. Starting hungry, they marched twelve hard miles, immediately went into battle against an enemy of greater numbers....who had been refreshed by a night's sleep and a breakfast. The enemy force was so posted as to have every advantage of its skill in woodcraft and marksmanship and of the superiority of the rifle over the musket. But the British faltered not at all in advancing across a quarter-mile of open ground against two rifle volleys precisely aimed. When the 33rd and Guards were shattered - the Guards, indeed, torn to pieces - they rallied, reformed and attacked with no less vigour for their punishment. Fortescue, the historian of the British army....says, "Never, perhaps, has the prowess of the British soldier been seen to greater advantage than in this obstinate and bloody battle".

A. C. S. SAVORY

Sources

"History of the British Army", by Hon. J. W. Fortescue.
 "The War of the Revolution", by Christopher Ward
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EXTRACTS FROM THE LETTERS OF PRIVATE F. A. SMITH

1st/5th Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment: 1915

The Huddersfield War Hospital was one of many hospitals set up around the country during World War I. It was financed by public subscription and built in the grounds of Royds Hall, on the outskirts of the town. The hospital was opened on 4th October 1915 and by July 1916 had nine auxiliary hospitals attached to it, including one at Spring Hall, Halifax. The hospital published a monthly magazine which contained accounts and diaries of the war experiences of some of the patients. Bound copies of the magazine are held at the Tolston Memorial Museum, Huddersfield.

Among the letters published were those of private F. A. Smith of the 1st/5th Battalion. Private Smith had enlisted on 3rd December 1914 and went out to France in April 1915. He was killed in action on 16th October 1915. At the outbreak of the war the 5th Battalion, together with the 4th, 6th and 7th formed 2nd West Riding Infantry Brigade in the West Riding Territorial

Division. On 14th April 1915 the Division was sent to France where, a few days after landing, it received its new title of 49th Division, the 2nd WR Brigade becoming 147 Infantry Brigade.

April 14th, 1915. Bustle and general excitement at all billets of the 5th Dukes. We are to leave at 2 p.m. and our destination was to most of us unknown but we knew that we were to be launched into a more serious work than our training at Doncaster had been...The first thing after disembarking to remind us of the presence of war was the sight of a hospital ship and my word she did look fine. Newly painted, and with every aspect of cleanliness the bright scarlet cross emblazoned amidships, she was lolling lazily on the tide...Nothing particular happened until Thursday, when we (16 Platoon) had our first experience of the trenches. We got in without a casualty, and it makes

me laugh now to think how cautious we were. We evacuated the trenches after 24 hours occupation and marched about 10 miles to farm billets.

We rested the following day, only to fall in once more for another move, and two hours marching found our new temporary home to be another barn. The following evening found the whole Battalion moving for the trenches, where we arrived at dusk, and went in for 24 hours instruction. Nothing particular happened during our stay.

Wednesday 28th April again found the Battalion in the trenches with the exception of one platoon per company, and it was our duty to represent 'D' Company, which was held back in reserve billets, about 800 yards behind the firing line, for the purpose of carrying rations for those in the front line. One time, while we were having a rifle inspection in the grounds at the rear of the buildings, the Germans sent us three souvenirs over in the form of shells. The first one burst just to the left and the second to the right, when our officer led us into the cellar, and before we had all got down the steps number three came through the roof with a crash, and had it been 20 seconds sooner I am sure a few of us would have caught it.

May 7th. Nothing worthy of note happened until Tuesday night, when our sergeants and corporals came along the traverses and trenches with a very much appreciated gift of six packets of woodbines for each man, and pleased we were when told that the Mayor of our own town had sent them out to us.

The ordinary routine of trench life took place on Wednesday, viz., "sentry go," "sandbag filling," and "cooking our meals."

At "stand to" on Wednesday night the lads in our traverse gathered round and sang the Germans a song or two, which was applauded (not with handclapping), but with a volley or two that thudded and rattled along our sandbag parapet. By way of an extra turn we rendered them the song, "Has anyone seen a German Band?" This brought us an *extra* round of applause (bullets).

During the next day (Thursday) one of our air lookouts spotted a German flag, about half way between our trenches and theirs, and one of our men in the 16th Platoon made up his mind that he would secure it, so when twilight came he went out and made his capture, much to the amusement and amazement of our men. On one side of the flag was words to the effect that, "John Bull was jiggered," whilst the other side announced the fact that "God and right was with the Kaiser..." These facts remain to be confirmed.

However, our Commanding Officer, Captain Wheatley has taken the flag over, and I hope we shall be able to display it in our town, and be proud to say that it was the first flag captured by the 1/5th Dukes.

Another big bombardment took place on **May 10th** enabling the French to advance successfully on our left.

Whit-Monday brought a little excitement; at 10 a.m. the order came down the line to "stand to," everyone had to man the parapet as a German attack was expected, but we stood down at daybreak and resumed our daily routine of trench life.

A big bombardment took place on our left at night-time, the sky being lit up with the continuous bursting of shrapnel and high explosive shells.

Wednesday, 26th May, found us to be relieved, after seven days occupation of the trenches. We should

have been out sooner only the bombardment of our trenches was so heavy that our evacuation had to be cancelled time after time.

At Whitsuntide a few of us gathered in our traverse as usual and had our sing.

We taunted one another very grimly by singing "King William," etc., and other things that reminded us of what many would be doing at home whilst we were out here exiled from all.

We had another very exciting event the other night. Whilst I was on duty on the parapet, say about one o'clock early morning, I noticed three men coming towards our trenches. The moon was just fading behind the monastery wall at the back of our trenches, and in the next traverse to ours there was a sap (a kind of a rough shallow trench that goes out about 20 yards). We had three men working in this sap at the time. Now when anyone went out from our trenches, say a patrol or wire menders, we had a message passed down to all the Company so as to put us on our guard. As it happened, that night, we had no message passed down that anyone was going out.

You can understand our excitement on seeing our sappers come rushing back to our trenches, shouting, "hey up," they are on us. Of course we had them covered with our rifles and our fingers on the trigger. It was lucky though that we had had the order passed down previously that we were not to fire till ordered. If it had not been we should have been without two officers and a private.

Our next item was our march to Belgium, which we completed in four stages. I might say it was a sudden removal. We were in the trenches in France, and were relieved on Saturday night at 10-30. We then tramped six miles, were rested in a field, getting down to it in quite a soldierly manner, our beds consisting of our oilproof sheets and our overcoats. Next morning we had breakfast about 8 a.m., and were off again by 9 o'clock, marching another seven miles; then we were billeted in barns and bivouacs, where we rested two days, and then off on the road once more for another eight miles, to find ourselves again housed in barns, but we only stayed for the night, and the following evening found us nine miles nearer our goal.

We rested here in the wood for a week, and completed our march in two days; and here we are holding our new position, but what a difference from our trenches in France. It is a trifle warmer here, the Germans are continually shelling, but we have some good lads at the back who can make a mark when they like.

August 1st. As I write I am seated not more than 20 yards from the bridge that the Germans are almost continually shelling. We came here last night after an exciting period of six days' ration carrying to (A and B) Companies who occupied the firing trenches, whilst we (C and D) were about 200 yards to the rear, occupying dug-outs. We would fall in about 8-30 p.m. and cross three fields, open to rifle fire from three sides, then over a pontoon bridge, etc., what we call the dumping ground and carry the food and other things to our comrades in the front line, and practically every night the Germans would send us some shrapnel over, knowing full well that our ration parties were about, and thinking they might flatten a few of us out. Lucky we were to only have one casualty in our platoon, the shells were just too long or too short, but still it was suspense going over three fields,

and I can tell you this last six days has knocked me out, my nerves are going; the least noise or sound of a shell makes me duck and get under. Of course we have been in and out of the trenches continually since we came here.

August 3rd found me a bit steadier in my nerves.

I have received a ripper of a parcel, and it will come in fine for me to go into the front line tomorrow night.

The weather was awful yesterday, about teatime, and we had to go digging at night. You never saw such samples as we were, my feet were wet through, and I was almost up to the knees in "muck."

The trenches up here have got sign posts you know. There is "Skipton Road," "Huddersfield Road," "Colne Valley," "Argyle Street," etc., etc., and there we were, about 10 p.m., up "Skipton Road," when my working pard says:- "Well, where were you last year at this time F.A.?" Of course this knocked the stuffing out of me, as I recalled Lockwood Cricket Club Gala. Some said they were at Hope Bank, Honley, but this year finds them on another bank.

My words, I thought that I had witnessed a few artillery duels in France, but never one like that which took place here the other night.

The German guns had been busy all day dropping shells by the dozen, especially at a , and our dug-outs is not 50 yards away from it. I was keeping here with a Honley lad. Our guns hardly retaliated until night-time, and then they pumped shells over by the score, and where they dropped the place was hot. I have seen a few of our men that have been slightly gassed, they are just like drunken men, eyes rolling and biting their tongues, and gasping for breath. We have gas helmets now with celluloid eyepieces, and these are inspected nearly every day and if any defect is found they are replaced.

We are on the fourth line of supports now, but tonight we go up to the front line. I hope we shall have better luck than those whom we are to relieve.

I can't tell you where we are, but I can say this that we are only separated from Hell as it were by a piece of tissue paper, and that is broken in some places.

We have just seen a cloud of gas sent over on our left. Of course those that I had seen gassed had caught it from shells or hand-grenades.

I shall be glad when we move from this place. However we must trust to Providence, and have faith that we shall pull through safe and sound.

Another incident of note was, one day a party of 12 of us were told off to go the Headquarters of the 4th Battalion to fetch some coils of barbed wire. We had about a mile to walk, and when we were nearly there a shell dropped, without the least exaggeration, 15 to 20 yards in front of us: and depend upon it if that shell had not been a range finder (these do not explode) some of us would have been knocked out; but, fortunately, we were near some reserve trenches, into which we scrambled. Then Mr. German did carry on. The shells whistled over us, and as we looked to see what damage had been done we found that one shell had burst on the thatched roof of some farm buildings, about 100 yards behind us. It burst into flames, and in less than half-an-hour a fine house belonging to an old lady had been reduced to ashes. At last we managed to get our wire, and began our return journey past the ruins, and there we found the poor woman with a few things she had managed to save, and she was crying as if her heart would break.

Such things as these ought to stir up the manhood in every able-bodied young man, and make them realize that they are needed out here.

August 18th, my 19th birthday found me in the trenches, but there arrived for me on that morning a great birthday cake, made to fit a tin box, so snug. This was a reminder to me that my dear parents had not forgot me, and the iced lettering on the cake had not the usual wish for many happy returns, but the more appropriate one, "Best wishes for a speedy return."

I planted the cake on the firing platform, and soon I was spinning it out to all my comrades, who all wished me the usual and many more at home, and then took a lump further down the trench to some more chums, and whilst I was away the Brigadier-General came round, and seeing the box and remains of the cake said, "By gum, is somebody having a trench wedding," and my chum answered, "No, sir, it is a birthday cake," so he said, "well, I hope he will live to enjoy many, many more." You can depend on it if I had been back I should have invited the General and his aide-de-camp to have a piece. I might say here that our Brigadier-General was a real good sort; he talks with his men, studies them, and treats them with respect, always smiling and cracking a joke. One day he saw a lad eating some tinned cherries, which he had just received in a parcel, and he said to him, "Nay, lad, tha'll ha't belly wark. Tha wants to gie me them, tha knaws," and then he laughed like a school kid. He must be a good Yorkshireman, I think. Anyhow, he is a jolly good fellow, and we wish him good luck and success.

August 29th. General Plumer inspected the whole Brigade yesterday, and the 2/5th draft has joined us. I don't know whether it is going to be over the top next time in the trenches or not. Here is some news for you. I am to be a bomber, and part of our equipment is a loaded or weighted stick, so you can say good-bye to me if the Germans catch me with it.

The other day they sent us 14 bombs over, but our lads took their tunics off and rolled up their sleeves and bobbed them over 100 in return, and quietened them for a time.

September 5th. I went sick the other day with a disordered stomach. I really was bad, and the doctor took my temperature (normal, of course), and they turned to me and said, "What about that bad egg you had for breakfast yesterday?" I replied, "We don't get such luxuries on this job."

September 12th. I did a bit of tailoring for an officer the other day and he gave me a five-franc note, so me and my chum set off to a neighbouring village and had a right spread out of bread, biscuits, custards, lemonades, etc.

I had a near do this morning. Charlie and I volunteered to fetch water, and when we got there our men were shelling a German aeroplane just over us. We managed to dodge under some trees when crash came one big piece through the branches and just missed us. Well, a miss is as good as a mile.

September 14th finds us getting ready for the trenches again, which we enter tomorrow night. I had another squeak yesterday. We were washing in the open when they began to send over some shells; we ran for cover again, but I was all covered with lather. I ran back again when I thought they had done, to swill my face. I had just dried it and was rolling my soap up

when a piece hit the tin I had washed in and sent it flying. Another miss for me.

September 16th. We went into the front line last night for six days, after which we do 12 in reserve. We are 400 yards off them here. We cannot see their trenches as it is dead ground (a rise between).

Last time in the trenches. We went (a few of us) into a town where we had such a time. We walked there and then walked into a chip shop, but they were full up, so we went across the road into a decorator's shop, where we had tea, consisting of three eggs, three cups of coffee, and as much bread and butter as we required. This cost us 1 franc and 2d. (1/-). We then had a look round, slipping into another shop and having bread and coffee, following up with chocolate and biscuits and fruit; after which we went into a small theatre, where the entertainers were a Periot Troup, named the "Fancies." These were officers and men of the 6th Division, who provided a very good concert for ½ franc. After that we walked "home" (?).

September 18th. (Trenches). Well, I hope you are all enjoying the best at home. If you are any better than me you are overstrung, for I am tip top; absolutely fine. Of course, the fact is I have had a jolly good dinner for once (only not enough). Do you know I have had a big steak of fresh meat, weighing nearly half-a-pound, all lean, and done to a turn, fried collops and bread and tea. (Of course this is *not* Army fare). As I said, the only fault was I had not sufficient; for I'll tell you I am getting my pecker up again. The only thing that gets on one's nerves here is the sentry-go at night; we have really too much.

Don't bother about me, only snipers to be aware of, for we have some ripping trenches, very nearly shellproof. If the Germans charged and cut us off here we should, perhaps, be prisoners in Ruhleben, or what they call it. But no! we are too strong for them, and they are too frightened; so much, in fact, that they will never charge here again.

Please send me some more Q.C. wiffs. I know you don't like me to smoke heavy dad; but believe me, when I tell you, it has a nice soothing power on the nerves, and is a nice companion through the long night watches.

I think, somehow; *think*, mind you, that our Division will be withdrawn yet for rest.

That piece of steel I sent you was part of a Canadian rifle, and a relic of the big gas attack here on May 9th, 1915, when the gallant Canadians held them up.

In the trenches, Honley Feast Tuesday, 1915. I was just studying last night as I, along with many others, were stood in the rain, about two hours, waiting for the rations to come up (which we had to carry to the lads in the front line.) as to where I should have been if all had been well and I had been at home.

I should just like to have come for the feast; wouldn't it have been grand. But don't let me stop your happiness in any way. You know we keep pottering on and smiling amidst it all. The war won't last long, so cheer up, ma. Don't study about me. You will see by the papers that the Germans are catching it hot, and we shall keep it up a bit yet.

September 30th. Today is Sunday, everything is quiet, something unusual after the last week. Just watch the papers, our lads have given the Germans what you might call H

"Lille must fall today."

Alas! the weather has stopped our advance again but they have been pushed back a mile or two.

I read in the papers that our airmen have bombed Stuttgart. "Good." Before long our lot will be in there or somewhere in Germany. It has just come to us that the French (in the Champagne district) have advanced 8 miles on a 15 miles front, whilst the British have done equally as well.

October 6th, 1915. I am still alive and kicking. The weather is picking up once again and the sun is shining. We are out on our 12 days rest, and this is not before we need it, for when we were coming out I was dead beat; in fact I fell out and had to ride on the transport limber. I keep going dizzy, and nearly faint at times when I exert myself, but then I expect I am run down, and shall do with the rest.

October 10th, 1915. The weather is lovely now, we are encamped in a field enjoying our long-looked-for 12 days rest. My ankle is troubling me, but not sufficient to get me away for a bit. Well, we have all to know how to throw a bomb by the next time we go into the trenches.

And we are practising the attack, "Compre."

Anyhow, they say that the next time in it will be over the top, and the best of luck for the "5th Dukes."

The last time we were in the trenches found me again having a narrow squeak.

We were in the reserve trenches when the Germans dropped us a few big 8 in. shells over, and one dropped so near that it made a hole near the trench about 12 feet deep and 20 feet across, and my dug-out, with me and Ben in, was left only on the edge of it. I'll tell you I thought it was all up.

October 14th, 1915. All is bustle and stir, we are all packed up ready for the trenches once more, and we go in tonight.

You will be surprised when you see my photo, which I enclose, what a difference there is from those I had taken before we came out here. Don't you think I look older, even if I have the grin on my cheeks.

This was written two days before his death.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

It is essential that subscribers, including serving members of the Regiment moving on individual postings, advise the Business Manager of their change of address without delay. A tear off slip is printed below for use if required.

To:- The Business Manager, 'Iron Duke' Magazine
RHQ DWR, Wellesley Park, Halifax,
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From:

Please note that from

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Date

Signed

2nd/6th BATTALION DWR IN FRANCE: MAY/JUNE 1940

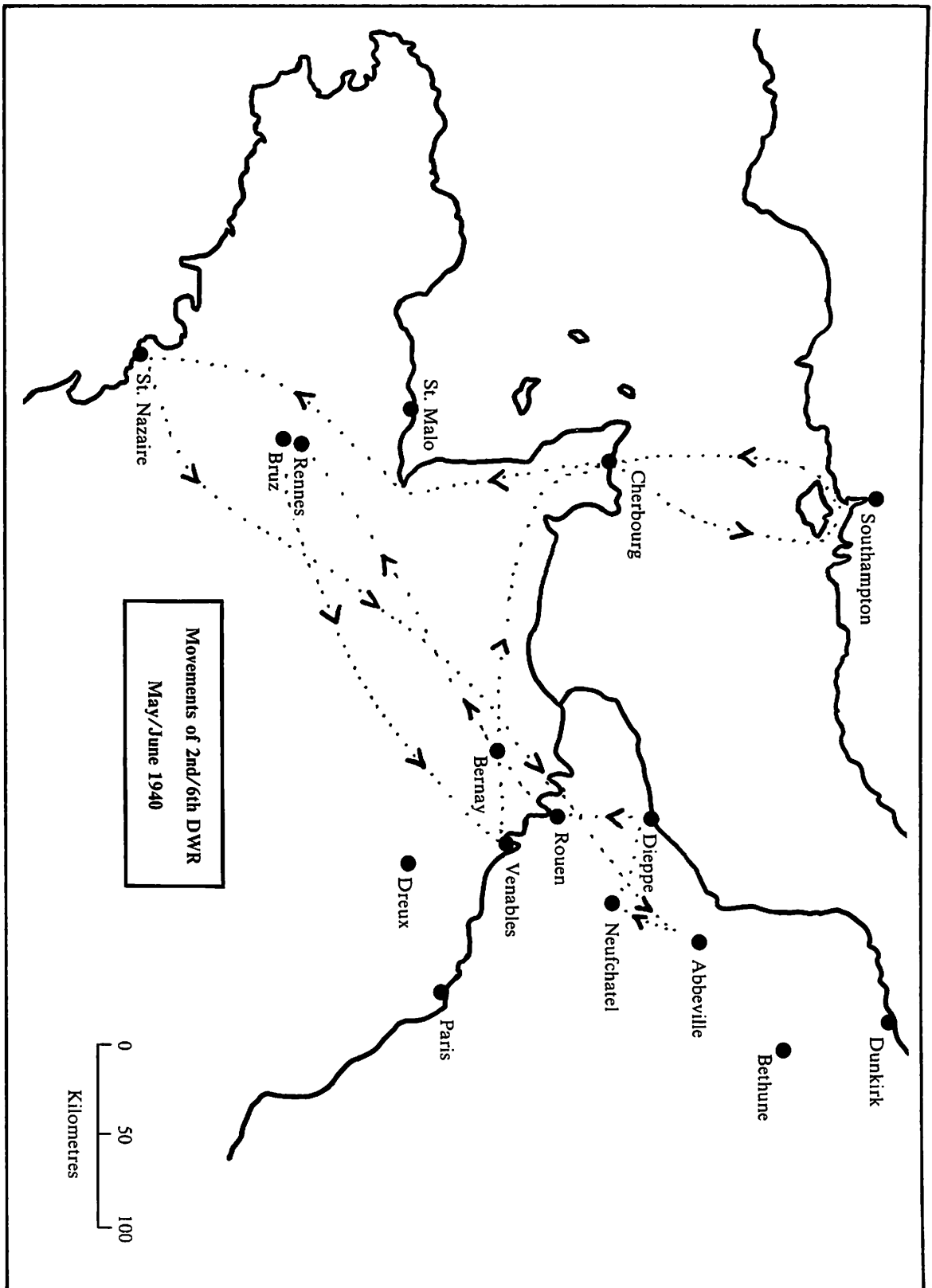
ACTION AT VENABLES

The 2nd/6th Battalion, which had been formed in the spring of 1939, was mobilised at the outbreak of war as part of 137th Infantry Brigade in 46th Division. The other battalions in the brigade were 2nd/7th DWR, 2nd/5th West Yorks and 2nd/4th KOYLI. At the end of April 1940 the Division was informed that it was to embark for France, to be employed on pioneer duties for a short period. On the 30th April the Division arrived at St Nazaire and at once started to carry out hard work in hot sun, which included laying railway lines, erecting huts, digging trenches at aerodromes and filling innumerable sandbags.

The German invasion of Belgium and Holland began on 10th May. On the evening of 18th May the division was entrained for an unknown destination which turned out to be Bethune. The transport moved separately by road. 137 Brigade moved in four trains, the 2nd/6th and 2nd/7th being in the last two. After passing through Rouen and Dieppe the trains headed towards Abbeville. During the afternoon of 20th May the train carrying the 2nd/6th finally came to a halt a mile short of Abbeville, which was being bombed by German planes. The troops detrained and were immediately bombed themselves. The first two trains, including that carrying Brigade HQ had disappeared into the blue. The OCs of the 2nd/6th and 2nd/7th held a conference and decided that as the place where their trains had halted was quite unsuitable for a defensive position they would retire to higher ground in more open country. This they achieved with some difficulty as one of the engines quickly gave up the ghost and the other soon ran out of water.

The two Dukes' battalions, some 1400 strong, were now in a sorry plight. They had no maps, no knowledge of the locality and were out of touch with their Brigade HQ. In fact the battalions never subsequently had contact with Brigade or Division while they were in France. When dawn broke on 21st May it was clear that the Dukes' were out on their own. Desperate efforts were made to contact some higher command but all telephone communications had been destroyed either by the bombing or by sabotage. It was therefore decided to send an officer reconnaissance patrol towards Abbeville. The patrol consisted of Lieut K. Smith of 2nd/7th, 2nd Lieut G. W. Smith of the 2nd/6th, a French liaison officer and two drivers. However they quickly ran into some German troops who opened fire and killed Lieut K. Smith. To add to the problems the battalions were facing there was a serious shortage of food and foraging parties returned empty handed. The two commanding officers therefore decided to withdraw in the direction of Dieppe and Neufchatel, (about 50 miles to the East), the 2nd/7th taking the coast side of the railway line and the 2nd/6th the inland side. The 2nd/7th managed to get on a train, but the 2nd/6th had to march. The country was difficult and without maps and under ariel observation the companies were constantly losing touch with each other. In addition the men were very tired and hungry. Eventually on the night 22/23 May the Battalion reached the area of Dieppe and Neufchatel. On 25th May the Battalion

was ordered to move to St Etienne de Rouvray, near Rouen, where it arrived early the following morning. It was immediately set to work, working on ammunition dumps and improving the anti-aircraft defences. Here, also, the battalion was rejoined by its transport which it had not seen since leaving St Nazaire. On 30th May the Battalion was moved to Bruz, some 5 miles south of Rennes, and took the opportunity to do some battle training and to fire bren guns and anti-tank rifles. The Battalion was slowly recovering from the exhaustion of the Abbeville operation and the forced marches that followed it. However, it was not to be given time for complete recovery. On the 6th, by which date Dunkirk had been evacuated, the Commanding Officer was informed that the Battalion was to form part of 'C' Brigade, together with 2nd/4th KOYLI, in what was known as 'Beauman' Division. The following morning the Battalion was entrained for Rouen where it arrived on 8th June after a protracted journey. On arrival at Rouen it received a few maps printed in French, but the scale was too small for most purposes. The Battalion was ordered to take up positions at two bridges over the Seine. The intervening country comprised a front of about 12 miles with numerous potential crossing places. By the evening of 8th June the Battalion was in position. At about noon on 9th June the Germans started to launch a series of attacks and to cross the river. The German fire was heavy and accurate and it became increasingly obvious that withdrawal to a higher ground on a narrower front was essential, if the forward companies were not to be surrounded. The Battalion then occupied some good positions just forward of the village of Venables. At this point the Commanding Officer was summoned to attend a conference with the French general where he learnt, to his surprise, that two of his companies were located in a different French sector from the other companies. During the whole of the afternoon and evening the troops in Venables continued to hold a determined and persevering enemy. However, the following day it became clear that if the position was to be held it was essential that the Battalion be reinforced by French armour. An appeal was made to the sector commander without success but in going to his HQ and CO met up with a British brigadier in command of a small force of light tanks to whom he explained the situation and almost immediately they came into action with marked effect on the enemy. Fighting continued throughout the 10th of June although the positions were being much jeopardised by enemy infiltrations and flank attacks. Eventually the enemy got behind the positions of the 2nd/6th and at that point it was ordered to withdraw and join the British troops west of the River Eure. Withdrawal in close contact with the enemy was a hazardous operation but it was successfully carried out, thanks to the magnificent assistance given by the British tanks. On 11th June the Battalion was at Bernay preparing to take up another defensive position. The following day it was visited by the senior medical officer of the division who decided that it was unfit for further battle without a rest of at least three days. Travelling



by road transport the Battalion reached St Malo and Cherbourg on the 17th and the following day disembarked in Southampton. Sent to France only partly trained, without modern weapons and equipment, to perform an administrative role, they

had become involved with an enemy armed with tanks and other equipment of the most modern design. They had performed magnificently and in the process suffered 85 casualties, including 3 officers and 18 other ranks killed.

A PILGRIMAGE TO VENABLES

In September 1989, Mr Dennis Tolson made a pilgrimage to Venables accompanied by his wife, son and daughter-in-law. On his way there he visited Abbeville and took photographs of the graves of an officer of the 2nd/6th Battalion and one of the 2nd/7th. He also visited Dreux to photograph two more graves of the 2nd/6th. He writes:

"While on holiday in June my son explored the whole region covered by the 2nd/6th Dukes in June 1940 and was much helped by villagers in locating troop positions and with information about the finding of bodies etc., Arising from this tour he was given an open invitation to a meal should he again be in the vicinity. The attitude towards the Duke of Wellington's Regiment in the rural communities in and around Venables is unbelievable. Our day in Venables went like this:

We were met by M. Pascal Littee at 10 am outside the village cemetery at Venables - a 'phone call on our arrival at Calais the previous day was his only notice! With him and one of his sons in attendance I laid a Regimental wreath by the graves of 6 soldiers buried there (5 are those of the 2nd/6th). He then conducted us around the area of the battle. After that we called at his father's house, before going to his home where we

met his wife's parents, who had travelled specially from Paris in order to meet us. Lunch followed and lasted from 1 pm to 5 pm during which we were joined by Madame Littee's grandfather, who is also President of the local War Veterans Association. The next to call was the Mayor together with his family to give us a really hearty send off. The villagers of Venables stage a ceremony each year on 9 and 10 June at the graves of the six British soldiers buried in their cemetery. I am told that next year, being the 50th anniversary, will be a very special occasion."

The following is a list of the DWR graves photographed by Mr. Tolson:

Venables: 4611781 Lance Sergeant H. Marsh; 4617418 Private K. Roper, 4615934 Private A. W. Smith, 4617639 Private S. Turner and 4615885 Private N. Underwood.
Abbeville: 2nd Lieut J. Reynolds and 2nd Lieut K. Smith (2nd/7th)
Dreux: 4536708 Private A. Scothern and 4618775 Private S. Walker.

Anyone wishing to have a copy of one or more of the photographs should apply to RHQ.



Mr. Dennis Tolson laying a wreath at the Commonwealth graves plot, Venables. Five of the graves are of members of the Regiment. The one on the right is of an unknown soldier.

Regimental Association

TRUSTEES OF THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION FUNDS

A meeting of the Trustees took place at Halifax on Thursday 5th October 1989. Present were: General Sir Charles Huxtable KCB CBE ADC Gen, Major General D. E. Isles CB OBE, Brigadier D. W. Shuttleworth OBE, Brigadier W. R. Mundell OBE, Mr. T. Briggs MC LLB DL, Lieut Colonel W. Robins OBE, Major K. M. McDonald TD JP MA, Major A. C. S. Savory MBE and Major C. D. Miller. Mr. J. Russell was in attendance. Lieut Colonel A. D. Meek and Major F. B. Murgatroyd were unable to be present.

The accounts for the year ended 31st March 1989

The audited accounts were examined and approved. It was noted that income exceeded expenditure by £20,537.

In 1988 the Trustees approved the expenditure of up to £1,000 on recruitment publicity. The Regimental Secretary informed the Trustees that so far all expenditure had been refunded from army recruitment funds. Currently a recruitment brochure was being prepared. The Trustees decided that their authority to spend up to £1,000 on recruitment publicity would remain in force.

Investments

The Investment sub-committee had continued to adopt a properly cautious policy in the light of uncertainties in the Stock Market. At the end of the financial year a sum of £16,055 was therefore held in the Charities Deposit Account in which 13.55% interest was earned, free of any taxation.

Appeals

The following donations had been made in response to appeals received during the year:

FM Viscount Slim statute appeal	£50
Rangoon Forces Memorial Chapel appeal	£50

Grants

Grants as under were approved:

Army Benevolent Fund	£2,000
Royal British Legion	£200
British Limbless Ex-Servicemen's Assn.	£100
Huddersfield Veterans Assn.	£100
Royal Star and Garter Home	£50
Salvation Army, Halifax	£50
Salvation Army, Huddersfield	£50
Assisted holidays	up to £500
Ex-Servicemen's Fellowship	up to £50
York Minster	£50
Halifax Parish Church	£50

Annual Reunion Dinner

The nett cost of the subsidy for the 1989 dinner, estimated at £1,000, (1988: £800) was approved. However it was noted that because the numbers attending were likely to be higher than first estimated, the actual subsidy might be more than £1,000.

Nursing home fees

The Regimental Secretary reported that the Army Benevolent Fund currently assist with nursing home fees up to £12 per week. After discussion the Trustees authorised the Case Committee to award up to £6 per week towards the cost of nursing home fees without reference to the Finance Committee.

The Trustees also agreed that the Case Committee could make grants of up to £200 (presently £150) for other benevolent purposes.

Trustees

The Colonel of the Regiment announced that Mr. Tom Briggs had decided not to seek re-election as a Trustee. Mr. Briggs had, for many years, given the Trustees invaluable advice, particularly on investment and legal matters. The Colonel of the Regiment, on behalf of the Trustees, expressed his appreciation of the services Mr. Briggs had rendered them. Mr. Briggs would continue to act as the Regiment's honorary solicitor.

The Colonel of the Regiment also informed the Trustees that by the time of their next meeting Mr. Jack Russell would have ceased to be General Secretary of the Association. On behalf of the Trustees the Colonel recorded his appreciation of Mr. Russell's service to them.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM of the Regimental Association was held at the Penine Hilton Hotel, Ainley Top, Huddersfield on 21st October 1989. The Colonel of the Regiment presided.

1. Apologies

Apologies for their absence were received from Brigadier A. D. Firth, Brigadier W. R. Mundell, Lieut Colonel R. G. Collins, Mr. H. Randall who also sent a very generous donation of £100, WO2 P. Berry, N. Foxley, Dr. J. D. G. Turner, W. T. Robbins, J. R. Hawley, P. J. Davies, H. W. Parry and Major B. V. Thomlinson.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting, held on 15 October 1988, were read, approved as a true record and signed by the Colonel.

3. General Secretary's Report

The General Secretary reported that during the year ended 31st March 1989 a total of 74 cases had been assisted (84 in 1988). The total amount paid was £7,426 from Regimental Association Funds (£6,369 in 1988) and £1,181 from the Army Benevolent Fund. Four persons continued to receive the OCA Special

Allowance of £26 per quarter. Three members went to the Lord Kitchener Holiday Home.

4. Accounts

Copies of the audited accounts for the year ended 31st March 1989, duly approved by the Finance committee and the Trustees, were available for inspection during the meeting.

The two main sources of income were the Soldiers Day's Pay Scheme (16,931) and investment dividends (£15,173). A sum of £2,528 was distributed as grants to other charities.

5. Associate membership

There were no nominations for Honorary or Associate membership.

6. Visit to Tern Hill: 1990

The Colonel of the Regiment announced that there was a possibility of a further visit to Tern Hill during 1990. Whether such a visit can be arranged is dependent on the commitments of the 1st Battalion. Should it prove possible, an announcement would be made at a later date.

ANNUAL DINNER AND DANCE

The dinner and dance, which followed the AGM, was attended by over 400 old comrades, their guests and friends of whom 370 sat down to dinner. The guests for the evening were The Deputy Mayor and Mayoress of Kirklees, Councillor and Mrs. David Wright and Mr. Dick Burton VC and his wife.

After an excellent dinner, served by a most efficient staff against a background of music provided by the Regimental Band, Major Cyril Kenchington proposed the Toast to the Regiment. In his reply the Colonel of the Regiment, having first welcomed the guests, went on to outline the activities of the 1st Battalion during the year. In doing so he made special mention of the families who had accompanied the Battalion to Belfast and who had given it such loyal support. He then referred to the need to encourage ex-members of the Regiment to join their local branch and in that connection made mention that a Sheffield branch was again functioning. He also reminded all present of the necessity to inform RHQ of any case they might know about of a member of the Regiment falling on hard times. In closing he made no apology for again mentioning the subject of recruiting. Difficult years lay ahead so a special effort was needed to persuade suitable young men to join the Regiment.

After the dinner the dining room was made ready for dancing and the bar did a roaring trade. It was particularly pleasing to the organisers of the evening to see so many ex-members of the Territorial battalions and ex-National Servicemen present. During the evening Mrs Frear, Mrs Willoughby, Mrs Dalladay and Mrs Wilkinson were busy selling raffle tickets and as a result of which a sum of £129.25 was raised.

The decision to hold the dinner and dance in a hotel proved to be a success and the same hotel has been booked for 1990.

5 DWR OFFICERS DINNER CLUB

The Annual Dinner of the 5th Battalion Officers Dinner Club was held in the Officer's Mess of 3rd

Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers, St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield on 6th October 1989. Lieutenant Colonel S. J. E. Huxley presided. The guests included General Sir Martin Farndale KCB, General Sir Charles Huxtable KCB CBE ADC Gen, Major General Sir Michael Palmer KCVO, Major General D. E. Isles CB OBE, Brigadier W. R. Mundell OBE, and Lieutenant Colonel S. Ashby MBE PWO, the Commanding Officer of 3rd Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers.

6 DWR OLD COMRADES REUNION DINNER

The Annual Reunion Dinner of the 6th Battalion was held in the Devonshire Hotel, Skipton on 7 October 1989. Major Sir John Horsfall MC TD JP, was in the Chair and over 40 ex members of the Battalion were present including Mr. Victor Simpson aged 96, a veteran of the World War I. The Colonel of the Regiment, General Sir Charles Huxtable KCB CBE ADC Gen, was the principal guest. The Regimental Secretary was also present.

8th BATTALION DWR/145 REGIMENT RAC

The 45th Officer's Reunion Dinner was held at the St. Ermins Hotel, London, on 14th October. Lieut. Colonel L. Lusted presided. He reported with regret the deaths since the last meeting of John Marshall, Bill Burgess and Stuart Mackenzie. The toast of the Regiment was proposed by R.M.H. Gompertz and V. R. Bruce responded. Major General D. E. Isles CB OBE, spoke on behalf of the guests. He and Major C. D. d'E. Miller were the guests of Major F. J. Reynolds who was warmly remembered. The other guests were Major J. Braun (late 12 RTR) and H. H. Ventham (late North Irish Horse).

In September Lieut. Colonel Lyall Lusted went to Italy for a week at the invitation of the Canadian Land Forces Command and Staff College, whose students were to carry out a battle field study of the operation which had led to the breaking of the Gothic Line in the late summer of 1944. Lieut Colonel Lusted, who commanded 'A' Squadron 145 Regiment at that time, was one of five veterans (including a former commander of a German infantry company) whose role was to assist the students in an evaluation of the battle and to consider the lessons that might be learnt from it in the light of current doctrines.

LONDON BRANCH

The Branch had a very successful AGM and buffet lunch at the Park Court Royal Hotel on Sunday 1st October. Twenty-five members attended. The Branch officers were re-elected and Major D. H. Wood continues as President. After the conclusion of the meeting, a visit was made to the National Army Museum, Chelsea.

The Branch meets on the last Monday of each month at The Duke of York's HQ, King's Road, Chelsea. Meetings commence at 8.00 p.m.

The branch dinner will be held at the Park Court Hotel, Lancaster Gate on Saturday 21st April 1990. A coach will leave the West Riding on Friday 20th April and return in the afternoon of Sunday 22nd April. The

pick up points will be at Mossley, Huddersfield, Halifax, Bradford and Sheffield.

The cost of the trip will be £60 per person, which includes the coach journey, two nights at the Victory Services Club, renewal of membership of the Club and the ticket for the dinner.

Those wishing to go on this trip should contact RHQ or their local OCA branch for an application form. Completed application forms must reach RHQ by 31st January 1990 with a £10 non-returnable deposit. The balance must be paid no later than 28th February 1990.

ANNUAL REGIMENTAL SERVICE - YORK MINSTER

The Annual Service held in the Lady Chapel of York Minster on Saturday 4 November 1989 again attracted a good attendance from members of the Regiment and their families. The Service was taken by the Dean of York, The Very Reverend John Southgate assisted by Canon Roy Matthews. The Dean also made the address and the Lesson was read by The Colonel of the Regiment.

Following the Service, lunch was provided in the Officers and Sergeants Messes of the Depot of the King's Division at Stresnall. The Dean and Mrs. Southgate, along with Major General Keigh Burch CB CBE, The Chapter Clerk, and Mrs. Burch, were guests at lunch in the Officers Mess.

PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND

Mr Gladstone Keate, who served in 2/7th Battalion and was taken prisoner near St Valery in 1940, writes:

"A group of ex-prisoners of war who had been confined in stalags and camps in Poland during the last war, recently made a pilgrimage to that country to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the invasion by Germany and to pay their respects to comrades who had died or were killed during captivity. The group also included relatives of the dead comrades and representatives of Australia, Canada, South Africa and the Royal British Legion. Also with us was the band of The Queen's Own Highlanders.

The group was split into two parties, one composed of those interested in visiting camps in the north of the country and the other of those whose interest lay in the camps in upper and lower Silesia. I was with the latter party. During the visit I took part in a march through the streets of Warsaw for a parade at the war memorial in the City Square, attended a parade at the memorial of the Polish Freedom Fighters and was entertained at the HQ of the 1st Armoured Division. While I was in Cracow I laid a Regimental wreath on the grave of Private Stanley Armitage, 2nd/6th Battalion, who died while a prisoner in December 1941. His grave is in the Commonwealth section of the Cracow Military Cemetery."

KEEPING IN TOUCH.....

Many former members of the Regiment who visit Halifax do so in order to have a nostalgic look round the old barracks where they were either on the staff or undertook their recruit training. Recent such visitors include:

Mr and Mrs Parfitt. **Mr Parfitt** was a REME armourer at the Depot in 1948, when it was 33 PTC DWR. He still has his copy of 'Iron Duke' No. 69 which records his promotion to the rank of sergeant.

Ex Sergeant A. Hargreaves who served in the 1st and 2nd Battalions. He was accompanied by his son who served alongside the 1st Battalion as a Military Policeman in Ballykelly and Aldershot 1974-1977.

John Glover, now aged 79, who joined the 1st Battalion in 1930 and was recalled in 1939. He lives in Oldham and has been put in touch with the Mossley branch.

Mrs G. Buckland Jones, the daughter of the late **Mr Ovington** who was Bandmaster in the 1st Battalion 1919-1934 and who lives in British Columbia, wrote to thank RHQ for sending her photocopies of the Presentation of Colours to the 1st Battalion in 1925. She would very much like any Duke visiting British Columbia to contact her. Her address is: 247 Denison Road, Victoria, British Columbia, U8S 4KT.

Bryant Fell, who served with the 1st Battalion 1954-55 as a National Service Officer, was a master at Millfield School for a number of years. He now lives in Anglesey. His address is given in the Change of Address section.

Keith Jagger, of the London Branch, lost a finger as a result of an industrial accident. It was sewn back on and he now has almost complete use of the severed finger.

Mr Morton Williams was member of the Welsh team for the World Visually Handicapped Bowlers Championships which took place in June at Harare, Zimbabwe. He just missed winning a bronze medal.



Mr. Morton Williams at the World Bowls Championships for the Visually Handicapped at Harare, Zimbabwe, in June 1989.

During the second week of the championships he visited a game park about the size of Wales. In August Major David Miller visited Mr Williams at Llanelli where he also met Denis Marks. They told him the Councillor **Colin Hammercot**, who served in 'A' Company of the 1st Battalion in Korea, is now Deputy Lord Mayor of Swansea. Major Miller also visited **Jim Baker MM** at his home in Bryncreg, Tywyn shortly before his 70th birthday. In response to a request for something which would give the birthday party a Regimental flavour some Regimental place cards and menus were sent to Mr Baker.



The Baker family

Left to right: Jim Baker senior, Phillip, son of Jim Baker junior, Jim Baker junior MM, and Victoria, Phillip's daughter.

Major Roy Boxall, who joined the Regiment in 1939 and served with the 2nd Battalion in India, is again a subscriber to the 'Iron Duke' which, he says, brings back memories of the many happy days he spent with the Regiment. His address is given in the Change of Address section.

Mr Bert Wooley, who served in the 1st/6th Battalion in Iceland during the War, recently visited ex-bandmaster Stutely while on holiday in Wales. Bert is very proud to have been the bugler of the Commanding Officer (Lieut Colonel J. H. C. Lawlor-Lady Huxtable's father) in those now far off Icelandic days.

John Tolley was a recent visitor to RHQ. He served in 'D' Company 1st Battalion as a National Serviceman in Gibraltar and Chisledon 1954-56. He joined the Canadian army in 1957 and is now a sergeant with 32 years service with PPCLI. He sends greeting to all his old comrades.

Mr John Wilson, who served in the 1st Battalion from 1944-47 in Italy, Palestine and Sudan recently made a business trip to South Africa. While there he visited **Major Jeff Reynolds** who he found in good form.

Mr. Tom Yates, who served in the 1st, 2nd and 7th Battalions and is now aged 81, wishes to be remembered to anyone who served with him.

Mr. George Marsden, accompanied by Messrs **Tom Simpson** and **John Longmire**, all former members of the 1st/7th Battalion, visited Le Havre in September on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the liberation of the town. George writes, "I had the honour of placing a Regimental wreath on the War memorial in St. Marie's Cemetery at Le Havre in memory of the Dukes' who are buried there. Many regiments of the old 49th Division were represented and about 700 ex-servicemen took part in a parade through Le Havre on 8th September."



Mr. George Marsden, ex 7th Battalion, at St. Marie's Cemetery, Le Havre.

Mr Herbert Flood has given RHQ a copy of the war diary of 'C' Squadron 145 Regiment RAC (8 DWR) which covers the period of the battle for the Gothic Line when the Regiment was in support of 2 Canadian Infantry Brigade.

Mr Jack Christensen, a new subscriber to the 'Iron Duke', has written to say he wished he had become one years ago. He served in the 1st/7th Battalion during the War and well remembers the friendly and professional standards of the Battalion under such commanders as the late Lieut Colonel Denis Hamilton.

Mr J Millward, who also served in the 1st/7th Battalion, would like to re-new contact with ex-members of the Battalion. His address is: 16, Newstead View, Fitzwilliam, Pontefract.

Mr Robert Brook CBE, who served in the 1st Battalion in Strensall 1948/49 and was then better

known as Corporal Gerry Brook, was a recent visitor to RHQ. Like the Regimental Secretary he was a product of 30th Junior Leaders Training Battalion. On leaving the army he joined the public transport business as an accountant, rising to become Chief Executive of the National Bus Company and being awarded the CBE. His son, Tim, also served in the 1st Battalion in the 1970s.

Mrs Rosemary Burton kindly gave RHQ some of her late husband's military books to sell on behalf of the Regimental Association. They were sold for £30. Mrs Burton has also given a pair of sterling silver cuff-links, engraved with the badges of the 33rd and 76th, on the same condition. A price reserve of £60 has been placed on them. Anyone interested in making an offer for the cuff-links should send it to RHQ before 31st January 1990. The cuff-links will then be sold to the person who made the highest bid.

On Friday 1 December, at the Headquarters of the 12th Halifax Sea Scout Group, Canal Basin, Sowerby Bridge, Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for the County of West Yorkshire, Lord Ingrow, OBE, TD, presented Mr. Reuben Holroyd with the British Empire Medal, which he had been awarded in the 1989 Birthday Honours List for his services to the Scout movement.

Lord Ingrow said the presentation gave him more pleasure than usual in that as an ex Duke he was presenting the medal to another ex Duke.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS/NEW SUBSCRIBERS*

- * Mr. K. Harrison, 48 Ambleside Close, Mytchett, Camberley, Surrey, GU16 6DG.
- * Mr. J. R. Taylor, 44 Heaton Grove, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD9 4BA.
- * Mr. B. Woolley, 146 Radcliffe Street, Keighley, West Yorkshire, BD21 2RE.
- * Mr. T. Yates, 2 Sandhill Close, Salterforth, Barnoldswick, Lancashire.
- * Major R. A. Boxall, 59 Severn Drive, Hinchley Wood, Esher, Surrey, KT10 0AJ.
- * Mr. J. W. Christensen, Greenlea, School Road, Romsey, Hants., SO51 1NX.
- * Mr. B. T. Fell, Bryn Pabo, Carriglefn, Amlwch, Anglesey, LL68 0PL.
- * Mr. B. Bywater, 73 Denshaw Grove, Morley, Leeds, LS27 8SA.
- * Mr. L. Ellis, 6 Bayhall, Common Road, Birkby, Huddersfield, HD1 5EP.
- * Mr. S. F. Swift, 15 High Street, Airmyn, Goole, North Humberside, DN14 7LF.
- Mr. R. M. L. Colville, Orchard Lodge, Bramley Court, Glenfield, Leicester.
- Mr. M. J. Wolff, The Mill Inn, Mill Street, Aberystwyth, Dyfed, SY23 8HZ.
- Mr. K. Buckland, TD, 7 Collum End Rise, Leckhampton, Cheltenham, Glos., GL53 0PA.
- Mr. A. J. McNeillis, 11 Denniwood Reach, Bawtry Road, Bessacarr, Doncaster, South Yorkshire.

Captain J. C. Bailey, 79 Endcliffe Vale Road, Endcliffe Hall, Sheffield, S10 3EU.

- * Mr. M. Murray, 6 Hill Meadow, Coleshill, Amersham, Bucks., HP7 0LF.
- * Mr. J. H. Turner, The Nook, Church Street, Gargrave, Skipton, North Yorkshire.
- * Mr. H. A. Cooper, 73 Duchess Road, Sheffield, S2 4BL.
- * Mr. A. Hargreaves, 42 Hallwood Green, Ravenscliffe, Bradford, West Yorkshire.
- Mrs. Douglas Brisbane-Jones-Stamp, Copperfield, Minto Gardens, Denholm, Roxburghshire, TD9 8PE.
- * Mr. A. Wallwork, 1 The Nook, Roe Green, Worsley, M28 4RA.
- * Mr. T. Simpson, 258 Loxley Road, Malin Bridge, Sheffield.
- * Mr. J. R. C. Roberts, 6 Clifford Road, Barnet, Herts., EN5 5PG.
- * Mr. C. Dinsdale, 57 Sackville Street, Brierfield, Nr. Nelson, Lancashire.
- * Mr. J. B. Longmire, 110 Westminster Crescent, Sheffield 10.
- * Mr. G. Marsden, 36 Northcote Avenue, Sheffield, S2 3AX.
- * Mr. H. Flood, 9 Linnburn Mews, Ilkley, West Yorkshire, LS29 9RG.
- Mr. T. J. Coburn, No. 8 Yard 119, Highgate, Kendal, Cumbria, LA9 4EN.
- * Mr. J. W. Millward, 16 Newstead View, Fitzwilliam, Nr. Pontefract, WF9 5DP.
- * Mr. E. Sharp, 160 Heysham Road, Morecambe, Lancashire, LA3 1DJ.
- * Mr. J. E. Ferguson, 46 Tangmere Close, Mayfield Dale, Cramlington, Northumberland, NE23 9EL.
- * Mr. J. M. Wilks, 40 Basegreen Avenue, Gleadless, Sheffield, S12 3FA.
- * Mr. K. H. Delahunt, 12 Springfield Crescent, Solihull, West Midlands, B92 9AF.
- * Dr. R. M. H. Gompertz, 288 London Road, Cheltenham, Glos., GL52 6YF.
- * Mr. Henry Kelly, c/o Octavian Underwriting Ltd., 84 Fenchurch Street, London, EC3M 4BY.
- * Mr. R. D. Berry, 34 St. Wilfred's Road, Hexham, Northumberland.
- * Mr. W. Morton, 1A Fairbank Road, Sheffield, S5 7DA.
- * Mr. A. G. Leggett, 22 East Park Road, RBL Village, Aylesford, Maidstone, Kent, ME20 7NP.

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION ACCOUNTS

THE BRANCH MANAGEMENT FUND

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 1989

EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
£	£	£	£	£	£
53	Branch Expenses	-	500	Regimental Association Fund	500.00
-	Entertaining	60.84			
	Reunion Dinner			Reunion Dinner	
	Cost of Dinners	2,192.00		Tickets (Less Refunds)	2,072.00
	Dance Band	210.00		OCA Guests & OAPs	-
	Extra Duty Pay	195.00		Donations	58.00
	Furniture Hire	-		Proceeds of Raffle	202.95
	Newspaper Adverts	176.01		Subsidy - Regimental Association	679.17
	Other Expenses	28.11	2,018		3012.12
	Printing	23.00			
	Chelsea Pensioners Expenses	88.00			
2,018	Burton V.C. Expenses	100.00			
	Regimental Service			Regimental Services	
	York Minster Service	196.15	128	Tickets sold for Sgt's Mess Lunch	184.00
387	Sergeants Mens Lunch, Strensall	267.86	-	Subsidy	280.01
20	London Dinner Subsidy (Bus)	100.00			460.01
100	London Dinner Travel Expenses	-		London Dinner Tickets Sold	1,460.00
10	Postages	-	11	Covenants/Donations	1.00
-	London Dinner Accommodation	1,460.00			
69	Excess of Income over Expenditure	340.16			
<u>2,657</u>		<u>5,437.13</u>	<u>2,657</u>		<u>5,437.13</u>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st MARCH 1989

305	General Fund	374.21	347	Cash at Bank	1,034.48
69	Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure ..	340.16			
	Less: Subsidy to Minster Service	(280.01)			
-	London Dinner Creditor	600.12			
<u>374</u>		<u>1,034.48</u>	<u>374</u>		<u>1,034.48</u>

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION FUNDS

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st MARCH 1989

6,445	Personal Grants	7,426.91	12,805	Interest on Investments (Gross)	14,793.34
3,122	-do- Army Benevolent Fund	1,181.00	957	Bank/CDF Interest	380.42
	Grants			Covenanted Subscriptions	
256	Iron Duke	-	380	Officers (Net)	321.80
1,056	-do- Covers	-	11,142	Days Pay Scheme: Soldiers (Net)	12,837.49
300	-do- Subsidy	-		Income Tax Received	
500	Management Fund	500.00	120	Officers Subscriptions	100.98
590	-do- Dinner Subsidy	783.17	3,920	Days Pay Scheme Soldiers	4,094.27
-	London Dinner	95.69		Grants & Donations	
198	Wreaths & Poppies	224.40	3,122	Army Benevolent Fund	1,181.00
-	Forces Help	100.00	100	G. Turner Trust	100.00
70	Lord Kitcheners Holiday	140.00	170	Donations in Memory - Major J. S. Milligan	40.00
	CO & RSM Airfair	186.00	3	Sundry Donations	48.00
50	CO Fund 1 DWR Refund of Grant	100.00	-	Subscriptions - Life Membership	80.00
-	Ireland Visit Subsidy	138.50	-	Subscriptions - General	32.57
-	1 DWR - Dingies	2,000.00	415	Profit on Sale of Stock	375.31
	Donations		-	Personal Grants Returned	450.00
1,500	Army Benevolent Fund	2,000.00	-	Regimental Dinner Subsidy Returned	104.00
9	-do- Raffle & Prizes	11.48			
-	-do- Pension Grant to OCA	-			
200	Royal British Legion	200.00			
50	Salvation Army	50.00			
75	Blesma	75.00			
29	Ex Servicemens Fellowship	29.00			
100	Huddersfield Veterans	100.00			
60	Chelsea Pensioners Xmas Grant	-			
50	Federation of Army Wives	-			
16	Sundry Donations	62.75			
-	General Slim Memorial	50.00			
-	Chindit Memorial	100.00			
	Sundries				
400	General Secretaries' Honorarium	400.00			
664	-do- Expenses	1,026.50			
346	Printing, Postage & Stationery	318.77			
500	Personal Computer & Word Processor	-			
216	Trustee Expenses	212.00			
160	Audit & Accountancy	139.00			
-	Refreshments - Finance Committee	17.53			
15	UST Charges	33.80			
39	Insurance	44.50			
-	Iron Duke Free List	115.50			
-	Repairs to Duplicator	149.50			
16,118	Excess of Income over Expenditure	16,928.18			
<u>33,134</u>		<u>34,939.18</u>	<u>33,134</u>		<u>34,939.18</u>

EXPENDITURE

£	£	£	£
8 Trustees Expenses	7.50	490 Interest on Investments (Gross)	545.43
19 Audit & Accountancy	30.00	48 Bank/CDF Interest	40.46
- UST Charges	0.04		
511 Excess of Income over Expenditure	548.35		
<u>538</u>	<u>585.89</u>	<u>538</u>	<u>585.89</u>

INCOME

£		£
490	Interest on Investments (Gross)	545.43
48	Bank/CDF Interest	40.46
<u>538</u>		<u>585.89</u>

340	Grants	650.00	1,949	Interest on Investments (Gross)	2,159.50
15	Trustees' Expenses	10.50	81	Bank CDF Interest	62.43
24	Iron Duke Free List	17.50	-	Donations	42.00
73	Wreathes	43.75			
20	Audit & Accountancy	50.00			
1	UST Charges	3.46			
10	Postage	-			
	<i>Excess of Income over Expenditure</i>	<u>1,488.72</u>			
<u>2,030</u>		<u>2,263.93</u>	<u>2,030</u>		<u>2,263.93</u>

400	Pensions & Special Allowances	388.00	1,744	Interest on Investments (Gross)	1,949.77
60	Audit & Accountancy	50.00	72	Bank/CDF Interest	76.31
	Grant - Ex Service Mental Patients	45.00	-	Subscriptions	-
152	Grant - Chelsea Pensioners Travel	-	104	Army Benevolent Fund	884.00
	Xmas Grant	40.00	-	Profit on Sale of Investments	19.38
2	UST Charges	4.78			
17	Postage	-			
-	Trustees Expenses	13.50			
-	Grant	467.00			
	<i>Excess of Income over Expenditure</i>	<i>1,921.18</i>			
<u>1,289</u>		<u>2,929.46</u>	<u>1,920</u>		<u>2,929.46</u>

40	Audit & Accountancy	30.00	448	Interest on Investments (Gross)	451.79
	Donations		60	Bank/CDF Interest	23.69
30	York Minster	30.00			
-	Halifax Parish Church - Altar Rails	598.00			
50	Halifax Parish Church	50.00			
10	Sandhurst RMAS	10.00			
100	Vase in Memory to Major G. C. Tedd	-			
50	Donation to York Minster	-			
1	UST Charges	1.41			
4	Trustees Expenses	4.50			
-	St. Georges - YPRES	100.00			
223	Excess of Income over Expenditure	-	-	Excess of Expenditure over Income	348.43
508		823.91	508		823.91

LIABILITIES

CAPITAL ACCOUNTS

152,017	Regimental Association Fund	152,017.13	
	Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure	<u>16,928.18</u>	168,945.31
6,198	Mitchell Trust Fund	6,197.92	
	Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure	<u>548.35</u>	6,746.27
21,605	McGuire Bate Trust Fund	21,605.03	
	Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure	<u>1,488.72</u>	23,093.75
25,177	Old Comrades Association (1st & 2nd Bn	25,176.96	
	Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure	<u>1,921.18</u>	27,098.14
4,713	War Memorial Fund	4,712.61	
	Less: Excess of Expenditure over Income	<u>348.43</u>	4,364.18
-	Creditor - Postage		2.42

ASSETS

INVESTMENTS (at Cost): See Attached Schedule

138,073	Regimental Association Funds	145,073.23
5,598	Mitchell Trust Fund	5,597.47
20,136	McGuire Bate Trust Fund	21,136.00
24,406	Old Comrades Association (1st & 2nd Bn) ..	24,425.56
3,730	War Memorial Fund	<u>3,730.35</u>
<u>191,943</u>		199,962.61
2,596	STOCK - Regimental Items	4,311.31
66	DEBTORS Rewrite of Regimental Histories ..	5,366.38
	CASH AT BANK	
11,282	Regimental Association Funds	14,196.81
601	Mitchell Trust Fund	1,148.80
1,469	McGuire Bate Trust Fund	1,957.75
771	Old Comrades Association (1st & 2nd Bn) ..	2,672.58
982	War Memorial Fund	<u>633.83</u>

SUMMARY OF BANK ACCOUNT

Current Account	4,554.73
Charities Deposit Fund	<u>16,055.04</u>
	20,609.77

AUDITORS' REPORT

We have audited the Balance Sheet and Accounts of the Associations' Funds as set forth and have obtained all the information and explanations we have received. In our opinion, such a Balance Sheet and Accounts are properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the affairs of the Associations' Funds and are in accordance with the books and papers produced to us.

This the 5th day of July 1989

K. W. HOWARTH & CO., Chartered Accountants, 36 Clare Road, Halifax, HX1 2HX.

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS (AT COST)

1. Regimental Association Fund

£5,000	City of Cardiff 14% 1989	5,052.33
£4,616.80	Greater London 6 1/4% 1990/92	4,497.39
£5,410.70	Treasury 9% 1994	5,475.56
£4,500	Treasury 15 1/2% 1998	4,320.00
£8,415.23	Exchequer 12 1/2% 1992	8,475.15
£1,000	Exchequer 10 1/2% 1997	962.40
£22,052.21	Treasury 13% 1990	24,132.06
£2,323.70	Treasury 12 1/2% 1992	2,500.00
£2,050	Exchequer 12% 1992/2002	1,995.37
£9,116.77	Treasury 14 1/2% 1994	8,469.65
£9,517.29	Exchequer 12 1/2% 1990	9,500.00
£9,054.32	Exchequer 11% 1991	9,000.00
5,135 Units	M. & G. Charifund Income Units	18,031.03
£17,119.36	Exchequer 10% 1/2% 1995	17,637.80
£3,710.93	Treasury 10% 1994	4,000.00
£3,790	Britannia Arrow 9%	7,012.55
2,390 Sh	Tarmac Ordinary Shares	7,011.94
£6,998.33	Conversion 9% 2000	7,000.00
		<u>£145,073.23</u>

(Market Value: £153,951)

2. Mitchell Trust Fund

£400	Treasury 5% 1986/89	393.35
81 Units	Globe Investment Trust Ltd 25p Ord	32.00
£2,451.82	Consols 2 1/2%	997.50
£361.50	War Stock 3 1/2%	205.25
£455.41	Exchequer 12 1/2% 1992	462.97
£971.86	Treasury 14 1/2% 1994	921.70
£170.38	Treasury 13% 1990	200.00
288 Units	Charifund Income Units	1,001.50
£1,354.75	Exchequer 10 1/2% 1995	1,383.20
		<u>£5,597.47</u>

(Market Value: £6,076)

3. McGuire Bate Trust Fund

£1,582.80	Greater London 6 1/4% 1990/92	1,543.65
£437.00	Barclays Bank 8 1/2% 1986/93	437.00
£500	Treasury 15 1/2% 1998	480.00
£3,719.68	Treasury 9% 1994	3,746.75
£1,182.12	Exchequer 12 1/2% 1992	1,198.33
£1,575.48	Treasury 14 1/2% 1994	1,492.30
£448.48	Treasury 13% 1990	500.00
£2,486.60	Exchequer 12 1/2% 1990	2,500
£1,997.34	Exchequer 11% 1991	2,000.00
747 Units	Charifund Income Units	2,505.97
£2,663.65	Exchequer 10 1/2% 1995	2,732.00
£927.73	Treasury 10% 1994	1,000.00
£999.76	Conversion 9% 2000	1,000.00
		<u>£21,136.00</u>

(Market Value: £22,634)

4. Old Comrades Association (1st & 2nd Battalion DWR)

£4,225.99	Treasury 9% 1994	4,263.23
250 Sh	Thomas Tilling Ltd 5% Cum Pref	250.00
£9,075.30	Consols 2 1/2%	4,018.79
£3,613.53	War Loan 3 1/2%	3,581.08
£1,000	Birmid Qualcast 7 1/2% Unsec. 1987/92	1,023.34
£998.58	Exchequer 12 1/2% 1992	1,012.32
£369.56	Treasury 12 1/2% 1992	400.00
£494.95	Treasury 14 1/2% 1994	475.00
£911.80	Treasury 13% 1990	1,000.00
£961.40	Exchequer 12 1/2% 1990	1,051.80
614 Units	Charifund Income Units	2,500.00
£2,737.05	Treasury 10 1/2% 1995	2,850.00
£927.73	Treasury 10% 1994	1,000.00
£999.76	Conversion 9% 2000	1,000.00
		<u>£24,425.56</u>

(Market Value: £20,940)

5. War Memorial Fund

£2,300	Consols 2 1/2%	954.70
£20.83	War Loan 3 1/2%	10.42
480. Sh	Shell Transport & Trading Co. Ltd 25p Ord	165.23
£556.53	Treasury 12 1/2% 1992	600.00
£519.52	Treasury 14 1/2% 1994	500.00
£448.48	Treasury 13% 1990	500.00
245 Units	Charifund Income Units	1,000.00
		<u>£3,730.35</u>

(Market Value: £5,511)

Obituaries

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

Colonel G. B. Howcroft, CBE MC TD JP.

Gilbert Howcroft died on 12 October 1989, aged 96. He was educated at Huddersfield Technical College, King's School Grantham and Victoria University, Manchester from which he graduated with a MA in architecture in 1914. In December 1914 he was commissioned into the 2/7th Battalion which was then forming at Milnsbridge, Huddersfield. He was posted to the 1/7th Battalion in France in July 1915, where he remained until April 1918 when he was

evacuated to England after being wounded. He was awarded the Military Cross in January 1917.

During the inter-war years he carried on the practice of A. J. Howcroft & Son, Chartered Architects. One of his designs was the Cenotaph to the fallen of the Great War on Saddleworth Moor. In 1919 he rejoined the 7th Battalion. He was awarded the TD in 1934 and was promoted Brevet Lieutenant Colonel in 1938. When the 7th Battalion duplicated in 1939 he took command of the 1/7th Battalion. Early

in 1940 he was posted as an Officer Commanding Troops on troopships. He remained in this post until 1945 when he returned to civilian life and resumed work in the family practice.

He was Honorary Colonel of the West Riding Battalion of the Regiment from 1957-61, was a magistrate on the bench at Oldham for seventeen years and on the Oldham Town Council for twenty years. He was made a CBE (Civil) in the New Year's Honour List 1960.

The funeral took place at St. Mary's Church, Greenfield on 17 October. Lt. Col. H. S. LeMessurier read the lesson. The following members of the Regiment were among those present:

Lt Col & Mrs. H. S. LeMessurier, Lt Col W. Robins, Major J. W. Pyrah, Mr. J. E. Horne, Lt Col S. J. E. Huxley, Lt Col W. Brook, Mr. T. Briggs, Major P. Haws, Major S. Waite, Major T. W. Hibbert, Captain R. L. Bates, Captain P. Lewis, Captain A. Woodcock, Major R. H. Royds, Major I. Hirst, Mr. D. Heron, Mr J. Wood, Captain R. C. Wilson, Major F. Whitehead, Mr. G. Mason, Mr. R. Senior.

Colonel E. H. Buckland, OBE TD

Harry Buckland died on 24 June 1989 at his home in Morpeth, aged 69. Captain John Wilson writes:

"Harry Buckland joined the 1st Battalion in 1941. He served throughout the heavy fighting in North Africa and Italy and also in the Middle East, where he commanded 'D' Company. At Anzio, he commanded the anti-tank platoon and was amongst those captured when his position was over-run. However, he succeeded in making a dash for freedom whilst being escorted back to the enemy lines and was able to rejoin the Battalion.

After the war he deferred demobilisation and was posted to 1st Battalion The Sherwood Foresters in Germany. While there, he was appointed to the International Court of Justice in Hamburg, which tried the senior staff of the Ravensbruck Concentration Camp. As junior member of the Court, he had the gruesome task of witnessing the subsequent executions.

After demobilisation he became a schoolmaster. In 1950 he joined 274th (Northumbrian) Field Regiment R.A. (T.A.) and commanded the Regiment from 1964 until 1967 when the Territorial Army was reorganised. Under the reorganisation he became Commanding Officer of the County of Durham Territorials (R.A.) He was Deputy Commander of North East District (T.A.) between 1970 and 1974 and he served as A.D.C. to Her Majesty, the Queen from 1971 until 1975. He was Honorary Colonel to the Army Cadet Force (Tyne and Wear) from 1975 until 1980.

The O.B.E. was awarded in 1983 for services to education and was well deserved.

We shall remember him for his perpetual cheerfulness, his professionalism, his enthusiasm and for the great courage he displayed during his final years, during which his serious heart condition gradually deteriorated.

He was a man of many parts and he excelled in all of them."

The funeral took place at Whitley Bay Crematorium on 1 July and the Regiment was represented by Captain Ronnie Miller, Captain John Wilson and ex-Private Lee who was in the anti-tank platoon of the 1st Battalion at Anzio.

Mr. G. R. Dillon

George Dillon died on the 15 September at the Royal Star and Garter Home, Richmond, at the age of 94. George joined the 4th Battalion in Halifax in 1914 and went to France with the 1/4th in 1915 as a member of the signal section. He was wounded twice. After the war he returned to Halifax to work as Tax Officer until his retirement in 1960. As a result of his wounds in World War One, his health deteriorated and in consequence he entered the Royal Star and Garter Home for disabled ex servicemen in 1984.

His son Major George Dillon, late RAOC, wrote to RHQ after his father's funeral to say how much the Regiment meant to his father. The funeral took place at Old Sodbury and Major J. D. P. Cowell represented the Regiment.

Mr Albert Holt

Bill Holt, died in hospital in Halifax on 17 August 1989 aged 85. Bill joined the Regiment on 22 June 1922 and after recruit training at the Depot he went to the 1st Battalion in Gibraltar in early 1923. Later the same year he was posted to the 2nd Battalion in Ismalia and later served with the Battalion in Palestine, Cairo, Singapore, and India. From 1930 to 1934 he served with the 1st Battalion in Devonport and Aldershot before joining 4th(TA) Battalion in Halifax as a PSI. The outbreak of war in 1939 he rejoined the 1st Battalion as a CQMS. In 1940, by then a CSM, he was wounded and taken prisoner at Dunkirk. He was discharged on pension in 1945 following his release from a POW Camp.

Bill was a talented sportsman in his younger days representing both the 1st and 2nd Battalions at cricket and rugby.

Following his discharge he settled in Halifax and became a staunch member of the Regimental Association, holding office as the Secretary and Chairman of the Halifax Branch for many years.

The funeral service at Coley Baptist Church, Hipperholme on 22 August 1989 was attended by the Regimental Secretary, Mr. Jack Russell and representatives of the Halifax Branch of the Regimental Association.

Mr. John Donaldson

John Donaldson died at Huddersfield on 30 August 1989 at the age of 42. John served with the 1st Battalion from 1964 to 1973. On leaving the Army, he worked for Kirklees MBC and joined 3rd Battalion, Yorkshire Volunteers (TA).

He was a staunch supporter of the Huddersfield Branch of the Regimental Association.

The funeral service was held at the Huddersfield Crematorium, Major C. D. Miller represented the Regiment.

Mr. M. Reed

Ex CSM 'Mick' Reed who served in the Regiment from 1924 - 1951, died at his home in Plymouth on the 22 November 1989 aged 83. During his service he served with both the 1st and 2nd Battalions and he was a capable Regimental rugby player. In 1947-48 he was CSM of the DWR Company in the Yorkshire Brigade Corps Training Centre at Gaza Lines, Catterick before taking up an ERE post in the Middle East where he ended his service.

Mr J. Carlisle

James Carlisle died at Huddersfield on 14 November 1989. He joined the 4th Battalion before the War and continued to serve with it after it had been converted to 58 Anti-Tank Regiment RA in November 1938. In May 1940 he was with 229 Battery when it was sent from Dover to Calais to help in the defence of that town. He was there taken prisoner and remained a POW until 1945.

Mr G. Quayle

George Quayle died in hospital in July. He served in the Regiment from 1957 to 1979, rising to the rank of WO2. After leaving the army he became a Civil Servant working for the Barracks Officer at the School of Infantry, Warminster, upto the time of his death.

WO1 (RSM) Hogg represented the Regiment at the funeral, which took place at Salisbury.

NOTICES

"Against all odds: the British Army of 1939 - 1940"

An Exhibition, sponsored by Vanguard Engineering, at the National Army Museum shows how the British Army tried to overcome the series of challenges which it faced from the early months of 1939 until the fall of France in 1940.

Drawing upon film, broadcasts, newspapers and other contemporary materials the displays examine how successfully the rapid preparations made by all branches of the Army survived the test of battle.

The Exhibition is open to the public until 10 June 1990. There is no admission charge.

The address of the Royal Army Museum is: Royal Hospital Road, London.

Royal British Legion and Government sponsored pilgrimages to war graves.

The Royal British Legion offers conducted pilgrimages to war graves and memorials in certain overseas cemeteries in Europe, the Far East and North Africa. The pilgrimages are not restricted to Legion members or relatives of those buried overseas. Anyone of any age can apply.

The Royal British Legion also arranges and conducts the Government Grant-in-Aid Scheme which enables widows, who have not previously done so, to visit their late husband's grave in overseas War Cemeteries. Seven-eighths of the cost is paid by the Government.

All arrangements from the point of departure (normally in London) including travel, insurance, accommodation and all meals are made for the pilgrims.

A Legion Standard Bearer accompanies most pilgrimages. Non-denominational religious services and wreath laying ceremonies are held at a war cemetery during the pilgrimage.

A member of the Pilgrimage Department staff is in attendance throughout to ensure the smooth running of the pilgrimage, and to provide background commentaries on the places visited. Medical staff are also available on most pilgrimages.

Further information about Legion war graves pilgrimages is available from:

The Pilgrimage Department, The Royal British Legion, British Legion Village, Maidstone, Kent, ME20 7NX. Telephone: (0622) 716729/716182.

Requests for information about war cemeteries or individual war graves should be addressed to:

The Commonwealth War Graves Commission, 2 Marlow Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SLX 7DX.

Provisional Pilgrimage dates 1990.

April 3-13 — Kohima/Imphal/Delhi April 6-9 — Holland

April 21-28 — Gallipoli

May 11-18 — Italy South

May 20-27 — Tunisia

May 26-28 — Dunkirk

June 4-7 — Normandy

June 15-18 — Durnbach

June 29-30-1 July — Somme

July 9-11 — Belgium North

August 3-8 — Germany North

August 21-24 — Normandy

Sept 13-20 (prov) — Korea

Sept 7-10 — Holland

Sept 14-21 — Holland

Sept 21-24 — Holland

Sept 23-30 — Italy North

Oct 3-5 — Le Havre/Rouen

Oct 7-14 — Italy South

Oct 18-24 — Egypt

Nov 7-15 — Far East

Nov 9-11 — Ypres/Vimy/Loos

Halifax Building Society

Halifax Building Society has, from time to time, job vacancies at it's Head Office in Halifax where about 1,500 people are currently employed. A wide variety of jobs exist including clerical, security, driving and store-keeping. Any soldier or ex soldier who is interested should write to:

Manager Head Office Personnel, Halifax Building Society, Trinity Road, Halifax, HX1 2RG.

"Dukes" brooch for sale

Mrs. Joan Hall is offering the "Dukes" brooch, pictured above, for sale. It was made in 1914 of 9 carat gold by Fattorini of Bradford and is still in its original case. It is approximately 2 inches in length.

Anyone interested in buying this brooch should contact Mrs. Hall at "Oak Tree Cottage", Netherfields, Alderley Edge, Cheshire, SK9 7EH. Reserve price £175.

