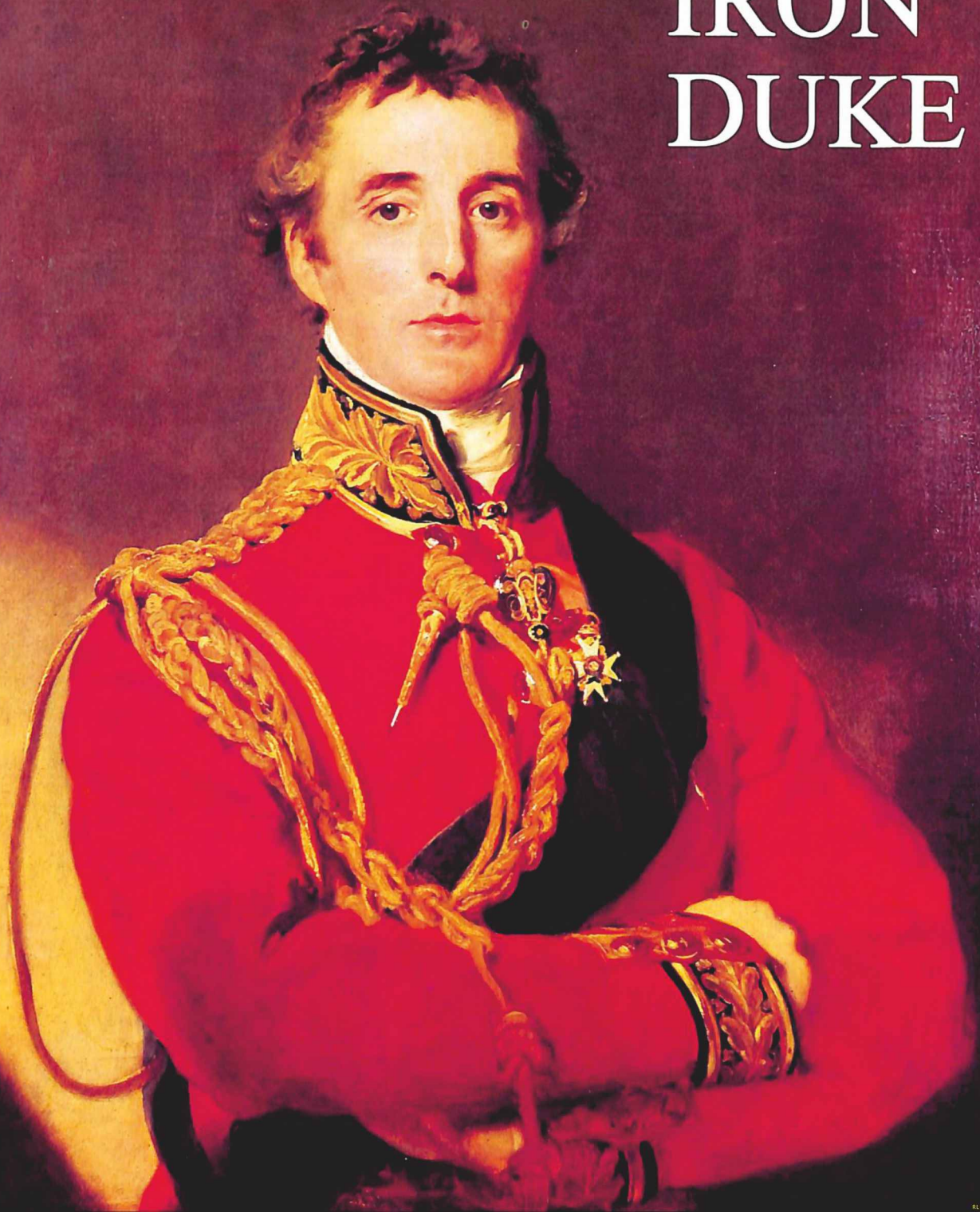


No.215 Spring 1991

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 Suva  
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. LX

Spring 1991

No. 215

### BUSINESS NOTES

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The opinions expressed in the articles of the journal are those of the  
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Member of the Association of Service Newspapers

# THE REGIMENT

*The Colonel-in-Chief*

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

*Colonel of the Regiment*

Brigadier W. R. Mundell, OBE

*Headquarters North East District and Headquarters 2nd Infantry Division,  
Imphal Barracks, Fulford Road, York, YO1 4AU.*

**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 S. R. Neath  
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 P. D. Buczko

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

Officer Commanding, Major C. S. Garrad

## "D" COMPANY YORKSHIRE ARMY CADET FORCE

**Wellesley Company  
Affiliated Detachments**

Halifax Heckmondwike Mirfield Thongsbridge  
Huddersfield Keighley Skipton

DWR Liaison Officer and OC "D" (Wellesley) Company: 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  
Manège Militaire,  
Grande-Allée,  
Quebec, Canada**

Honorary Colonel: Colonel J. T. P. Audet  
Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel A. Gauthier CD

## ALLIED REGIMENT OF THE PAKISTAN ARMY

**10th Bn The Baluch Regiment  
Malakand Fort,  
Malakand, NWFP,  
Pakistan**

Colonel: Brigadier Syed Sarfraz Ali, SI(M)  
Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Jehanzeb Raja

## AFFILIATED SHIP OF THE ROYAL NAVY

**H.M.S. York  
BFPO Ships**

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  
Brigadier W. R. Mundell, OBE  
Brigadier D. W. Shuttleworth, OBE  
Major C. D. d'E. Miller, *Wellesley Park, Halifax, HX2 0BA.*

# Regimental Headquarters

## Regimental Notes

### HONOURS AND AWARDS

Ex WO2 G. Harding, who retired in 1987 after 24 years regular service in the Regiment and is now a NRPS C/Sgt. with 4 Yorks, was awarded the British Empire Medal in the New Year's Honours List.

### APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS

The Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier W. R. Mundell OBE, assumed the appointment of Deputy Commander North East District in January 1991.

Lt. Col. P. D. Gardner OBE is to be posted to HQ UKLF in June 1991 in the rank of Colonel.

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

On 26 November 1990 General Donald Isles relinquished after 5 years the Honorary Colonelcy of Leeds University OTC (TA). He was himself a member of the OTC at Leeds in 1942-43 before joining the Dukes and his father was a member of the same unit in 1913. General Donald was dined out on 24 November and Lt. Col. Andrew Meek very kindly gave permission for the Regimental band to play during dinner.

General Isles was appointed President of the Royal British Legion for the County of Lincolnshire and South Humberside on 17 November 1990.

### REGIMENTAL BROOCH OF THE WIDOW OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL H. K. O'KELLY DSO

In accordance with the wishes of the late Mrs H. K. O'Kelly, widow of Lieutenant Colonel H. K. O'Kelly DSO, her Regimental brooch has been presented to the Regiment by her family. It has been decided by the Colonel of the Regiment that the brooch, in the form of the cap badge in silver set with paste diamonds and enamel, should be held at Regimental Headquarters for use by the wife of the officer holding the appointment of Regimental Secretary. Lieutenant Colonel O'Kelly, who died in 1975, was badly wounded as a subaltern whilst gaining a DSO at Le Cateau on 26 August 1914.

### COPIES OF PORTRAITS OF PAST COLONELS OF THE REGIMENT

A project is in hand, financed by the Hodgson Trust, to obtain for the Officers Mess of the 1st Battalion copies of portraits of past colonels of the 33rd and 76th Regiments. The first six portraits purchased are of:

Field Marshal George Wade by J. Van Dienst  
33rd: 1705 - 1717

General Charles Cornwallis by Gainsborough  
1st Marquis Cornwallis

33rd: 1766 - 1805

Field Marshal

Sir Arthur Wellesley by R. Home

1st Duke of Wellington

33rd: 1805 - 1813

Lt. General Sir Henry Keating by Andrew Morton

33rd: 1845 - 1847

General Henry D'Oyley by William Salter

33rd: 1847 - 1855

Gen. Sir Peregrine Maitland by William Salter

76th: 1834 - 1843

### THE REGIMENTAL TIE

The Regimental tie is maroon and french grey. The official suppliers are Filaspun Ltd. of Bradford. However a number of military tailors are still selling ties with a pale grey or buff stripe. Individuals wishing to purchase a new tie, in the correct colours, are advised to do so from either RHQ or the PRI 1 DWR. A silk version of tie is available from PRI 1 DWR.

There are two other approved ties. Neither should be worn when attending parades or other functions organised by the Regiment or any other function at which all ranks of the Regiment are likely to be present. They are:

The Regimental Sports Colour Tie. A maroon tie with the badges of the 33rd and 76th. Anyone who has represented the 1st or 2nd Battalions at a major sport may qualify to wear it. Applications may be submitted to the Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion with details of the claim. When authorised the tie may be purchased from PRI 1 DWR.

The Officers Dinner Club tie. A black tie with the crest of the Duke of Wellington in red, for wear by members of the Club. It is available from RHQ.

## REGIMENTAL MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

### Museum

The Colonel of the Regiment attended a meeting of trustees of the Regimental Museum on 17 January 1991 at which he invited Brigadier D. W. Shuttleworth to continue as Chairman. The other trustees present were Colonel C. R. Cumberlege, Major K. M. McDonald and Lieutenant Colonel W. Robins. Apologies were received from Major A. C. S. Savory. Colonel C. R. Cumberlege has since resigned as a

trustee and Major J. R. A. Ward, has been appointed in his place.

During the meeting the trustees formally adopted an acquisition and disposal policy, a copy of which is to be submitted in support of an application for the registration of the Regimental Museum under the Museum and Galleries Commission registration scheme. This policy was subsequently approved by the Leisure Services Committee of Calderdale

Metropolitan Borough Council which will be jointly responsible with the Regiment for the implementation of the policy.

A Calderdale "Museum and Arts in Action" programme, aimed at publicising museum and arts in the area, included a series of talks and presentations. On 20 February the Regimental Secretary gave a talk on the history of the Regiment and its links with the West Riding. The event, which was well attended, was held at Bankfield and was supported by John Spencer, the Assistant Keeper responsible for the Regiment's collection, who produced a series of photographic slides and artifacts from the collection.

### Recent Acquisitions

Recent acquisitions for the Museum and Archives include:-

From Mrs. M. Robinson of Lathom, Lancs the 1939-45 Star and Medal sent to the parents of her cousin, Private Wilfred Norburn, who was killed in action on 11 June 1940 whilst serving with the 2/7th Battalion in France.

From Captain W. T. Lawton, ex 1/7 the DWR of Huddersfield, a photograph of the officers of 1/7th DWR during WW1.

# 1st Battalion

## Commanding Officer's Introduction

The past three months have been dominated by events in the Gulf. During the early stages of the crisis we thought we were to be deployed but as time slipped by, it became obvious that we would remain in the United Kingdom. This we have done, with the notable exception of the band. In November last year the bandsmen were warned for medical duties in this country, but just before Christmas this order was changed, and in January they moved to Aldershot and then on to the Gulf as part and parcel of 28 Ghurka Transport Regiment Ambulance Company. This task altered yet again on their arrival in the Middle East and they are now members of 1 Armoured Field Ambulance: the one thing that has not changed throughout this time is that they remain medics. From the numerous messages we have received it is obvious that they are in extremely good heart and ready for anything that may happen. We also had to send a clerk to the Gulf at short notice to work with the PInfo teams and LCpl Acklam departed and is now working "somewhere in the desert". We all wait eagerly for the day when we can welcome them all back to Tern Hill, safe and sound.

As for the rest of the Battalion, although it may seem that we have little on our plate, it is remarkable how busy everyone has been. There has been a host of tasks, some of which have been related to Op GRANBY (the deployment to the Gulf). For example we had to provide work parties to outload stores from Long Marston, and ammunition from South Wales:

we have guarded the JFHQ at High Wycombe and we have contingency plans for all manner of other jobs.

In the meantime the accent has been on training where and when resources have allowed. We had a five day Battalion exercise in Sennybridge in October which provided excellent training value despite the vagaries of the weather during the first couple of days. The Training Wing ran an arduous and most successful Potential NCOs Cadre in November and December: Alma Company played enemy for 1 DEER during its pre Northern Ireland training. And by the end of February over 150 members of the Battalion will have undergone some form of arctic warfare training in Norway, and so the list continues. We are remarkably busy given the fact that we have no operational commitments and yet we still continue to play sport, be it canoeing, soccer or on the rugby field. We have also had a number of visitors, most notably The Colonel in Chief and Duchess of Wellington, the Colonel of the Regiment and Mrs Mundell and the Mayor and Mayoress of Kirkless.

The future is now looking a touch more certain. Unfortunately the exchange exercise for Corunna Company to Australia has just been cancelled but all being well, Alma should still be going to Jamaica in May. We have confirmation of our move to Bulford in August so we can now plan the exercise to Denmark in September as well as Norway next winter with certainty. It looks as though life will be as busy and challenging as ever.

## BATTALION FTX

On 30 October the Battalion left Tern Hill and travelled down to Sennybridge Training Area for the Battalion FIX. As our boots touched the camp square the heavens opened and everyone sought shelter behind the tallest member of the section as they scrambled for their waterproofs. Very soon the advance parties were herded into open-topped Bedford and taken forward to recce the platoon positions. With the trench positions finalised and following the arrival of the remainder of men, the hard work of digging in, through the night, began.

With the variety of ground between sections, and even fire-teams, ranging from solid rock to sodden earth with a tendency to flood, the work was not easy. Fortunately, many had experience from the UKLF Milan Concentration, and while this was not the most pleasant of tasks, the positions began to take shape. During the vital defensive stage the weather closed in, but this had little effect on morale.

After a period of routine in defence, which seemed to underline the importance of strictly adhered to track-plans, the defensive battle was fought and won

against an enemy who showed a tendency to sometimes over-estimate his notional strength and capability!

Now came the task of eliminating the remaining pockets of enemy forces secreted within the forestry blocks. For some patrols came the thrill of an early sighting and a quick surprise attack, for others it entailed hours of combing through the forests before the enemy was finally located and destroyed.

The next phase culminated in an attack on a farm complex identified as an enemy position. Following three accurate recon reports of the area the attack went through successfully, and our attached armoured troop commanders from the 9th/12th Lancers reported that their Scorpion and Scimitar would have been able to provide overwhelming direct fire support.

The build-up then began for the final phase of operation - a battalion attack on an enemy held, strongly defended village. Air recon revealed an easy approach to within striking distance of the objective, and we set out that night by road to the battalion

assembly area. Once the platoons were set in their harbours, and with everyone looking forward to a good few hours sleep, the platoon commanders were called to "O" Groups to be told the predictable - the first casualty of war is the plan. Stumbling back in the dark to my platoon harbour, and having already spent five minutes giving a Warning Order to a tree stump that in this light looked remarkably like Corporal Davidson, I eventually managed to find my section commanders and give them the good news. The route was now to be to circle round behind the objective and attack from the rear, and we were ready to move - well, quite soon really.

The final attack emphasized the nature of fighting in built up areas; heavy casualties, heavy ammunition consumption, and the importance of mutual support and maintenance of communications.

There now only remained the task of filling in the trenches from the defensive phase, and as usual, with end of the journey home near, this became an unofficial race.

### FIGHTING IN BUILT UP AREAS

For many years British commanders have recognised that fighting in built up areas (FIBUA), will continue to play a vital part in both offensive and defensive land operations. The increase in urbanisation, the openness of rural areas viewed through enhanced vision devices and the trend towards mobile and armoured warfare, make the built-up area an attractive choice of ground to conceal oneself and defend. Then the brunt of any action is borne by the infantry, and is characterised by extreme physical exertion, large numbers of casualties, and rapid expenditure of ammunition. Such characteristics were recognised during WW2 in the towns and cities of Italy, and in Berlin, but only recently has renewed emphasis been put on training for FIBUA. The result is a training package and new facilities.

The Director of Infantry FIBUA Training Scheme has been established, with permanent staff at various locations, to assist commanders in achieving their FIBUA training objectives. The scheme includes videos, films (including that made by the Dukes in 1980), wall posters, skills and drills lesson plans and, most important, training villages. The latter had been most sadly lacking with units resorting in the past to the use of derelict buildings if and when they could find them.

The Dukes were the first regular unit to use the new FIBUA training facility in the Cilieni valley on Sennybridge Training Area in South Wales. The village is a large purpose built complex of some forty 'German' style buildings, centred around a church-like building with a tower and a 'Hof' or farmyard. The buildings are of rugged breeze block construction each varying in shape and size with cellar and/or attic. They are thus 'soldier-proof', and can be enhanced by sandbags, ammunition boxes, wire, training mines, old vehicles and furniture, which are provided in abundance to add realism to any exercise. Expertise is provided by two permanent staff NCOs, who advise

on skills and drills and can provide exercise formats and scenarios. In short it has all that is required for a battalion to learn and practise all attack and defence skills from individual entry methods to battalion level operations with support arms.

During October 1990, each rifle company spent three days brushing up its individual and team skills in such techniques as entry drills, clearance drills, minor tactics, and breaching obstacles for attack, and construction of obstacles, mining, and barricading for defence. Ropeclimbing, knotwork and the need for upper body strength were the main lessons learned, and rapid movement through the sewer network provided some entertainment. Even without a real enemy the scope for injury 'in the heat of the moment' was considerable, with rope burns, bruises from falls, knocks from falling material, cuts grazes and the odd attack of claustrophobia. The culmination for each company was a two platoon attack on the third in defence, prior to the long process of clearing up the place for the next unit.

With maximum benefit gained from such training, the battalions' fitness for this particular phase of operations was tested during EX COPENHAGEN'S GALLOP in November 1990. The exercise culminated in a battalion group attack on the village occupied by Somme Company plus TA attachments. It proved to be a fast moving and exciting climax, and not only brought out the lessons of the past, but also emphasised the need for high quality and immediate leadership plus effective communications in very difficult, indeed chaotic, circumstances.

So, the nature and problems of FIBUA are now well known to many members of the Battalion. However only practice and experience at this very difficult and unglamorous type of operation will make us totally proficient. Even then, when it comes to the real thing, the "...climate of war, danger, exertion..., uncertainty and chance" (Clausewitz) will most definitely conspire to make life even more difficult.



## EXERCISE "LONG LOOK 1990"

Due to an administrative hick-up I missed the original flight to New Zealand in August, and then, due to the Gulf crisis, my next flight was cancelled. This made me think I was not going to go on this trip of a life-time. However, I had not reckoned with the determination of the CO to get me on the exercise, nor with the support the Dukes can provide. The Regiment most generously decided to pay for a civil flight to get me out to NZ.

After a 35 hour trip via Moscow, Dubai and Singapore I arrived in Wellington. In true Dukes fashion I went straight away with some Kiwi officers to a rugby pitch to watch Wellington beat Wykato in a torrent of rain.

Next day, suffering from jet lag, I moved off to Linton camp near Palmerston North to take up my post as the platoon commander of 4 Platoon Bravo Company of the First Battalion Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment for the next 2½ months. On arrival I was told I was going out the next morning for a week's field firing in Waiouru. This place was an instant reminder of the Falklands with its driving wind, long tussock grass, and 4 inches of snow on the ground. These memories served me well, however, as the large amount of platoon level field firing I had done out there assisted me to help the company adjust from its old role of close quarter jungle operations to open country bunker busting. In this week I got to know 4 platoon, a cheerful group of men, two thirds of whom were Maori, whose main interests in life are deer stalking, food and drink. Most of them having grown up in the country regarded themselves as 'bushmen' including my ex NZSAS platoon sergeant and they were all keen to teach me the tracking skills they prized so highly.

I also learnt a lot about being able to use a bank of claymores in a live platoon ambush, seeing just how much smoke they create and how effective they are.

My first weekend in camp was devoted to wine and women. Firstly wine, where I was "drunk into the mess" on an evening that commenced with a half pint of 1 RNZIR colours (a concoction of tomato juice and crème de menthe), a task the Kiwis took great delight in making me do repeatedly. Secondly women, as the officers had been tasked to act as escorts for the Miss New Zealand contestants on Saturday evening, one weekend duty that no one was heard to complain about.

Thoroughly refreshed by the weekend, I went back to Waiouru for a week's navigation exercise over its many hills, swamps, and an area of black sand desert. Here it became apparent how much the Kiwi soldiers enjoyed their food, as they produced from their bergans fresh eggs, bottles of tomato sauce, bacon, onions, and on one occasion venison.

A long weekend after the navigation exercise gave me the opportunity to go and see the Maori sights of Lake Tapo and the sulphur and the mud pools of Rotarua. Here I saw a Maori defensive position used

by them against the "Poms" who later copied these positions in the use of trenches in World War I. The company then took a week to prepare for a three week deployment to Tonga on Ex Late Tofua '90, a period in which I was made to learn the regimental hocka. Before going out into the Tongan bush, Bravo Company together with a platoon of Australians was given the chance to acclimatise to the South Pacific Islands while cross training with the two company strong Tongan Defence Force, playing a few games of rugby and getting used to the Tongan's assault craft we would be using to do coastal patrols on in the ex proper. 4 Platoon's first task on the exercise was to provide the inner cordon on the company protection of a small but very noisy power station.

Having successfully defended the power station from a coastal attack, we moved by Hercules with the rest of the composite battalion to Vauau 300 miles to the North from the main island and also to sweat producing temperatures. On arrival at Vauau the company moved to a harbour we had to rest in all the next day. As it was a Sunday, nothing but church services were allowed to go on.

Fully rested and well fed on an abundance of coconuts, pineapples and pawpaws, 4 Platoon was given the task of a village clearance that tested the platoon's FIUBA drills and entertained the Tongan cabinet who came to watch the event. I found that the enemy party of Tongans was very reluctant to die and this became crystal clear when my patrol, in a snap ambush, opened up on a Rover full of Tongans from twenty metres and no one died due to the lack of umpires. I later grew to understand why this attitude prevailed when I witnessed the Tongan methods of prisoner handling.

The exercise drew to a close with a dawn battalion attack from a forming up point and start line I had recced and set up in the middle of a pineapple field. Once the attack was complete the composite battalion marched through the island's main town. It felt as though we were coming home from war as the whole island's population appeared to line the streets as we marched towards the site of that night's feast. This turned out to be a major event as each Tongan soldier had been ordered to bring with him a pig to put in the Umu, (a large pit filled with hot rocks which slowly cooked the food buried in it). With a few more Umus behind our belts, and having taken part in a remembrance day parade presided over by the King of Tonga, Bravo Company returned to NZ.

Back in NZ I was given a car and flight to the South Island and told to take two weeks to look around the country. During this time I saw the sights of Auckland, the Bay of Plenty, the alpine splendour of the South Island and Christchurch, before undertaking the long trip home.

B. J. T. Faithfull

## NORDIC SKI AND SURVIVAL AND ARCTIC WARFARE TRAINING

The skiers silently swept down the slope out of the watery dawn in tight formation. The enemy never had a chance, there were a few stifled cries from the dying and the skiers were gone like Arctic ghosts.

I put the book down and appraised my group for the Nordic Ski and Survival Course (NSSC) which we had been sent on so that we in turn could help smooth the passage of the Battalion into its future role in the Ace Mobile Force (AMF). We thought we were already on our way to becoming arctic warriors after our first week's ski instruction, and we were now preparing to do battle with the elements on the first of three exercises.

After a false start, when we were turned back by a blizzard in -30 degrees, we were instructed in the importance of personal organisation (a forgotten pair of outer gloves, for example, could lead to frostbite in minutes) and the responsibilities of a tent group commander. The elements in Norway are not to be trifled with. During our course the air temperature regularly fell to -12 degrees and with a bit of a breeze fell on occasion to -32. By the end of the first exercise we had got lost, skied at night, done press ups by the 100 (the standard punishment for upsetting the 2 RRF instructors) singed eyebrows and fallen over lots of times.

On our return to Finse, our base camp, in the middle of nowhere really (no trees, roads or fences), we had just enough time to defrost ourselves and dry the kit out before the next exercise. This proved to be more of a test although we started with instruction on snow hole construction as well as the aptly named snow graves. This turned out to be important because if you got it wrong you could be poisoned by cooker

fumes, frozen, squashed or just dripped on. The first night in the snow holes passed unremarkably for all. The second, when we only had little fuel for the cookers and no sleeping bags, was more testing. The final twist to the exercise was the ice breaking drills (literally ski-ing through the ice and hauling yourself out of the water).

The final phase of the course was Arctic Warfare Training which involved minor tactics and weapons and webbing were worn for the first time. The essential difference between this and NSSC was that when you fell over you were now hit in the face by your rifle! This exercise was also an opportunity for the officers to show off their map reading ability. Naturally tactics in an Arctic environment are the same as in a temperate climate, but everything, except digging in, is made harder by the climate and terrain. You cannot, for example, afford to loiter in the FUP, nor necessarily rely on anyone else for support such as casualty evacuation, as inevitably the logistic chain will be stretched. The finale of the exercise and the course was a company night attack on skis and foot, which was brilliantly planned and executed with razor sharp precision. Tired, but happy, we found our way back home more or less intact and much wiser for our experiences.

There is clearly much to learn before we join the AMF on our first exercise. The role will not only be demanding but we will have to meet different challenges all over Europe from Norway to Turkey. My lasting impression of my three week course is that not only can Arctic Warfare be tough, but great fun too.

M. J. Laycock

## ALL ARMS DRILL - ADVANCED INSTRUCTORS COURSE

On 4 November 1990 I arrived at the All Arms Drill Wing, which is situated in the pleasant surroundings of the Depot, The Guards Division, just outside a small village in Surrey called Pirbright.

Immediately after Muster Parade on Day One, we were given a guided tour of the Depot at a rate of 180 paces to the minute, marking time occasionally outside key buildings. I can recall only two of them. The first is the Sandes Home; outside which we spent at least five minutes listening to the instructors giving a complete run-down of the menu which included spam with every meal, and a variety of beverages which could be taken with or without milk and sugar. The second place I recall, and the one I frequented most of all, was the Guardroom, affectionately known as The Pirbright Aerobics Club. The course was now underway and the daily routine was:

**0745 hours - Show Parades.** This only involved those students whose turnout was not up to the immaculate Pirbright standard, which in most cases involved all the course.

**0800 hours - Bunk Inspection.** Stood correctly at ease outside the bunk, inside, not a speck of dust anywhere, best boots on the laundry basket at the correct position of attention, absolutely gleaming

(well I thought so). Bed block perfect 21" x 18", sink, mirror and windows sparkling, carpet fluff-free. No problem - should pass with flying colours. Wrong! "Filthy, go to jail, Sir," screamed the instructor. Standards are very, very high here, I frequently thought to myself whilst marching to the Guardroom.

**0830 hours - Muster Parade.** Released from jail just in time. This was a complicated affair, however I cannot go into too much detail about it as I never actually managed to remain on the square from start to finish without being sent to jail again with the rest of the course.

**0845 hours approximately.** The exercise yard in the Guardroom was now filling up awaiting the arrival of the three instructors to put us through our paces (180 to the minute). It was so exhausting for the instructors to give the words of command at a rapid rate of knots that they had to change over every two minutes, each one trying to better the previous one, so you can imagine how I felt carrying out the movements.

**0915 hours - Parade Square.** Instruction finally begins. This is it, I thought. A proper marching soldier of me they are going to make. Unfortunately most of the marching continued to be in the direction of the Guardroom.



The bulk of the course was spent in much the same way with the Guardroom becoming my second home. Even so I can thoroughly recommend this course to

any 'budding' drill instructor. The level of instruction is very high and the mess life extremely enjoyable.

I. A.

## POTENTIAL NCO's CADRE

### A Student's View

0545. The door burst open and an instructor bellowed at us to "get motivated". This was day one of the potential NCO's Cadre, Jesus Christ, five weeks six more days to go, can I take all of this?

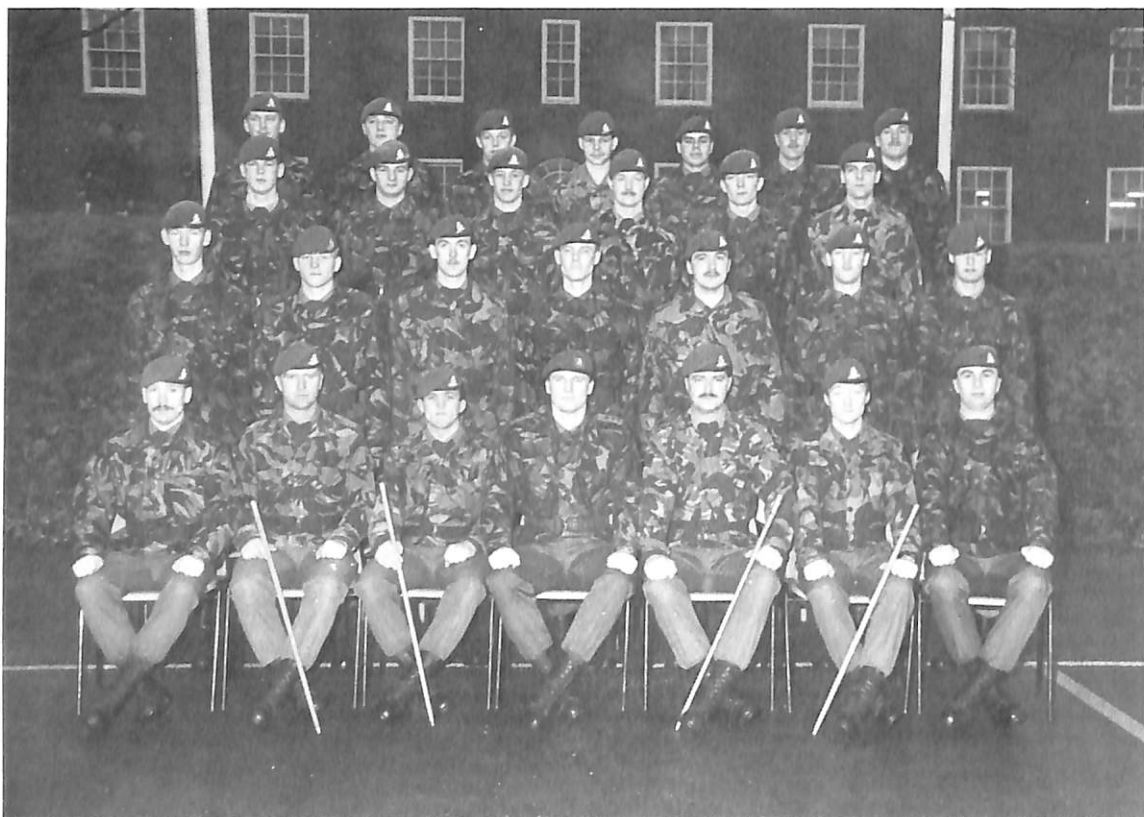
The six week course consisted of various subjects, ranging from fitness to leadership skills. Participating were approximately 35 students at the beginning, though only 22 finished.

Throughout the course the three main exercises were accomplished at Sennybridge, Leek and Brecon. Fitness, determination and self-confidence were the order of the day throughout, usually lots of it. The main problem we faced was the non-stop "keep on their backs" method used by the instructors which always put the student under unbearable pressure.

The first day of the final exercise with a 15km tab to a harbour position: once in we deployed recon patrols to find likely enemy positions. Then, if we were lucky, we managed to force down a tin of bacon burgers, before setting off again to set up an ambush at dawn. Unfortunately we arrived eight hours early so we had to lie in the well insulated, frozen marshland of Leek, observing the killing area for most of the night.

Once the attack is executed you return to the platoon harbour, always ready to move off to other positions. Miraculously the morale was kept high at most times. The cadre, slightly diminished in numbers, saw 22 proud students awarded their certificates by the CO on the final day, in front of the whole Battalion.

Private Bosworth 'A' Company



### *Potential NCO's Cadre*

Privates Clegg, Wood, Harris, Mitchell, Stroyan, Watson, Bradby

Privates Vizard, Smith, Bosworth, Acklam, Storrs, Carter

Privates Burns, Douglas, Kerry, Hargreaves, Ballantyne, Stores, Shepherd

Lance Corporal McManus, Sergeant Buckingham, Lieutenant Knight, Colour Sergeant Sutcliffe, Sergeant Cooper, Lance Corporal Childs



*Potential NCO's Cadre*  
The Colonel in Chief with Lieutenant G. Knight and Private Ballantyne

### TRAINING FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

The task for which we had been sent to Hythe was to act as enemy during the pre-Northern Ireland training of 1st Battalion Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment.

Mug shots were taken of those of us who were to act as terrorists. The remainder were given individual characters to play, ranging from unemployed to bank managers. There was also a small detachment of WRAC to enhance the realism, who acted as wives and terrorists. After the initial briefs we settled in and started to familiarise ourselves with the layout of the village, including the Republican Club and the Starry Plough, (the two village pubs).

The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment (DERR) was host to us for the duration of our stay, and together with the guidance of the Northern Ireland Training Advisory Team (NITAT), put its training and expertise to the test against 'A' Company, the 1st Battalion The Duke Of Wellington's Regiment. The day usually started with a brief for all 'civpop' so that we could sort out the programme for the day and to allocate people to the tasks.

As the week went on the village fish and chip shop was opened selling such delights as chilli and curry as well as cheese toasties and beef burgers. The two pubs

were making a steady profit throughout, enough to enable us to hold a barbecue.

There was a continual programme throughout the day which required the majority of people to be available to test the troops on the ground and when most normal people had gone to bed there was still a requirement for people to be out and about.

The two weeks passed very quickly which was quite fortunate for the majority of people, as money was beginning to run low and the novelty of the whole exercise was beginning to wear thin. As the weather started to get colder and the warm fires in many of the houses became more appealing it became harder and harder to achieve the level of realism that was required, but everyone worked hard and the results were obvious.

All in all the two weeks were very successful and both the DERR's and NITAT were very pleased with the outcome of the training. It has also given us the chance to enhance our own knowledge and understanding of the procedures and actions that have to be carried out in an Northern Ireland scenario.

J. H. Purcell

## OFFICERS' MESS NOTES

The pre-Christmas period produced the normal activity in mess life. The first event was the annual Officers Golf Competition for the coveted Silver Putter and Wooden Spoon trophies. The duels took place at the local Market Drayton Golf Club and, as ever, a surprising standard of golf was produced. The main competition was won by the Commanding Officer and the wooden spoon by the immaculate Paul Wilkinson. The next event was the late Autumn Ball or "Hollywood Ball". After some months of planning and worrying about numbers attending a late surge produced some 320 people. Entertainment consisted of the Dukes Dance Band, a band called the Roosters, a disco, a casino with roulette and blackjack, a pianist and two bouncy castles. Dukes and ex-Dukes and friends came from far and wide for a memorable evening. In late November we were pleased to see the Duke and Duchess of Wellington in the mess when they joined us for a Ladies Guest Night during their visit to the Battalion. Next came the

Battalion carol service, the inter-company boxing competition, the officers v sergeants football match and the visit of the senior ranks to the mess for drinks and suitably tasteful mockery in the form of the presentation of the Rupert and Andy Capp awards. The Rupert was earned/won by Chris Buss for...well mostly for being Chris Buss, and the Andy Capp award was carried away by Colour Sergeant Varley for a veritable chapter of events. The main post-Christmas event has been a Regimental dinner night at which we dined out Andrew Drake and dined in the Battalion warrant officers with musical entertainment provided by the Newport Town Band. We have also hosted Australian and Jamaican officers in preparation for the exchange exercise in April and May this year - having challenged the Jamaicans to a game of squash the Adjutant was mortified to discover that one had been the all-Jamaican champion for a number of years and that the other was a potential successor.

## WARRANT OFFICERS' AND SERGEANTS' MESS

The mess has had a very busy calendar of events. The Christmas Draw had to be held in October because of future training commitments in Norway. This in no way deterred members and their guests from entering into the festive spirit. The boxing finals in December saw the mess get together for a very enjoyable evening's entertainment. You could feel the pride swell from the mess, when WO2 'Ena' Elwell stepped into the ring for the heavyweight final and won by a knock-out. The day following the boxing saw the annual football match against the officers. We won against a very determined officers' team in the build up to the Rupert/Andy Capp awards. Members assembled in the mess prior to marching to the officers' mess with drums beating and bugles playing. The officers were superb hosts and the entertainment during the awards was excellent. The officers were

then invited back to the mess that night for drinks. There were some very sore heads the following day when the mess departed for Christmas leave, but this did not stop the childrens' Christmas party and the New Years Eve dance from taking place. These two events were extremely enjoyable for those who stayed in Tern Hill due to the efforts of WO2 Ian Metcalfe and his committee.

On Friday 8 February a Regimental dinner was held in the mess. This particular night was a most memorable one. Sixty members were seated at 2030 hours. The fayre was of outstanding quality and was enhanced by the newly purchased canteen of silver cutlery, badged with the Regimental crest which is to replace the old canteen purchased in Holywood, Belfast by Lt. Col. Robins when he was a mess member some years ago.

## SPORTS GAMES AND RECREATION

### Rugby

A lot has happened this season, not least the Battalion side reaching the U.K. Army Cup Final against 7 RHA (again) and several players representing the army side in their preparation for the inter - services competition.

Firstly the 1st XV whose sights, before Christmas, were firmly fixed on our first Army Cup match at Catterick against a reputedly strong, 8 Signal Regiment. Following good wins against Whitchurch 62 - 6 and Shrewsbury (under floodlights) 20 - 10 we managed to peak at the right time and comfortably beat 8 Signals 20 - 6.

With our 1/4 final match against Troops Hereford set for the 9 January the New Year began with a bang with the rugby squad returning early from leave on 2 January, for a warm up match against Headingley in Leeds, which served to rid us of our cobwebs and

excess alcohol from the Christmas leave period, as well as tucking another win under our belt.

Due to circumstances out of our control, Troops were forced to withdraw from the competition giving us an unexpected, but much welcomed bye into the semi final. Having beaten the Welsh Guards 50 - 0 it was 1/3 Training Regiment R.E. whom we were to face in the semi final on 30 January.

After much fitness training, under the supervision of SSgt Spowart and WOII Williams, and a hard warm up match against Birkenhead Park (L10-6) we were well prepared and confident prior to our clash with the Royal Engineers. A very clinical, confident performance produced a 31 - 3 victory in our favour which moved us nicely into the final of the U.K. Cup to meet, for the third time in a row, 7 RHA.

Since the semi final there has been little rugby played, due to the weather conditions. However



### 1st Battalion team

#### *Semi final of the Army Rugby Cup*

Back row (left to right) Corporal Barr (replacement), Captain Norman (replacement), 2nd Lieutenant Whitley (replacement), Corporal George, Lance Corporal Williams, Lieutenant Buss, Private Brookes, Captain Preston, Staff Sergeant Spowart, Private July, 2nd Lieutenant Pinder, Corporal Draper (replacement)

Front row (left to right) Lieutenant Monteith, Corporal Davison, WO2 Williams, Lieutenant Knight (captain) Major Shuttleworth, Private Nettleton, Lieutenant Purcell.

training has continued in earnest both on fitness and the technical aspects of our play. We shall spend a weekend in Wales with Major Gareth Davies (ex army coach) working on our set piece play and our fitness in the beautiful surroundings of the Brecon Beacons.

There is a determination to do well and there are too many players who have suffered at the hands of 7 RHA in the past two years for us to take our preparation for the final too lightly. It is now a question of performing on the day. (*In the event we lost 12-10*).

After the army trial in December we were well represented in the army's first match of the season against the TA Aldershot with Capt. Rob Preston playing full back, Lt. Chris Buss second row, Lt. Gary Knight at flanker and 2nd Lt. Simon Pinder at scrum half. SSgt. Spowart, the army captain this season, was a selector/lickadoo on this occasion but played against Hampshire after Christmas at Aldershot, with all the above, excluding Simon Pinder who was injured. Hopefully we will have at least a couple of representatives from the Dukes in the Army v Navy at Twickenham to maintain our excellent record of Army Caps within the Battalion.

#### Football

We were hoping for a better run in the army and infantry cups: it was not to be. A hard fought game against 1 KOSB in Edinburgh resulted in our losing by the odd goal. It was a brave display as we played the game without six of our first team players. The Infantry cup was not to be ours.

Our army cup campaign was going well until the fourth round. The team travelled to Ripon to play 38 Engineer Regiment. The pitch on the day resembled a ploughed up ice rink. Now it seems, the engineers did not want to play the game. We had doubts but having lost players to ski training in Norway and the real chance of losing some more because of deployment on Operation Granby and/or the Gulf, we decided that we would rather play. Eventually the referee decided that play was possible. Disaster ensued, 38 Engineers quickly decided that footballing skills were impossible to employ whilst long high balls combined with all out rushes for goal made more sense. It did, by the fifteenth minute the opposition were two goals up. Slowly the Dukes began to take control of the game, after 65 minutes we were in command and two goals down still. Five minutes later, after a couple of demonstrations of soccer skills where we nearly scored, the engineers, on a runaway ball scored again. The last twenty minutes was all Dukes, brilliant, until that is, the opposition scored for the fourth time.

However we were still unbeaten in the Wales/Western District League and Cup Competitions. In the league we play army, RAF and police sides. The latter are very large organisations against which we do very well. Our next game is against Cheshire Police, hopefully we will have more to shout about after the game.

B. C.

**Boxing**

This year's inter-coy boxing proved to be a great success with some outstandingly hard work and self denial in the training and in the bouts themselves. This led to a very entertaining and exciting finals evening after a gruelling day of preliminary bouts. All five companies did extremely well to actually produce and train complete teams in view of the outside commitments upon the Battalion at the time. The quality of the boxing throughout the competition was

a credit to the company boxing coaches in particular and to all of the competitors whose commitment during training was absolute. Following the preliminary bouts it turned out that Burma Company (coached by Cpl Chapman) required only two wins to secure the trophy as they had seven boxers in the finals - all of whom were guaranteed points simply for entering the ring. There were eleven altogether and the results were as follows:

WEIGHT	NAME	COY		NAME	COY	RESULT
Fly	Pte. Sykes	B	V	Cpl. Padgett	H	Win B
Bantam	Pte. Aulton	B	V	Pte. Hartley	C	Win B
Feather	Pte. Marsden	S	V	Cpl. Liprot	H	Win S
Light	Pte. Mah	B	V	Pte. Smart	C	Win B
Light Welter	Pte. Lewis	B	V	Pte. Daniels	A	Win B
Welter	Pte. Alexander	S	V	Pte. Fallon	C	Win S
Light Middle	Pte. Holmes	B	V	Pte. Rutter	C	Win C
Middle	Pte. Collins	B	V	Pte. Brook	C	Win C
Light Heavy	Pte. Crawford	B	V	Pte. Birtley	S	Win S
Heavy	CMS Elwell	H	V	LCpl. Jenkins	A	Win H
Demo Bout	Pte. Marsden	A	V	LCpl. Towler	C	Win A



*Inter-Company Boxing Competition*  
Burma Company: winners of the Battalion Inter-Company boxing competition.





*Inver-Company Boxing Competition*  
CSM (WO2) P. Elwell wins the final of the heavyweight bout against Lance Corporal Jenkins.

Burma Company achieved a famous victory which was capped by Pte. Mah's award of best boxer, Cpl. Padgett picking up the best loser trophy. All the bouts however were extremely competitive, well fought and exciting. Sadly, this year, due to outside commitments the Battalion is unable to field a team against other units.

#### Canoeing

The Duke of Wellington's Regiment had a very successful weekend at the UKLF White Water Canoeing Championships which were held on the

North Tyne River at Hexham, Northumberland over the weekend 18 - 19 November on a 3½ mile course. The entry was slightly down on previous years, no doubt due to Gulf commitments.

The individual race was held on Saturday and with the river being fed from a release from the Keilder Dam, this provided a good grade 3 stretch two-thirds of the way down the course. A 300 metre stretch known as "the Gorge", proved a good swimming point for many a competitor.

WO2 Brian Thomas managed to stay upright to win the Individual Slalom Boat Class. Followed closely home by Pte. Russ Peel and Cpl. Dog Ward in third place with Cpl. Victor Falcus a creditable fifth place after swimming at the top of the gorge and getting back in. Cpl. Harry Harrison would have done very well had he not taken a tumble in the gorge which resulted in his canoe needing emergency repairs for the team event the following day.

Lt. Fergus Murray and Cpl. Eric Innes were not available for the individual race but after a 350 mile dash managed to get there in time for the team event on Sunday.

There were 19 teams, each of 3 men, entered in the Team Slalom Class and The Dukes A and B teams consisting of Lt. Fergus Murray, Cpl. Eric Innes, Cpl. Harry Harrison, WO2 Brian Thomas, Cpl. Vic Falcus and Pte. Russ Peel, took first and second place with excellent times of 29 minutes 4 seconds for team A and team B just one second behind them to take the UKLF Major Units Slalom Class Winners for the first time, breaking the domination of The Guards Adventure Training Wing.



*UKLF White Water Canoeing Championships. The 1st Battalion Team*  
WO2 Thomas, Corporal Innes, Corporal Falcus, Lieutenant Murray, Corporal Harrison, ex-Sergeant Cockshott, Corporal Ward and Private Peel.



### THE NAMIBIAN DEFENCE FORCE - A NEW ARMY EXPERIENCE

On 21 March 1990, Namibia, previously South West Africa, gained its independence from South Africa. Following elections controlled by a United Nation Peacekeeping Force, SWAPO (South West African Peoples Organisation) became the ruling party and put behind it 20 years of bush war which had spluttered its way through the 70s and 80s. Elected as president, SWAPO's Sam Nujoma's first task was one of reconciliation between the two opposing forces. In the north the mainly Owambo tribesmen had joined the Angolan, Eastern block sponsored Peoples Liberation Army of Namibia (PLAN) and in the south the locals had joined the South African backed South West Territorial Force. (SWATF). These two armies were now united and it was the task of the British Military Training Team to bring the guerrilla army of the north and the more conventional forces of the south together and train them as a stable, disciplined, democratic, defence force.

For the first six months basic infantry skills were taught and it became evident that both sides approached soldiering and training positively. WO2 Ena Elwell, from the Dukes, was able to establish a range complex in central Namibia, utilising local help, soldier labour and Yorkshire guile. His efforts still remain and have been well used by all students attending the Military School in nearby Okahandja. The ranges show what can be achieved with few resources and little money.

The new army wore both Eastern and Western uniforms, wore old or new boots and had little equipment, yet it was keen to learn and in time boots and equipment started to appear.

With five Battalions of one thousand men each established in the first six months it fell to a second

training team to come out from the U.K. and train specialist platoons in mortars, machine guns, assault pioneers skills, anti tank and reconnaissance skills.

It was my task with a four man team of experienced recee SNCO's from the Gurkhas, Irish Rangers, QDG's and Cheshires to train firstly officers and SNCO's and then supervise the training of platoons in basic recee skills. Once this was complete platoons would move to their operational areas. The courses covered all recee skills but emphasised close target recee, vehicle drills, observation posts and ambushing. These were practised in camp and tested on exercises. The Africans were quick learners, and when problems arose they were always resolved.

The new army was equipped with mainly Soviet weapons, as a result instructors had to become familiar with the AKM assault rifle, RPD and PKM machine guns, RPG7 rocket launchers as well as a variety of Soviet and Chinese grenades. Add to this a South African vehicle fleet and knowledge of foreign military equipment has grown rapidly.

Namibia has a developed capital, Windhoek, with excellent facilities from restaurants and bars to night clubs, golf courses and swimming pools. There is even the chance to watch or play rugby. Namibia has many extensive hunting lodges and game parks which offer welcome breaks.

After four and a half years with the Battalion the opportunity to work overseas came as a marvellous change. It is still possible to join the army and travel the world. From September '89 to September '90 this captain has travelled from Canada and Norway to South Georgia and Southern Africa, about 33,000 miles.

R. G. Best



Captain Richard Best briefs ex-SWAPO guerillas of the new Namibia Defence Force.

## A TRACTOR FOR ROMANIA

On 27 November thirteen vehicles of all shapes and sizes set off from England to transport aid to Romania. Since Christmas 1989 when the revolution ended Ceausescu's reign, aid has been flooding into the country to help the Romanian people recover from years of the dictator's rule. My purpose on this particular convoy was to identify a specific project that Depot, The Kings Division might undertake next year. Initially this convoy was to have been solely from the village of Ingleton in North Yorkshire but it grew to take in groups from London and Birmingham as well. We were to visit a hospital and several orphanages and then carry on further into the country to a particular village in the hills. The people of Ingleton had connections in the village of Isverne through the caving community. En-route to Dover we stopped to fill up with fuel from Baxters of Luton which was donating 68 litres of fuel to each of the vehicles, each of which had £500 in various currencies to spend on fuel and tolls.

At Dover our problems started. Having expected to be booked on a ferry as a group, only two vehicles managed to sail at the intended time. The others followed three hours later. Armed with a fistful of paperwork and a full tank of fuel we departed from Ostende at 3.30 a.m. by ourselves, as we had been separated at the Belgian customs from our crossing partner. Belgium passed under the wheels and we were into Germany before sunrise, not having even stopped for a passport check at the border. At the German/Austrian border we had cheekily driven to the very front of the long queue of glaring truck drivers, smiled sweetly, admitted we were English and that we did not know the system, whereupon they took pity on us and let us through once our mission was known. This pattern of behaviour proved successful throughout the journey. However, at the Hungarian/Yugoslav border we were confronted with a work-to rule which cost us a great deal of time. It was at this point that the rest of the convoy caught up with us and the CB radios we had in our cabs proved useful as we could relay our progress through the queue to the vehicles behind. We informed them of what we had done to get so far. Eventually we got through but not without some fears that we were going to have to unload everything off the truck. The remainder of the convoy was not so lucky. The Hungarians would not let them leave as they did not have a stamp from the previous border. They tried to send them back but the drivers took the vehicles into Romania without entering Yugoslavia. From there they travelled down through Romania to the rendezvous point at Turnu Severin.

By the time we had all met in Romania and with the Romanian cavers who were acting as interpreters, twelve hours had been lost off the schedule and nothing more could be done that day. The only delay we had had at the Romanian border was while we registered the video camera lent to the group by Rumbelows. Then we were through to the town of Turnu Severin. The vehicles were put in a police compound and soldiers guarded them overnight.

In the morning we went straight to the hospital and started to unload the medical supplies. A crowd seemed to appear from nowhere and we kept an eye

open to check that the equipment was going where it was intended. Afterwards we spoke to the director of the Health Department for that region and heard that they had not got even the most basic drugs. When we asked what they really needed, he replied, "anything, but especially antibiotics". A tour around the hospital was quite shocking. They still use metal and glass syringes, the sterilisation of which is not always 100% as the equipment is old. Their sense of hygiene was appalling. We were invited to go into an operating theatre and video and take photographs of several operations. A nurse came into one operation eating a bread bun. The wards had practically no lights and an incubator was so dirty you could hardly see the premature baby inside it.

One of the vehicles in the convoy had a hole in the oil pipe. One of the Romanians from the hospital made a rapid and robust repair. To thank him we gave him some cigarettes and a jack in the box for his children. This toy had him in hysterics and he was showing all his friends how wonderful it was. I doubt that his children will ever get to play with it.

After the hospital we went across the road to the orphanage for 0-3 years old. The main problem with the orphanages as well as the hospitals is the lack of trained staff. So all that is possible is to keep the children fed and relatively clean leaving no time to play with them. Where an effort was made to play with the children the results were very rewarding. The conditions in this orphanage were reasonable but the simple fact that the children had no family at all was sad. We unloaded a massive amount of clothes, toys, nappies and equipment at this orphanage as they were going to organise the distribution to where it was most needed.

As a complete convoy we then headed into the hills to Isverna. It must have been quite a sight for the locals of the villages we thundered through. The C.B. radios came into their own at this stage of the journey, helping the bigger vehicles to pass horse and cart on winding roads and warning of obstacles ahead. The general chat between vehicles was very refreshing after the relative silence of the slog across the continent. The local children always ran up to the roadside to wave and cheer. After a few miles when we stopped to fix a broken door we took one of the boxes of Smarties which Rowtrees had donated and handed bags full of little boxes of sweets to each crew. When we passed the next hamlet and spotted children by the roadside we threw sweets to them as we passed. The joy we saw from these simple gifts was marvellous and did everyone a great deal of good.

We arrived at Isverna in the late afternoon and started to unload all the remaining aid. Specific items had been asked for, such as a honey press, a water pump, typewriters and a few simple farm tools. But mainly it was tons of clothes, toys and simple medical supplies. Although the village pitched in, it was not until past eight o'clock that everything was safely under lock and key in the local school with the local police standing guard.

The villagers then showed us their hospitality with a massive meal while being played to by a local band consisting of one fiddler, three accordions and an electronic keyboard. Following the meal we trooped

up to the church to see a three dimensional slide show of caving that one of the convoy members had brought with him. As we entered the church we were greeted by a thunderous round of applause from the villagers and others who, we heard later, had travelled up to 20km to see us. The slide show was followed by traditional dancing and songs by the villagers in national dress. Once the evening had finished, we were all invited to stay in the homes of the villagers. This was an experience in itself because as the average height of the villagers was considerably less than ours, beds and doorways were a problem, but we were too tired and had drunk enough of the locally brewed plum brandy, zuika, not to be bothered.

In the morning we arose to a hearty breakfast prepared by our hosts and yet more zuika. They drink it all the time and it apparently does them good. However to the average Brit first thing in the morning it was a little much - but we could not refuse. We

looked around the village and the distillery and said our goodbyes, having gained reassurance from the mayor that the aid would be handed out to those who needed it most. We then climbed aboard and set off on a long trek home.

On the round trip we covered approximately 3,500 miles and when we returned home we were all exhausted, but it had been well worth it. The response of the British public and firms to a desperate situation has been tremendous. The generosity shown to the people of Romania was gratefully recieved but there is more to be done.

It is hoped that by the summer of '91 enough money will have been raised to enable a tractor with accessories and spares to be taken back to Isverna. This is the project that Depot King's Division is to undertake.

J. C. Mayo

## JUNIOR INFANTRY BATTALION (Scottish and King's Division)

The past months have seen a trickle of young junior leaders returning to the comforts of home and family, regardless of the prospect of a possibly unfulfilled working life in some factory. The warnings of unemployment and other difficulties from their platoon commanders, company second-in-command, sergeant major and company commander alike fell on deaf ears. There now remain only 25 junior leaders who are badged DWR in training, but all of these are keen and are looking forward to joining the 1st Battalion at the earliest opportunity.

January saw the completion of 'C' Company's "Hearts and Minds" project. The task was to reclaim a pathway often used by old folk of Heddon-on-the-Wall. The pathway had become overgrown, muddy

and in parts dangerous. Each platoon carried out the work at weekends and completely renovated the whole pathway.

Much of the winter was spent ski-ing at both Aviemore in Scotland and Silberthutte in Germany. DWR junior leaders seized the opportunity to perfect their 'cross-country gait' in preparation for Norway with the Battalion. During the exercises soldiers were given the chance to take previously forbidden routes over the former east/west border in and around look-out posts and radio listening posts which at one time were manned by West German and Russian soldiers.

Now that spring is here our new goals are Tactical Camp, Defence Camp, Battle Camp and yet more adventure training in Scotland.

## 3rd BATTALION YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS (West Yorkshire)

### Exercise "Lion Star 4"

On 21 October 1990 a 118 strong composite company, sponsored by "D" Company set off on the first leg of "Exercise Lion star 4". The company flew from RAF Brize Norton in the early hours of 22 October to RAF Akrotiri for onward transportation to "Radio Sonde Camp".

Training during the first week involved a "training circuit" during which platoons underwent a day's field training, a range day and a day's adventurous training. Sunday was our first day's R & R on which two coaches ferried the members of the company to Limmasol and Paphos respectively. The start of week two saw the company range day and the company Watermanship training day as a lead up to the company exercise.

30 October was the start of a three day company exercise. The platoons moved from "Radio Sonde" to a concentration area on the South-West coast of the island. Under cover of darkness 10 Platoon moved by Gemini and Rigid Raider to effect a covert beach landing to secure the flanks of our beachhead. At

"H" hour 12 Platoon carried out a beach landing after an initial mortar barrage to suppress any enemy positions. Moving up the beach and securing the beachhead 12 Platoon went "firm", allowing 11 Platoon to land on a secure beach. After the initial assault the enemy began to withdraw. 11 Platoon with an RAVC tracker dog attached moved off the beachhead and slowly up the valley and into the higher ground. Orders were given that the enemy was to be cleared from the immediate area of the beach and its hinterland by 12.00 hrs. With the temperature rising rapidly into the 90s it wasn't long before the enemy opened fire on forward elements of 11 Platoon. After an uphill assault the enemy was cleared from the area and platoon positions consolidated. A routine in defence was established overnight as the sun began to take its toll and heat casualties resulted.

The following morning the company moved forward to RV with the transport. A road move was followed by regrouping of the company whilst the platoon commanders carried out an air recce after

which the platoons once again advanced to contact the enemy. After a hard long advance, the company rendezvoused with Ferret scout cars of 17th/21st Lancers in preparation for the final phase of the exercise.

The next move was a company road convoy escorted by the Ferrets. An ambush en-route allowed us to practise our anti-ambush drills. After de-bussing the company once again took to its feet for a move to its final harbour area. A novelty of this phase was a water replenishment by RAVC pack horse!

From the final harbour area, recon patrols were sent out to reconnoitre the area around Paramali village, our objective for the following morning.

Before sunrise on Friday morning the company had left its harbour area. 10 Platoon was in position as a fire base to "fire in" 11 and 12 Platoons as they entered the FIBUA phase of the exercise. During a three hour battle during which much ammunition was expended Paramali village was eventually taken. The remainder of the camp was spent in admin tasks and a final days R & R.

P. Laycock



*3rd Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers.  
Training in Cyprus: landing on the beach.*

## 'D' COY YORKSHIRE ARMY CADET FORCE (Wellesley Company)

Yorkshire Army Cadet Force held its annual sports meeting on Sunday 27 January at Strensall. The events in the inter-company meeting are 6-a-side soccer, 7-a-side rugby and the cross country. Both soccer and rugby are sub-divided into junior and senior events while the cross country is divided between male and female cadet events.

Our senior rugby team came first, winning gold medals. The junior 7-a-side rugby team came second to take its silver medals.

The soccer teams were not outdone, the senior team coming second and junior team first in their respective events.

The girl cadets of 'D' Coy were the winning team in the female cross country event taking 1st, 4th, 5th and 9th places. First home in the female cross country was F/Cadet Kettlewell of Allerton Det R.A.

All the above teams will now go forward to the North Eastern District Finals representing Yorkshire A.C.F.

Three officers of the company were in the Yorkshire Target Rifle Team which came 3rd in the Tara Full-Bore Non-Central Competition for officers of the CCF and ACF.

All three were in the top 20

Major D. L. Bennett	9th	Score of 91
Lt. J. Hammond	12th	Score of 89
Capt. P. Cole	19th	Score of 87
		H. P. S. 100

All detachments have now had their annual inspections and are settling down to training for exercise 'Iron Duke IV'.



## H.M.S. YORK

Extracts from a letter by Commander A. G. McEwen BA RN, Captain of H.M.S. York, to Lieut Colonel A. D. Meek, the Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion:

"It is hard to imagine the changes that have taken place in the world since I last wrote in July.

Less than a month later I had the unenviable task of preparing YORK for war. At the outbreak of the crisis we were the only British unit on station, along with three American destroyers and an aged French corvette which remained at anchor off Dubai throughout! YORK quickly buddied with the American force, for mutual support, and took up station in the Central Persian Gulf and awaited Saddam's next move. This initial period of uncertainty was by far the most upsetting. We were very much alone, with no air cover and the Iraqi forces poised on the Saudi border. During this period the directives were ever changing and often conflicting; had Saddam pressed on into Saudi Arabia there would have been little we could have

done to stop him. Control and co-ordination were almost non-existent as contrary intelligence assessments only added to the confusion and there was no formulated foreign policy.

For YORK this was without doubt the most difficult period of the deployment, however the crew reacted marvellously. There was a business-like hum throughout the ship. In particular the operations team provide sterling service during long periods in defence watches. YORK left the Gulf having won an excellent reputation with allied, particularly USN, anti air warfare units and maintained a keen fighting edge until the very end of the deployment. We finally returned to Rosyth in November for leave and badly needed maintenance.

There are no immediate plans for YORK to return to the Gulf until autumn and until then we have a varied and interesting programme which includes visits to Spain, Holland and Iceland. The highlight of the next few months will be our visit to Hull on 21-25 March.



## 10th BATTALION THE BALUCH REGIMENT

The 10th Battalion The Baluch Regiment has been allied with the Regiment since 1966. It was raised at Karachi in 1844 as the 27th Regiment, Bombay Light Infantry (1st Balooch Regiment). In 1903 it was redesignated 127 Regiment (1st Balooch Battalion) Light Infantry, but continued to be known as the "1st Baloochies" till 1920 when it was renamed 3rd Battalion (Queen Mary's Own). The 10th Baluch Regiment. In 1956 it became 10th Battalion The Baluch Regiment.

The Regiment took part in the Abyssinia campaign of 1867/68 and for most of the time was in the 1st Brigade together with the 33rd Regiment. The Regiment also saw active service during the 2nd Afghan War (1879/80), Burma (1886), where its medical officer won the VC, and Somaliland (1909). During World War I it took part in operations in East Africa and Persia and in World War II served in

Persia, North Africa, Italy and Greece. More recently it was on active service during the Indo/Pakistan war of 1971 during which it had 42 men killed and 140 wounded.

One of the tasks given to the Battalion last year was to establish and administer a special tented camp for foreign delegates, local dignitaries and members of the press attending a major exercise by the Pakistan army. The Battalion was highly commended for its work.



*10th Battalion the Baluch Regiment  
Abyssinia: 1868*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### The War Diaries of Major André Dennison

From: Brigadier E. J. W. Walker OBE  
Commander 49 Infantry Brigade  
Chilwell, Beeston  
Nottingham  
13 February 1991

The Editor  
The 'Iron Duke'

Sir,

No one who served in the 1st Battalion in 1964/65 will forget André Dennison who joined us from the York and Lancaster Regiment via 2 PARA and 22 SAS. Most of his time with us was spent as 21C of Burma Company under Major Dennis Shuttleworth with Lieutenants Walker and Westcob as the officer platoon commanders. To the soldiers in the battalion he was "Captain 'urricane'" and, my goodness, he was all of that. An experienced, practical and competent soldier, he imparted his knowledge in training Burma Company. He was an outstanding rifle shot and not bad with his 45 Magnum. And he had a certain style. There was the white Volvo, a single figure handicap on the golf course and the rather cynical and wry sense of humour. And he won a winners medal in the BAOR Sevens final of 1965. Nor would anyone in the mess over that period forget Shirley, his first wife, who spent days designing a superb Paris sky line all along one wall of the ante-room for a French evening. The Dennison style certainly appealed to the young officers, the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess

and the soldiers. Subsequently, he went on to serve with the Malaysian Rangers, as a CBGLO on HMS Bulwark, with the UDR and finally in the Rhodesian Army.

André Dennison was killed by a policeman on 3 June 1979 after four years with the Rhodesian African Rifles in the bush war during which he was in contact with the enemy on over 80 occasions. He made his name as a Fire Force commander - a joint service concept to effect 'vertical envelopment' of the 'terrs'. The Fire Force combined ground attack aircraft including armed helicopters, heliborne troops and on occasions paratroops. André Dennison was highly decorated by the Rhodesian Army - Member of the Legion of Merit, Bronze Cross of Rhodesia and a commendation for brave conduct.

Throughout his time in Rhodesia, André kept a diary which was edited and turned into a book, first published in 1989. A number of people have contributed to the book to amplify aspects of the diary. Regrettably the book, which was published in Gibraltar and distributed by Eddington Hook Ltd of Tonbridge, is now no longer available in the U.K. and it is a banned publication in Zimbabwe. It is called 'The War Diaries of André Dennison' by J. R. T. Wood. I have obtained two copies of the book from a source in South Africa and propose, unless anyone would particularly like it, to present a copy to the library of the 1st Battalion Officers' Mess. It is worth a read.

Yours sincerely,  
E. J. W. Walker



**8th Battalion DWR/145 Regiment RAC**

From: Mr. A. T. E. Duncan  
Millmore  
Killin  
Perthshire  
16 January 1991

The Editor  
The 'Iron Duke'

Sir,

With reference to the account in the winter issue of the 'Iron Duke' of how our Panther was acquired. The following adds some background to the story.

After the Gothic Line had been breached the Seaforths of Canada decided to convert their Anti Tank Platoon into a Tank Hunting Platoon. The new role was accomplished by equipping the platoon with PIAT mortars, and 21-22 October 1944 was almost the Tank Hunting Platoon's first action. One PIAT section was committed to help to counter the Panther troop's attack, and Private Albert Edward Smith of the Seaforths pressed home his counter-attack with such determination that he accounted for the two tanks destroyed and scared "Deserter" into a ditch.

As a direct result Private Smith was awarded the Victoria Cross, which I believe, was the first awarded to a Canadian army other rank in the Second World War. Incidentally Private Smith's bag extended well beyond the Panthers mentioned above. I cannot recall exactly how many vehicles he destroyed but there was at least one further half tracked gun and the list finished with a staff car and a motor cycle combination.

Yours sincerely  
Andy Duncan

**The Regimental spirit and the bonds of friendship**

From: Mr. Leslie Peacock  
10 Howard Street  
Worthing  
Sussex  
26 January 1991

The Editor  
The 'Iron Duke'

Sir,

I refer to General Sir Charles Huxtable's letter published in the last issue of the 'Iron Duke' and his glowing tribute to the Dukes. Near the end of his letter he referred to the strong bonds of friendship created within the Regiment. How very true. I well remember a Christmas when I was a 'rookie' at Halifax. I was unable to go home to London and the outlook for Christmas was bleak. Then out of the blue another 'rookie', Tommy Green, invited me to his home in Easingwold. His mother was delighted and I thoroughly enjoyed myself. All that was some sixty years ago. Whether it was at Halifax, Aldershot or on the North West Frontier of India such strong bonds of friendship were always to be found.

Yours sincerely,  
Leslie Peacock

**Casualties in the Gulf and Korea**

From: Dom Alberic Stacpoole  
St. Chads  
Kirbymoorside  
York  
28 February 1991

The Editor  
The 'Iron Duke'

Sir,

At his last Gulf War briefing General de la Billière was able to announce U.K. land battle casualties during 'the 100 hours' as 17 were killed, 31 wounded and 12 missing. These are amazingly miniscule figures, first in relation to our enemy's (so pathetically sad), and secondly to our whole combat experience till this occasion. Indeed it is quite breathtaking.

In the May 1953 Hook battle, three companies of 1 DWR in V formation took the whole brunt of a fortnight's 'softening up' and a climax night of confrontation from Chinese forces. In that period the battalion's casualties were 28 killed, 121 wounded and 16 missing. These were not then considered heavy casualties. Thus we should be filled with wonder and thanksgiving today. It might have been terribly different.

Yours sincerely,  
Alberic Stacpoole

**Service in Norway in 1940**

From: Reverend K. Gregory  
8 Dellwood Green  
Home Park  
Richmond, Nelson  
New Zealand  
10 March 1991

The Editor  
The 'Iron Duke'

Sir,

I would very much like to hear from any past member of the Regiment who served in the Norwegian campaign in 1940.

I went there from Halifax, as a volunteer, with the York and Lancs. I was wounded near Lillehammer and evacuated to Scapa Flow. I have been lame ever since and now use two sticks. The only Duke I met there was Private King who had served with the 2nd Battalion in India.

I think I am one of only four Dukes living in New Zealand. The others are Arthur Stapleton, who was a private in my company when I left the 2nd Battalion in Delhi in February 1940, Harold Scales who lives in Christchurch and Grant Orchard who was a corporal in the 1st Battalion when I visited it in Hong Kong in 1969. Just a short distance away (comparatively), in Fiji, is RSM Basu with whom I have correspondence.

Yours sincerely,  
Ken Gregory

## VIEWS OF THE PAST

*Reproducing photographs from the Regimental archives to illustrate aspects of soldiering in past years.*

### I. The 1st Battalion in Lahore in 1886

In 1885 the 1st Battalion was stationed at Rawalpindi in north west India. In command was the 2i/c, Lieut. Colonel E. G. Fenn, because the Commanding Officer, Lieut. Colonel W. Bally, had returned home on account of ill health. Orders were received for the Battalion to take part in major field exercises near Delhi at the end of the year. The distance between Rawalpindi and Delhi, approximately 420 miles (about the same as between Brighton and Edinburgh), was to be covered by route march. The exercises started in December 1886 and finished on 23 January 1886 when the Regiment had to march back to Rawalpindi, where it arrived on 16 March 1886.

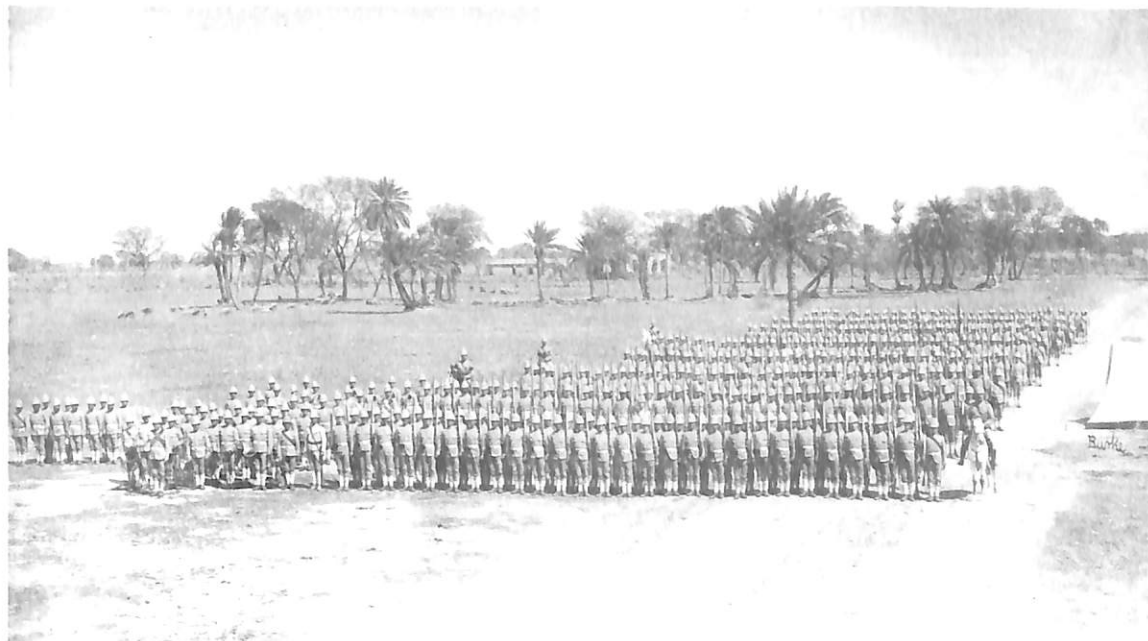
One of the staging camps was at Lahore and the heading of the photograph reads: "Lahore 1886". The picture must therefore have been taken on the return March. The Battalion is formed up in close column of companies, with the band and the pioneers on the right flank of the front rank. The troops are dressed in Indian khaki drill service dress, which had been introduced in 1885. They are armed with the Martini-Henry rifle. Notwithstanding that the Regiment's title had been changed to the 1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment five years earlier the caption reads: "33rd Regiment". Old habits clearly died hard.

At this time the Battalion had a number of very tall men among its ranks. At the end of March 1885 there had been a state visit to Rawalpindi by the Emir of Afghanistan together with an entourage of 10,000 tribesmen. To impress them with the might of the British Empire the 1st Battalion had been ordered to provide a Guard of Honour of one officer and 100 of

the tallest men it had available. This appears to have caused no problem as the guard paraded with not a single man less than 6' in height. The two shortest men, in the centre of the guard, each stood 6' 1". The Commander-in-Chief in India, who was present, stated that it was the most magnificent body of men he had ever seen.

The reason why the Battalion had so many tall men at that time was a reflection of the efforts of O.C. of the Depot at Halifax, Colonel Richard Freer. He had no compunction in enlisting suitable tall men into the Regiment, even through their first choice might have been some other regiment or corps. Because Colonel Freer was so well known for doing this he was called throughout the army in England, "that damned old body snatcher Freer".

In 1872 the 33rd and 76th had been linked together for recruiting purposes and for that reason the 9th Brigade Depot had been established at Halifax. On 1 May 1881 the two regiments became respectively the 1st and 2nd The Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) and the Depot was renamed the 33rd Regimental District. The first commanding officer was Lieut. Colonel Richard Freer who assumed the appointment on 21 May. In 1846 he had been appointed an ensign in the 60th. Ten years later he exchanged into the 27th (Inniskilling) Regiment, which he later commanded from 1868 to 1878. He then went on half pay from which he was recalled in order to command 33rd Regimental District. He died at Halifax in 1885, in the very same year as the Guard of Honour of the 1st Battalion had made such a notable impression at Lahore.



Lahore 1886: 33rd Regiment

## WEST RIDING RIFLE VOLUNTEERS

### 1859 - 1914

From 1859 until today the strength and role of the volunteer army has historically acted as the barometer of Britain's defence policy and funding. Despite having been allies during the Crimean War, the late 1850s saw tension rising between Britain and France. The French navy had already introduced steam powered warships which would keep the sail powered warships of the Royal Navy helpless in port. France steadily improved the port of Cherbourg and the interpretation was that the port was to be used to mount an invasion of Britain. Matters came to a head in 1859 when an Italian, named Orsini, tried to kill France's Napoleon III with a bomb he had made while in England. France was eager to expand her empire and her generals urged Napoleon III to invade.

#### Formation of the Volunteer Force.

Invasion fever swept Britain. In May 1859 the Secretary of State for War, General Peel, authorised the raising of a Volunteer Force under authority of the Yeomanry and Volunteer Act of 1804. The existing Yeomanry cavalry was to be brought up to strength and supplemented by new regiments of rifles, artillery, engineers and a few mounted units. The rapid formation of the volunteer force was organised by counties with the Earl Fitzwilliam acting as Lord Lieutenant for the West Riding of Yorkshire.

The Mayor of Halifax received a petition on 27 May 1859 which proposed the raising of a Halifax corps and he responded by calling a public meeting at the Town Hall for 3 June. The meeting "warmly approved the formation of a Volunteer Rifle Corps for the town and district".

At Huddersfield, William Moore, the Constable, called for a meeting to be held in the Huddersfield Gymnasium hall on 9 June 1859 "for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of establishing a Volunteer Rifle Corps". The meeting was well attended but feelings ran high with claims that the invasion threat and the forming of volunteers was a Tory plot to divert attention from domestic matters. The meeting broke up in confusion. Later a number of prominent Huddersfield citizens agreed to form the "Huddersfield Rifle Club" with an annual subscription of £1.05, each member to find his own arms, uniform, and accoutrements at a cost of not more than £10 a year. When the people of Huddersfield and surrounding hamlets were invited to join the corps, some seventy volunteers enrolled on the understanding that they could elect their own officers and agree the time for drill and practise.

Further north, 6 July saw a meeting at the Courthouse in Settle agreeing to form a committee for a Volunteer Rifle Corps with power to add to its numbers. The meeting took pride in economy and announced that a volunteer would pay £3.40 for a rifle and £2.10 for a uniform whereas others in the West Riding cost as much as £4.50 and £4.00 respectively.

By autumn 1859 some 60,000 volunteers had enrolled with a further 7,000 joining each month. By May 1861 the strength of the Volunteer Force was 170,000. In the West Riding the various corps were grouped into battalion strength groups producing nine corps of Yorkshire Rifle Volunteers with

headquarters at York, Sheffield, Bradford, Halifax, Wakefield, Skipton, Huddersfield, Leeds, Doncaster. In the main, the grouping as battalion strength units was complete in the first year except at Huddersfield which was not complete until 1862.

#### Administration

Certainly the War Office was keen to raise the volunteer force but it voted little funding. The rifle volunteers had to buy their own uniforms, rifles and accoutrements, accommodation and rifle ranges.

Having laid down that the volunteers would pay for their own uniforms the War Office recognised it would be unwise to dictate standard patterns. Lord



*Huddersfield Rifle Corps  
Officer 1863-1874*

Lieutenants were authorised to approve the pattern of uniforms of each volunteer corps provided that no gold lace was worn, rank badges were as for the regular army and that standard colours were adopted by each arm in the county. Huddersfield opted for a dark grey tunic trimmed with black mohair braid on the chest, Austrian knots on the sleeves and black facings. The shako was the 1855 pattern with black cock feather plumes for full dress and a badge bearing the motto "Arma Pacis Fulcra" (arms the mainstay of peace). The tunic, trousers, undress cap, shako and gloves were to be supplied for £3.77½. Halifax chose a similar uniform with a black tunic and a helmet badge bearing the Arms of Halifax.

The volunteers had to house themselves from their own funds and the Huddersfield corps secured the Cloth Hall yard, in August 1859, from Sir John Ramsden Bt. who owned the best part of Huddersfield town. Sir John proved to be a great supporter of the volunteers, being the first commanding officer, and later Honorary Colonel of the Leeds Artillery Volunteers 1860-1914, and Under Secretary of State for War in Palmerston's administration. Permanent headquarters were established in 1863 at the Riding School in Ramsden Street which served until 1901 when the present St. Paul's Street Drill Hall was occupied.

Rapid expansion was not without setbacks for the Huddersfield Corps shooting ground at Gledholt proved less than satisfactory. The volunteers' enthusiasm for shooting caused local houses to be peppered with ricochets and at least one serving girl was missed by a bullet within a few inches. Controversy also came when War Office Regulations forbade the volunteers to bear infantry colours. This did not deter the Yorkshiremen. The 4th West Riding Corps at Halifax was presented with colours

by a Mrs Bury on 21 September 1860. The colours had been made by the ladies of Halifax and bore the arms of the city on both sides. They remained with the corps until 1910 when they were laid up in All Souls Church. The Huddersfield Corps received its colours in St. George's Square on 28 March 1868 when they were presented by Mrs Charles Brook, of Enderby Hall, after which a celebration was held in the armoury. These colours were to remain with the battalion until 1936 when they were laid up in Huddersfield Parish Church.

Discipline formed part of the volunteer life and the Regulations for the 6th West Riding Corps laid down the following fines.

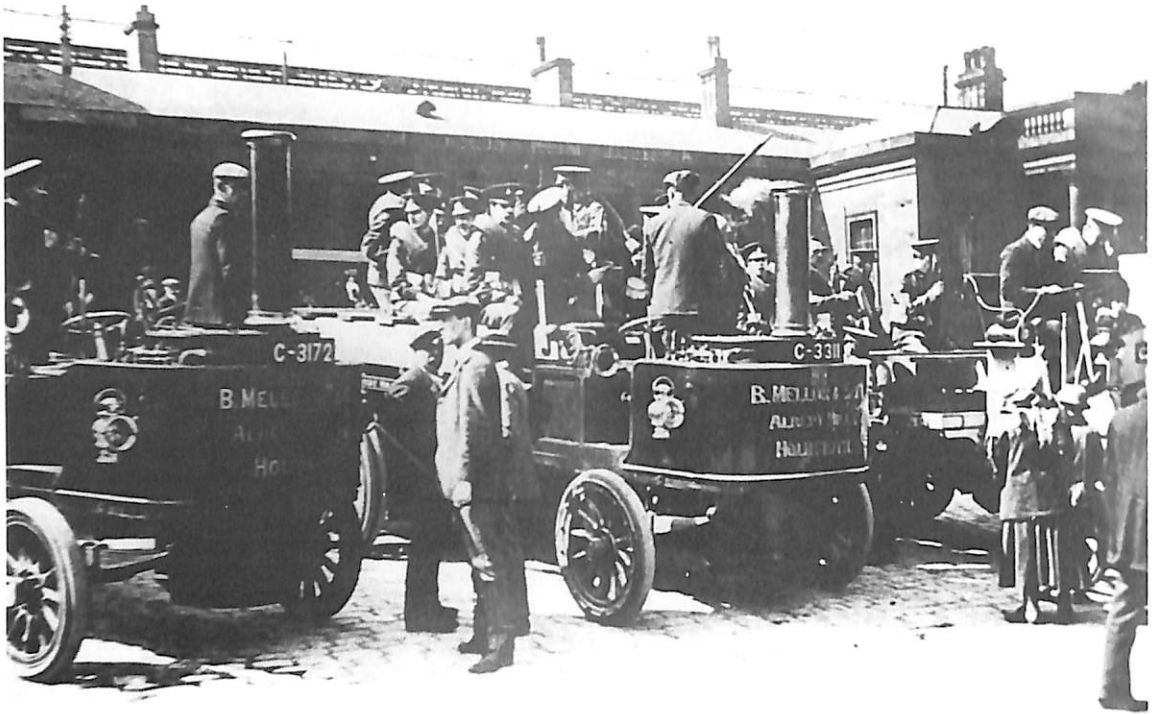
For loading without orders	
or shooting out of time.....	12½ p
For discharging rifle accidentally.....	25p
For pointing same, loaded or unloaded,	
at any person.....	50p
For smoking, or drinking wine, spirit,	
or beer during drill or practise.....	12½ p
For talking in ranks.....	5p

#### Rifle shooting

War Office issued rifles were only authorised for 25 per cent of the establishment and the remaining volunteers had to buy their own rifles. The first rifle used by the volunteers was the .577" calibre muzzle loading Enfield rifle which weighed 9lb and had a 55" barrel. Reloading took time but this improved in 1870 when a Snider breech loading modification was fitted to the existing Enfields. Understandably the volunteers received new weapons some time after their regular counterparts. In 1887 the volunteers received the Martin-Henry rifle which had been in regular service since 1874. This rifle was .45" calibre,



*5th Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment TF: August 1908  
Maxim Machine gun detachment with horse drawn limber.*



*5th Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment TF: May 1909*  
The first time motor vehicles were used in a 'motor mobilisation'

sighted to 1,450 yards, and had a single round breech loading action. It was the last rifle to use black powder propellant and did not remain in service long. In 1896 the Lee-Netford was introduced to the Volunteer Force. It fired a .303" round, was sighted to 2,800 yards and had a magazine bolt loading action which permitted firing twelve rounds a minute.

The rifle and bayonet remained the prime, indeed only, weapon used by the volunteers and a substantial amount of training was dedicated to achieving high standards of individual marksmanship. It had been the Volunteer Force which organised the first serious national rifle meeting at Wimbledon in 1860 at which Edward Ross of the Yorkshire Rifle Volunteers was the first winner of the Queen's Prize of £250.

#### Cardwell reforms

The regular infantry of the line was reorganised in 1881 when Edward Cardwell, Secretary of State of War, directed that the separate 109 regular infantry regiments were to be regrouped as 69 new regiments each of two battalions. On 1 July 1881 the regular 33rd and 76th Regiments of Foot amalgamated to form "The Duke of Wellington's" (West Riding Regiment). Each of the new regular regiments was allocated a Regimental District and that of The Duke of Wellington's encompassed the three Yorkshire Rifle volunteers battalions whose headquarters were by now at Halifax, Huddersfield and Skipton. In compliance with the Cardwell reforms the rifle volunteers adopted the names of the regiments of their regimental district. As a result the Halifax battalion became the 1st Volunteer Battalion The

Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment), the Huddersfield and Skipton battalions being respectively the 2nd Volunteer Battalion and 3rd Volunteer Battalion. Their volunteer uniforms were replaced by those of The Duke of Wellington's, except that gold lace was not permitted and they were required to wear a letter 'V', denoting volunteer, on the shoulder straps. The volunteers were also prohibited by War Office Regulations from bearing colours or the honours and mottoes of the regular regiments. Indeed, the relationship between the volunteers and their regular regiments was simply administrative for the War Office decreed that although the volunteers bore the name of regular regiments they were not part of them. This diminished status was to officially continue until 1917 when the King commanded that the outstanding service of the Territorials in the Great War was to be recognised by their being granted status as part of the regiments whose title they bore. By 1887 there were twelve renamed volunteer battalions of the Yorkshire infantry regiments: The West Yorkshire Regiment (3 VBs); The East Yorkshire Regiment (2 VBs); The Green Howards (2 VBs); The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (3 VBs); and The York and Lancaster Regiment (2 VBs).

#### The Boer War

By 1899 the volunteer battalions had been in existence for forty years and carried out their life of recruiting, training, annual camps and socialising without any threat of an invasion of Britain which would have required their mobilisation for war. On 11



October 1899 war was declared between Britain and the Boer Republics in South Africa. The 'Black Week' of December 1899 saw the Boers beat the British regular forces at the three battles of Stormburg, Mangersfontein and Colenso. The news shook Britain. Although terms of service restricted the volunteer force to home service in Britain the call came for its help in January 1900. The War Office called upon each volunteer battalion to raise 'active service companies', each of 116 volunteers, for service in South Africa. The companies were to be kept as complete units during their service, were to abandon their scarlet uniforms in favour of khaki and were to be distinguished from regular soldiers by a 'V' for volunteer on the shoulder straps.

The three volunteer active service companies from Halifax, Huddersfield and Skipton were commanded by Lieut. Atkinson, Capt. Wilson and Capt. Dewhirst respectively. They were well received when they arrived to serve with the 1st Battalion in South Africa and were involved in the hard fighting and weary trekking in the far north of Pretoria. The arrival of the fresh faced volunteers was a welcome sight to the regulars who were reduced in strength due to casualties and fever. The active service companies continued to serve as complete units and their record in South Africa follows that of the regular units to which they were attached. The Boers surrendered on 30 May 1902. The volunteers who served in South Africa were awarded the campaign medal with appropriate clasps. Although the volunteers were not permitted to bear infantry colours or the battle honours of the Regiment, their part in the Boer War was duly officially recognised by the award of their first battle honour SOUTH AFRICA 1900-1902. This honour was emblazoned on their unofficial Rifle Volunteers Colours and borne against the battalion entry in the Army list.

#### Formation of the Territorial Force

On 1 April 1908 the Volunteer Force was reorganised as a new "Territorial Force" with a larger establishment of 314,000. The Territorial Force was reorganised into fourteen infantry divisions, each of twelve battalions, and four artillery regiments with supporting troops; fourteen cavalry brigades, army troops and coast defence units. New terms of service required the territorials to attend a fourteen day annual camp, evening drills at their drill hall and to fire musketry course annually. The terms of service limited them to serve exclusively in the United Kingdom on mobilisation. It did not require them to serve overseas. Thus 1908 saw the formation of the famous "West Riding Division TF" which was to be entirely composed of territorials and was to see active service fighting as a division in both World Wars.

At grass roots level the effect on the three volunteer battalions of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment was expansion. The change to being territorials was not always popular but the effect varied from battalion to battalion. The 1st Volunteer Battalion at Halifax was redesignated the 4th Battalion The Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) TF but only 290 were on strength to fill the mandatory eight rifle company establishment. Its existing companies at Halifax, Cleckheaton and Brighouse were supplemented by two new companies raised to Elland and Sowerby Bridge. Recruiting was to pay dividends

and the 4th Battalion reached 732 all ranks within three years.

The 2nd Volunteer Battalion at Huddersfield had a challenging task for it was required to divide and form two territorial force battalions. The large part of the Volunteer Battalion became the 5th Battalion DWR TF with eight rifle companies at the existing locations at Huddersfield, Holmfirth, Mirfield with a new company being raised at Kirkburton. Three companies of the original 2nd Volunteer Battalion formed the 7th Battalion DWR TF with Headquarters and rifle companies at Milnsbridge, and companies at Slaithwaite, Marsden, Upper Mill, Mossley and Lees. Within a few years the 7th Battalion had 866 all ranks.

The 3rd Volunteer Battalion at Skipton was redesignated as the 6th Battalion DWR TF and kept all its former companies except C Company at Burley in Warfedale which became part of a new artillery unit - 4th (West Riding) Howitzer Brigade TF. The 6th Battalion's eight rifle companies were at Skipton, Barnoldswick, Guisley, Keighley, Settle, Ingleton, Haworth and Bingley. The battalion was a strong one and in 1908 had a strength 1198 compared with its 1260 establishment.

By now the West Riding territorials were dressed in the 'Home Service' pattern khaki serge uniform with black boots and long khaki puttees. They were distinguished from regulars by a brass letter 'T' above the battalion numeral on their shoulder straps. Whereas the regular army had been issued with the much improved 'Short Magazine Lee Enfield' rifle in 1902 the territorials had had the Mark I Lee Enfield. When out of camp the territorial kept his rifle and equipment at home. The Boer War emphasised the need for machine-guns and each territorial battalion now received two 'Maxim' machine guns mounted on limbers to establish a machine-gun detachment of one officer and twelve soldiers. This was their first issue of a crew-served infantry weapon and each Maxim produced an impressive 500 rounds per minute.

At the outbreak of war with Germany in 1914 the Dukes territorials immediately sent their special service sections to defend key points on the east coast while the remainder of the battalions returned to their drill halls to mobilise for war. Drill halls became a hive of activity with many former Dukes territorials and new recruits arriving to enlist. This allowed each to form a second line battalion and, for example, the original Halifax battalion was numbered from 4th to 1/4th and its second line as 2/4th. Similar renumbering took place with the other three battalions. It was not long before the eight Dukes territorial battalions were to see active service in France and Flanders as part of the 49th (1st West Riding) Division TF and the 62nd (West Riding) Division TF. Fifty three years of relatively peaceful soldiering was about to come to a devastating test.

Major A. J. Podmore TD YORKS



## “MATTY”

*The place: Church parade at Mandora Barracks, Aldershot in 1931*

*The people: Captain T. St. G. Carroll, Private J. Dawes and Private S. F. Swift of the signal platoon 1 DWR*

Captain Carrol's dog Matty  
Was never far from his heels  
He followed him onto parade  
And into the Mess Hall at meals.

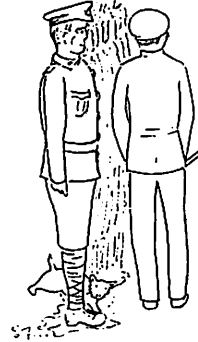
Dawes was proud of his boots  
The toe caps shone like glass  
John even burnished the eyelets  
They really were first class.

Church parade was a bugbear  
Every Sunday at nine  
Best suit, belt and bayonet,  
Everything sparkle and shine.

The Captain was taking his time  
Inspecting us one by one  
It was a bit slow for Matty  
Following behind woebegone.

Matty perked up at John Dawse  
Sniffed, circled twice,  
Cocked up a leg and pissed  
All over John's boots in a trice.

I watched from my eye corner  
The desecrating pee  
Seven days C. B. for my snigger  
Matty got off scot free.



S. F. Swift

## THE SHORT AND IGNOMINIOUS CAREER OF REVEREND BLUNT: ATTACHED 33rd REGIMENT

*During the short time the 33rd Regiment was in Calcutta, between 1797 and 1798, there also resided a certain William Hickey. Hickey, after a dissolute and profligate youth, had taken up the practice of law and made a successful career at the Indian bar in Calcutta. In his "Memoirs" he recorded many instances of his convivial companionship with the officers of the 33rd and in particular its commanding officer, Arthur Wellesley and its 2nd Lieut. Colonel. John Sherbrooke. The events described below took place in August 1797.*

"An expedition - consisting of both Naval and Land forces was completely formed and ordered to sail, General St. Leger being appointed to the command of the whole detachment. His friends, Colonel Wellesley and Sherbrooke, both of the 33rd Regiment, which formed part of the Corps, also going with him. The destination of the army was supposed to be either Manilla or Mauritius. They were to rendezvous at Prince of Wales' Island, where additional troops from the Provinces of Madras and Bombay were to join them.

Having received early information of this expedition and that the 33rd Regiment, would certainly go upon it, I mentioned the circumstances to Mr Scawen under an idea that something might be done for his nephew, Blunt, when he immediately expressed a wish that I would endeavour to procure for him the Chaplaincy of the 33rd. I accordingly applied to General St. Leger who advised me to speak to Colonel Wellesley who commanded the Regt. and he (General St. Leger) would support my recommendation of Mr. Blunt. I did so and Colonel Wellesley in the handsomest manner forthwith appointed Mr Blunt to the situation.

This incomprehensible young man, having thus obtained a situation of credit and emolument, embarked with the troops but had not been more than three days at sea, when he got abominably drunk, and in that disgraceful condition exposed himself to both soldiers and sailors, running out of his cabin stark

naked into the midst of them talking all sorts of bawdry and ribaldry and singing scraps of the most blackguard and indecent songs, so as to render himself a common laughing stock. The Commander of the ship, who was personally attached to Mr Blunt could not help feeling the disgrace that must attend a clergyman thus forgetting what was due to his station, he however mildly remonstrated and prevailed upon him to his cabin. The following morning, when the fumes of the liquor had evaporated, he repeated his remonstrances so forcibly as to distress Mr Blunt beyond measure. Upon being told of the irregularities and follies he had committed the preceding evening, he seemed quite overcome, declared he was ruined and undone beyond redemption and never more could venture to show his face. He shut himself up in his cabin, refused to admit any person whomsoever and would not join the mess at meals.

The Captain of the ship as well as the officers of the Regiment being truly concerned to find Mr Blunt took the matter so much to heart, exerted their utmost efforts to get him amongst them again, but without success. The Captain, finding his persuasions fruitless, he with great good natures sent a boat aboard the ship in which Colonel Wellesley was, to state to him, as Commanding Officer of the Regiment, the miserable condition of the Chaplain and that he really thought the young gentleman's life was in danger. Colonel Wellesley, with equal kindness, instantly got into a boat and went to the vessel on board which Mr. Blunt was. As he would not appear when sent for, pleading indisposition, Colonel Wellesley went down to his cabin where finding him in the most melancholy and disponding condition and positively refusing to take any food or nourishment, he talked of the folly of such behaviour endeavouring to put the poor man in better humour with himself. He told him that what had passed was not of the least consequence as no one would think the worse of him for the little irregularities committed in a moment of forgetfulness: that the most correct and cautious man was liable to

be led astray by convivial society and no blame ought to attach to a cursory debauch. In short Colonel Wellesley laboured to reconcile Mr Blunt to himself, treating the circumstances as by no means calling for the deep contrition expressed and felt by him. Mr Blunt returned his grateful thanks to Colonel Wellesley for his humane conduct and kind intentions

but still contended he was forever ruined and never ought to appear more in society. So serious did this error operate on the poor man's mind that, although surrounded by partial friends, he sank under it and in ten days after the circumstances had occurred he departed his life, having actually fretted himself to death."

## SOME NOTES ON THE STRENGTH, UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT OF THE 33rd DURING THE AMERICAN WAR OF INDEPENDENCE

....From Lord Barington to Major General Howe.... War Office 1775

*"The 33rd, under the command of Lord Cornwallis, is to embark for America - instead of the 53rd Regiment - together with ninety recruits".*

Nine other Regiments were ordered to sail to America from Ireland, the 33rd leaving Cork under the command of Lt. Col. Webster, in February of 1776. They arrived at their destination three months later and were almost immediately involved in the expedition against the Southern Port of Charlestown. It was to be the beginning of six years campaigning during which the 33rd took part in many hard fought victories, including 'Long Island', 'Fort Washington', 'Camden', and 'Guilford Court House'. For its pains the Regiment gained not a single battle honour!

### Battalion Strength

In 1775 the 33rd was made up of one battalion with an official strength on Irish establishment of 474 men plus five field and staff officers. The field commander (Lt. Col. James Webster), the chaplain (Benjamin Grisedale), the adjutant (George Warde) and the surgeon (Wess Hill). The officers held their commissions from the king but had been nominated by the colonel. There was also a quartermaster attached to the Regiment - at that time a man called Robert Crane.

Each of the eight battalion companies were made up of a captain, two lieutenants, two sergeants, three corporals, one drummer, and 38 privates. The two flank companies were similar in composition with the slight difference that two fifiers were additional in the grenadier company (Curtis).

### Recruitment

In August of 1775 regiments were given two additional companies for the purpose of recruiting. One was to be stationed in England, the other in Ireland and the establishment of all companies was increased to 56 men. This increased the paper strength of battalions to 672, but few, including the 33rd, ever attained such high numbers during the period of the war. Returns show that on the Philadelphia campaign the 33rds strength was 19 + 347. On the 1778 Clinton expedition it was 14 + 351 and in 1780 the numbers were as low as 13 + 249. These low and fluctuating figures were due in part to heavy casualties on the battlefield, from sickness and from the standard practice of detaching the two flank companies. However, by far the largest influence was the lack of recruits being sent to North America.

Soldiers were enlisted by either voluntary or compulsory means. The voluntary terms of service were laid down as follows:

"During the continuation of the Rebellion now subsisting in North America, every person who should enlist as a soldier in any of His Majesty's marching Regiments of Foot, should be entitled to his discharge at the end of 3 years, or at the end of the said Rebellion, at the option of His Majesty" (London Gazette - 16th December 1775)"

Volunteers, however were very hard to come by and the recruiting officers often had to rely on unscrupulous methods:

"By lies they lured them, by liquor they tempted them and when they were dead drunk they forced a shilling into their fists". (Sydney)

The situation became so serious that various Acts of Parliament were hurriedly passed in order to assist recruiting. One such act was passed in 1778. "For the more easy and better recruiting of His Majesty's land forces". Another, in 1779 enabled the regiments to recruit "any sturdy beggar or fortune teller, any idle unknown or suspected fellow in the parish that cannot give an account of himself". These measures went some way towards dealing with the constant demands from the army for more men but almost from the start of the war the king was forced to hire mercenaries from Germany to supply the shortfall. Records show that a total of 37,000 were hired for service in the American colonies.

### Uniform Dress

The standards of dress had been laid down in a Royal Warrant of 1768 which attempted to codify the changes that had taken place in the preceding 17 years. The legislation introduced the fur cap for the grenadier companies, buttons stamped with the regimental number, closer fitting coats with small cuffs and narrow lapels and epaulettes denoting rank.

These uniforms proved to be totally unsuited for the rigours of the colonial campaign due to the close terrain found along the east coast of America and the type of warfare which developed because of it.

Fig. (A) shows a uniformed soldier of 1776.

The 1768 Warrant cited the 33rd to be one of only two regiments which were to carry red facings. It also stipulated that the colour of waistcoats, breeches and the lining of coats to be white, the lace to be white with a single red stripe in it, except for the officers whose lace could be different.



A private in the uniform worn at the start of the war, 1776c (figure 'A')

The heavy coat was made of wool, brick red in colour for soldiers and usually scarlet for sergeants and officers. The men's coats were looped with white worsted lace, 4 on the cuffs and 4 at the back. The lapels and cuffs were in the 'facing' colour, red, the cuffs being 3½ inches in width and made to turn down if necessary. Outer pockets were sewn down, usable ones being in the lining, and the pewter buttons, with '33' stamped on them, were fixed to the face of the lapel(s). Although the latter were meant for ceremonial purposes to distinguish the regiments it was common practice among the men to fasten the lapels across the body when they were on the march or if the weather was inclement.

Under the coat the soldiers wore a plain white woollen waistcoat buttoned at the centre and under that a shirt with a stock of black horsehair or velvet around his neck. Breeches were made of heavy linen or wool, pipeclayed to make them white, over which the black linen gaiters, with black buttons and a stiff leather top binding, reaching to just above the knees. The light companies were issued with short, calf length black linen gaiters or 'splatterdashes' to allow ease of movement. These were changed to black wool in 1772, when linen was found to be an unsuitable material, and became universal throughout the battalions shortly after the outbreak of the war. The gaiters were buttoned over white or grey stockings and

plain black leather shoes which had slightly rounded buckles.

Headdress was the principle distinguished feature between the 'hat men' of the battalion companies. The former wore black bicorne hats, turned up at the front and back, with white tape round the edge and a black military or hanovarian cockade and loop held on the left side with a small button. To prevent the hat falling off, two pieces of tape were sewn to the lining and these were fastened with a hook and eye under the cub of hair at the back of the head. It was customary to grow the hair long so that it could be platted, greased and powdered and hung down in a rigid 'pigtail'.

Further regulations emanating from the 1768 Warrant allowed the drummers and pipers to wear 'differenced' uniforms. In the case of the 33rd their coats were to be white, faced, looped and lined with red, their waistcoats red with red breeches. The officer uniforms were to be similar to the mens but with the exception that their coats 'may be without embroidery or lace but, if the Colonel thinks proper, either gold or silver embroidered or laced buttonholes are permitted'. The Colonel of the 33rd chose to use silver lace to distinguish his officers.

Thus, although soldiers were expected to recognise their superiors from their features, a form of 'rank' marking came into being. Regimental officers carried a single silver epaulette on their right shoulder while grenadier, light company and field officers wore one on each shoulder. Round their waists they wrapped a crimson silk sash, tied in a knot, and round the neck a silver gorget engraved with the King's Arms and the regimental number. Sergeants wore a crimson worsted sash branded with a white stripe and corporals had a silk epaulette on their right shoulder.

The flank companies performed tasks which were considered to make them the 'elite' within the Regiment. The throwing of grenades had become obsolete in 1774 but the 'grenadier company' still continued to be picked from the tallest and strongest men. Their old 'mitre' hat was now replaced with a black bearskin cap on the front of which was a silver plated metal badge, carrying the King's crest, on a background which bore the motto "NIC ASPERA TERANT". On the back of the cap they wore a metal badge in the shape of a grenade with the regimental number stamped on it. This headgear was introduced officially with the Warrant but the 33rd had had it granted to it two years earlier, in 1766.

The light companies, introduced in 1771, wore dress significantly different as described already. They had short red jackets, red waistcoats and short black gaiters. Their black leather cap had three chains round it and on a large round peak which stood upright in front was a piece of plate stamped with the Royal cypher and the regimental number. Similarly, as for the grenadiers, men for these companies were chosen for their physical abilities, alertness and fighting qualities. They performed such duties as reconaissance, skirmishing, outpost work and flanking duties.

The flank companies were often taken away from their parent unit and combined with others to form single battalions. So it was during the campaign of 1777 when the light and grenadier companies of the 33rd served with the 1st Light and 1st Grenadier Battalions respectively.

### The Brown Bess

The principal weapon of the army was the short land service smoothbore, flintstock musket which was to become known affectionately as the "Brown Bess". It was 42 inches long with a calibre of 0.75. It had good stopping power but poor range. Major Hanger, who fought in the war, commented "a soldier's musket is exceedingly ill bored, will hit the figure of a man at 80 yards, it may even at 100, but a soldier must be very unfortunate indeed who should be wounded by a common musket at 150 yards".

Infantry instruction of the period gave no training in accuracy. A soldier was told simply to throw his gun to his shoulder in a horizontal position, "point it, don't sight it towards the enemy and at the word of command, pull the trigger". (Sawyer)

An American prisoner, who fought in the battle at Fort Washington, observed that the British "took no aim and the moment of presenting firing was the same".

For training purposes the battalion would normally receive only 4 rounds of ammunition per soldier per year which was supposed to enable men to become accustomed to the noise and recoil of the weapon. To load and fire the musket required twelve orders. A body of well-trained infantry could fire three rounds per minute.

A test, carried out in recent years with a Brown Bess in good working order, found that out of 10 consecutive shots at a 6 foot figure of a man at 100 yards, 6 missed altogether, one struck the chest, one the knee, one the mouth and the other an ear!

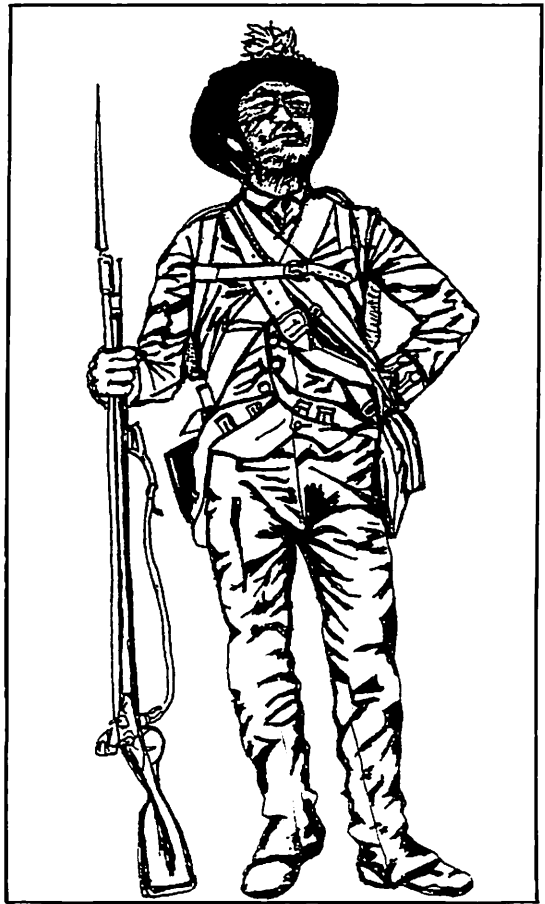
The effectiveness of this weapon was not only limited by its inaccuracy but also by wet weather. Even a short shower of rain would render the musket useless for firepower, the only alternative being to use it as a mount for the bayonet.

### Uniform Changes

Thus were the soldiers of the 33rd turned out to war 'like something made of glass which the slightest accident might damage or break to pieces' Campaigning naturally brought about a gradual relaxation of the regulations governing the dress and equipment of the British soldier. Fig (B) shows what a private may have looked like in the closing months of a war. Lack of supplies and the realities of active service forced such changes. The cleaning of equipment and uniforms would take up two or three hours and this was often ignored because of more pressing business. Small improvements were made to the carriage of kit and to more servicable uniform for practical reasons.

The drawing shows that the soldier's bicorn hat has been stripped of the white tape edging and is worn slouched with only one side turned up. It became fashionable for both officers and men alike to attach feathers or tufts of animal fur to the cockades. The uniform coat of standard length is buttoned across the body but battalions often copied those of the light companies and cut their coats shorter so that they were waist high. Hard-wearing trousers, which fastened under the shoes and were buttoned half way up the calf, became increasingly popular during the campaign. They may have been adopted in lieu of breeches or perhaps just worn as overalls.

The waist belt, which carried the bayonet was almost universally slung over the right shoulder



A private's dress by the time the war ended, 1781c  
(figure 'B')

although cross-belts were not officially adopted until 1784. The cartridge box, which contained 36 rounds of ammunition as well as the canteen and a linen or canvas haversack, remained much the same as before.

Officers and sergeants of the battalion regiments who normally carried espantons and halberds gradually exchanged these for fusils and cartridge boxes in order to make themselves less conspicuous to the American rifle men. The grenadier company also rarely carried its swords as it proved cumbersome.

Overcoats were not official issue at this time so it is interesting to note that Earl Cornwallis, the Colonel of the 33rd, provided his men, in June 1775, with 1924 yards of course twilled Kersey with which they could make cloaks.

Organised, dressed, and armed in such a manner the officers and men of the 33rd marched to meet their enemies on many of the principal battles of the war. One such was Camden. "With a loud hurrah the Welsh Fusiliers and the 33rd Regiment led by Webster came on in close ranks, a solid body of scarlet and glittering steel. They fired one volley and then charged with the bayonet, the Americans overpowered with fear turned and ran, threw away their muskets and ran for their lives". (Ward)

Captain M. A. Lodge

# Regimental Association

Patron: Brigadier His Grace The Duke of Wellington KG, LVO, OBE, MC, BA, DL

President: Brigadier W. R. Mundell OBE

Vice-President: Brigadier D. W. Shuttleworth OBE

General Secretary: Major C. D. Miller, Wellesley Park, Halifax HX2 0BA

## BRANCHES

**Bradford** Hon. Sec. Mr. C. Frear.

13 Edward Street, Littletown,  
Liversedge, West Yorkshire.

**Halifax** Hon. Sec. Mr. D. Stephenson.

13 St. John's Lane, Halifax,  
West Yorkshire, HX1 2QQ.

**Huddersfield** Hon. Sec. Mr. J. Howarth.

32 Deercroft Crescent, Salandine Nook,  
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**Keighley** Hon. Sec. Mr. C. Akrigg.

10 Eastfield Place, Sutton-in-Craven, Keighley,  
West Yorkshire, BD20 7EX.

**London and Home Counties** Hon. Sec. Mr. R. Owers.

12 Waterfall Road, London N11 1JD.

**Mossley** Hon. Sec. Mr. D. Herod.

41 Westfield Drive, Woodley, Stockport, SK6 1LD.

**Sheffield** Hon. Sec. Mr. S. Thompson.

64 Kilvington Road, Sheffield S13 8AH.

**Skipton** Hon. Sec. Ms. M. Clegg.

44 Church Street, Gargrave, Skipton, North Yorks.

**York** Hon. Sec. Mr. J. Hemming.

6 Yearsley Crescent, Huntington, York, YO3 7RS.

## TERRITORIAL AND SERVICE BATTALIONS' OCA

**5th Battalion** Hon. Sec. Mr. L. Brook

1 Hollin Terrace, Marsh, Huddersfield HD3 4AR.

**6th Battalion** Hon. Sec. Captain J. H. Turner.

The Nook, Church Street, Gargrave,  
Skipton, North Yorkshire.

**8th Battalion** (145 Regiment RAC) Hon. Sec.

Mr. A. T. E. Duncan.

Millmore, Killan, Perthshire FK21 8XE.

## Huddersfield Branch

Please note:- as from May 1991, the Huddersfield Branch will meet at 8.15 pm on the last Friday of each month at the Turnbridge WMC, St. Andrew's Road, Aspley, Huddersfield. The first meeting at the new venue is therefore on 31 May 1991.

## GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT: NOVEMBER 1990 - FEBRUARY 1991

### November 1990

Minster Service and lunch in the Sergeants' Mess Strensall. This was well attended and I am most grateful to WO2 Brian Thomas for hosting this event on my behalf. The Sheffield Branch was well represented. The coach which brought members from Huddersfield was provided by B & H Tours of Mirfield. Barbara Armitage, one of the directors of the firm, is the niece of Stanley Armitage late of the 2/6 Battalion who died while a POW, in December 1941.

Remembrance Sunday saw me with the London Branch at the Field of Remembrance. After the parade, I took the tube train from St. James' Park to Victoria. During that short journey, I met Gordon Harvey. I recognised him as a Duke because he had a Dukes cap badge (without scarlet backing) in the lapel of his overcoat. We just managed to exchange names and addresses before I alighted at Victoria. He served from 1945-48 and is living at St. Annes. He remembered a Bill Cahill particularly from his service days, who, he thought, had a stall in the Halifax Borough Market. I have since managed to find Mr. Cahill and he does, indeed, have a fruit and vegetable stall in the Borough Market. He says he meets many ex Dukes whilst he is at work. He has since agreed to wear a Regimental tie occasionally and display a Regimental horse brass.

I managed to visit all branch meetings (less London) during the month and we had an ex 'Dukes' get-together in the RBL Club in Skipton. This was

well attended and it is now hoped that we may be able to form a Skipton Branch early next year.

### December

This was a busy month with, not only the usual monthly meetings, but Branch Christmas dinners and parties to which both the Regimental Secretary and I were invited. The Sheffield Branch meet at Endcliffe Hall. Their dinner was held in the Gun Room of that impressive building which gave a great atmosphere to the excellent meal provided by Mrs Pat Clark. The highlight of the month was my annual Christmas visit to our pensioners at the Royal Hospital. I found all five of them in good heart and they send their best wishes to all their friends. It was fascinating to hear Sgt. Sticky Glew reminiscing of the days when boy Norman joined the 2nd Battalion (Bill Norman is now in his seventies). Ken Walker of the London Branch accompanied me on the visit and we both had a very enjoyable time.

Skipton Old Comrades met again, ably supported by their near neighbours, the Keighley Branch. My thanks to John Turner, Secretary of the 6th Battalion OCA for all his help in making contact with his members and bringing them into the bigger "family" circle.

### January 1991

This was a very quiet month. York Branch did not meet and bad weather prevented me from getting to the Sheffield Branch, who did meet in spite of the lack of heating at Endcliffe Hall. Bradford Branch met twice as usual. They would be very glad to see more old comrades come to their meetings.



In spite of being a quiet month, news flows in during January when over-seas Iron Duke subscribers send in their subscriptions. Geoff Fickling in Australia says he is doubtful about this annual visit next October. Ex RSM Pennington, now living in Tasmania, is on the verge of retiring and he and his wife, Kath, are planning a round trip of Australia. Ian Brett, living in Ontario, Canada wrote to say that winter was a little later this year but once it came they wouldn't see the grass until March. Mrs Honor Jones (nee Ovington) said that Victoria, British Columbia was having one of the worst winters in memory. She has recruited her sister, living in Australia, as an Iron Duke subscriber.

Mr Ralph Hannan, ex Orderly Room Colour Sergeant of the 1/6th Battalion, wrote from Reykjavik, Iceland that he and his wife attended a reception aboard the Royal Yacht, Britannia during the Queen's visit to Iceland last June. He says that Her Majesty's visit was very well received by the Icelanders. Mr. Harold Scales of New Zealand says he is delighted with the parcel of Regimental items which he received from the PRI of the 1st Battalion. During January the London Branch held an excellent New Year party at the TA Centre, Duke of York's, with twenty or so members attending.

#### February

The York Branch held their AGM on 4 February, at which Mr Bob Spring was unanimously elected Chairman for the coming year, Mr Spearman having not sought re-election due to ill health. Mr John Hemming remains as branch secretary.

Ex CSM Ron (Blondie) Williams visited RHQ and we had a long chat about days gone by. Last October he met up with Major Pat Connolly whom he hadn't seen since 1939 when they were with the 1st Battalion and in the 1st XI soccer team.

The Mossley branch met as usual but with a small number attending due to a very heavy snow storm that evening. The Skipton Branch of the Regimental Association officially formed on 14 February, with Mr Earnest Ramsbotham as Chairman and Secretary and Mr Steven Lancaster as Treasurer. One of the first actions of the new Branch was to ask Mr Donald Horsfall to be President of the Branch. This he kindly agreed to do subject to the approval of the Colonel of the Regiment which has been granted.

Mr. Brian Faithful wrote from Lara, Victoria, Australia "Anne and I finished our year as Mayor & Mayoress of the Shire of Corio on the 8th of August. We thoroughly enjoyed the year. It was elevating, exhilarating, exciting, exhausting and everything imaginable, and beyond expectations!! In all we attended 505 engagements, gave 110 speeches and travelled 35,794 kms. Not bad for a country mayor!!". He also said that, sadly, at the end of last year they attended the funeral of May Coulter, the widow of Lieutenant Colonel John Coulter MBE who died in 1985.

C. D. Miller.

#### 1 DWR 1943-45 OFFICERS' DINNER CLUB

The 46th Reunion Dinner of the officers who served overseas with 1 DWR during the period 1943-45 was held in the Queen's Room, Armoury House, London on Friday 8 March 1991. Major Fred Huskisson

presided. The following members or honorary members were also present. Donald Isles, Jim Sills, John Wilson, Tony Randall, Dock Siddall, Noel Wimpenny, Guy Potts, Dick Briscoe, Alastair Paterson, Michael Curtis, Michael Goodman-Smith, Ronnie Miller, Vic Oliver, Ronnie Hoyle, Tom Richardson, John Streatfeild, Charles Huxtable, Walter Robins.

#### OLD COMRADES VISIT TO 1st BATTALION: JUNE 1991

The Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion has very kindly offered to host a visit of Old Comrades to the Battalion at Tern Hill on Saturday 15 June 1991.

The outline programme for the day is:-

1200 hrs	Old Comrades arrive at Tern Hill for pre-lunch drink.
1300 hrs	Barbecue lunch
1415-1630 hrs	Visit and view all aspects of Battalion life
1730 hrs	Band and Drums beat Retreat
1815 hrs	Tea meal
1930 hrs	Old Comrades depart Tern Hill for home locations

Families will be very welcome to accompany their men folk on this visit.

Further details may be obtained from RHQ or your nearest branch of the Regimental Association (see Regimental Association page, or refer to your Regimental Calendar 1991).

#### CHANGE OF ADDRESS \* NEW SUBSCRIBERS

\* Mr G. C. Lockwood, 3 Heatherlands Avenue, Denholme, Bradford, BD13 4LF.

Sgt. R. Mosley DWR, Sergeants' Mess, JIB Ouston, Albermarle Barracks, Nr. Harlow Hill, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE15 0RF.

\* Major D. M. Santa-Olalla MC, 118 Rainbow Avenue, Fort Benning, Georgia 31905, U.S.A.

\* Mr. F. J. McIlwrath, 18 Beaulieu Road, North End, Portsmouth, Hants., PO2 0DN.

\* Mr. W. H. Wiseman, 48 Pinhaw Road, Skipton, N. Yorks, BD23 2SL.

\* Mr. T. Baxter, 11 Shortbank Road, Skipton, N. Yorks, BD23 2JY.

\* Mr. B. Blood, 33 Lytham Gardens, Skipton, N. Yorks BD23 2TR.

\* Mr. J. Norton, 38 Castle Street, Skipton, N. Yorks, BD23.

\* Mr. W. Wilson, 14 Bank Street, Morley, Leeds, LS27 9JB.

\* Mr. S. Lancaster, 12 Airebank Terrace, Gargrave, Skipton, N. Yorks, BD23 2RU.

\* Mrs. A. P. Christie, 277b Sherherds Hill Road, Eden Hills, Adelaide 5050, South Australia.

Brigadier Sarfraz Ali SI (M), Colonel 10 Baluch, 71 Tulsa Road, Lalazar Colony, Rawlpindi, Pakistan.

\* Mr. S. Dooley, 8 Longfield Close, Dalton, Huddersfield.

- \* Mr. D. Hellewell, 16 Stuart Place, Bradley, Huddersfield, West Yorks, HD2 1SE.
- \* Mr. R. Kendall, 3 Crag View, Cononley, Keighley, West Yorks, BD20 8JU.
- \* Mr. D. A. Nicol, 8 Irwin Avenue, Heworth, York, YO3 7TX.
- \* Mr. P. Warenycia, 18 Highcroft Crescent, Almondbury, Huddersfield, HD5 8NF.
- \* Mr. P. G. Laws, 36 Victoria Road, Todmorden, West Yorks, OL14 5LP.
- \* Mr F. Quarmbly, 28 Holmfield Drive, Golcar, Huddersfield, HD7 4AY.

- Mayor of Skipton, The Town Hall, Skipton, N. Yorks.
- \* Mr. J. Pearce, Flat 8, Moffatt Close, Ovenden, Halifax, West Yorks, HX3 5TP.
- \* Mrs. M. B. Rylands, 31 Coach Road, Sleights, Nr. Whitby, N. Yorks YO22 5AA.
- \* Mr. D. F. Horsfall, Fairleigh, Draughton, Skipton, N. Yorks, BD2 6EB.
- \* Mr. M. H. Doyle, 29 Cawder Road, Skipton, N. Yorks, BD23 2QE.
- Mr. L. J. Shaw, 2 Denvale Walk, Goldsworth Park, Woking, Surrey, GU21 3PF.

## Obituaries

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

### Major B. Hindley

Bruce Hindley died in London on 12 December 1990 at the age of 81. He was commissioned into the Regiment in October 1940 and joined the 1st Battalion with whom he saw service in North Africa, Italy and Palestine. When he joined the Battalion he was older than most of the other subalterns, and, although he did not enjoy a robust physique, he was an enthusiastic platoon commander. When called upon to perform in the Battalion Rugby XV, he was an equally enthusiastic, if somewhat, voluble, scrum half.

Undoubtedly his greatest service to the Regiment was as Adjutant of the 1st Battalion under Lieutenant Colonel Brian Webb-Carter during 1943-44. They had a great mutual respect for each other and formed a Battalion Headquarters in which the company commanders and the whole Battalion had complete faith. He was mentioned in despatches for his services in Tunisia in 1943. Bruce could be intolerant of people who did not match up to his own high standards but he was always calm and courteous under fire and was much loved by all who served with him. Like his commanding officer, he always managed to be impeccably turned out, whatever the conditions.

Bruce left the army in October 1945, having commanded a company of the 1st Battalion, and returned to the family firm of jute merchants in the City of London. He was, for some years, Joint Secretary of the 1 DWR 1943-45 Overseas Dinner Club, which was founded by Brigadier Brian Webb-Carter immediately after the war.

The funeral took place at the Golders Green Crematorium on 20 December and Major Peter Faulks and Tony Randall represented the Regiment.

### Mr. P. Sheehan

Patrick (Paddy) Sheehan died in Hereford on 10 February 1991 at the age of 72.

Paddy enlisted in the York and Lancaster Regiment in 1939. He served with that regiment throughout the Second World War, being at one time the radio operator for Lieutenant Colonel (later Major

General) D. A. Kendrew when he was commanding a battalion of that regiment. He was demobilised in 1946 but re-enlisted into the York and Lancaster Regiment in 1950. In 1955, he was posted to the 1st Battalion of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, then in Gibraltar, as signal platoon sergeant. He remained with the Dukes until 1957 when he was posted to various ERE appointments until 1966. Then he joined the Green Howards for two years before ending his service in 1969 as RQMS at the Depot, The King's Division. After his military service, he worked for the Civil Service until 1979 when ill health forced him to take early retirement.

The funeral took place at Hereford Crematorium on 18 February. Major J. D. P. Cowell represented the Regiment.

### Major C. Davis T.D.

Clement Davies died in Huddersfield on 4 November 1990 at the age of 79. "Clem" as he was always known, was born in Halifax and was educated at Crossley & Porter School. He entered the world of banking in 1927 and, except for the war years, remained in banking until he retired in 1972 as the manager of Lloyds Bank, Huddersfield.

Clem joined the Territorial Army in 1937 and was commissioned into the 4th Battalion of the Regiment in December of that year. He remained with that Battalion when they converted to 58 Anti Tank Royal Artillery. Between 1940 and 1943 he held a number of staff appointments in the U.K. and with South East Asia Command. In early 1944, he transferred back to the infantry and joined the 1st Battalion The East Yorkshire Regiment with whom he saw service in Burma, latterly as second in command. He left the army in late 1945 and resumed his career in banking but always kept in close touch with and loyally supported the Regiment.

After his retirement, he undertook a lot of charity and voluntary work, including four years with the Church Missionary Society in Uganda. He was at one time Vice President of the Huddersfield Branch of the Royal British Legion.

The funeral service was held at Holy Trinity Church, Huddersfield on 8 November and was attended by many friends and colleagues. Major C. D. Miller represented the Regiment. A Guard of Honour, which included a number of ex Dukes, from the Huddersfield and District Army Veterans Association paraded at the entrance to the church after the service.

#### Mr. H. H. Metcalf

Harold Metcalfe, a well known figure in Halifax, died in the Halifax General Hospital on 14 December 1990 aged 91.

Harold joined the 1/4 Battalion in France in 1916 just after the start of the battle of the Somme and served with that battalion throughout the remainder of the war, seeing action at Ypres and Passchendaele. In 1919 he transferred to the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders and finally left the army in 1925 to return to Halifax.

Harold, a regular visitor at Regimental Headquarters, was a kind and cheerful man whose caring attitude earned him great respect within the community. He was an active member of the Pellon Baptist Church and a staunch supporter of the Halifax King Cross Branch of the Royal British Legion. As one of the few surviving World War One members, Harold regularly turned the pages of the 4th Battalion Roll of Honour held with the Battalion's War Memorial in Halifax Parish Church.

The funeral service in Pellon Baptist Church on 19 December 1990 was attended by the Regimental Secretary.

#### Mr. S. Kaye

Mr. S. Kaye died at his home in Kirkburton, Huddersfield on 20 December 1990 aged 55.

In 1953 he enlisted in the 7th Battalion (TA) of the Regimental prior to his National Service during which he served in the Royal Army Pay Corps. After his National Service, he joined the RAPC (TA) and was appointed Paymaster of the 7th, then 5/7th and finally West Riding Battalion (TA) of the Regiment. He qualified as a chartered accountant in 1957.

He was a well known councillor in the former West Yorkshire Country Council and Kirklees Metropolitan Council.

The funeral service took place at All Hallow's Church, Kirkburton on 28 December 1990. Lieutenant Colonel C. Barnes TD represented the Regiment.

#### Mr. T. P. Yates

Mr Tom Yates died at Salterford near Colne on 16 December, aged 82. Tom joined the Regiment in 1929 and served with both regular Battalions including service with the 2nd Battalion on the North West Frontier of India in 1935. He left the army in 1936 but re-enlisted in the regiment in 1939, when he served with the 6th Battalion in the U.K. and Iceland. In 1942 he transferred to the Royal Engineers, with whom he served in France and Germany until he was released in 1945 with the rank of sergeant.

The funeral took place at Skipton Crematorium on 24 December at which, at Tom's request, there was a collection for the Regimental Benevolent Funds. The service was attended by the Assistant Regimental

Secretary and Messrs. C. Ackrigg, R. Kendall and E. Ramsbotham of the Keighley Branch of the Regimental Association.

#### Major L. Wardle MBE TD

Len Wardle, who died at his home in Giggleswick on 16 February 1991 at the age of 83, is thought to have been actively connected, in one way or another, with the Regiment more than any one else in recent times - forty seven years.

Len joined the 6th Battalion (TA) The North Staffordshire Regiment in early 1923 and then in September of that year enlisted in the Dukes as a regular soldier on a seven year engagement. During that time he served at the Depot and with the 1st Battalion and rose to the rank of sergeant. On leaving the army, he took the appointment of Sergeant Instructor to Giggleswick School OTC. In 1939 when he was recalled to the colours. He rejoined the 1st Battalion and saw service in France, being evacuated from Dunkirk in May 1940. In 1941 he attended an Officer Training School following which he was appointed to the 1st Battalion with whom he saw service in the United Kingdom and North Africa, where he was wounded in 1943. After convalescence, he was posted as an instructor to the Small Arms School at Hythe and Bisley until October 1945, when, having been promoted major, he was released from the army. He immediately returned to Giggleswick School, was appointed to a TA commission and served with the School CCF until 1970. He was OC of the contingent from 1951-1966. Thus ended those many years of close association with the Regiment, Giggleswick School having been affiliated to the Regiment since the early 1920s. In a recent letter to Regimental Headquarters, he said that he overstated his age by two years to the Recruiting Officer in 1923, which caused no problem until it came to assessing pensions many years later.

He was awarded the Cadet Force medal in 1947. In 1961 he was awarded the Territorial Decoration and appointed an MBE. The funeral service took place at Giggleswick Parish Church on 20 February. The Assistant Regimental Secretary represented the Regiment together with Messrs. E. Ramsbotham and J. Brown of the Skipton Branch of the Regimental Association. Major Nigel Mussett represented Giggleswick School CCF.

#### Mr. J. G. Beckwith FBA, FSA, MA

John Gordon Beckwith died on 20 February 1991, aged 72. He was educated at Ampleforth College and Exeter College, Oxford. During World War II he was commissioned into the Regiment and served with the 1/6th Battalion. He accompanied the Battalion to Normandy on 11 June 1944 and was wounded in the right hand at the Battle of Le Parc Boislande six days later. This was a severe blow for one who was a pianist of talent and promise. After he was wounded he was never again able to go near a piano.

After the war he joined the Victoria and Albert Museum where he spent the whole of his working life during which he became a leading expert on medieval textiles and ivory carvings. He also established himself as an extremely entertaining lecturer to which he added a flair for display which transformed many of the Museum's galleries. His expert knowledge allowed the Museum to make a number of inspired purchases.

He was elected a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries in 1968. In addition he was a fellow of the British Academy and of the Royal Society of Arts. He was Slade Professor of Fine Arts at Oxford from 1978-79.

#### Mr. T. Jackson

Tommy Jackson died at his home in Thornaby, Cleveland on 3 January 1991 at the age of 66 years. He

joined the army in 1941 when he enlisted into the Green Howards. He was transferred to 1 DWR, at Strensall, in 1949 and remained with it for the rest of his service, except for a tour of duty at the Depot The King's Division. He was a corporal with the MT for many years, but will be best remembered for his time as Regimental Pioneer Sergeant, when he sported a very fine beard. He finished his service in 1975 in Aldershot when he was Sergeants' Mess caterer.

## Officers Location List

As at 1st March 1991

### Brigadiers

W. R. Mundell, OBE,  
Deputy Commander NEDIST,  
Colonel of the Regiment,  
Honorary Colonel 3 Yorks.  
E. J. W. Walker, OBE, Comd 49 Inf Bde

### Colonels

W. F. Charlesworth, OBE, HQ UKLF  
A. D. Roberts, MBE, RMCS  
A. R. Redwood-Davis, MBE, Dept. Comd 3 Inf Bde

### Lieutenant Colonels

R. L. Stevens, OBE, DCIS(A) MOD  
J. M. Thorn, OBE, Ghana Staff College  
P. D. D. J. Andrews, PC & E I TDU  
P. D. Gardner, OBE, HQ BOAR (For HQ UKLF as Col Jun 91)  
P. J. Mellor, ACDS (NATO/UK)  
Lt. Col. A. D. Meek, CO 1 DWR  
R. A. Tighe, MBE, HQ NEDIST  
T. J. Isles, HEC BOAR  
C. J. W. Gilbert, SOLF Oman

### Majors

D. M. Pugh, ACC Harrogate  
P. J. Puttock, HQ Depot King's Div  
C. N. St. P. Bunbury, MBE, Asst Comdt MCTC  
C. G. Fitzgerald, BMATT Namibia  
M. S. Sherlock, HQ SEDIST  
C. F. Grieve, HQ SWDIST  
K. Best, 1 DWR  
A. H. S. Drake, MBE, Dept of AG  
D. Whittaker, MBE, Depot King's Div.  
M. J. Stone, 1 DWR  
D. I. Richardson, HQ BR Forces Cyprus  
G. D. Shuttleworth, 1 DWR  
S. J. N. Morgan, HQ BR Forces Belize  
S. C. Newton, Fortress HQ & ADM Unit Gibraltar  
M. J. B. Drake, HQ NEDIST and HQ 2 Inf Div  
P. R. S. Bailey, 1 DWR  
G. A. Kilburn, HQ 24 Airmobile Bde  
P. Wilkinson, QM 1 DWR  
N. G. Borwell, BDLS J10 Canberra

### Captains

B. Coll, 1 DWR  
C. S. T. Lehmann, DOAE  
D. S. Bruce, BDLS Australia RMC  
P. M. Lewis, 2/2 GR  
J. C. Bailey, 4 Yorks  
R. Heron, QM 1 DWR  
J. C. Preston, Sch of Inf Warminster  
M. A. Lodge, 1 DWR  
R. N. Chadwick, 3 Yorks  
R. C. Holroyd, 1 DWR  
M. Tinsley, CTC RM  
R. G. Best, BMATT Namibia  
A. J. Adams, 1 DWR  
S. R. Neath, 1 DWR  
M. D. Norman, 1 DWR

### Subalterns

B. Noble (A/Capt), 1 DWR  
B. W. Sykes, MBE, (A/Capt), 2 Yorks  
T. Butterworth (A/Capt), Sch of Inf NITAT  
P. Coates (A/Capt), 1 DWR  
R. A. Preston, 1 DWR  
M. J. Wolff, 1 DWR  
C. M. Buss, 1 DWR  
B. J. T. Faithfull, 1 DWR  
J. H. Purcell, 1 DWR  
F. D. Murray, 1 DWR  
D. P. Monteith, 1 DWR  
J. T. Hogg (A/Capt), JIB Ouston  
B. Hey (A/Capt) Depot King's Div  
G. Knight, 1 DWR  
A. J. D. Wheatley, AAC Centre  
S. Pinder, 1 DWR  
J. C. Mayo, Depot King's Div  
A. D. Hadley, 1 DWR  
J. R. Mundell, 6 UDR  
N. M. Wood, 1 DWR  
S. J. Stewart, 1 DWR  
M. M. Whitley, 1 DWR  
T. G. Vallings, 1 DWR  
M. T. I. Priest, 1 DWR  
J. C. K. Cumberlege, 1 DWR  
R. C. O'Connor, 1 DWR  
R. C. Brearey, 1 DWR

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