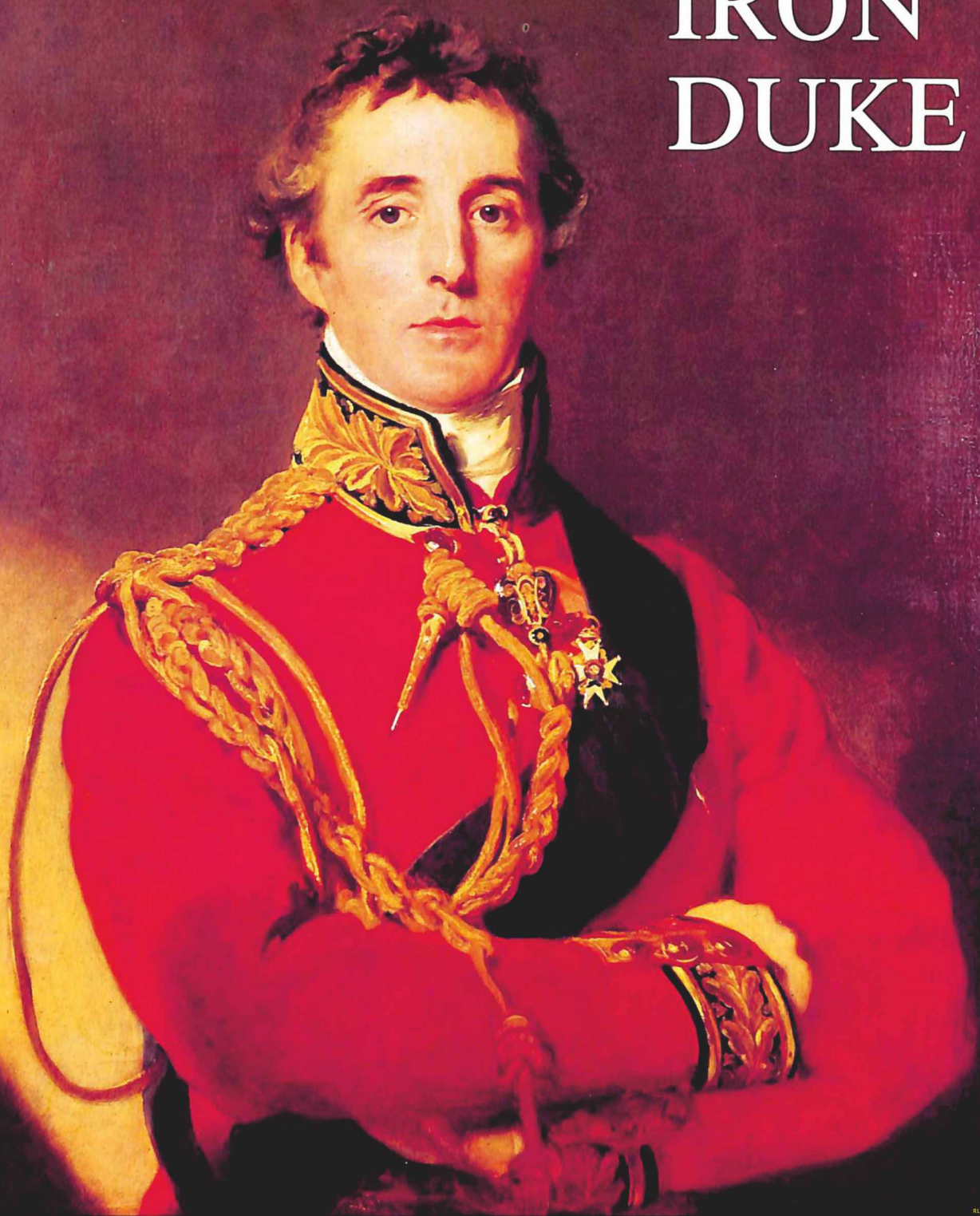


No.213 Autumn 1990

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. LIX

Autumn 1990

No. 213

BUSINESS NOTES

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Editor:

Major A. C. S. Savory, MBE, 11 Fairfield Close, Lymington, Hants., SO41 9NP. Telephone: (0590) 676610

Business Manager:

Major C. D. d'E. Miller, Wellesley Park, Halifax, West Yorkshire, HX2 OBA. Telephone: (0422) 361671

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The opinions expressed in the articles of the journal are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the policy and view, official or otherwise, of the Regiment or the MOD.

This publication contains official information. It should be treated with discretion by the recipient.

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CONTENTS

Regimental Headquarters	41
Colonel of the Regiment	
Honours and awards	
Appointments and promotions	
Silver cup donated to R.H.Q.	
H.M.S. York	
Regimental Museum	
The Regimental Council	42
1st Battalion	43
3rd Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers	54
4th Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers	55
Yorkshire A.C.F. Wellesley Company	56
Letter to the Editor	56
Lt. Col. Arthur Wellesley and two officers of the 33rd Regiment	56
The Waterloo Campaign: An account by Private George Hemingway 33rd Regiment	59
Lt. Col. J. F. Bland 76th Regiment	62
Friends of the Regiment Appeal	65
The Officers' Dinner Club 1990	66
Regimental Association	67
A.G.M. and dinner	
Regimental Service: York Minster	
Christmas cards	
Branch notes	
Keeping in touch.....	
New subscribers	69
Obituaries	69
Notices	71

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THE REGIMENT

The Colonel-in-Chief

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

Colonel of the Regiment

General Sir Charles Huxtable, KCB, CBE, ADC, Gen,
Headquarters United Kingdom Land Forces, Erskine Barracks, Wilton, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 0AG
ADC: Captain S. R. Neath

Regimental Headquarters
*Wellesley Park,
Highroad Well,
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 A. G. McEwan RN

THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

Patron:
President:
Vice-President:
General Secretary:

Brigadier His Grace The Duke of Wellington, KG, LVO, OBE, MC, BA, DL
General Sir Charles Huxtable, KCB, CBE
Brigadier D. W. Shuttleworth, OBE
Major C. D. d'E. Miller, *Wellesley Park, Halifax, HX2 0BA.*



Falkland Islands
The Governor inspects members of Waterloo Company during the Queen's Birthday parade at Port Stanley on 21 April 1990.

Regimental Headquarters

Regimental Notes

COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT

Her Majesty The Queen has approved the appointment of Brigadier W. R. Mundell O.B.E. as Colonel of the Regiment vice General Sir Charles Huxtable KCB, CBE, ADC, Gen., on 22 October 1990.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

Major P. Robinson was awarded the MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours list.

APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS

Brigadier W. R. Mundell, OBE, was appointed Honorary Colonel 3rd Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers (West Yorkshire) vice General Sir Martin Farndale, KCE, on 30 April 1990.

Lieutenant Colonel C. J. W. Gilbert for SO1, Trg, Dev, Oman, August 1990.

Major D. I. Richardson for MA, to CBF Cyprus July 1990.

Lieut (A/Capt) J. T. Hogg - Commissioned SSC (LE) 7 May 1990. To JIB Ouston same date.

SILVER CUP DONATED TO REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

Mrs N. Saunders of Brighouse has donated to Regimental Headquarters a silver Challenge Cup awarded in 1896 to her father in law, Sergeant Robert Saunders of the Brighouse Company, 1st Volunteer Battalion, The Duke of Wellington's Regiment. The cup, 9 inches high in sterling silver with much ornamental engraving, was presented to the Brighouse Company by Alderman Smith, the First Mayor of Brighouse in 1894. It was only competed for on three occasions, probably for shooting in 1894, 1895 and 1896. Sergeant Saunders was the winner on the first and last occasion and it is presumed he was allowed to retain it thereafter.

As Mrs Saunders did not wish the cup to go in the Museum it has been retained at RHQ for display on suitable occasions.

H.M.S. "YORK"

Since the last contact with the Regiment, HMS "York" has been involved in more heavy going, both of an operational and a meteorological nature. Having dropped off the ten Dukes, who embarked at Hull for the four day passage to Portsmouth, "York" set off for four weeks operational work up at Portland. The weather during that month can, at best, be described as appalling, but the staff at Portland has little respect for such conditions and expect its students to adopt a similar attitude. Continuation

Operational Sea Training (C.O.S.T.) completed, and with the required standard achieved, the ship's company was rewarded with a short break alongside at Portsmouth. "York" then proceeded to the north west of Scotland for exercise "Northaxe" and even more evil weather with which to contend, resulting in the writing off of the Lynx helicopter by a freak wave.

"York," on return to Rosyth, finished her material preparations for Armilla Patrol upon which the ship is presently deployed. "York" departed Rosyth 7 May 1990 and following another brief stay at Portland for final fine tuning and a four day visit to Gibraltar, finally headed east into finer weather.

The ship is due to return home at the end of November, having by then been as far east as Singapore and south as Australia. "York" is programmed to visit Hull early next year when all onboard are looking forward to renewing old friendships and making new ones with the Duke of Wellington's Regiment.

REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

Recent acquisitions for the Museum:

From Mrs R. Burton, photographs of 2 DWR 1939/40, booklets and documents relating to her late husband Major R. H. Burton.

From Mrs A. Anderson, the South African War medals of her fathers 2678 Pte H. Saunders and items of memorabilia from that war including a knife and fork set, clip of five rounds of ammunition, biscuit box and a framed photograph of Pte. Saunders on horseback.

From Mr W. Norman an unusual miscast brass DWR cap badge of the WW1 period; a cap badge of the Wellington Regiment of New Zealand which is identical to the DWR cap badge except for the scroll which has "New Zealand" in place of "West Riding" and a cap badge from Canada, possibly a school, incorporating the "Dukes" crest.

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

Major General Isles has been appointed a Deputy Lieutenant for the county of Lincolnshire.

The Regimental Council

The Regimental Council met at Apsley House on 8 June 1990. Present were: The Colonel in Chief; The Colonel of the Regiment; Major General D. E. Isles CB OBE; Brigadier J. B. K. Greenway; Brigadier W. R. Mundell OBE; Lieut Colonel W. Robins OBE; Lieut Colonel A. D. Meek; Major K. M. McDonald TD JP BA and Major A. C. S. Savory MBE. Brigadier E. J. W. Walker OBE and Major C. D. Miller were in attendance.

The Colonel in Chief announced that Brigadier Mundell, who had recently been appointed Honorary Colonel of 3rd Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers, would take over as Colonel of the Regiment from General Sir Charles Huxtable on 22nd October 1990.

The Colonel informed the Council that recent press reports about the future shape of the army were no more than speculation. While undoubtedly there would be changes, no recommendations as to what these might be had yet been formulated, let alone considered by the Cabinet. In this connection it was vital to keep the Battalion up to strength to enable a strong position to be maintained when changes in the size and composition of the army were considered. Recruitment of soldiers was currently satisfactory though the 1st Battalion was still below establishment. The recruitment of junior soldiers remained poor. Officer recruitment was holding up well.

Bequests; Some of the money from the legacy left to the Regiment by the late Lieut Colonel Hodgson had been spent on the purchase of a reproduction of a portrait of General Charles Marquis Cornwallis. The reproduction was of a high standard and it was now intended to purchase further reproductions of portraits of past Colonels of the 33rd and 76th Regiments. Money from the legacy had also been spent on the purchase of a silver statuette of a soldier dressed in uniform of World War II. A suitably inscribed plate had been affixed to the plinth of the statuette to commemorate Colonel Hodgson's bequest.

Movements of the 1st Battalion: Lieut Colonel A. D. Meek reported on the recent activities of the 1st Battalion and on future events, which were to include the running of the U.K. Milan concentration in July, followed by six weeks as Spearhead battalion. He was pleased to say that the detachment in the Falkland Islands had established good relations with both the Navy and the inhabitants of the Islands. He also informed the Council that the Battalion would be sending detachments to Australia and Jamaica during 1991.

Friends of the Regiment Fund: The fund was in a healthy state. Mrs Jean Bentley had recently donated £500 to the Fund in memory of her late husband, Lieut Trevor Bentley. Bequests to the Fund in memory of the late Brigadier Ramsay Bunbury had amounted to £521.

Officers' Dinner Club 1991: The dinner would take place in York at the Gimcrack Rooms on Friday 1 November 1991.

Iron Duke: Major C. D. Miller, the Business Manager, reported that he anticipated a small excess of income over expenditure for the year ending 31 March 1991. The loss of revenue from advertising had to some extent been offset by additional subscribers. Major A. C. S. Savory, the editor, said that the reduction in advertising also had an effect on the number of pages in the journal. Over recent years each issue had normally consisted of 44 pages. It was anticipated that future issues could number no more than 40 pages.

Regimental History: Major General D. E. Isles, Chairman of the History Sub-committee, reported that the author, Major J. M. Brereton, had now completed twelve chapters covering the period from 1702 to just before the outbreak of the Boer War.

Regimental Association Dinner 1990: The Dinner would take place at the Penine Hilton Hotel Huddersfield, on Saturday 20th October 1990. It would be the last regimental function General Sir Charles Huxtable would attend as Colonel of the Regiment.

York Minster Service 1990: The Colonel informed the meeting that the Service would take place in the Lady Chapel, York Minster, on Saturday 3 November 1990.

Regimental Affairs in Yorkshire Committee: Brigadier E. J. W. Walker, Chairman of the Committee, which includes CO 1 DWR and the COs of 3 and 4 Yorks, reported that the Committee was currently concentrating on matters affecting recruitment. Plans included the production of regimental recruitment literature, a rolling KAPE in the regimental area throughout the period May to July 1990 and the possible formation of a Regimental Youth Team. Brigadier Walker also tabled statistics showing that there had been some slight improvement in the Regiment's recruiting figures. However the 1st Battalion was still below establishment.

Conservation of Colours in Halifax Parish Church: Lieut Colonel Robins circulated a report on the condition of the Colours laid up in Halifax Parish Church. Expenditure of £208 on minor repairs and cleaning was agreed. No major conservation work had been recommended, except for the 76th Colours 1863-1888. After discussion it was decided that the Colours did not merit the possible expenditure of a sum in excess of £1000.

1st Battalion

Commanding Officer's Introduction

Since the New Year much of our attention has been fixed on the South Atlantic. Waterloo Company (formed from Alma and Burma) undertook the Resident Infantry Company task in the Falkland Island whilst the Recce Platoon provided the majority of the army garrison on South Georgia. In reality the deployment is not a company task as over half of the Battalion's bayonet strength has been committed. Waterloo Company is now planning its return from the Falklands after a most successful tour. The company has worked hard and established an excellent reputation for itself both with the military and civilian communities in the South Atlantic. Inter-service co-operation has reached new levels: much of the company's daily work could not have taken place without the wholehearted support of the Royal Air Force, whose helicopters provide a daily lifeline. The garrison in South Georgia has been kept in touch with the outside world via the mail drops provided by the C130's as well as the six weekly replenishment by the Navy. Members of the Battalion are at present en route back to the U.K., courtesy of HMS Otter (a diesel submarine) and HMS Ambuscade (a type 21 frigate). The South Georgia Garrison has made the most of its time of enforced isolation. I am immensely pleased with the manner in which the small team under Major Paul Bailey and Captain Richard Best has risen to the challenge of the Antarctic winter. Both these elements of the battalion return more experienced and far better trained and I am certain their tour will stand them in very good stead in future years. The Falklands do offer excellent training opportunities and Corunna Company discovered this during Exercise RIC RELEASE.

Although for it the highlight of its three week trip to Mount Pleasant might have been the settlement patrols, for me it was the fact that the Company was able to conduct a live firing attack with artillery in direct support - something that is well nigh impossible to achieve in the U.K., given the strictures of training area space and time. For those of us that have remained in Tern Hill life has been quiet.

Sport continues to be played (cricket and golf) but the majority of our effort has been concentrated on the U.K.L.F. MILAN Concentration which will take the whole of July. The K.A.P.E. Team under Lieutenant Peter Coates is around and about West Yorkshire now and the three month tour should produce dividends in terms of recruits in the near future.

The best news for the Battalion and the Regiment was the announcement in the Queen's Birthday Honours List of the award of the MBE to Major Peter Robinson who left the Battalion in June. Peter was sent off in good style by practically every department and Mess of the Battalion and the award represents official recognition of his outstanding contribution to the Regiment and to the Army both at work and on the Rugby field. I look forward to the future, not only because we will be back together as a Battalion after six months of disruption, but also because we have an interesting and challenging programme ahead of us: Spearhead for September and October and then a considerable amount of winter training for the forthcoming A.M.F.L. role. And further good news is that next year we will be having two overseas exercises, each for a company group, one to Australia and one to Jamaica.

THE FALKLAND ISLANDS: WATERLOO COMPANY

The Company, formed in early January, from Alma and Burma companies, had two months work-up training before being deployed to the Falkland Islands in late February, to take up the role of Resident Infantry Company from 'C' Company, The Green Howards.

We arrived in late summer and progressively slid into winter as the tour went on. Winter in the Falkland Island is not as severe as is often thought, mainly because the constant westerly wind blows all the snow away! Snow in any quantity is not common, but horizontal rain and sleet are nearly permanent! It was quite normal to experience all four seasons' weather in one day.

Our tasks included various operational ground and standby duties, as well as having a platoon on settlement patrol around the islands (three section patrols each lasting 6-7 days), a platoon on Onion Range (in the centre of East Falkland), which was a field firing range the size of Sennybridge, as well as a platoon on local training, which usually allowed for some R + R, adventure training, battlefield tours,

exchanges with the Royal Navy and visiting other units in the tri-service garrison. This all fitted into a five week rotation, each task lasting for a week at a time.



Corporal McCabe being briefed by Lieut Norman.



Lance Corporals Mower and Middleton with patrol members from 3 Platoon find a piece of wreckage from an Argentinian aircraft shot down in the 1982 war



The Governor with Privates Leen, Stead, Burton and Horne following the Queen's Birthday parade at Fort Stanley

During our tour we had our major exercise "RIC RELEASE", when Corunna Company flew down to relieve us of our mandatory duties, enabling Waterloo to take off for a six day live firing exercise. Starting in the centre of East Falkland, we moved on foot across to San Carlos, and then crossed to West Falkland on Navy ships and helicopters where we did a company attack supported by naval gunfire from HMS Ambuscade. While firing on East Falkland we were supported by 23 Battery, 27 Field Regiment RA who had flown down with Corunna. The exercise was a great break from our usual operational duties, and yomping across East Falkland, carrying full scales of kit (90 - 100lbs per man) through boot-sucking bogs and across rivers in full spate was a challenging task! At least the weather was kind to us.

The operations and training in the Falkland Islands have enabled us to return to the U.K. as a very fit and robust company, with a great understanding of one of our remote colonies and the people who live there. To that end nearly every soldier has stayed on a farm or settlement as guests of the locals, often helping with farm work in exchange for hospitality.

As the only infantry representation on the F.I., the Company formed the army guard on the Queen's Birthday Parade in Stanley (21 April) in front of HE the Governor, and represented the army on Landing Day at San Carlos (21 May) and Liberation Day at Stanley (14 June).

After being visited by the Secretary of State for Defence in our first week, we had a constant stream of visitors ranging from senior military officers, to a Select Defence Committee from both Houses of Parliament, four journalists from our local areas, a Channel 4 documentary team with four principle commanders from the 1982 war, and three reces from from 1 RRF, 5 Airborne Brigade and lastly from 2 Grenadier Guards.

One of the events of the tour which will stay with us for some time was the excellent liaison with the other services. Five soldiers are returning to U.K. aboard HMS Ambuscade (Type 21 Frigate) via the Caribbean and U.S.A., and two soldiers are returning aboard one of the HM Submarines - route unknown! HMS



Lieut Faithful and members of 3 Platoon on a different kind of patrol

Ambuscade also brought a platoon commander and four soldiers down with her when we deployed. We have trained over 200 RN and RAF servicemen on the ranges during the tour, and two RN officers were attached to the company throughout exercise "RIC RELEASE."

SOUTH GEORGIA: THE RECCE PLATOON

On the 14 January 1775 Captain Cook sighted a small island in the South Atlantic. Three days later he landed and, naming it the Isle of Georgia, Britain took possession of one of the remotest islands in the world. He was not too impressed with the place, describing its coastline as bare and:

"The inner parts of the country were not less savage and horrible. The wild rocks raised their lofty summits till they were lost in the clouds, and the valleys lay covered with everlasting snow. Not a tree was to be seen, nor a shrub even big enough to make a tooth pick, a land doomed by nature to perpetual frigidness, never to feel the warmth of the sun's rays whose horrible and savage aspect, I have not words to describe."

Since then South Georgia as it is now known, has made the headlines three times. The first in 1903 was to publicise the potential fortunes to be made from the whaling industry. As a result the Norwegians and

Argentinians together established a number of whaling stations. The industry continued until 1965 but conservation pressure and the likelihood of whale extinction saw these stations close and all that remain are the rusty twisted shells of steel buildings.

The second occasion was in 1916, when the news of Earnest Shackleton's epic crossing of South Georgia was released to the world. In order to realise the achievement, Shackleton's reasons for being in the South Atlantic must be understood.

On 5 December 1914 Shackleton's Endurance expedition had departed Grytviken, South Georgia, bound for the south east corner of the Weddell Sea, there to land a shore party which was to sledge some 1750 miles via the South Pole to the Ross Sea. The harsh weather and hostile environment forced him to change his plans. The Endurance was sunk and the party was castaway on Elephant Island in two upturned boats. Leaving 22 men on the Island,



A view of Grytviken with Kind Edward point in the background



Captain R. G. Best and members of the Recce platoon

Shackleton with four companions decided to seek help from the whaling community on South Georgia. Facing a second winter in Antarctic conditions the party set out on a 800 mile journey in a small vulnerable boat, "The James Caird". Fortune favoured the brave four, and after sixteen days at sea the boat landed on the western side of South Georgia. Its state of repair was such that putting to sea again was impossible, so the only way to make it to the whaling station of Stromness was by land, on foot, by guess and with God.

The straight-line distance from King Haakon Bay to Stromness Bay and the whaling station is twenty miles, but in May 1916, no more was known of the mountains and glaciers of South Georgia than could be seen from off-shore on a fine day. At 0200 hrs on May 19, Shackleton, Crean and Worsley left their two companions and set out for Stromness Bay with a full primus and food enough for three meals. They had fifty feet of rope and an improvised ice axe; no skis, sledge, sleeping bags or tent. They could therefore neither sleep nor take shelter. After marching and climbing for 36 hours non-stop with Shackleton breaking the trail all the way, they came to the whaling station of Stromness. As a result ships were sent to rescue the 22 castaways on Elephant Island as well as their two fellows in King Haakon Bay.

As trained mountain soldiers the garrison here can see the magnitude of Shackleton's achievement. Plans are in motion to retrace his journey.

The final phase in the Island's history came in 1982, the year before the South Georgia Company decided

to sell off the greater part of its deteriorating assets and negotiated a deal with Constantino Davidoff of Argentina. This was an open invitation and on March 18 1982, the scrap metal workers moved in to commence salvage operations at Leith Harbour, observing none of the proper formalities and raising the Argentinian flag. As a result, the Falklands War began; the Royal Marines were landed and on April 4 a two hour battle at King Edward Point resulted in the Marine detachment surrendering without loss or casualties. Their success in taking out two helicopters, a small patrol vessel and submarine highlighted the intensity of the short battle. On April 25 the Royal Navy bombarded King Edward cove and the effect was such that the Argentinians surrendered without firing a shot. At 1415 hrs a signal was sent that said:

"Be pleased to inform Her Majesty that the White Ensign flies alongside the Union Jack on South Georgia. God save the Queen."

Since then a garrison has manned South Georgia for five month tours. In February the Recce Platoon from the Dukes, under the command of Captain Richard Best, arrived to act as the Army's deterrent to history repeating itself.

The Garrison is 44 strong. A small headquarters staff under the command of Major Paul Bailey runs the Garrison, with detachments of 8 Royal Engineers and 4 Royal signallers as support. Captain Dougie Russell, the RMO, looks after the health of the Garrison.



A patrol relaxing at Hodges mountain hut

Such an environment requires the specialist skills of two royal marines, and Sgt. Steve Musson, a mountain leader, has proved invaluable with both mountain and arctic training. Sgt Ted Coley is a specialist boat operator, and since movement around the coast depends largely on the small Rigid Raider Craft, he has been heavily involved in deploying patrols. The Royal Engineers detachment has aided him in all boat operations, from ditching rubbish to picking up the mail dropped in by parachute fortnightly.

The platoon training has developed over the first six weeks specifically directed towards mountaineering and mountain safety. Broken down into two sections under LCpl Andy Booth and Cpl "Snips" Parr they spend a week out in the mountains on patrols followed by a week of fatigues and in-camp training. This alternating programme gives the section time to recover as the conditions are particularly demanding. In the field the mastering of rope techniques in both climbing and abseiling has now taken place; ice climbing and crevice rescues are being practised ready for the glacier crossings. Navigation by day and

night in poor weather is regularly practised and will be very useful for the arctic environment in Norway where the Battalion finds itself next.

In camp soldiers keep on top of the administration of Shackleton House, our home, but besides conventional soldiering troops have turned their hands to cooking, explosives work and education.

Shackleton House is an excellent base location for relaxing. Two bars, which provide regular evening entertainment along with videos and BBC World Service; a dining room where Cpl "Thommo" Thompson rattles up a selection of culinary delights, and a pool table more often in use than not. We receive a number of visitors, notably Russians, whose fishing vessels often drop in, and the Royal Navy who visits every six weeks with our resupply.

With such breathtaking views from the front of our home, boredom is rare and as the winter sets in the prospect of skiing everywhere grows in appeal. Whilst the remaining element of Waterloo Company is based at Mount Pleasant this small Garrison can count itself lucky to be on South Georgia.

EXERCISE "RIC RELEASE": CORUNNA COMPANY

On 24 April a very youthful Corunna Company migrated to the Falkland Islands. We took 56 private soldiers of whom 35 had joined the Battalion since January, and only the day before the latest recruit from R.M.A.S. had arrived in the form of 2Lt Mike Whitley to command 8 platoon. Initially the company was to enact the role of the leading elements of the Spearhead Battalion in an exercise reinforcing the troops already on the islands. After a nine hour delay in departure from Tern Hill, we were finally airborne. Total flying time was sixteen hours which was split by a stop at the Ascension Islands for three hours of tropical heat before going to the windy wastes of Mount Pleasant Airport. The plane was escorted the last few miles by two phantom jets and we touched down to find it raining.

As we were simulating the leading elements of the Spearhead Battalion we expected to be quite important, but nobody seemed to be too concerned about us once we had actually arrived. The anticipated feeding into a sausage machine of administration to have gortex waterproofs, cold weather clothing and sleeping bags thrust at us never materialised. Colour Sergeant Doyle raced around madly trying to find equipment that should have been laid out waiting for us. Eventually, once we had received our 30 second lecture on mines and had collected our weapons we clambered aboard transport the Colour Sergeant had managed to hijack and moved out to take up our deployment positions not overly impressed with the proceedings and still minus waterproofs and sleeping bags.

Fortunately the exercise ended in late afternoon. On our return to settle in properly we were informed that the entire company, less sergeant and above, was to be accommodated in one massive room. This was not received with much enthusiasm, the only blessing being that it was situated right next door to the

cookhouse, whereas the SNCOs and officers had to trek to the other end of the living complex to reach their respective messes. The living complex of MPA was a labyrinth of corridors, easy to get lost in and 1km from the company officers.

The following day we proceeded to take over Waterloo's duties to allow them to go on exercise. This also included getting used to the local jargon. The expression of Jock and Biffy brought many a blank look from officers and NCOs alike until it was discovered that it referred to the Joint Operations centre and British Forces Falkland Islands. Likewise the first time Top Gun was mentioned as an area to guard, thoughts of Tom Cruise and Mira Mior were conjured up. It was therefore a let down to find it involved being locked up in a room to watch videos. Our week on duty passed by with little incident and while on platoon training visits were arranged, amongst others, to HMS Otter, a diesel submarine, and to the Phantom jets. 7 Platoon travelled to Stanley to visit the war memorial and see the penguins hopping around in the minefields.

Once Waterloo returned from its tabbing around in the wastelands of both East and West Falkland the company set out on its exercise. It was an ideal opportunity for the platoons and company to forge themselves into a cohesive unit. Time was spent working at all levels, climaxing with a live firing company attack supported by artillery, mortars and elements of the Machine Gun platoon. The terrain we were exercising on also contained boulder fields up to 200m wide which had been laid down by glaciers. These have to be crossed extremely gingerly, especially with bergans on and no attempt at movement was made at night. From our first day in the Falklands we had learnt several things: firstly communications were a nightmare and continued to be so throughout the tour. We were told this was due

to our proximity to the South Pole but that did little to solve the problem. We also discovered how treacherous the going under foot was. Clumps of grass turned an ankle over with effortless ease and made for slow movement. Also, as there is little pollution and as the air is incredibly clear it is possible to see considerably further than normal. This makes judging distances a problem and is frustrating when you can see your destination but it takes forever to get there. Obviously the wind is a major factor in determining the conditions and causes such rapid changes in the weather that in our first twelve hours we experienced all four seasons. The total lack of trees is strikingly obvious and this, along with the rolling nature of the ground, makes it impossible to gain any natural shelter from the elements. The role of the bungee and poncho dwindle slightly when there's

nothing to attach it to. The weather after the first few days was surprisingly kind.

After the exercise was over we had time to go on the battlefield tours of Tumbledown and Goose Green accompanied by excellent couriers from Waterloo Company. We also had most of the company on settlement patrols to far flung corners of the island to show the flag and greet the natives. During the winter all movement, apart to Stanley, is by helicopters so great dependance is placed on the RAF and Bristow's aircraft. Difficulties over tasking and availability have been known to occur but they did manage to get us all back in time for our return flight to the U.K.

We were extremely fortunate to have had the opportunity to go to the Falklands, particularly for such a short period.



Western District Skill at Arms meeting

Corunna Company, runners up in the Falling Plate competition, being presented with the Seymour Cup. Left to right: Private Hanson, Lance Corporals McCabe and Quinn, and Corporal Hewitt.

THE VISIT OF HRH PRINCESS MARGARET TO RAF SHAWBURY: CORUNNA COMPANY

No sooner had we landed from the Falklands than we were back at work. The rehearsal for the visit of Princess Margaret to RAF Shawbury was the task given to 40 members of Corunna Company. This involved sections being in Wessex helicopters and demonstrating different types of exiting from them followed by various tasks on the ground. Jumping out

and roping out and then chasing a mock enemy in rapid section fire and manoeuvre were the skills involved. So to Shawbury for the rehearsals. Our spectators for this included the CO and his wife acting as the royal party. The dry rehearsals went well but exiting from one of the helicopters was delayed due to a small problem of a certain large platoon commander

getting stuck and dismantling the harnesses in one of the cabins. Spectators thought he was being pulled back in by the loadmaster, whereas he was actually trying to get out.

Two days later we actually did the demonstration for HRH. The first phase of jumping and roping out then getting into all-round defence was executed well. After being picked up the sections then flew round and came in for the attack. The landing went smoothly this time and we started fire and manoeuvring towards the

enemy. Meanwhile Princess Margaret looked on. The RAF asked for plenty of bangs and smoke and that is exactly what the boys from Corunna gave them. Ten smoke grenades, twenty thunder flashes and 1500 blanks expended in approximately five minutes. It all went well except for a small question of protocol in that the wind blew the smoke straight into Princess Margaret without permission, so her vision of the demo may have been slightly obscured! We hope she enjoyed her day as much as we enjoyed ours.

ADVENTURE TRAINING: CORUNNA COMPANY

Having arrived at Kimmel camp near Bodelwyddan we undertook a number of different activities, the first being the inevitable hill walking in Snowdonia, which offered plenty of strenuous routes to be conquered by the fit and fearless. One of the groups on the first day seemed to have a route plan long enough to get them back to Tern Hill. The walk was quite a challenge, and even the navigator-in-chief found the route a little hard to find at times. At one point on the route they were meant to be climbing down a very steep and sharp crag called Brissly Neck. Through a thick cloud a worried cry was heard "Sir, I think Brissly Neck has lost his body". Indeed he had or else the group was on the wrong neck as a 200 ft drop confronted them. During the rock climbing and abseiling we found out that everything that goes up does not necessarily come down as Pte. Redman proved. His ascent was fine, but on the call of "you can come down now Jock", a not too uncommon reply was received! He was retrieved and lived to climb another day. Canoeing meant a refreshing start to each day for all as capsized drills

were a priority from the outset and received plenty of unscheduled practice subsequently. The most exciting part of the day was spent speeding down a tunnel with an abundance of fast flowing water to help the canoes down. The OC managed to get his sub-mariners certificate - "You're not meant to go down the tunnel under the canoe, Sir!" The caving was muddy, wet, dark and cold, but good fun and many miles and steep hills were covered by the cyclists. Only the very fit were advised to venture off on the racers and mountain bikes and the only problems encountered except for having to staple Cpl Bramwells ears back because he kept taking off, were speeding tickets and being chased by the local Coast Guard Beach Patrol or horseback (not donkeys). A few of the company also managed to go white water rafting, deep sea fishing, board sailing and dinghy sailing, but these activities were unfortunately limited in taking numbers of men. The whole week was demanding but fun and new talents were discovered by some and old fears by others.



Adventure Training
Members of Corunna Company on Crib Goch (Knife-edge ridge) Snowdon.

EXERCISE "DEADLY IMPACT 3": SOMME COMPANY

Somme Company is deep in preparation for the Milan Concentration, Exercise "Deadly Impact 3". The exercise is the major U.K.L.F. commitment of 1990 and will involve 29 Milan platoons. In real terms 1500 soldiers will be involved in one capacity or another. The Battalion has been nominated as the sponsor unit and Somme Company is to administer the exercise.

The aim of the exercise is to allow the Milan platoons the opportunity to carry out unparalleled and untrammelled training. The concentration only occurs in the U.K. once every two years and represents a major training opportunity for the Milan platoons.

While company headquarters is deeply involved in the administrative aspects of the exercise the Milan and Mortar platoons, with an element of the MMG platoon are running the live firing phase; involving the firing of 76mm cannon, mortars, machine guns and milan missiles. At \$12000 per missile no expense is being spared despite speculation that we soon will be unemployed.

In between trench construction and mortar drills the company has had opportunity to embark on various forms of adventure training, the Mortars fishing in Wales and the Anti tank Platoon on the canals in Shropshire.



Western District Skill at Arms meeting

Somme Company, winners of the Falling Plate competition, being presented with the Valentine Cup by Major General P. R. S. Bonnet M.B.E. Left to right: Lance Corporals Padley, Johnson, Walsh and Private Jones.

REGIMENTAL BAND

1990 has proved to be quite a demanding year for the Regimental Band.

During January and February we took part in Operation "Orderly" by providing medical assistance for army ambulance crews throughout the West Midlands.

After the ambulance dispute, we plunged into a full diary of engagements. These included performances at several major sporting fixtures, such as the "Stones Bitter" Premiership Rugby League Semi-Finals and Final at Old Trafford, and at the "Pilkington Cup" Semi-Final between Moseley and Bath.



Falkland Islands
The Regimental Band at Port Stanley, Queen's Birthday parade, 21 April 1990

In April the band travelled out to the Falkland Islands for ten days. Here apart from entertaining the troops, we gave many public concerts. Ceremonial duties included a Queens Birthday Parade in Port Stanley, following which we were invited to perform at the Governor's Residence.

In early May the band undertook a tour of schools concerts in West Yorkshire which included schools in Leeds, Bradford, Halifax and Huddersfield. One such performance was given at the Bandmaster's old school; Salendine Nook High School, Huddersfield.

Later in May we found ourselves in the studio of

Music Masters Ltd. Here we recorded a varied and demanding programme of music for our forthcoming cassette; 'Showcase'.

Recent public performances have included a Beating of Retreat at Chester Castle - 25th May 1990, and the Congelton Tattoo, 26th - 28th May 1990. For both events we joined forces with Band and Drums of the Cheshire Regiment, Queens Lancashire Regiment and the Pegasus Band of the Parachute Regiment.

Forthcoming events include; Keighley Show - 1st September 1990 and Copley Show - 2nd September 1990.

MT PLATOON

During the last period, the MT Platoon has been split in half with the MTO, (Capt Sykes MBE) and men busy down the Falklands on operational duties, leaving the rest of the platoon in Tern Hill with the main task of preparing vehicles and equipment for the U.K.L.F. Milan Concentration.

The MT Platoon is still situated at the top end of Clive Barracks, and as normal we manage to do the impossible by carrying out more driving details, than we had drivers.

Even through busy periods we still get the lads to A.S.M.T. Leconfield on various courses, with LCpl's Maskill and Simpson on DMI, and Pte. Brooks on a DI course at very short notice, and our servicing NCO Cpl. Ingham through the MTS N.C.O. course. All the

lads did well and came back with good grades. We even managed to turn a driver back into a proper soldier by letting LCpl Wilden attend the Brecon Warminster Course.

After (VOLUNTEERING) two teams entered the Western District Safe and Skilled Driving Competition in May. We surprised a lot of people by being placed a respectable second and eighth. The competition was enjoyed by all who took part especially, The Cross-Country NBC Drive. The Silver Cup and Shield now grace the MTWO's Office.

The driving instructors have also been busy, keeping the companies up to strength with their requirements, in both Ordinary and HGV 3 Cadres.

OFFICERS MESS

Life in the Officers Mess over the last few months has been relatively subdued. Nine mess members have been away in the Falklands for 4½ months and an unprecedented six subalterns have been away on the Platoon Commanders Course at Warminster. Those who have remained in station have done their best to maintain turnover and bar profits and there have been a number of functions. Foremost amongst those was the official dining out of the Quartermaster, Peter Robinson, which 16 regimental officers, both retired and still serving, made considerable efforts to attend along with the current Battalion officers. Other social functions have included a barbeque party and a

couple of Sunday lunches. Planning is now underway for the next major functions which are the dining out of the Colonel of the Regiment in September and the Late - Autumn Ball on November 10th.

We have recently received back from York Museum the former 2nd Battalion centrepiece and four statuettes. Following refurbishment they are most impressive. We have also received a splendid photograph of the first Marquis of Cornwallis, courtesy of the Hodgson bequest. Most non-art buffs will be unable to discern it from a genuine painted portrait and we hope that more portraits will follow.

CRICKET

Cricket this year has been severely curtailed by a combination of limited opportunity and limited availability. We could have had a cup winning team this season but with a number of players with Waterloo Company in the Falklands and others away on courses we have been reduced to a pool of 14 or 15 to select from. Corunna Company's exercise in the Falklands through April to mid May, the Milan Concentration for the whole of July and the leave period in August meant that only for a week of May and June were we actually able to field a team. We entered the Infantry Cup and the Western Services League. At the present we are through to the second

round of the Cup against 2 RRF after the withdrawal of our first round opponents - if we win, negotiating a date for the next round will be an interesting exercise! In the league our results have, on the whole been promising and we have at least unearthed a couple of good players, Ptes Neill and O'Neill, to supplement those who have been around for somewhat longer such as LCpl. Williams and Pte. Robson. We may have set a Battalion record in the match v CAD Kineton which should be recorded here for posterity. 1 DWR 9 all out, Kineton 10 for 0 - but we did drop two catches and at least we honoured the fixture with a *very* scratch team.

RUGBY



The 2nd XV rugby team, 1989/90

Back row: Privates Alderson, Blout, Brookes, Corporal Lawrence, WO II O'Garro, Privates Cohen, Bradbury.
Front row: Private Holmes, Lance Corporal Alford, Corporal Taylor, Lance Corporal Quirk, Captain Holroyd,
Private Morrice, Lance Corporals Hughes, Samuel.

EXERCISE "COPENHAGEN 1"

W02 (RQMS) Paul Hutchinson, now an instructor at R.A.O.C Blackdown, was of late employed as a project manager for the services' attempt at the 'Whitbread' round the world race. Working at the Joint Services Adventurous Sail Training Centre, Gosport, meant that on the late May Bank Holiday he was able to secure for our unit the loan of a small yacht. With this boat, a Halycon 27 footer, we decided to combine a sailing trip with an attempt to meet up with the services race entry Statquote British Defender.

Our crew headed by W02 Hutchinson as skipper, with Major Coll as mate, with Capt Richard Holroyd and Pte's Wilde and Kavanagh, decided on some circumnavigation of its own. With a masterly passage plan, using a combination of wind and tide to our advantage and self generated hot air to our disadvantage, we attempted the forty or so miles around the Isle of White and thence to Lymington. The yacht could, all things being equal, average something just under 4 knots. The tide coming or going could average 3 knots and the wind, an easterly, was blowing at 2-4 knots varying. The crew could tie 3 knots between them. We reckoned on early success.

After 22 yrs service the skipper, as part of his duties as instructor R.A.O.C. Blackdown, had completed a Methods of Instruction Course. He practised it on us. I am not sure what exactly is taught these days on a MIT Course but foul language and threats of violence mixed with the odd bout of cutting sarcasm seemed the order of the day. There were other boats, yachts ferries and warships on the water but none were allowed to overtake us. Everyone was racing us, they were not always aware of this and certainly not informed of it, but with Hutchinson-Bligh at our helm they had little option.

Despite the efforts of Wilde who slept the whole way, Kavanagh who watched, appalled, and the yacht's two mutinous lieutenants, Bligh got Her

Majestys Ship 'Cannoneer' into Lymington in just over ten hours. A record we think!

After a meal on board and the odd beer on shore we had to concede that perhaps the skipper's knowledge of boat handling and his ability to tune sails were better than ours.

We were better behaved on the next leg, a longer less varied one, this time to Weymouth. All the boats in the world had gathered to greet us and all cooperated in telling us to go away - we were the wrong size, belonged to the wrong yacht club, we were not posh enough, etc. Eventually the Harbourmaster intervened and we tied up alongside six other boats.

Next morning we set off early, hoping to catch sight of one of the Whitbread yachts. We were unlucky, after about nine hours we sailed into Poole Harbour, rafted up, fed and went to bed early, but not before placing a sign for the other yachts to see. 'We leave at 5.30 a.m. - one up all up'. People are very kind and respond well when you begin to set them adrift.

This was our last effort of catching a glimpse of 'Defender'. We also had a tide problem and the wind had dropped. The larger boat was somewhere off Cornwall and suffering from a broken main mast and like us a lack of wind. We could not guess at the chances of success. 'Defender' was along way behind and we had to catch the tide. Tacking back and forth across the Solent killing time and watching the tide caused us to miss the all girl crew yacht 'Maiden'. After ten hours of cruising we had to give up on our quest, the tide turned and we returned to Gosport. We had laughed a lot, learnt a lot and Wilde had slept a lot. There was not much of a crowd to welcome us back to Portsmouth but we didn't care, we knew our worth. Later, shunning the publicity and crowds of well wishers who had probably gathered in their thousands in Gosport, we went for a meal and drink in the yacht club where nobody wanted to know of our epic voyage. Apparently they were just as famous.

3rd BATTALION YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS (West Yorkshire)

There has been a good deal of discussion over recent months about the wider employment of women in the armed services. As a Home Defence Unit the Battalion is in position to recruit and employ females and currently has 59 on strength.

The leading lady is Major Sue Thomis, a pharmacist by trade, who joined the Territorial Army in 1977. She now commands Headquarter Company in Huddersfield and, as far as can be ascertained, is the first female to command a company in an infantry battalion. Although she has been doing the job since November 1988, MOD has only recently officially acknowledged her position.

The role of women in the Battalion has grown dramatically since Major Thomis transferred from Nottingham UOTC to Huddersfield. Numbers have increased steadily and they now play key roles within MT, Signal platoon, Medical section, Pay and Catering departments. The majority are based in Huddersfield, under Major Thomis. They have

proved themselves quite as good as the men and, sometimes, even better.

'D' (DWR) Company

In mid June 'D' Company took part in the Battalion's MRF training weekend. The exercise was notable because, for the first time in eighteen months, 3 Yorks was given the opportunity to employ airmobile assistance using a Chinook helicopter of the RAF.

The Battalion completed its deployment to the Otterburn training area during the early hours of Saturday 16 June after which a few hours sleep was snatched in advance of what promised to be a non-stop operation. Mid morning found the Battalion assembled at the Otterburn heli-landing site, with everyone waiting to catch the first sound of the approaching aircraft. After the Chinook arrived the brief training offered by the RAF personnel only

served to whet everyone's appetite for the flights ahead.

'D' Company had been tasked to act as enemy among the thick coniferous plantations and boggy ground that is so typical of the Otterburn training area. There is something about the prospect of giving ones comrades in the other rifle companies a hard time which tends to excite soldiers and 'D' Company took to its task with relish. The deployment by helicopter was a great experience particularly as the pilot handled the aircraft like a "four tonner" i.e. three feet of ground clearance at a ridiculously high speed.

After disembarking "D" Company melted into the woods to await the 'Opposition'. After several hours further heli-landings and a short fire flight to secure the LZ the Battalion was ready to begin its clearance operation. All the action took place at very close quarters with visibility limited by the thick woodland and with each side determined not to give anything away to the other. Endex found everyone tired but exhilarated.

For 'D' Company the return to its harbour area gave the opportunity to prepare for a night's strenuous patrolling and OP activity. This phase continued until 04.00 hrs and not surprisingly left everyone grateful for the 90 minutes sleep which was then made available to them.

Returning to Halifax for lunch and a well earned beer, 'D' Company demonstrated the validity of the notion that a good exercise is one talked about in the Junior Ranks' Mess. Everyone recounted their

weekend exploits in terms that would make Baron von Munchausen blush.



Major Sue Thomis: OC, HQ, Company 3 Yorks

4th BATTALION YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS (South Yorkshire)

After a very busy 1989, the Battalion commenced the new training year by developing low level skills in the build up to Annual Camp. Company role training weekends have been interspersed with a period of concentrated shooting and field firing at Catterick. The Battalion shooting team has qualified for Bisley and the GPMG SF team has performed well in the build up to the UKLF SF competition.

As part of a national campaign to boost awareness about the Territorial Army the Battalion organised Exercise Executive Stretch on the 23rd and 24th March. The exercise involved managers from firms throughout our recruiting area and was designed to test them on a series of brain-teasing tasks over a ten mile hike in the Peak District. With inclement weather for the duration, the tasks were made considerably more tricky and the abseil more hairy. Nevertheless, high winds and horizontal rain and snow did not dampen the spirit and those who completed the course arrived back at Endcliffe Hall tired but happy. The exercise was a great success and achieved considerable publicity for the unit in the boardrooms of the firms that employ our soldiers.

Last year the Battalion sent soldiers to Gibraltar, Canada and on board ship with our affiliated warship, HMS Sheffield. This summer we continue our travels when we send 120 men to the United States on exercise for two weeks Annual Camp with the National Guard. In exchange the Battalion will host 120 American soldiers and 15 Germans. A comprehensive

set of cadres will be run for 4 YORKS soldiers culminating in a Battalion FXT.



4 Yorks: Exercise "Executive stretch"
A team of young executives being put through their paces

YORKSHIRE ARMY CADET FORCE: WELLESLEY COMPANY

Shooting

At the Annual SAAM, held at Strensall during the weekend 19/20 May, "A" Team was placed 2nd in the LMG pairs and Falling Plate and 3rd in the section match and Service rifle match. Lieut John Hammond, OC Keighly Det, won the Marea Bowl competed for by all officers and instructors attending the meeting. The Annual Target Rifle Meeting was also held at Strensall, during 15 and 16 June. The target rifle L81 was introduced to the ACF to encourage target rifle shooting. It is a 7.62mm weapon with a twin zero backsight and is fired at 300m, 500m and 600m. It is capable of 1 minute of angle groups and is a very accurate weapon. Teams consisted four cadets and an adult firer/coach. Our "A" team consisting of C/SM Thornber, Sgt Brown, Sgt Clark and Bdr Cooney and with Capt Peter Cole as coach, came 1st, Major D. L. Bennett took 3rd place in the competition for adults.

Annual camp will be from 22 July to 4 August and 125 cadets will be attending.

Athletics

On Sunday 13 May the County Athletics meeting took place at York. We had the following successes: Cpl Shield of Huddersfield Det won both the shot and Javelin, Sgt Cole, of the same Det, was 3rd in the 1500m and 2nd in the long jump, Sgt Cowan came second in the high jump. The girl cadets also had their successes, Capt Joe Ashton's daughter won the 200m with F/Cdt Spencer, of Allerton RA, a close second, F/Cdt White won both the Shot and the Discus and F/Cdt Wanklin was 2nd in the Long Jump, Cpl Shield went on to win the Javelin event at the N.E. District Inter Country Athletics on 17 June and won again at the ACF National Athletics Championships at Andover on 23 June.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A Regimental grave in Khartoum

From: Fr Alberic Stacpoole
Defence Attache's House
British Embassy, Sudan.

The Editor
The 'Iron Duke'

Sir,

Some 35 years ago the Republic of the Sudan achieved its independence, after rule by the Sudan Political Service since 1899. One of the most illuminating signs of a British presence here in the Khartoum War Cemetery still cared for under the terms of our War Graves Commission.

Of some 800 graves the earliest appears to be that of Engineer Wright (1867) and the most recent that of an Australian, Frederick March GC MBE (1977).

I searched among the badges of the many regiments on the headstones, and found just one of ours:

Private H Blaney
The Duke of Wellington's Regiment
15 January 1947

There he lies, in the middle of a capital city now controlled by a fundamentalist Muslim military dictatorship rapidly going bankrupt. At the time he was buried there the Governor General was a British general.

Yours sincerely
John Stacpoole

LIEUTENANT COLONEL ARTHUR WELLESLEY AND TWO OFFICERS OF THE 33rd REGIMENT

Amos Norcott and a Gambling Debt

In "Wellington: The Years of the Sword" by Elizabeth Longford, is a short paragraph in which she relates that Arthur Wesley (as Wellesley then spelt his name) paid off a gambling debt of Captain Norcott, amounting to £600. The papers of the 1st Duke of Wellington, now in Southampton University, throw some additional light on this episode.

Early in 1793 Arthur Wesley was an ADC at Government House in Dublin. He was then a captain in the 18th Light Dragoons. Among those with whom he formed a friendship was General Robert Cunningham, who had a young relation named Amos Godsil Norcott.

On 30th April 1793, aged 24, Arthur Wesley purchased his majority in the 33rd Regiment. Five months later, on 30th September, he purchased the lieutenant colonelcy of the Regiment, which Amos

Norcott had joined ten days earlier in the rank of lieutenant. He does not appear to have served as an ensign first. The reason is not known. Possibly it was because he had brought with him a number of recruits which may have resulted in the waiving of the normal rules. These were, in any case, very laxly enforced at that time due to the pressure to increase the strength of the army following the outbreak of war with France on 1 February 1793.

After a campaign in the Netherlands (1793 - 1795) the 33rd was ordered to India, disembarking at Calcutta on 17 February 1797. Norcott, who had purchased a captaincy in February 1794 was now setting his sights on a majority. Arthur Wesley therefore wrote to General Cunningham, (who had been created Lord Rossmore while Wesley was en route to India), on the subject:

"Fort William
March 9th 1797.

My Dear Sir

We arrived here about three weeks ago after a most tedious passage from Cape of Good Hope. I presume your relation has written all the news from this country.....I now write to you in order to recommend it to you to allow me to purchase a majority for him in case I should have an offer of one. Of course as he is so young a man he cannot expect to get one at a low rate, but you may depend on my using the discretion which I now ask for with regard to price with the same prudence which I should do where I myself to advance the money to him - I am very happy in having it in my power to inform you that he is very much improved in every respect and in case you should think fit to forward him in the Services, I hope you will have no reason to be ashamed of your Protege.

Believe me my Dear Sir

Your much obliged and faithful Servant
A Wesley"

However before General Cunninghame's reply had a chance of reaching India Arthur Wesley was obliged to write to him again on a far more serious matter. Amos Norcott, who had never before gambled, had become involved in play, in which he lost over £500 (nearly £20,000 at to-days price). Arthur Wesley clearly found it a difficult letter to write and the file copy is full of erasures and amendments.

"Fort William
June 22nd 1797

My Dear Sir

It is much concern that I inform you that Captain Norcott has unfortunately latterly been drawn into play for larger sums than he ought and before I heard that he had done so he had lost above 500 pounds. This sum is quite impossible for him to pay without selling his commission and as he promised that he would never play again, a promise which he has faithfully performed, I have thought that I could not better demonstrate my attention to your relation than by borrowing the money and paying it for him; I was the more influenced to take this step as it was the first time that Captain Norcott had ever played and the distress and anxiety of mind which he has suffered since give me reason to believe that it will be the last. I have now to request that you will allow me to draw upon you for 500 pounds. To assist in paying this dept Captain Norcott has already given up nearly two thirds of his pay and allowances in order to produce a fund to pay it, but as that will give only 150 pounds a year it will take a longer time to complete than it will be possible for me to wait for it, more particularly as I am obliged to borrow it my self. Under the circumstances unless Captain Norcott obtains the benifit of your assistance he will be obliged to sell his commission which will ruin him forever. I assure you that if I had not had every reason to be pleased with Captain Norcott's conduct, if he was not(as he really is)

a credit to his friends I should have not taken the steps I have for his relief; knowing as I do that although you would readily lay down ten times the sum I require from you for his advantage on promotion, you will hesitate exceedingly before you will contribute anything towards the payment of a Gambling dept - but having naturally considered all the circumstances of the case, the ruin to his character if the money were not paid, and his circumstances in life if paid for by the produce of his commission together with his general good conduct and character, I have thought that consistently with my obligations to you I could not see that when you consider all the same circumstances you will step forward to relieve him from the necessity of selling his commission - If you should not like to give him the money his pay can still be stopped until you are repaid.

No opportunity has yet offered of purchasing for Captain Norcott, but if any should offer relying still upon your generosity to him, I shall seize it and draw upon you for the necessary purchase money.....

Your most obliged and faithful servant
A. Wesley

Of course I shall not draw upon you for this sum of money till I hear from you which I hope will be as soon as convenient."

In August the 33rd was part of a force, assembled in India, intended to capture Manila. However it had got no further than Penang before it was recalled, arriving back in India in November. During this period Wesley had, hardly suprisingly, displayed some coolness towards Captain Norcott. This prompted the latter to write to him on 13 December. In his letter he complained that they were no longer on the same friendly footing and "being aware how unpleasant it is to be at variance with any person, but particularly a Commanding officer", he had made up his mind to exchange into another regiment. He then went on to say, "laying aside all that I have said, if you can give me hope of succeeding to Major Elliot's (33rd) majority, I will on those terms remain in the Regiment". Authur Wesley's reply is, unfortunately, not available. It seems probable that instead there was an interview with him following which Norcott wrote again. His second letter is in a more conciliatory tone and in it he recognises "that Major Elliot will not sell", suggests that he should return to Europe, "as Lord Rossmore is now very old....and might provide for me by my being on the spot" and concludes by writing that "what you have already done for me you may rely upon it I shall never forget". The outcome was that Norcott remained with the 33rd and Wesley continued his efforts to obtain a majority for him.

On 15 February he wrote to Lord Rossmore as follows:

"My Dear Sir,

Since the return of the troops from the Rendezvous for the expedition to Manila I have heard of an opportunity for promoting your kinsman Captain Norcott of which in conformity with your instructions and what I told you, I have informed him to make the

necessary enquiries as to price etc. The Commission to which I propose that he should be promoted, and for which I have applied to Sir Alured Clarke for him is the Majority of the 71st Regt which is about to be drafted and sent home to recruit. The sum which I understand will be asked for it is about £1500 in addition to the price of Captain Norcott's company, and if he should be promoted I shall take the liberty of drawing upon you for it. It is not however certain that he will get it, as when I left Calcutta he had not received an answer from the Major nor had I from Sir Alured Clarke who was in Oude.

I cannot express how happy I feel at having the prospect of fulfilling your wishes for your relation at so early a period in his life when promotion is the greatest object to him and of doing it so cheap a rate in a Corps so respectable and distinguished as the 71st. I assure you that Captain Norcott is worthy of any mark of favour you may show him.

I am at present on my passage to Madras.... I intend to return to Fort William in the month of March.

Believe me my Dear Lord,
Ever yours most faithfully,
A. Wesley."

In September 1798 the 33rd arrived in Madras. Shortly after Arthur Wellesley (as the family now spelt its name) received comments on his letter to Lord Rossmore of June 1797 - an indication of the time it took for mail to travel to and from England. One of the letters was from Mr. J. Taylor whose wife was the mother of Captain Norcott, presumably by a previous marriage. Since Mr. Taylor goes on to describe Norcott as his son-in-law it seems likely that he too had been married before and that Norcott had married a daughter by the earlier marriage. The story Wellesley had told to Lord Rossmore seems to have been distorted in transmission to Mr. Taylor or he had misunderstood its content. After recounting Mrs. Taylor's "loss of peace of mind and health of body" on learning of her son's "imprudences", Mt. Taylor gives his views on Norcott: "... Knowing from his infancy the ruling propensities of Norcott, I had altogether omitted gambling out of the catalogue of his vices". However he went on to mention the "esteem I truly feel for my misguided son-in-law". Having praised Arthur Wellesley for his role in the matter he then comes to the problem of repayment of the debt. "... the demands of educating my own children preclude me from offering full assistance" but he authorises Wellesley to draw on him for £300 sterling and requests him to give him 40 days notice "that I may be prepared accordingly". Since he cannot afford to give the money he asks that after the balance of £200 had been made good by Norcott he (Taylor) should be repaid from deductions from Norcott's pay and allowances. He concludes that because of "Lord Rossmore's antipathy to assist Gambling Debts" he has stepped forward as described above.

Arthur Wellesley was clearly shocked by the contents of this letter which implied that Captain Norcott was a regular gambler. He forthwith wrote to Lord Rossmore:

"Fort St George October 9th 1798

My Dear Lord

I have just received your letter of February last relating to Captain Norcott. I am sorry to find both by that and one which I have received from Mr Taylor that it is supposed by his friends that he is addicted to Gambling. As well as I recollect I particularly stated that he had never played but once. If I said that he had done more I have led you and his friends into an error and I assure you that he has never played since. The sum for which Mr Taylor has permitted him to draw will contribute very essentially to his relief, but he was obliged to prepare for the Expedition to Manila which has been the unavoidable cause of his living at greater expense than he would otherwise.Another circumstance which has weighed heavily upon him has been the large amount of interest which is paid in this country. It is not an easy matter to extinguish a Debt for which an interest of 12 per cent is to be paid. I do not hide from you that I had a very sanguine hopes that Captain Norcott's friends would have assisted him upon the occasion which I have mentioned to a larger amount...I assure you that you and all those who imagine that riches abound in this Country are much mistaken: I am not richer (nor I am likely to be) than when I came to it. But Captain Norcott may depend on it that as long as I have credit he shall not be so pressed for payment of the remainder of his debt as to be obliged to sell his commission. It would undoubtedly be a convenience for me if it were paid. Besides him there are others in the 33rd who have been recommended to me to aid, whom in forwarding them in the army I have given them my assistance. You will easily believe that this does not tend much to the advantage of my own affairs and that I have every reason to be anxious upon this subject.

It is impossible to judge by your Lordship's letter whether it is your intention to purchase a majority for Captain Norcott at the regulated price or not. At present there is not any prospect of the offer of one and I shall be obliged if you will let me have your instructions upon this subject as soon as you can. If one should offer before I receive your answer I must be guided by the circumstances of the moment and by the possibility of obtaining the purchase money at a low rate of interest. If that should be possible I will not suffer an opportunity of purchasing to pass by.....

Pray Present my best compliments
to Lady Rossmore and believe me
My Dear Lord
Yours most faithfully
Arthur Wellesley."

There are no further letters on the subject of the gambling debt or the purchase of a majority. Captain Norcott remained with the 33rd until 1802 when he transferred to the 95th Regiment. One year later he achieved his majority. He was then 25. He was present at Waterloo and continued to serve with distinction in peace. In 1830 he became a major

general and eight years later retired as Major General Sir Amos Norcott KCH. (1)

NOTE

(1) In 1885 General Sir William Sherbrooke Norcott KCB was appointed Colonel of the 2nd Battalion 95th Regiment. John Sherbrooke was a fellow officer in the 33rd with Amos Norcott in India. In the circumstances it seems more likely that Sir William was the son of Amos.

Lieutenant and Quartermaster George Gaff

Arthur Wellesley, while commanding the 33rd, was not solely concerned with furthering the careers of some of his well connected young officers. When George Gaff, the Quartermaster of the Regiment, was about to retire, Wellesley immediately wrote a note to Edward Cooke (1), a prominent politician at Dublin Castle, whom he had got to know during his days as an ADC to the Viceroy, Lord Buckingham.

"Fort William October 29th 1797.

My Dear Cooke

The bearer of this is Mr Gaff in whose favour I wrote to you some time ago: least that letter went missing I shall now repeat the particular object I have in view for him.

He has been more than thirty years in the 33rd and for his merit during the American War was promoted by Lord Cornwallis to be Quarter Master. His health has failed him in this damnable climate and he is at last obliged to resign - I cannot part with so old an acquaintance without endeavouring to provide for him and I therefore most earnestly entreat that you will ask whoever is Lord Lieutenant to give him an ensigncy of Invalids (2) for which you may say with great truth that I shall be forever obliged.

When I wrote to you by the last ship I desired Crosbie Cradock and General Hewitt (who I believe is acquainted with Gaff) to do everything in their power to obtain this object as a proof of their friendship and remembrance of me and as I have not time to write to them at present I shall be much obliged if you will let them know what I wish them to do, and how much I shall be gratified by their assistance in providing for my friend....

Believe me My Dear Cooke ever yours most sincerely.

A. Wesley"

George Gaff eventually left the army in 1803 but, despite his commanding officer's efforts on his behalf, does not appear to have obtained an appointment in the Invalids.

George Gaff's son was granted an ensigncy in the 33rd in 1795 and during the 4th Mysore War became the adjutant.

George Gaff (senior) was succeeded in the position of quarter master by John Haigh, who had been the sergeant major of the 33rd when Wellesley assumed command of the Regiment in 1793. Both of his sons were later granted commissions in the 33rd. The eldest, Captain John Haigh, was killed at Quatre Bras on 16th June 1815 and the youngest, Lieutenant Thomas Haigh, died as a result of the wounds he received at Waterloo, two days later.

While it is true that at the time it was very difficult for an officer without financial means to rise high in the army, he was not, for the lack of them, denied the opportunity to obtain a commission.

NOTES

1. His younger brother was at that time serving in the 33rd. Wellesley had a high opinion of him and later in the letter quoted above said "...he is one of the finest young men I have seen for a long time..."

2. The practice of forming Independent Company of Invalids, manned by veteran soldiers, began in the closing years of the seventeenth century and continued throughout the eighteenth. At first, the motive was mainly to relieve the expense of pensions by transferring the cost of maintaining veterans to the estimate for guards and garrisons, but the formation of new companies and the conscription of pensioners to fill up the vacancies in existing companies soon gained recognition as a means of providing for home defence in an emergency. In 1802 it was decided to abolish the name of "invalids" on the ground that it was one "to which contemptuous ideas were attached, as if of a man walking on a crutch and unable to manage a musket or a bayonet." The units became first known as Garrison battalions and from 1804 onwards, when the battalions of the Army of Reserve assumed the title, as Veteran battalions.

THE WATERLOO CAMPAIGN: AN ACCOUNT BY PRIVATE GEORGE HEMINGWAY 33rd REGIMENT

Among the manuscripts in the British Library (1) is a vivid description of the Waterloo campaign written by a soldier of the 33rd. It is contained in a letter George Hemingway of Halifax wrote to his mother from Paris on 16 August 1815.

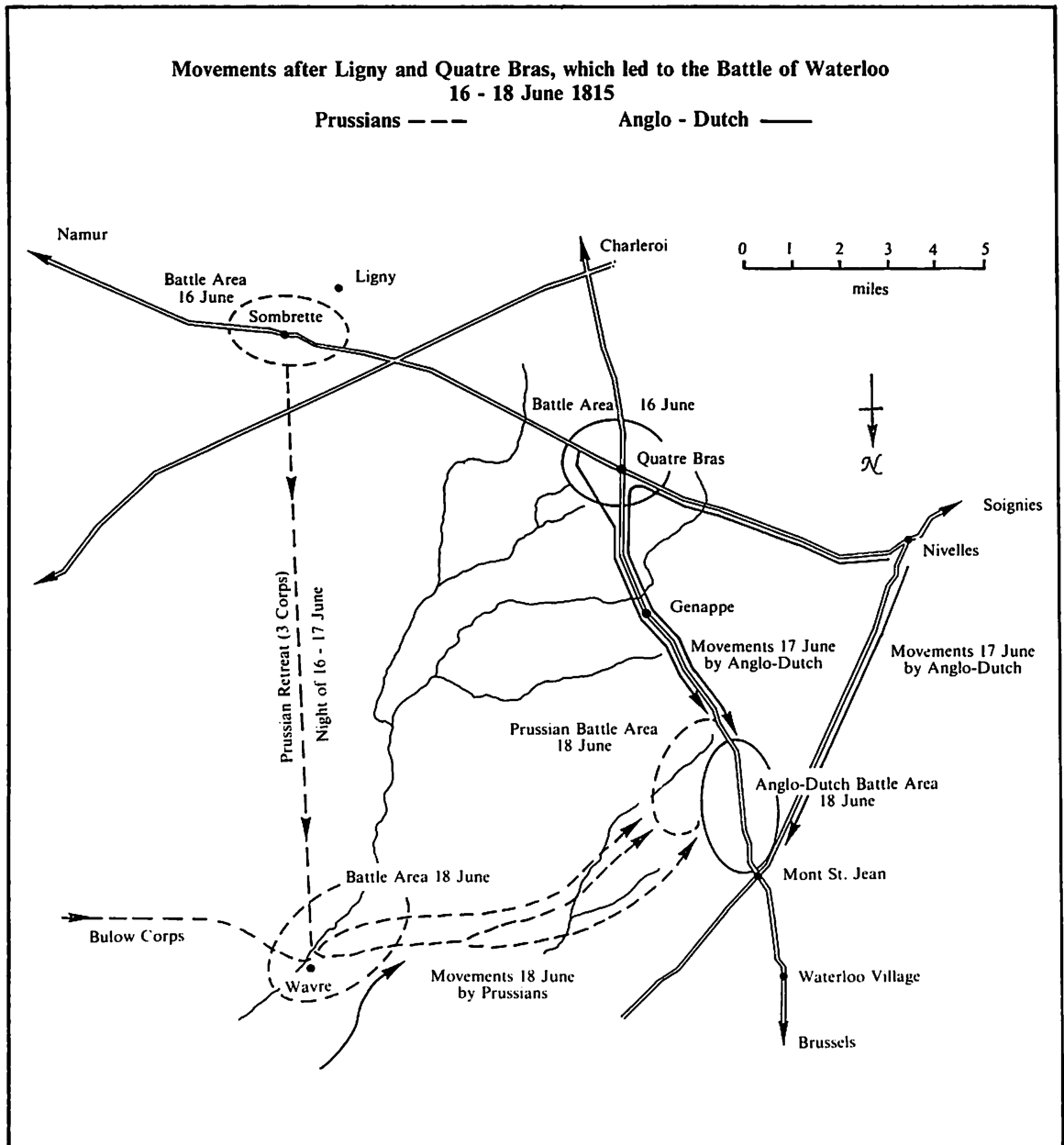
According to the Regimental muster books in the Public Record Office George Hemingway and his friend (and scribe?) William Illingworth joined the 33rd on 10th December 1813 and 1 October 1813 respectively. In December of the same year the Regiment was sent to Holland where it took part in several engagements, including the unsuccessful

storming of the fortress at Bergen-op-zoom. Then followed garrison life in a number of towns, ultimately at Soignies near Brussels, where Private Hemingway takes up the story.

The Waterloo campaign covered three separate phases, viz: The Battle of Quatre Bras (16 June 1885), the withdrawal to Waterloo (17th) and the Battle of Waterloo (18th). For ease of reference these dates have been inserted in the letter in brackets, thus (16th), at the commencement of each day as described by Hemingway.

Fortescue, in the History of the British Army, commented "Few engagements are now so difficult to follow and to understand than Quatre Bras" All accounts are, however, agreed that the 69th (who was in the same brigade as the 33rd), severely mauled by the French Cavalry when it was caught in line before a square could be formed. It is now apparent that the 33rd was later caught in a similar situation. Its rush for the protection of a nearby wood has been adversely commented on, presumably because it was thought that it had formed a square and then broken and run. Lieutenant Hope Patterson, 33rd, in his "Recollections of Waterloo" says "The 33rd

formed square and the cavalry swung round on the 69th." It seems probable that the 33rd then formed into line and was unable to quickly reform a square when it had to face a second attack by the French cavalry. It was then according to Pattison that a "retrograde movement became imperative". The reference to the plundering of the 33rd's baggage after the Battle of Waterloo suggests, because of words missing from the manuscript, that this was done by "our women". However Ensign Howard of the 33rd, who also wrote an account of the battle, lays the blame on Belgian troops.



PRIVATE HEMINGWAY'S LETTER

Paris August 16th, 1815

"Dear Mother,

I know sit down to relate a little of the circumstances wick happend with us on the 16th 17th and 18 of June wick on the 15th in the afternoon whe was lying at Soignies in good quarters and whe got orders for to march hearing that the French was within a few miles of the town but however whe was praded and marched into the Church 30th 33rd 69th 73rd and 4 annovarians Regiments and whe (16th) remained in the church until 2 o clock in the morning and then we were fallen in the market place and marched of and at 10 o clock that day we arrived at a large town name of Neuvel where whe aulted for a few minutes then marching of a gain and kep on till 12 o clock when whe turnd off the road into the fields and aulted and piled our arms before that whe had been sat down a nour whe heard the repeat of a great number of cannon wick remaining on in that state whe fell in and marched of again whe had not gone but a verry little before we met broken faces legs and arms and other lying dead on the groung whe kept on in advancing till whe came into the engagements ourselves. Before whe had been in the field half a hour we got it pretty hot the officer of my Company I believe was the first that was killd in the Company but immediatly after their was plenty lying on the ground. The enemy got a fair view of our Regiment at that time and they send cannon shot as thick as hail stones immediatly whe got up on out ground and seen a large colum of the French cavelry named the French Curiseres advancing close upon us whe immediatly tried to form square to recieve the cavelry but all in vain the cannon shot from the enemy brook down our square faster than whe could form it killed 9 and 10 men every shot the balls falling down amongst us just at the present and shells bursting in a hundred pieces whe count not be accountable for the number of men that whe lost their and had it not been for a wood on our right about 300 yards whe should have every man been cut in pieces with the cavelry and trampled upon by their horses but whe got in the wood as quick as possible and the cavelry been all amongst made up squander and whe put them nearly every man of both them and their horses then whe went to the far end of the wood where we got out and formed up and numbered of but whe mustred very small. We off again the same road. We marched then about a mile and a half that night where whe then altd and send out a scrimingin partys and advanced guards and the French made big fires that night and the drum was beating all that night (17th) in the morning a day light our flank companys and the German rifles went out and massed close upon their lines and engaged them they kept up a very hot and tinious firing on both sides for about 4 hours and they drove the enemy about 2 miles and the Duke of Wellington withdrew his whole army on purpose to get Bonaparte and his army out of the woods and Bonaparte rejoiced at this and followed us verry close the whole of that day at about 4 oclock whe made a halt and formed up in line wick marched above 2 miles then our English cannon begun and played upon them for a half a nour as they was advancing to us but our cannon soon mowed them like gras and they ly on the groung by thousand and in half a nour they was obliged to retreat as fast

as possible that been on the 17th at night and if ever it rained or ever poeple was exposed to the bad weather since the memory of man the poor fellows was that day and the whole of that knight and marchd that most part of our road was fast to the knees in mud wick caused a great number of prisnors and others killed (18th) but however on the morning...whe was glad to see daylight been laid trembling..and water almost drowned but the sun begun to shine about 7 o clock. That was then 3 days that whe.. hard fiting day and night and not put a morsel anything to eat into our mouths nor non could whe get pounds were offered for a mouth full of water and at 8 oclock we fell in formd lind our whole army and whe had a great fight that day and you may think what a deal we had) to do that day whe advanced the whole of the day (and we were with) them quite over the plains of Waterlow just (before) that I recieved my wound whe advanced so quick (that) whe was obliged to run over the poor wounded and thousands of men that was killed and lay on the ground whe (came) trampling upon them whe got close up to the (French)about 7 o clock just when I received my wound whe (in square) I immediatly run out of the square and made (the best of my) way out of the field with thousands of balls after (me. I got) out at last making the best of my way to Brussels. (I went as far as I could) that night and then I was done I got into a old house... a door and their I lay till next morning at daylight appearing I rose up on my feet and persuded my way to Brussels where I reached at some time that day and remained their till I became well and then joined my regiment. Our Regiment was 800 strong when whe took the field and now whe can muster 200 men the English army lost 13865 killed and wounded out of 73000 wick was the stringth of the english the French army consisted of 135000 brave fiting soldiers they never was known to fight so hard since the mimory of man and they had lost 57000 killed and wounded besides whe took 13000 prisnors with 211 pieces of cannon.

I hope this letter will find you well at home as for myself I am well as can be expected and I should wish for you to answer us this letter immediatly.... in it and has for my wife I left her at Brussels after the....rear with the rest of the women and.... in the field the most part of our women..... happened to be the waggons.... close in and they took all the waggons away but.... well and hearty and doing verry well at present and...

Love to my mother and you and your wife and likwis young William.... and whe hope to be at home verry soon.... as our Regiment is verry weak now. Dear Brother W. Illingworth....that you will excuse our bad inditing of this letter but.... arrive at Halifax whe shall be able to explain it to you.... of our hardships and oue hard fatgues that whe have gone through this late few months back.

Dear Brother William Illingworth wishes to be remembered to my sister Martha and he will bring her something fine when he comes home she been is old favourite when he was at home give our love to all enquiring Friends and.... us have an answer back again.... must conclude and still remain your.... and friend W. Illingworth untill Death.

Direct for me in the Grannadiers Company of 33rd Regiment lying at Paris in France."

The 33rd remained in Paris until the end of the year. On 23 December it embarked at Calais and on Christmas Day marched into Canterbury. By April 1816 it was in Sunderland where Hemingway and Illingworth received their Waterloo medals. On 9 October 1819 Illingworth, a bandsman, was discharged ('service expired') to be followed four months later by his friend. Since Hemingway was and is not a uncommon name in Halifax it is not certain, though it is likely, that he was the George Hemingway

who in 1845 was shown to have kept a shop at 15 Clark Bridge, Halifax.

NOTES

1. The letter of Private Hemingway was first published in the British Library Journal in 1980.
2. In both the muster rolls and the Waterloo medal roll the name is spelt "Hummingway". Illingworth is not in the medal roll, but there are no other known omissions.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL J. F. BLAND 76th REGIMENT

Artist, photographer and rifle shot

Mr Bill Norman recently drew the attention of the Regimental Secretary to an article in the NRA Journal about some paintings by J. F. Bland. As a result the Regiment has acquired 24 photographs taken by him in the 1850's, during his service with the 76th Regiment.

Among the many items relating to the early days of rifle shooting at Wimbledon and Bisley (on display in the Clubhouses around Bisley Camp) are several well executed water colours mostly of camp life on Wimbledon Common at NRA meetings. The identity of the artist, beyond the fact that his name was J. F. Bland, was, until recently, unknown. Some Bland paintings are also owned by Mr Ted Molyneux, one of whose acquaintances had borrowed a photograph album belonging to a relative, bearing the inscription "Lt J. F. Bland 76th Regiment". Some sketches at the back of the album "rang a bell" and as a result Mr Molyneux made the connection between the painter of his own water colours, those at Bisley and J. F. Bland.

James Fox Bland was appointed an ensign in the 76th Regiment on 8 December 1846 and served with it in Nova Scotia (1853 to 1856) and Ireland (1856 to 1861). In 1868 he was appointed Chief inspector for Musketry, Madras District. Thereafter he was on the supernumerary list, being promoted to major in 1869 and lieutenant colonel in 1877. He retired in 1880, died in 1893, and was buried in Brompton Cemetery.

A keen rifle shot, he was a founder member of the English Eight Rifle Club and also invented the Bland (Disc) patch for which he received 50 guineas. He shot for England in the "Echo" Shield matches of 1865, 1866, 1867 and 1875.

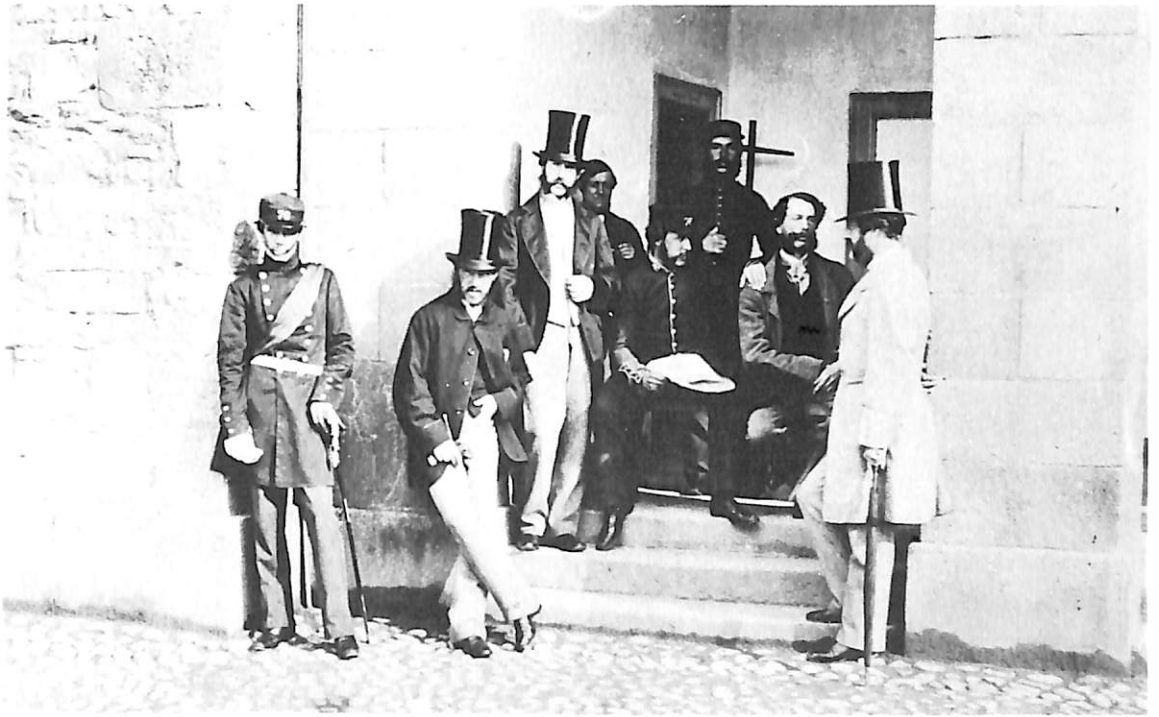
He was an artist of some merit and won a gold medal at the London International Exhibition of Fine Arts and Industrial Inventions of 1853 and a bronze medal in 1862.

It is the photograph album which is of particular interest to the Regiment. Thanks to the Mrs C. G. Nevill, a grand daughter of J. F. Bland, the Regiment has been able to borrow it and have copies made of those photographs which relate to the 76th. Most of them cover the period 1855 to 1858 and include a number of groups in both formal and informal poses. The earlier ones were taken in Halifax, Nova Scotia and in terms of quality are not dissimilar to those taken by Captain Brewster some ten years earlier. (Iron Duke No. 210, Autumn 1989). Captain Brewster features in one of the photographs taken in Nova Scotia and it seems safe to assume that it was he introduced Bland to photography. By the time the

76th reached Dublin in 1856 there is a significant improvement in the quality of photographs and some have a clarity which a photographer of to-day would be proud to produce. One officer who appears in the photographs taken by both Brewster and Bland, is Collingwood Fenwick. He seemed to have been a very popular officer and after he died in 1860 the officers of the 76th subscribed to a tablet in his memory, which was placed in the Military Church at Arbour Hill, Dublin.



James Fox Bland



76th Regiment, Dublin, 1858

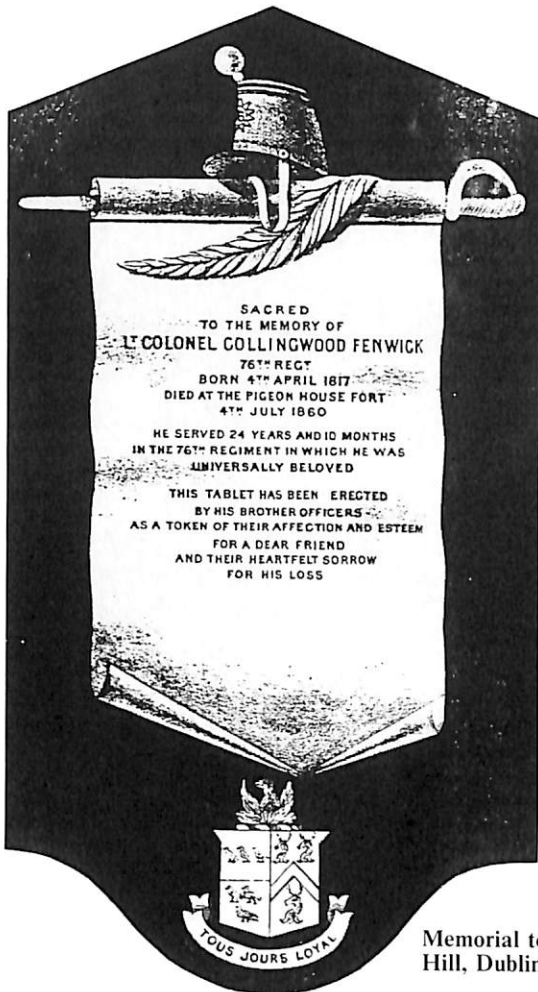
A group of officers. Left to right: Ensign E. le B. Butler, Lieut and Adjutant L. E. O'Connor, Captain T. W. Cator, Lieut G. E. Corrance, Major C. Fenwick, Sergeant Major Cooke, Lieut Langford, Captain A. N. Adams.



76th Regiment, Dublin, 1858
A group of staff sergeants



76th Regiment, Dublin, 1858
The Coldstream Guards and 76th Regiment changing the guard at Castle Yard



Memorial to Lieut Colonel C. Fenwick in the Military Church at Arbour Hill, Dublin.



76th Regiment Halifax, Nova Scotia, 1855
Left to right: Captain W. Brett, Major H. C. Brewster and Major C. Fenwick.

FRIENDS OF THE REGIMENT APPEAL

The Friends of the Regiment Appeal, launched in 1980 in order to establish a fund to finance Regimental projects which cannot be supported from public funds or Regimental benevolent funds, continues to grow. Total cash and investments were valued at £25,457 as at 31 March 1990. Discounting money received for the redemption of Government Stocks the income during the last financial year from subscriptions, donations, tax refunds and interest on dividends amounted to almost £5,000. Expenditure during the year of £987 included conservation work on the framed Colours of the 76th Regiment displayed in our Chapel in York Minster, the binding of the World War One Battalion War Diaries held in the RHQ Archives, prizes for the DWR ACF/CCF annual "Iron Duke" exercise and the purchase of reference books for the RHQ library and archives. All of these are very useful and worthwhile projects which would have been difficult to fund from other sources. The cash holdings of the

fund have been purposely kept high during the period to take advantage of the very high interest rates (14.8%) currently available through the Charities Deposit Fund.

Recent additions to the roll of regular subscribers include, D. L. J. Harrap, C. F. Peart and A. Jacobsen. Donations have been received from The Colonel in Chief J. E. Horne, G. Cruikshanks, Mrs J. Bently and Julian Sykes. Donations in lieu of flowers, amounting to £521, in memory of Brigadier F. R. St. P. Bunbury CBE DSO have been received during the current year.

All ex-members of the Regiment who are not currently supporting the appeal are requested to do so by making an annual donation of between £5 and £20. If paid by the Deed of Covenant the tax paid can be reclaimed by the fund. The Regimental Secretary will provide the appropriate forms and further details on request. Donations and bequests of any type are, of course, also most welcome.

FRIENDS OF THE REGIMENT APPEAL
ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 1989 TO 31 MARCH 1990
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Expenditure during the period		Income during the period	
Exercise Iron Duke prizes and engraving	205.26	Donations	673.00
Refund overpayments	45.00	Subscriptions by SO	1197.25
Tax recovery charges	21.11	Tax refund on Dividends	52.86
Conservation of Colours York Minster	442.00	Tax refund on Subscriptions	369.37
Reference books for RHQ Archives/Library	79.69	Interest Charities Deposit Fund	1208.62
Binding of WW1 War Diaries	193.94	Redemption Treasury 10% 1989 Stock	3076.50
		Redemption Exchequer 12% 1990 Stock	1897.36
		Investment Income	1496.58
	Total		
Excess of Income over Expenditure	8984.04		
	Total		Total
	<u>9971.54</u>		<u>9971.54</u>

BALANCE SHEET

Value of fund as at 1 April 1989		Value of fund as at 31 March 1990	
Cash at Bank or on Deposit	4375.03	Cash at Bank or on Deposit	13359.07
Market value of investments	17727.85	Market value of Investments	12098.80
Excess of Income over Expenditure	3354.99		
	Total		Total
	<u>£25457.87</u>		<u>£25457.87</u>

THE OFFICERS' DINNER CLUB 1990

The Officers' Dinner took place at the Army and Navy Club on Friday 8 June 1990. The following were present:-

Brigadier His Grace The Duke of Wellington
 General Sir Charles Huxtable
 Major General D. E. Isles

Brigadiers

M. R. N. Bray, A. D. Firth,
 J. B. K. Greenway,
 P. P. de la H. Moran,
 W. R. Mundell,
 D. W. Shuttleworth,
 E. J. W. Walker.

Colonels

R. R. St. J. Barkshire,
 W. F. Charlesworth,
 C. R. Cumberlege, E. M. P. Hardy,
 P. A. Mitchell.

Lieutenant Colonels

P. D. D. J. Andrews, R. G. Collins,
 C. J. W. Gilbert, R. Glazebrook,
 T. J. Isles, H. S. LeMessurier,
 A. D. Meek, P. J. Mellor,
 T. J. Nicholson, A. D. Roberts,
 W. Robins, R. L. Stevens,
 D. W. Wonson.

Majors

W. Blakey, C. N. St. P. Bunbury,
 B. Coll, P. F. Connolly,
 R. C. Curry, J. Dowell,
 A. H. S. Drake, M. J. B. Drake,
 C. F. Grieve (Sen),
 C. F. Grieve (Jun), D. L. Harrap,
 D. L. J. Harrap, P. B. L. Hoppe,
 R. H. Ince, R. H. Jago,
 S. H. Kirk, K. M. McDonald,

Majors (continued)

C. D. Miller, B. R. Oliver,
 F. N. Potts, W. F. C. Robertson,
 A. C. S. Savory, M. S. Sherlock,
 G. D. Shuttleworth, M. J. Stone,
 J. L. Streatfeild, P. Wilkinson,
 J. W. Wood.

Captains

J. C. Bailey, D. S. Bruce,
 R. N. Chadwick, R. Heron,
 R. C. Holroyd, C. S. T. Lehmann,
 A. J. McNeilis, S. R. Neath,
 J. C. Preston, R. J. M. Pugh,
 The Lord Savile, T. D. Sugden,
 J. Wilson.

Subalterns

C. M. Buss, P. Coates,
 J. P. B. Golding,
 A. D. Hadley, J. C. Hill,
 H. S. Kelly,
 G. Knight J. C. Mayo,
 D. P. Miles,
 H. M. P. Miles,
 D. P. Monteith, M. J. Perkins,
 S. C. Pinder,
 J. H. Purcell, T. M. Rothery,
 J. M. Shenton,
 S. J. Stewart,
 A. D. J. Wheatley, M. M. Whitley,
 N. M. Wood.

Regimental Association

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION: AGM AND DINNER

The Regimental Association Annual General Meeting, dinner and dance will be held at the Pennine Hilton National, Ainley Top, Huddersfield on Saturday 20 October 1990. The AGM will start at 6.30 p.m. in the Norfolk Suite and will be followed by the dinner at 8.00 p.m. Music will be provided by the Regimental Band.

Tickets at £11.00 each can be obtained from Branch Secretaries and Regimental Headquarters. Cheques and POs should be made payable to DWR Management fund. As the dinner was over subscribed last year, applications will be restricted to serving and ex-members of the Regiment and a partner.

This will be the last Regimental function. General Sir Charles Huxtable will be attending as Colonel of the Regiment.

The Penine Hilton are offering accommodation with breakfast at reduced rates for the weekend. Bookings should be made direct with the Hotel (Telephone No. 0422 75431).

REGIMENTAL SERVICE: YORK MINSTER

The annual Regimental Service will be held in the Lady Chapel, York Minster at 11.30 a.m. on Saturday 3 November 1990. Prior to the service, St William's College will be open at 10.30 a.m. for coffee and biscuits, to which everyone will be welcome. After the Service lunch has been arranged, at a small charge, in the Officer's and WOs and Sergeants Messes at the Depot, the King's Division, Strensall.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Regimental Christmas cards, of the same design as last year, are available from RHQ. An order form is printed in the Notice section. Payment must include the appropriate amount in respect of postal charges.

BRANCH NOTES

London Branch held a successful reunion dinner at the Park Court Hotel in April, which was attended by the Colonel of the Regiment and Lady Huxtable and as well as a party from Yorkshire. Mrs Nicky Lock organised the raffle, including the splendid prizes. The trip to Amsterdam was won by a Chelsea Pensioner Bob Peel. The week-end in Britain was won by Mr and Mrs Woods from Yorkshire. The Branch's next meeting will be at the AGM on 30 September, at the Park Royal Hotel.

Sheffield branch, which has only recently been re-established, now has a membership of 30 ex-Dukes.

KEEPING IN TOUCH....

A farewell party for **Mr Jack Russell**, the retiring General Secretary of the Association, and his wife Pauline, was held in the Sergeants Mess, Prescott Street Drill Hall, in early April. Members of the Yorkshire branches of the Association attended the party during which Brigadier Denis Shuttleworth, Vice President of the Association, presented Jack with

some cut glass, which had been subscribed for by the Branches, members of the Association and the messes of the 1st Battalion.

Mr Harold Scales, who was commissioned into the Regiment in December 1943, now lives in New Zealand. His address is: 28B Leander Street, Christchurch 5, New Zealand.

Mr Herbert Beckett, and his wife were recent visitors to RHQ. Mr Beckett who joined the first Battalion as a reinforcement in North Africa in 1943 from the Essex Regiment, had not previously been to Halifax. He is an active member of the London branch.

An unexpected visitor to RHQ was Mr Einar Kvistjansson, the programme editor of the Icelandic Broadcasting Service. He was seeking persons who had served with the 1/6th and 1/7th Battalions in Iceland in 1940. **Mr Bert Wooley** of Keighley (1/6th) and **Mr Walter Downs** of Huddersfield (1/7th) agreed to talk to him. The programme, including the interviews was broadcast in May.

Ex WO2 Paul Grey has moved back north from London. He and his wife are now running a guest house in Scarborough. His address is: 1 Trafalgar Square, Scarborough YO12 7PZ.

In mid May the General Secretary organised a small reunion in the West Country. He was joined at the "Jolly Porter" in Exeter by **Captain Ronnie Hoyle** of Kingswear, **Mr Gladstone Keate** of Exmouth and **Mrs Rosemary Burton** of Lymstone who, between them covered the 1st, 2nd and 7th Battalions. It is hoped to repeat the reunion next year and that mora old comrades living in the West country will be able to attend.

Mr Eric Grant ex 145 Regiment RAC (8 DWR) recently undertook a nostalgic trip by car of the area of the 1943 battles in Tunisia. During the trip he was able to visit four war cemeteries all of which were beautiful in appearance and immaculately maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Mr Henk Bredewolt sent a photograph of a company of 1/7th DWR taken at Roosendaal in 1944. He would very much like to hear from anyone in the photograph and anyone else who was serving with 1/7th at that time. His address is: Amarildijk 93, 4706 Roosendaal Holland.

Mr Denis Tolson visited Venables, France, in June on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the battle that was fought there and in which 2/6th DWR took part ('Iron Duke' No: 211, Winter 1989). He was joined at Venables by **Mr George Marsden** and **Mr Tom Simpson**, both whom served with 1/7th DWR in Normandy in 1944. As wreaths were about to be laid at the plot containing the graves of five members of 2nd/6th DWR, the Mayor of Venables invited Mr Tolson to lay the village's floral tribute. Then, at the Mayor's further request, he read out the names on the headstones pausing between each to allow a French officer to declare "Mort au champs d'honneur".

Brigadier Denis Shuttleworth has been appointed president of the Rugby/Football Schools Union.

John Stacpoole, who has completed a decade as Senior Tutor at St. Benet's Hall Oxford, is returning to his Abbey at Ampleforth. Commenting on the

behaviour of some of the English football fans during the World Cup he drew attention to an inscription in the British Military Cemetery in Rome relating to another generation:

"The Soldiers of the British Commonwealth gave their lives to preserve liberty, and by their sacrifice restored the freedom of Italy and the ancient friendship of the Italian and British People."



Roosendaal: 1944
One of the companies of 1/7th DWR



Venables: 1990
Left to right: Major A. R. M. McDowell Royal Scots, BDLS Paris, Mr. George Marsden, Mayor of Venables, Mr. Denis Tolson and Mr. Tom Simpson at the War Memorial Cemetery, Venables, 10 June 1990.

IRON DUKE/NEW SUBSCRIBERS

Mr M. Sutcliffe: 4 St Thomas Drive, Boston, Lincs, TE21 7ED

Mr L. A. Balding: Cherry Tree Cottage, Over Lane, Baslow, Derb, DE4 1AS.

Mr S. D. Arnold: 32 Court Lane, Highroad Well, Halifax, West Yorkshire.

Dr R. A. Duncan: PO Box 52, Victoria Hospital, Mahe, Seychelles Republic.

Mr P. Walker: 184 Whinney Hill Park, Brighouse, West Yorkshire HD6 2NF.

Mr K. Fetch: 308 Oxford Street, Upper Thorpe, Sheffield 6.

Mr H. W. Scales: 28B Leander Street, Christchurch 5, New Zealand.

Mr J. Duckworth: 121 Beeches Terrace, Keighley, West Yorkshire BD21 4BL.

Mr J. W. Myers: Last Cottage, 40 Blackstone Road, Sheffield 4, South Yorkshire.

Mr A. Bower: 3 Westbrook Road, Chapeltown, Sheffield S30 4YE.

Mr D. R. Blood: 23 Thorndale Street, Hellifield, Nr Skipton, North Yorkshire, BD23 4JE.

Mr. C. Akrigg: 10 Eastfield Place, Sutton in Craven, Keighley, West Yorkshire, BD20 7EX.

Mr W. H. Edmondson: 54 Carr Lane, Middleton, Keighley, West Yorkshire, BD20 5HP.

Mr T. Thompson: 2 Shakespeare Street, Worksop, Notts, S81 0QB.

Mr J. W. A. Davey: Alma Park Hotel, 80-82 Alma Road, Millfield, Peterborough, PE1 3AW.

Mr Stanley Metcalfe: RHM Centre, 67 Alma Road PO Box 178, Windsor, Berks, SL4 3ST.

Mr A. Hatton: 4 Storey House, Cottage Street, London E14.

Mr A. Vaughan: 220 Westwood Lane, Welington, Kent, DA16 2HW.

Mr D. E. Atkinson: 8 Acomb Crescent, Gosforth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE3 2AY.

Obituaries

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

Brigadier F. R. St. P. Bunbury, CBE, DSO.

Ramsay Bunbury died on 28 April 1990 aged 79. He was commissioned into the Regiment from Sandhurst in 1930, joining the 2nd Battalion in India the following year and experiencing service on the North West Frontier in 1935 during the Mohmand expedition. He returned home in 1937, was appointed Adjutant of the Depot in 1938 and remained in that post until 1940. After attending the Staff College in 1941-42 he was posted to the Middle East and was appointed Second in Command of the 8th Battalion King's Own Royal Regiment in Malta in 1943. He subsequently moved with elements of that Battalion to help reform the 1st Battalion The King's Own Royal Regiment, retaining the appointment of Second in Command. The Battalion moved to Italy in March 1944 and Ramsay became the Commanding Officer in October of the same year. He was awarded the DSO for his leadership in command of the Battalion during the actions at Pideura and Roversano and in the defensive position on the River Senio and Monte Grande. He was also "Mentioned in Despatches" during the same period. At the end of the War the Battalion moved from Trieste from where Ramsay left for a staff appointment in Naples in 1945-46.

Ramsay joined the 1st Battalion in Chisleton in late 1950 as Second in Command and almost immediately became involved with organising the Battalion Shooting Team. A team was entered in the Bisley competition in 1950 when Ramsay became the proud winner of the Army Hundred Cup. He also was at one time or another Champion Shot of the 1st Battalion, the 2nd Battalion and the Depot. His expertise,

knowledge and encouragement kindled new ambitions and established higher standards within the Battalion Bisley Team and was largely responsible for its success in subsequent years. Seven members of the team reached the Army Hundred in 1951.

Ramsay took over command of the 1st Battalion from Lieutenant Colonel Jack Dalrymple at the end of 1951, just prior to the move to Minden. Shortly afterwards the Battalion was warned for service in Korea sailing from Liverpool on 22 September 1952. During the intervening period an almost complete reorganisation of the Battalion had taken place under Ramsay's supervision. Under active service conditions his qualities of leadership and experience had quickly become even more apparent. He always had an air of quiet confidence and he was greatly respected by all who served with him. For his leadership during the Battle of the Hook in late May 1953, he was awarded a bar to his DSO.

Following a period with the Battalion of Gibraltar he took up an appointment with the Ministry of Defence as AAG. In 1956 he was appointed to command 50 Independent Brigade in Cyprus. He was again "Mentioned in Despatches" during his period in Cyprus and was appointed CBE in 1958. His final appointment, prior to retirement from the Army in 1962, was as DAG Rhine Army.

Ramsay was a good all round sportsman and enjoyed racing, golf and bridge as well as his abiding love for shooting. He enjoyed a gamble and it is appropriate that one of the mourners at his funeral should introduce himself to the family as "one of your father's bookmakers".



Brigadier F. R. St. P. Bunbury CBE, DSO.

Speaking at Ramsay's funeral service the Colonel of the Regiment said:-

"To me, as a young subaltern he was an impressive figure as all Commanding Officers must be. But to all of us in the Battalion, officers and soldiers, he was a man and a leader for whom we felt enormous respect. He thought carefully about his Battalion, about how to prepare us for our job, about how to get the most out of us and how best he could look after us. He exuded a feeling of quite confidence. He was, of course, very experienced but one always got the feeling that nothing would unsettle him. He was personally very brave, and had a mental toughness about him. He was calm, reassuring and determined; determined to ensure that we were not being asked to do unreasonable tasks but also determined that those which we did were done well. He set high standards for himself and expected the same from all of us. With all this he was charming, friendly and approachable, although with some personal reserve. He had a good sense of humour and a quiet smile. He was above all a true leader who could inspire those under his command to do more than they ever thought they could."

The funeral service was held at the Guildford Crematorium on 3rd May 1990. Brigadier Tony Firth read the lesson. The following members of the Regiment were among those present - The Colonel of the Regiment and Lady Huxtable, Lady Bray, Major J. T. Beasley, Major and Mrs R. V. Cartwright, Colonel P. G. L. Cousens, Major J. D. P. Cowell, Colonel C. R. Cumberlege, Brigadier J. B. K. Greenway, Colonel and Mrs R. M. Harms, Major R.

H. Ince, Major and General D. E. Isles, Major and Mrs L. F. H. Kershaw, Lieutenant Colonel H. S. LeMessurier, Colonel and Mrs P. A. Mitchell, Brigadier P. P. H. Moran, Mr W. Norman, Mr T. Rothery, Lieutenant Colonel W. Robins, Mr W. Townsend, Mrs B. Windsor-Brown. Major E. Brooker and Major G. Brady represented King's Own Royal Regiment.

Mr R. H. Temple

Bob Temple died in London on 18 May 1990 aged 85. He enlisted into the Regiment in 1921 and, after his initial training at the Depot in Halifax, he was posted to the 1st Battalion with which he saw service in Gibraltar, Turkey and Gosport. In 1925, he joined the 2nd Battalion and served with it in Egypt and Singapore. He later returned to the 1st Battalion and in 1929 was released to the Regular Reserve in the rank of lance sergeant.

On the outbreak of war he volunteered for the Pioneer Corps and within three weeks was in France as a sergeant until being evacuated from Dunkirk in May 1940. In 1941 he was promoted to WOII. He saw active service again in 1944 when he landed in Normandy on D + 6. The advance of 21st Army Group took him along the coast and eventually into Germany, from where he was released in November 1945.

After the war, Bob remained a most loyal "Duke" and regularly attended Regimental and Branch functions. He was, for a time, the Chairman of the London and Home Counties Branch of the Regimental Association.

The funeral was at Putney Vale Crematorium. Brigadier J. B. K. Greenway represented the Regiment and Mr and Mrs Ken Walker represented the London Branch of the Regimental Association. Mr Pat Lewis paraded the London Branch Banner.

Mr A. J. Selway MM

Albert James Selway died at Cullompton, Devon on 10 June 1990 aged 74. He had been in ill health for some time. He joined the Regiment in September 1940 but was released five months later to carry out rebuilding work for the Ministry of Public Works on buildings damaged during the 1940 "blitz". He was a specialist joiner by trade. He rejoined the Regiment in June 1942 and was posted in September that year, to the 1st Battalion with whom he remained until he was released from the Army in February 1946. During his time with the 1st Battalion he rose to the rank of Company Sergeant Major. He was mentioned in despatches in May 1943 for great leadership of his section during the Battle of Bou Aoukaz and was awarded the Military Medal for gallantry at the Anzio beach-head in February 1944, when commanding a rifle platoon as a sergeant. After the war he returned to his native West Country and resumed his trade as a joiner. C.D.M. writes "I recently had the very great pleasure of meeting Mr Selway at his home. He was a truly delightful person and, in spite of being in poor health, was full of reminiscences of his time with the Regiment which he remembered with great affection."

The funeral took place at the Exeter and Devon Crematorium and Captain R. H. Hoyle represented the Regiment. Mr and Mrs Eric Grant and Mr Gladstone Keate were also present.

Captain J. Wardle

John (Jack) Wardle died on 29 March 1990 at the age of 82. He joined the Regiment in 1925 and spent most of his service with the 2nd Battalion in India. His late wife, Isabella was a daughter of CSM Jackie and Mrs Annie Stead. After he left the Army in 1950, he remained an active member of the Bradford Branch of the Old Comrades Association for many years.

Mr H. Dawson

Mr H. Dawson who was commissioned into the Regiment in November 1915, died in January of this year. Mr Dawson was wounded at the Battle of the Somme. After recovering from his wounds, he continued to serve with the Regiment until 1919. In World War II, he was commissioned into the Royal Army Pay Corps and for three years served as a Port Cashier in Durban.

His son, Mr H. A. V. Dawson, when notifying RHQ of his father's death, sent a "Cap Badge" blazer badge, which had belonged to his father, in the hope that it might be sold for benefit of the Regiment. This has been done and £10 donated to the Regiment Association.

Captain D. C. Deyes

Douglas Clive Deyes died at his home in Buenos Aires on 11 February 1990. He was commissioned into the King's Regiment and was posted to 2 DWR as a reinforcement in 1942. He was a BLAV - British Latin American Volunteer. These were ex-patriots in the Argentine and elsewhere who immediately volunteered to return "home" to help fight the war. ADF writes. "After the 1942 retreat from Burma, 2 DWR were reformed as a support battalion; heavily mechanized and heavily armed. However when he heard that the Chindits were being formed the CO, Lt Col "Bull" Faithful, went to Delhi and persuaded the staff to include the Dukes in this Special Force. So it was back to a full scale of animal transport. Very high mobility was still the aim. The new key to it all was the mule: fit and properly cared for, within a strictly disciplined and knowledgeable routine. There were still a few AT regulars left. It was a daunting task to switch from

wheels to Fetlocks but, as so often happens, the hour produced the man and that was Dougie Deyes who knew all about horses and was promptly nicknamed "Cowboy".

Dougie was a little older than the rest of us and he had seen the wide world. This gave him an extra wisdom and authority. He took a firm grip on all problems connected with the battalion animal pack transport: 140 mules, 24 horses and 24 bullocks divided equally between 33 and 76 Columns. The ATO of 33 Column was Lieutenant Eric Hayes.

Thanks in large measure to Dougie, the "Dukes" had a high reputation for good animal management throughout the operations in the Naga Hills, March to July 1944.

Dougie worked closely with Lieut Donald Gunn RAMC, another outstanding figure in the battalion, and the successful use of penicillin powder in treating saddle sores was believed to be a "first".

A Chindit's life was often dominated by fear, fatigue, thirst and hunger and in such circumstances it was all too easy to let the animals take second place. Dougie kept a constant and tireless vigil to make sure this did not happen. I shall always remember Dougie for his dry sense of humour, wise comments and deep insight into all aspects of the lives of "Chindits" and their "mules".

Mr D. R. Horsfield

Derek Horsfield died on 20 April aged 33. He enlisted into the Regiment in October 1973 and, after basic training, spent his service with the 1st Battalion, latterly with the MT Section, until discharged in December 1986. The funeral service took place in Halifax and was attended by the following members of the Regiment, Major C. D. Miller, WO II Turner, Sergeants Morely and Oakley, Corporal Ingham and Corporal and Mrs Hill.

Mr J. E. Horne MBE

Jackie Horne died in Huddersfield on 25 June 1990. An obituary will be published in the next issue of the 'Iron Duke'.

NOTICES**THE OFFICERS' ASSOCIATION**

The Officers' Association provides services which are available to ex-officers, their widows and dependants. Their services include:

Employment - assistance to ex-officers of all ages and ranks to find suitable employment, on just leaving the service or having lost their civilian jobs.

Financial help - given in a number of ways such as: cash grants to those in financial distress; continuing allowances to those with very small incomes; help towards Home fees to those, who through age or infirmity, can no longer run their own homes and can find no suitable home within their means.

Homes advice - advice on Homes for the elderly.

A country home - at Bishopsteignton, South Devon affords comfort and security for lonely ex-officers at or over the age of 65, both male and female, who do not need special nursing care. Selection is made with due regard to need and service record. Personal contributions are assessed according to the individual means.

Bungalows - a 12 bungalow estate is run at Leavesden, Herts, for disabled ex-officers and their families.

All enquiries should be made to the General Secretary, The Officers' Association, 443 Pall Mall, London, SW1 58Y. Telephone 071 930 1025.