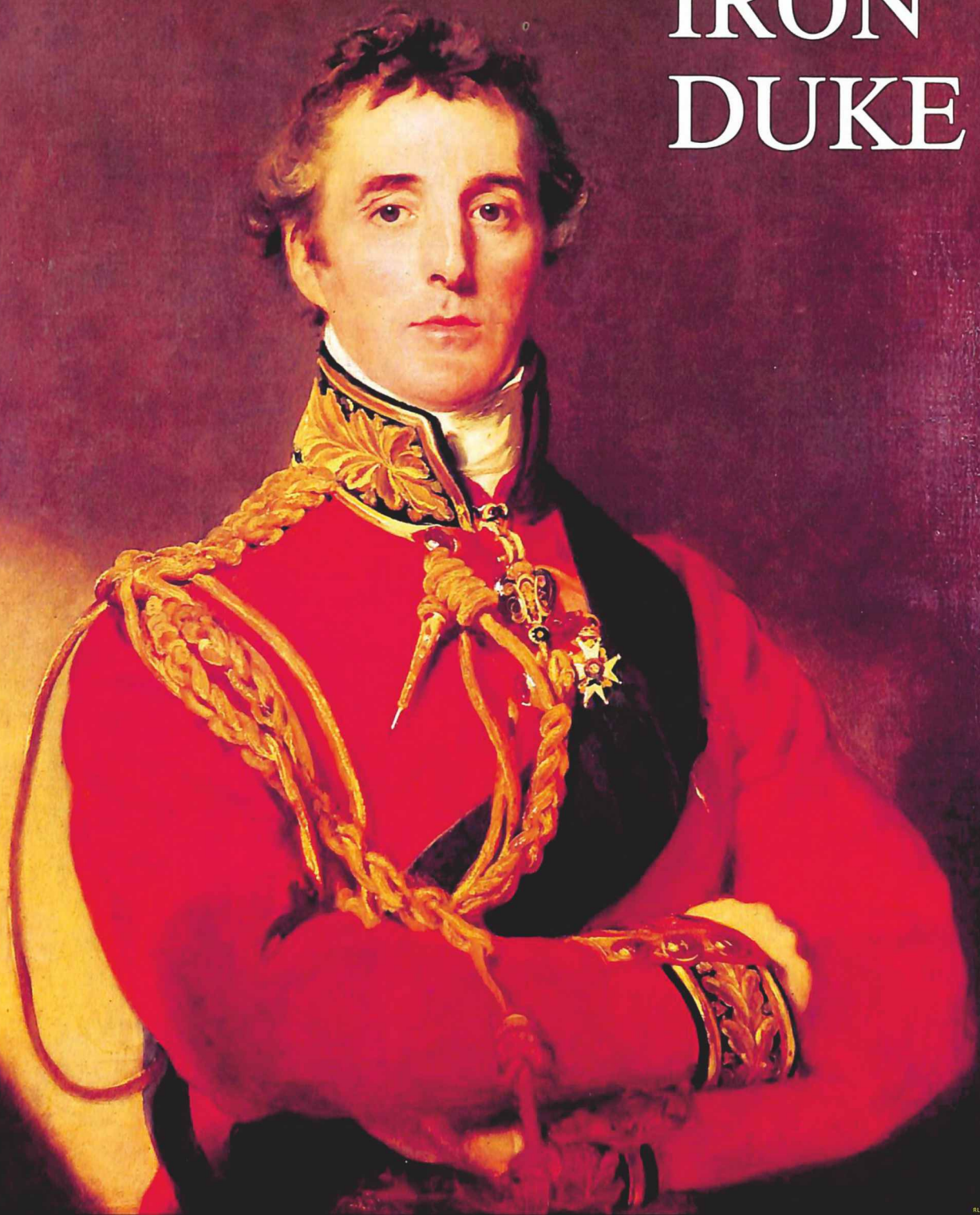


No.221 Spring 1993

THE
IRON
DUKE



THE IRON DUKE

The Regimental Journal of

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

(WEST RIDING)

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



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

Vol. LX11

Spring 1993

No. 221

BUSINESS NOTES

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Editor:

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

Business Manager:

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

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

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Acknowledgements:

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THE REGIMENT

The Colonel-in-Chief

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

Colonel of the Regiment

Brigadier W. R. Mundell, OBE

c/o The Royal Armouries, H.M. Tower of London, London EC3N 4AB

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
*Kiwi Barracks,
Bulford,
Salisbury, SP4 9PF.*

Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Colonel D. M. Santa-Olalla MC.
Adjutant: Captain S. R. Neath
Regimental Sergeant Major: WO1 R. M. Pierce

3rd Battalion
*Endcliffe Hall,
Endcliffe Vale Road,
Sheffield, S10 3EU.*

Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Colonel J. Fox TD.
Adjutant: Captain A. J. Adams
Regimental Sergeant Major: WO1 R. Chapman

ARMY CADET FORCE - DWR

Yorkshire (North & West)
D Company Detachments
OC: Major D. L. Bennett

Halifax
Huddersfield

Heckmondwike
Keighley

Mirfield
Skipton

Thongsbridge

Humberside and South Yorkshire
C Company Detachments
OC: Major T. Scrivens

Barnsley
Darfield

Doncaster
Thurcroft

Wath on Dearne
Wombwell

D Company Detachments
OC: Major D. Galloway

Birdwell

Endcliffe

COMBINED CADET FORCE - DWR

Giggleswick School CCF
OC: Lieutenant Colonel N. J. Mussett

Leeds Grammar School CCF
OC: Squadron Leader R. Hill

ALLIED REGIMENT OF THE CANADIAN ARMY

Les Voltigeurs de Quebec
*Manège Militaire,
Grande-Allée,
Quebec, Canada.*

Honorary Colonel: J. T. P. Audet
Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Colonel L. L. Dionne CD.

ALLIED REGIMENT OF THE PAKISTAN ARMY

10th Bn The Baloch Regiment
*Malakand Fort,
Malakand, NWFP,
Pakistan.*

Colonel: Brigadier Syed Sarfraz Ali, SI(M)
Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Colonel Akhtar Hussain Shah Bokhari

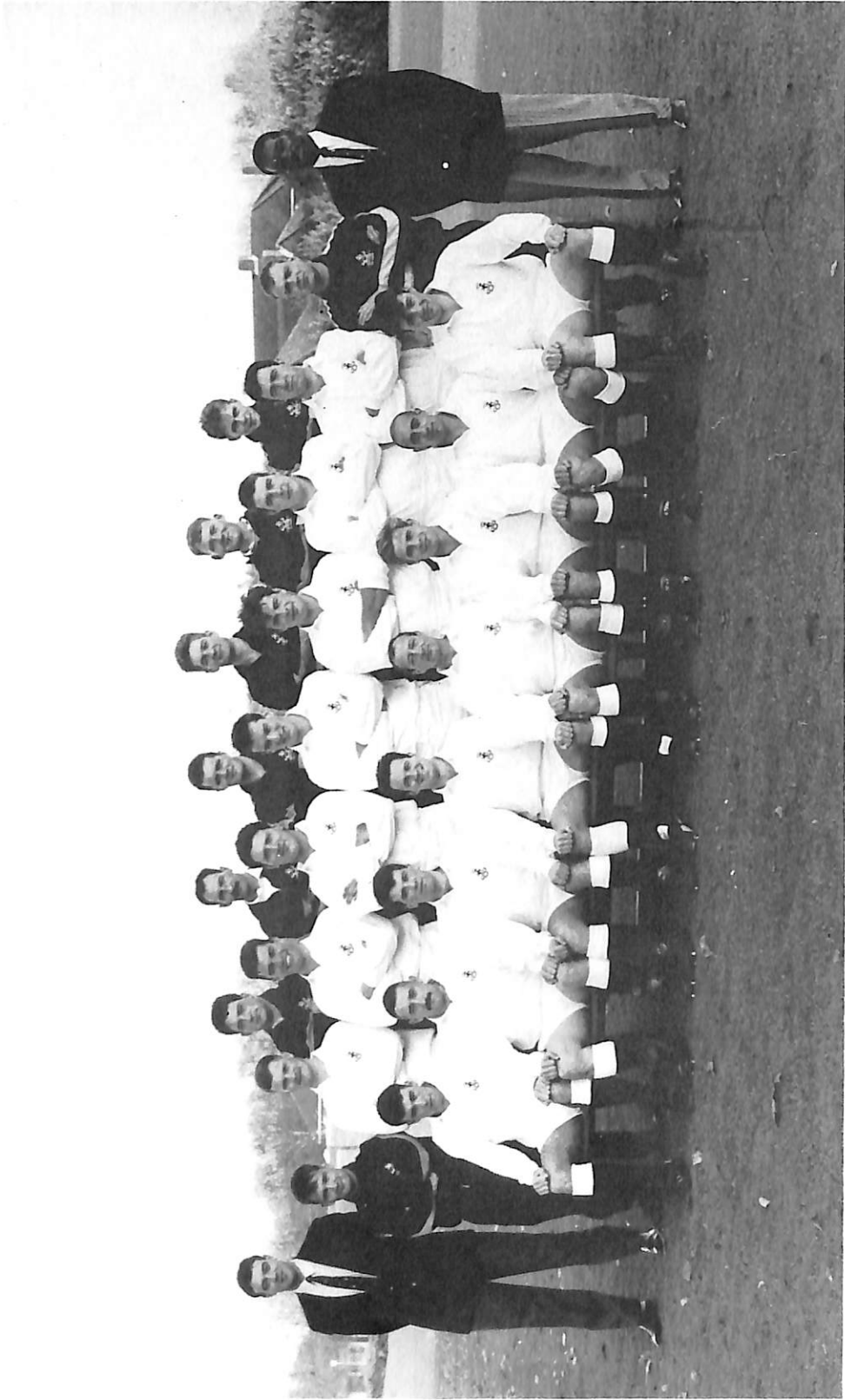
AFFILIATED SHIPS OF THE ROYAL NAVY

H.M.S. Iron Duke
BFPO 309

Commander D. R. Larmour RN

H.M.S. Sheffield
BFPO 383

Commander C. D. Craddock RN



1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, 1st XV Rugby Squad 1992/3

Back row: Captain J. H. Purcell, Sergeant P. H. Barr, 2nd Lieutenant R. F. E. Hammond, 2nd Lieutenant J. R. Douthwaite, Private G. J. Peacock, Private A. S. Bye. Centre row: Major M. A. Lodge (OC Rugby), Private P. F. Bulmer, Private S. Haygarth, 2nd Lieutenant R. C. Brearey, Captain B. J. T. Faithfull, Lieutenant R. C. O'Connor, Lieutenant S. Stewart, Corporal A. D. Williams, 2nd Lieutenant J. N. Mitchell, Corporal J. L. Jenkins, WO2 G. O. N. Williams (Coach). Front row: Lance Corporal L. Blount, Sergeant S. A. Davidson, Captain D. P. Monteith, Captain S. C. Pinder, WO2 G. J. Walker (Captain), 2nd Lieutenant T. E. G. Moon 15/19 H, Private R. A. July, Private D. A. Nettleton.

Regimental Headquarters

Regimental Notes

1st BATTALION RUGBY CLUB USA TOUR: DEATH OF LIEUTENANT M. M. WHITLEY

In April 1993 the 1st Battalion rugby squad embarked on a fourteen day tour of America where, at the invitation of the Columbus/Fort Benning RFC, it was due to take part in the annual US Armed Forces National Club championship tournament.

The squad left the UK on 26 April and the team played its first game at Atlanta on 28 April. The following day it left for Fort Benning, where the tournament was to take place. While on the way the driver of the coach carrying most of the squad lost control and the vehicle turned over. As a result Lieutenant Mike Whitley was killed and seventeen others were injured. Among the more seriously injured were Captain Bruce Faithfull, Lieutenant



John Mayo, Corporal Lee Blount, Private David Nettleton and Jason Tozer, one of two guest players from Halifax R.F.C.

The funeral of Mike Whitley, which took place on 10 May 1993, was attended by many members of the Regiment.

Mike Whitley

OPTIONS FOR CHANGE

Despite the recent announcement that the infantry is to retain two additional battalions, the rundown to reduce the strength of the army continues. Selection for redundancy within the infantry is being carried out across the board and although the King's Division, now without the Irish Rangers, is not losing any of the six remaining regular battalions it will take its share of the cuts. The list of those selected for redundancy published on 25 February 1993 included eighteen senior ranks or soldiers, all of whom were volunteers, and ten officers from the Regiment. All will leave the army later this year or early in 1994. Unlike other Divisions who have surplus manpower due to amalgamation or disbandment of battalions, the loss of manpower within battalions of the King's Division will have to be made good by recruiting. We should all therefore be aware that recruiting of good young soldiers and officers for the Dukes remains a priority.

RETIREMENTS

Colonel W. F. Charlesworth, OBE, retired in March 1993. The following are to retire under phase 2 redundancy.

- Colonel A. D. Roberts, MBE
- Lieutenant Colonel P. J. Mellor
- Lieutenant Colonel T. J. Isles
- Lieutenant Colonel C. J. W. Gilbert

- Major S. J. N. Morgan
- Major M. J. B. Drake
- Captain (L/Major) T. Butterworth
- Captain P. Coates
- Captain J. T. Hogg
- Captain B. Hey
- WO1 (BM) C. North

REBADGING OF ARMY CADET FORCE DETACHMENTS IN SOUTH YORKSHIRE

A number of Army Cadet Force Detachments in South Yorkshire which were previously badged Yorkshire Volunteers are likely to be rebadged to the Regiment. Under the Army Cadet Force system each detachment has a degree of autonomy in deciding on affiliations and badging. It is satisfying therefore that the Yorkshire Volunteer detachments at Thurcroft, Barnsley (Eastgate), Darfield, Doncaster, Wath, Wombswell, Birdwell and Sheffield (Endcliffe Hall) have asked to be badged DWR. Final decisions and the arrangements for rebadging are still under consideration.

AFFILIATED SHIPS OF THE ROYAL NAVY

HMS Iron Duke

The affiliation between the Regiment and HMS Iron Duke is now well established and the Regiment was well represented at the commissioning ceremony held at Devonport on 20 May 1993.

HMS York

Now that the affiliation with HMS Iron Duke has been established, the Regiment's affiliation with HMS York has been ended and the ship has formed a new affiliation with The Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire.

HMS Sheffield

Approval has been given for the affiliation between HMS Sheffield and the 3rd/4th Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers to continue following its rebadging as 3 DWR.

REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS - NEW ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Mr. Scott Flaving has recently taken over the appointment of Administrative Officer at Regimental Headquarters from Miss Kath Jackson who has filled the post on a temporary basis since September 1992. Scott Flaving served with the 1st Battalion from 1972 to 1985 when he retired as a sergeant. Shortly afterwards he joined the Territorial Army serving with the 3rd Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers in Huddersfield with whom he became Warrant Officer Class 2. He is currently serving with Leeds University Officer Training Corps.

REBADGING OF THE YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS AND THE FORMATION OF THE 3rd BATTALION THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT (WEST RIDING) (YORKSHIRE VOLUNTEERS)

The 1st, 2nd and 3rd/4th Battalions Yorkshire Volunteers paraded in Somme Barracks, Catterick Garrison, for the last time in the presence of their Honorary Colonel, Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Kent, on Sunday 25 April 1993. The three battalions formed up in line with the four Regimental Colours and a Regimental guard on the left of the parade ground. The spectacle was only slightly marred by the driving rain, which persisted for the whole of the morning. The Duchess of Kent was received with a Royal Salute, but in view of the inclement weather the inspection of the parade and most of the rededication service was cancelled. Having given leave to the Regimental Colonel to disband the Yorkshire Volunteers the Duchess of Kent made an inspiring and impressive address to the Regiment. In it she congratulated all members of the Regiment on their high standards and achievements during the twenty five years of her Colonelcy and she wished all on parade good luck in the battalions to be reformed from the Yorkshire Volunteers. The Regimental Colours then marched off parade to the Yorkshire Volunteers' slow march, "Duchess of Kent". Her Royal Highness departed to a Royal Salute and three rousing cheers from all present. The Regimental guard then marched off to "Ikley Moor".

On receiving the order to change headdress the three battalions in turn donned new berets bearing the cap badge of their new regiments. They then marched off parade by battalions to their respective Regimental marches and loud applause from the spectators.

Reception tents for each battalion had been erected adjacent to the Somme Barracks' gymnasiums where lunch for about nine hundred was served. Before lunch in the 3 DWR marquee, the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Julian Fox, thanked the Battalion for its efforts and introduced the Colonel of the Regiment whose brief speech of welcome to the Dukes was enthusiastically received despite the rain beating on the tent, the water underfoot and the soaking wet uniforms. During his speech the Colonel congratulated the Battalion on its spirit and achievements since amalgamation last year. He welcomed it to the Regiment, stressing a common

heritage in the West Riding and passed on the good wishes of the Colonel in Chief. He encouraged the battalion to continue to set the highest possible standards and reminded all of the Regimental motto - "Fortune Favours the Brave".

All three battalions and their guests sat down to lunch in the gymnasium which had been extremely well decorated with regimental badges, flags and drapes, bearing the names of some of the battle honours of each regiment. The Colours of the Territorial Battalions and 1 DWR were also on display. At the end of the meal Lieutenant Colonel Fox, on behalf of all three battalions, thanked the Commanding Officer and members of the 1st Battalion Green Howards for the use of their facilities and for their help with the preparation for a most historic event. He concluded by saying that he felt sure the warm and constructive relationship which has existed between the battalions of the Yorkshire Volunteers will continue between the rebadged Territorial Battalions of the three Yorkshire infantry regiments.



The Colonel of the Regiment with the Commanding Officers of the 1st and 3rd Battalions.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL J. FOX

Lieutenant Colonel Julian Fox, the Commanding Officer of the 3rd Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding) (Yorkshire Volunteers), joined the Territorial Army in October 1969 at the age of 19 while studying law at Bristol University. Prior to moving to Yorkshire he was a member of the 6th Battalion The Light Infantry, based at Bath. In December 1979 he moved to Sheffield to work as a solicitor in a private practice specialising mostly in criminal defence work. He then joined a friend from university to set up a firm which now has five offices in Sheffield, four in Spain and about one hundred staff.

He left in May 1988 to join the South Yorkshire Probation Service where he became secretary of the probation committee.

He assumed command of the 4th Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers in January 1991 and has commanded the merged 3rd and 4th Battalions since April 1992.

Lieutenant Colonel Fox has travelled extensively in all five continents. He is interested in hill walking and has ascended Mont Blanc and Mount Kilimanjaro. He was the base camp manager of an expedition to Mount Kenya.



Lieutenant Colonel J. Fox

**\$t ...for
convenience.**

...on camp

...on ships

...on active duty.

Always there
when you need us.

Naafi

THE REGIMENTAL MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES

The meeting of the trustees and the ceremony to mark the re-opening of the improvements to the museum display, both planned for 5 February 1993, had to be postponed due to unforeseen delays in completing the work in the museum.

The rearranged meeting of the trustees was held on 18 March 1993, at Bankfield, under the chairmanship of Brigadier E. J. W. Walker, OBE. The following trustees were also present, Lieutenant Colonel W. Robins, OBE, Major K. M. McDonald, TD, JP, BA, and Major J. R. A. Ward, FBIM. In attendance were Mrs. Jane Glaister, Assistant Director, Museums and Arts, Calderdale Leisure Services Department, the Reverend Pauline Millward and Mr. John Spencer of Bankfield Museum and Major C. D. Miller. Apologies were received from the Colonel of the Regiment, Major A. C. S. Savory, MBE, and Mr. Michael Hall of Bankfield Museum. The following matters were discussed:-

Improvements to the museum display

Lieutenant Colonel Robins told the meeting that regrettably some of the work had taken longer than expected and costs were higher than anticipated but the improvements to the VC and medal display, the genealogy panel, the campaign map and the badge for the entrance have been completed to a very high standard. Other minor work is still in hand and the improvements to the World War One display are now planned to take place early in the next financial year.

The chairman expressed appreciation of the trustees for the work done by Stuart Pereira and his staff from the Yorkshire and Humberside Museum Council and by John Spencer of Bankfield Museum.

It was agreed the Mayor of Calderdale should be invited to reopen the improved display on Friday 23 April 1993 (St. George's Day).

Museum brochure

Lieutenant Colonel Robins confirmed that 20,000 copies of the museum brochure have now been printed at a cost of £1500. The trustees expressed their satisfaction with the brochure. Grants towards the cost of the brochure were received from the trustees of the Huddersfield Drill Hall (£500) and the Friends of the Regiment Fund (£1000). The brochure is to be distributed through the tourist information offices in Calderdale and Kirklees and through other museums.

Supplemental loan agreement

A supplemental loan agreement to amend and update a loan agreement dated 3 May 1960 between the museum trustees and the old County Borough of Halifax, and relating to the regimental collection at Bankfield was approved and signed by the trustees.

Audit - discrepancy and deficiency list

The trustees reviewed a list of discrepancies and deficiencies from the regimental collection drawn up during the complete audit at Bankfield carried out last year. Most of the entries related to discrepancies or deficiencies recorded on previous checks. The trustees accepted that the new entries, although regrettable, are of a comparatively minor nature and it was agreed the accession register should be suitably endorsed and no further action taken. It was also accepted that the current system of control and checks at Bankfield should make further problems less likely in the future.

Transfer of archival material

It was confirmed that unaccessed archival material at Bankfield is now listed for hand over to the Regimental Archives.

Jane Glaister

Brigadier Walker informed the trustees that Jane Glaister will shortly be leaving for a new post in Kirklees. He thanked her on behalf of the trustees and the Regiment for her support for the Regimental museum during her time in Calderdale.

REOPENING OF IMPROVED DISPLAY

The Mayor of Calderdale, Councillor Bill Carpenter, was present at Bankfield Museum on Friday 23 April 1993 to formally declare open the improved displays in the Regimental Museum. During his speech the Mayor mentioned the links between the West Riding and the Regiment for over 200 years, the large number of local men who served in the Regiment during two world wars, the need to bring the displays up to date periodically, and the high quality of the work. The Mayor commented on the co-operation between the Regiment, Bankfield Museum's Service and the Yorkshire and Humberside Museum's Council to fund and implement the work and he congratulated all involved on their achievements. Brigadier E. J. W. Walker, as Chairman of the Museum Trustees, thanked the Mayor for carrying out the opening ceremony. He also thanked those who carried out the work for their efforts on behalf of the Regiment.

After viewing the display, about twenty five guests were entertained to drinks. The following members of the Regiment acted as hosts, Major General Isles, Brigadier Walker, Lieutenant Colonel Robins, Major McDonald, Major Jowett and Mr. Scott Flaving.

RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Recent acquisitions include:-

From Mrs. Vivian Clare Golby, a collection of maps, menu cards, mess rules and Regimental notes originally belonging to her grandfather, Lieutenant Colonel A. E. H. Sayers, OBE.

From Miss Barbara Fothergill, seven photographs of 2 DWR on the North West Frontier in 1933 originally belonging to her father, Private Frank Fothergill.

From Captain R. A. Bonner, King's Regiment, a photograph of 2 DWR in Halifax Nova Scotia 1890.

From Mrs. Wheatcroft, the World War One medals of the late Private Martin 1/4 DWR.

From Brigadier J. B. K. Greenway and Major J. L. Streatfeild, items of uniform.

THE ALBERT MEDAL

The Albert medal was instituted in 1866 for saving life at sea. In 1877 it was extended for saving life on land. It is divided into two classes, gold and bronze. The medal is extremely rare, only 571 ever having been awarded. It is much more rare than the VC and its gold version is probably the rarest of all gallantry

medals. Some indication of the esteem in which it was formerly held may be gathered from the fact that AM was always invested directly after VCs and if there were none of the latter, before all other awards. In 1971 the surviving holders of the medal were given the option of exchanging it for the George Cross.

Two members of the Regiment were awarded the Albert medal. Second Lieutenant Arthur Halstead, MC, 10th Battalion The Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) was awarded the medal in gold in 1918, though this fact only became known to the Regiment earlier this year. The citation was as follows:

On 31 July 1917 during instruction in the throwing of live bombs, a bomb was accidentally dropped. Lieutenant Halstead placed himself between the bomb and the soldier who had dropped it in order to screen him, and tried to kick the bomb away, but it exploded, fatally wounding him. The soldier was slightly wounded and there can be little doubt that Lieutenant Halstead's gallant action saved the soldier's life.

Lieutenant Fred Kelly, 6th Battalion The Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) was awarded the medal in bronze. He had joined the 6th Battalion in 1915. After a period of active service in France ill health compelled him to return to England where, having passed a bombing course, he became an instructor.

On 30 January 1918, while carrying out rifle grenade practice, one of the men caught the loop of the grenade with his bayonet and caused the fuse to ignite. Lieutenant Kelly ordered the man to drop his rifle and get clear but he lost his nerve and remained in the trench gripping his rifle. Kelly, with great difficulty, was able to drag the rifle out of his hands and throw it away. He tried to push the man out of the emplacement but before they could get clear the grenade exploded and they were both slightly wounded.

In 1966 Lieutenant Kelly's widow presented his medal to the Regiment. It is now in the Regimental Museum.

REGIMENTAL BANDS: THE END OF AN ERA

As a result of the Regular Army review of bands, the news that regiments of the RAC and the infantry are to lose their bands must have saddened many serving and past members of the Regiment. The Regiment's first band, that of the 33rd, was formed in 1769 and it is hard to believe that before long it will cease to exist. However, quite apart from the pressures of "Options for Change", the writing has been on the wall since 1981, when there was also a review and a strong attempt to move from regimental bands to larger but fewer divisional bands. That attempt was frustrated by the determined efforts of colonels of regiments to retain their regimental bands, all be it that they had to accept that these would have a strength of only a bandmaster and twenty-one bandmen. Therein lay the seeds of the present decision for it was anticipated, correctly, that a band of that strength was far from ideal in a musical sense and that more often than not the band would have to play with a strength of only seventeen or eighteen.

In the future the King's Division will have two bands each thirty-five strong. Where these bands will

be based, what cap badges they will wear and other administrative matters have still to be resolved. In addition there will be a central musical authority for the army, headed by the Commandant of the Royal Military School of Music who will be known as the Inspector of Army Music and will, among other matters, be responsible for the recruitment, training and career management of army musicians.

It is not easy to be dispassionate about this matter, but viewed rationally, in the past the regimental bands had a stronger *raison d'être* when battalions mostly moved on foot, when there were many more parades (such as church parade every Sunday) and when there were regular route marches in close column of companies. Very little of that happens today, but when the beat is required to help everyone keep in step and march with pride there will still be the drums, the bugles and the fifes. This is how the infantry regiments had started out in the first place, before they acquired their "bands of music".

LADIES REGIMENTAL BROOCH

Dennis Frisby, silversmith of Sheffield, has manufactured on behalf of the Regiment, a ladies brooch in the design of the combined badge of the Regiment.

The brooch is 1.3 inches in height and made in silver/gilt or sterling silver. The cost per brooch is - silver/gilt £35, sterling silver £32.

Orders for these brooches should be placed with Regimental Headquarters.



Actual size

1st Battalion

Commanding Officer's Introduction

The Battalion is presently in what I can best describe as the eye of a storm. Those of you who have experienced a typhoon or hurricane will be familiar with the analogy. Having passed through an extremely active period we are now drawing breath before we become operationally effective with the 1 (Mech) Brigade and set off on another whirlwind of activities.

The training prior to Christmas was initially a FIBUA package at Copehill Down during which each company was able to practice their basic skills and collective procedures in a series of four day packages. Alma Company was also able to provide the players in a new FIBUA training film for the British army, which is appropriate as the Dukes were responsible for the original film made in the early 80's. In November and December attention then turned to Arctic training when we conducted a series of training packages in England and Norway for those members of the Battalion who had not been Arctic trained in 1991. At the same time we began introducing 2 RGJ to the role they are to assume from us on 1 April 1993. We ran a successful exercise "Iron Duke" at Leek for the ACF and CCF units in our Regimental area and hosted field days at Bulford for Wellington College and Canford School CCFs. During this time we were also able to welcome visits from the Colonel-in-Chief, the Colonel of the Regiment and the Mayor of Calderdale.

The new year found us in Norway on exercise "Hardfall '93". Once again the Battalion conducted a very successful package of training in preparation for exercise "Battle Griffin" in March. I can report that

the Dukes put in an outstanding performance which received very favourable comments for our Norwegian 'opposition' and our American 'allies'. Meanwhile back in Bulford our rear party had the daunting task of handing over Picton Barracks to 3 (UK) Div Signals Regiment and taking over Kiwi Barracks from 1 LI. This was successfully achieved through considerable hard work and we now find ourselves where the Battalion last served only six years ago. Meanwhile we prepare for handover of our winter warfare equipment, familiarise ourselves with our new equipment and reconfigure in preparation for emerging in a few weeks as a mechanised (wheeled) infantry battalion. On return from Easter leave we enter a frantic period of activities and training, much of which is at company level, which will keep us very well occupied for the remainder of the year.

We have continued to plot our course through the 'Options for Change' drawdown. The results of phase 2 redundancy have been announced, the results of the band review have confirmed that we are to lose a key element of our regimental family and we look hopefully to the time when we are able to return to fully manning our establishment. Our rugby team once again met its nemesis, 7 RHA, in the semi-final of the Army Cup. The team is foregoing the sevens competition this year to send a 'A' XV squad to the United States for a two week tour. The football team had an excellent season and is currently top of the Southern District League.

As we enter yet another role, albeit for only a short period, we do so with confidence in ourselves and the desire to reinforce our reputation.

EXERCISE "WINTER'S PASS"

The force FTX came at the end of a four week build up for the Battalion while in southern Norway, during exercise "Hardfall '93". The Battalion was to be tested to whether it was in a satisfactory state to carry out operations in Arctic conditions. The exercise began with all the companies moving into a Battalion concentration area in the infamous 'Snow Hole Valley'.

On arrival a howling wind and low visibility meant all hands on to get the position dug as quickly as possible. We were ordered to move at 4am the following morning. Just minutes before that time news came through that due to the bad weather the Recce Platoon had been unable to cut a route through Brandset pass and that the move was delayed. With the onset of daylight the conditions eased, and we were eventually able to move off. Each company had been tasked to clear enemy positions in two valleys to the north. However, plans were disrupted once more when moves by helicopter were scrapped. This resulted in long BV rides for many of us and timings became very tight. Burma and Corunna companies had been tasked to take out the enemy in the Jordhalem valley. At the bottom of the valley it looked as if cam-whites and skis might have to be discarded as there was no snow, but as we moved



Lance Corporal O'Neill

higher wintry conditions returned. The day's operations took up much time so when Corunna moved through Burma to clear its designated enemy positions, the light was fading fast. We were now faced with the dreaded task of digging in the dark, and to make things worse it was pouring with rain. Morale was not high at this stage, as stories of times in Brecon in similar conditions were recounted.

The next day, having rested briefly and dried out our clothes as far as possible, we were able to get into a routine, and wait for further enemy movements. An enemy helicopter flew up and down the valley several times, which enabled the sentries and machine gunners to let off a few rounds, although their efforts seemed to have little effect. We held the position safely for twenty four hours and were then ordered to withdraw to a position to the south-west towards Voss. Companies were tasked to set up short term

positions in order to slow down the enemy advance. This was done successfully, although withdrawal across an icy river was not a task that was relished by all. By this stage, though, the enemy had been severely weakened and the Battalion regrouped once more for a final assault on the enemy. A dawn attack was planned, and an initial move by BV was to be followed by a ski to the FUP. However, a navigational error resulted in a wait of about an hour for the three rifle companies on top of a mountain at 5am with a stormy wind bringing the temperature close to minus 30°C. Once again it took a great deal of effort to maintain morale and the will to go on; but eventually we moved off, and the assault started. Location of the enemy was extremely difficult, but with Corunna taking the lead and Burma and Alma following through, the enemy was eventually overcome. It had been a very testing exercise for all involved.



Training in Norway
A section is briefed before an exercise

NORWAY 1993

On 8 January 1993 sixty prospective Arctic warriors set off from Bulford for the last of the mandatory Novice Ski and Survival courses. Little did they know that they were to spend that night in the 'luxurious' Gateway House Hotel, Brize Norton, making a sizeable contribution to its bar profits. This was due to high winds at Bergen, preventing the departure.

Having finally arrived at Bransett Camp we were greeted by driving rain and mild weather - 200 miles south of the Arctic Circle? Four days of constant blizzard followed, making basic ski training very difficult but also creating an extremely high avalanche threat. Two days into the week long exercise the rain

returned and suddenly it was back on to the BVs amidst rumours of 'Bosnia here we come!' Sadly the reason was that the last week's blizzard/thaw/gales had created the worst avalanche threat in Norway for sixty eight years. And that was basically it.

As the main body arrived in the last week of January it soon became apparent that the avalanche threat would seriously affect training with many valleys out of bounds. Alma Company with Major Lehmann, 2nd Lieutenants Moon, Walsgrove, Douthwaite and Hammond fresh from NSSC refused to let these restrictions curtail the training. The company was soon out in the field practising ski-ing,



Training in Norway
Lieutenant O'Connor and members of his platoon ski joring behind a BV 206

harbour drills and other low level platoon tactics. Patience was needed as it was realised by the inexperienced Arctic subalterns that everything takes a great deal longer in the snow, especially when the temperature drops to minus 25°C as it did during the exercise. Colonel Gardner (Colonel King's Division) visited Alma on its introductory exercise.

The highlight of every week proved to be the free downhill ski-ing day in Voss. The sight of soldiers screaming down the pistes totally out of control soon cleared the slopes as Norwegian skiers fled to the mountain restaurants.

A three day range package gave the company a chance to practise pairs CQB, section fire and movement, and a night ambush. The platoons worked very hard but the new soldiers quickly realised that to fight effectively in the Arctic requires a high standard of personal fitness and weapons drill.

A 10km cross country ski race certainly highlighted the different ski-ing standards within the company. LCpl Hill sprinted around the course to win overall with Private White winning the novice race.

After only ten days in Norway the Company FTX began with a test against Burma Company in defence and attack, with both companies proving that they had used the initial training effectively. 6 Platoon under 2nd Lieutenant Mundell put in a particularly good attack on a mound 500 metres short of Alma's patrol harbour! The five day Force FTX was designed

to test all levels of command in working in an Arctic environment prior to moving north for Battle Griffin. This it certainly did as Brigadier Innes decided to 'knock out' Alma and Burma OCs immediately prior to the Battalion's deliberate attack! This left 2nd Lieutenant Moon of the Light Dragoons, currently attached to the Battalion, in command of Alma Company!

The Battalion's deliberate attack entailed dismounting from the thirty seven BVs at 2am in an assembly area on the reverse slope of a mountain some 5km from the enemy. The temperature was well below zero and as the Battalion moved slowly off it soon became apparent that it would be a long and very cold 5km. At 8.30am Corunna Company launched the initial attack with Burma and Alma ski-ing through to take out further depth positions. The length of the move from the assembly area to the FUP had proved to be a demanding test, but as the attack rolled through, it appeared that the overall fitness and platoon drills had certainly improved, placing the Battalion in a good position to travel up north to take part in exercise "Battle Griffin".

FORCE CROSS COUNTRY SKI RACE

The AMF(L) Force cross country ski race was planned just three days after the Battalion exercise and it took place at Helgatun, a small hamlet north of Vinje, where the track was $\frac{1}{2}$ km from the road.

The day was overcast but fine and there had been a light fall of snow during the night. Of the fourteen teams entered all eventually turned up bar one, the RAF. Once numbers had been issued, entrance money collected and equipment checked, the first competitor was released from the start gate. Ahead of him was 20km of gruelling effort over four laps of a 5km course. The skiers descended steep slopes, gaining a few moments of relief before climbing punishing hills with the knowledge that they would have to conquer these same heights another three times with each ascent becoming harder as fatigue set in.

The spectators at the start/finish were kept informed of times and positions as they were relayed over the loud speaker. However, when a mass of skiers approached silence fell as the watch keepers battled to put times to racers and the temperature in race control rose a few degrees. As the event progressed the team

from Corunna Company emerged as the only real opposition to the firm race favourites from Log Support. Corporal Stannard was leading the charge for home and finished third equal in the individual times. As more team members came in it was looking very tight indeed. In the end Supply Company Log Support clinched the victory by one minute and six seconds, which over seven hours and forty minutes is a very close run race.

With Corunna Company taking the runners-up team prize, the only other prize not won by Log Support was that of first veteran which was won by Sergeant Karamath of the Royal Green Jackets. Every competitor was rightly congratulated on completing a very tough event and Colonel Lund expressed his surprise at the high standards achieved, saying that they compared very favourably with that of the Norwegian army.

The results produced by the Dukes favour any decision to raise a Regimental cross country team to compete in inter unit competitions.



Force cross-country ski race
The Corunna Company team
 Left to right: Lance Corporals Knight, Towler and Schofield, Corporal Stannard

BURMA COMPANY DOWNHILL SKI-ING

One of the perks of the Ace Mobile role is the ability to train the companies at downhill ski-ing. It also provides the soldiers with an interest in a sport other than football. For about £1.40 the soldiers receive a lift pass worth about £250. Once kitted out, it's off to the slopes, no mean task in itself for the Norwegians persist in trying to cram an entire platoon into a cable car with a maximum load capacity of four men and a small dog.

However, having survived the ordeal of the ascent, the Voss Ski Resort offers a wide and varying range of opportunities for the budding Duke ski enthusiast to damage himself in some cruel fashion. The slopes range from novice slopes ideal for learning, to a world cup downhill run, enough to test the bravest of Dukes!

THE ADVENTURES OF A DOWNHILL SKIER

It was a dull and damp Sunday afternoon, the clouds were dropping and so were the skiers. Then it happened, I felt honoured to have witnessed the dob of the decade.

Corporal 'Para' Draper had been practising this dob for months, and when he finally attempted it, it was nothing short of spectacular.

Imagine the scene: a fast downhill run through the trees on the slopes of Voss, one man with one aim, to beat his arch rival and reach the double chair lift first, by fair means or foul.

Having been pipped at the post on the previous two attempts 'Para' had devised a cunning plan. So sly, it was more cunning than a fox who had been to university could have thought of - he would take the last two corners totally on the inside, so what if it was a bit 'off piste'.

With his adrenalin flowing, 'Para' was pulling away from me. I was not going to panic, I knew I could catch him further down the hill. The day's dob count was 13 - 6, 'Para' was due to be number fourteen. I then witnessed the top dob.

'Para' played his ace and shot up the banking on the left hand side of the track, and as he rose and dropped down the small hills he was pulling further away from me. The track was clear but my 175s were never going to catch him, never mind pass him. Then I saw the two crossed blue poles on 'Para's' selected short cut. At exactly the same time 'Para' noticed them and with the ease and skill of a slightly overweight limbo dancer he passed underneath them.

The standards within Burma Company certainly covered the whole spectrum from the newcomer's approach, such as Sergeant Lowther (top to bottom in one straight line); to the style and panache of the Company 2IC, Lieutenant Cumberlege.

The day also provides the soldiers with the opportunity to mix socially with the locals that had not deserted the slopes at the first sound of a BV206 vehicle. There is also a chance to eat at one of the three mountain top restaurants, providing that your bank balance allows it (a hot dog is a real bargain at £3). And for those feeling slightly bruised there was always a chance of a sauna at the Fleischers Hotel, along with a cool beer (another fiver).

Then all I heard was the long drawn out ahhhhhhhhh as 'Para' disappeared from sight. As I rounded the corner I could not believe my eyes, 'Para' had 'gone'. I ground to a halt and then noticed a stream running through the woods where 'Para' had vanished.

Suddenly I saw his face looking up from the stream bed, with an expression of pure horror. I could not hold back my laughter any longer, I slipped over and lay on my back like a dying fly. 'Para' the airborne warrior had fallen about twenty feet into a culvert full of water while travelling at about warp eight - what a plonker . . .

He was shouting at me to grab his poles and skis from him but I could not move. I had a fit of laughter so bad that even a conversation with Pete Kemp would not have cured me.

As I rolled about on the floor 'Para' managed to throw his skis and pull himself out. By now he too had seen the funny side. His first words were "Right dwarf . . . the score is now 13 - 7! Dobs off piste don't count, and look where you dobbed!"

My only regret is that I did not have the video camera to record such a dob, but the face 'Para' pulled from the bottom of the culvert will always make me laugh.

'Para' beat me to the lift so I had to get my fags out on the way up on the lift, but if ever a cigarette had been earned, it was then.

Corporal Lomax

FIBUA TRAINING, OCTOBER 1992

During the autumn of 1992 the 1st Battalion had extended use of the new FIBUA training village, Copehill Down, on Salisbury Plain. A purpose built facility, the village has around one hundred different houses, including barns, defended houses, an urban assault course and even a church, complete with graveyard.

Companies rotated through a two day package which began after a central brief with a series of stands through the village. These included petrol bomb throwing from a building, house entry and clearance,

defence of a building and platoon tactics. The support troop from the 17/21st Lancers, who came down for the exercise phase, was also kind enough to run over the backs of the soldiers of Alma Company as they lay between the tracks of the Chieftain.

Having revised the techniques and drills required companies then conduct an attack against the village. Because of the considerable size of the facility this was undertaken against about a fifth of the total area. Co-ordinated with tank support, this proved a different and difficult type of infantry work that fully tested

fitness and drills of the soldiers and the commanders.

The close support of the tanks proved too much for Sergeant "Dog" Ward who, fearing that the tanks were too close, got his platoon to shine their torches and shout in the direction of the noise. What he didn't know was that the tanks were about 500m away from the Company, who were in their FUP, preparing for a silent dawn attack.

The Battalion was also involved in the new FIBUA training video. This will come as part of the new FIBUA package which, apart from the village itself, includes a computerised war game based on a 1:100

scale model. This is designed to test the command element before fighting the battle proper on the ground.

The main effort for the video was made by Corunna Company, in particular 2nd Lieutenant Nigel Rhodes' platoon, who spent the best part of the month in the village. The officers and seniors also took part in filming at the simulator in Warminster, which was built into the video. This saw Major Nick Borwell promoted Lieutenant Colonel for the day on film, and attached personnel rebadging DWR.

MILAN PLATOON LIVE FIRING

After completing a very successful Milan Concentration the platoon was left with several missiles still to be fired from our annual allocation. With the Battalion deploying to Norway this gave us an ideal opportunity to fire the weapon system in a different environment. The Mjolfjell range is a large area contained in a system of three valleys which allows for varied and challenging shoots.

Far more preparation goes into the setting up of a Milan range than any other form of live firing. Often back in the UK we turn up at a prepared range and don't fully appreciate the time and effort that has gone into establishing the range. In the Arctic the safety restrictions are exactly the same as laid down in pamphlet 21, the only difference is that everything has to be prepared from scratch. It starts with a trench being prepared then the slow process of ice creting the position begins. With a bit of luck the weather works in your favour and everything freezes nicely for the following day.

As on all Milan live firing shoots a certain degree of physical exercise has to be endured before the firer is given the opportunity to fire. Out in the Arctic this is easy to achieve as the majority of work involves skiing from A to B usually pulling a pulk weighing approximately 90kgs. There is also supposed to be an element of NBC but due to the low threat in the Arctic it was omitted on this occasion.

The day started with concentration area drills in camp, followed by a BV206 ride up the valley to an assembly area. From the assembly area a Puma helicopter was booked, but as on so many occasions on this deployment the helicopters didn't arrive. Plan 'B' then went into action. The platoon waited in the assembly area until the night drew in and then they started to move up the valley under the cover of darkness. They moved to a prearranged drop-off point where they off loaded all the equipment and prepared for the short assault ski to the firing point. A guide directed them towards the position they were tasked to relieve and the detachments made best speed to relieve the struggling forces. As the men approached they collected their ammunition from a pre-dumped position and moved forward to the firing point. As the men moved closer to the position the Machine Gun Platoon opened up from a flank to cover the move, switching targets with deadly accuracy.

Once in position the Detachment Commander was able to call for illum from the Mortar Platoon so as to assist him in identifying his targets. Once the targets were identified with the Mira the two positions fired a volley of four missiles before withdrawing into cover, to allow the other detachments to follow through in rotation.



The Drums Platoon prepare for live firing

SWW NETHERAVON: THE HOME OF ANTI-TANK WARFARE

After completing my Milan Platoon Commander's course at Netheravon recently I bumped into a warrant officer in the territorial army. He spent some time explaining to me the course that he went through using the Wombat weapon system. Although the weapon system has changed quite considerably, arguably the course itself hasn't become any easier. If anything, it may actually have become harder. Lance Corporal Smith who has just finished a Detachment Commander's course and Corporal Thackray who has just completed a Section Commander's course, report:-

Detachment Commander's course - Lance Corporal Smith

The day started with anticipation. Lance Corporal Craven and I went on our first external course at Netheravon on our Detachment Commander's course. On arrival we booked in and were shown our accommodation. On moving up the Anti-Tank Division the morning after we were split into groups and shown our squad instructors. We then went through several tests so that the Anti-Tank Division could assess the standards of the intake.

During the first couple of weeks the squad instructors covered the lessons we would be taking later on in the course. We would have separate lessons on battle procedure, soviet tactics, AFV and orders procedure. A clear mind was needed as the subject matter came over fast and furious in so little time. After the classroom work, there were a few exercises on Salisbury Plain so that the instructors could assess the course on leadership capabilities in different situations. All our appointments seemed to go really well as the instructors only picked up minor points on the debriefs.

We also went through a round robin which included battle cards, trench blowing using explosives, fire control and AFV recognition. A couple of times we went out for sighting TWETS and battle card work which was quite easy to understand as we had concentrated on it a lot on our pre course training.

The last couple of weeks contained everything we had covered from preparing lessons and giving lessons, to progress tests on all subjects and then final exams.

Overall the course was interesting and brought everything into perspective so that we could carry out our jobs correctly.

Milan Section Commander's course - Corporal Thackray

Corporal Johnson and I were allowed to arrive at the Anti-Tank Division between 0900 hrs and 1600 hrs

on the day of reporting. We actually arrived at around 1200 hrs to a very warm welcome from a very friendly SASC chap who helped us to complete our arrival proforma. He then inserted his cassette and escorted us to the AFV model room, where we were informed that we must sit a level three test. After Johnno had picked himself up off the floor and my blood pressure had returned to normal we sat the test. After a few days on the course we found out that only 25% of the course should have stayed, however!!!

After settling down to what was hopefully going to be a pleasurable and educational course we were once again knocked from our pedestal and I quote "Gentlemen, in ten days time we will require from you in written form two battle exercises, one battle lesson, a week's training programme and a range letter". I immediately asked myself am I a soldier or secretary? I was later to realise that for the next six weeks I was both. However, everything was completed and in time, with some decent results.

The teaching practises were going well and the grades, I hope, were being achieved. All squad members realised who were the stronger and weaker members of the squad, and inevitably started to work as a team. It was not unknown for a pad to stay with a weaker member of the squad to prepare a TP until anywhere up to 2200 hrs.

The live firing exercise was quickly approaching and in true tanky tradition we were looking forward to the copious amounts of beer to be drunk, courtesy of all the misses. However, the beer bellied red nosed members amongst us were to be disappointed as there was a 94% hit rate at 800m to a moving target using MIRA.

The chief instructor was very pleased with everyone's efforts and decided to give us all a late start the following day. Well I could have sworn he did when I ran out of petrol on the way to work, but thankfully a lift was obtained and we arrived just in time.

The final exercise just around the corner, I was told my first appointment was CSM. After ten years in the Regiment I have never been mechanised, only to find out that my next appointment was DC in a mechanised roll. Instant trauma! Luckily with help from a lad from BAOR I managed reasonably well.

The remainder of the course consisted of written tests, which after six weeks seemed just passable, but the course overall was enjoyable and educational as had been expected. We have now both returned to the Milan Platoon and are awaiting promotion in line with the other four trained section commanders.

MOON - "BOOTS"

As a cavalryman leaving the regiment on 30 August '92 it was a hard time to go. Our final parade as 15/19 The King's Royal Hussars signified not only the end of a fine regiment and our last old comrades parade, but also my departure to 1st Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding). I must admit I found it touching that the Regiment should put on such a fine show to mark my departure, though could

not understand why nobody noticed when I slipped out of the camp gates.

On arrival with the "Dukes" I was welcomed into the mess with much friendliness, to find people returning from block leave, an orderly officer who was just pleased to see a human face again and two new officers from Sandhurst doing a quick hello - goodbye before PCBC.

Next day after the mandatory "solutions not problems", talk from the Adjutant, I went to meet Alma Company Commander as I was to be 'A' Company 2IC. It appeared Alma was going "up north" on a Kape tour and so was my "raison d'être" the rugby team.

The next three weeks were spent in Strensall Barracks just outside York. Here the rugby team was put through its paces. The training was extensive, starting at 9am and going throughout the day with only a break for lunch. It was hungry work and the evenings were spent taking on nourishment.

Our first game against Skipton was not a prelude on things to come. We won convincingly. By Halifax it was apparent that the team was feeling the strain of RQMS Williams' training schedule. It was Jim Purcell who came with the answer. Through a contact, possibly Peter Winterbottom, he knew a mad professor who produced a secret formula to drink.

On return from tour Alma went into a FIBUA package in preparation for a training video. Attached was a troop of Chieftains from 17/21 L. It was here I experienced first hand one of the infantryman's greatest fears. Not being burned alive, shot at, captured, or diving through windows, but being squashed by at least sixty tonnes of Chieftain. Little did they know it would probably break down before it reached them. Hence the Battalion now has an amended set of night time hand signals, courtesy of Sergeant Ward.

The interval between that and the next FIBUA saw a "Dukes" dinner night where I was introduced to some interesting customs and some impressive silver. The two customs I found most interesting were firstly that newly promoted majors should not only wear their spurs upside down but also have their mess kit made upside down in order not to clash. This was aptly demonstrated by Major Mark Lodge. The second was a curious dance, the hootn'anne, a wonderful adaptation of a German thigh slapping, drinking song, a must at every party.

The FIBUA training video went ahead with only a few comments like "its a wrap lovey". It has to be said the film team was highly professional. This meant a lot of waiting around and numerous "takes". Not much fun for some, however if you were industrious enough there were things to be getting on with and in the interests of getting the best out of the director, making sure the Dukes were portrayed in a good light and general public relations, I made friends with the continuity girl.

Meanwhile the rugby team powered on in the Army Cup, convincingly beating the Welsh Guards. Christmas was coming and so was Norway. However, concentration was fixed on the ensuing battle against 7 RHA. It is an old fad of the army to always give an incentive and ours was that if we lost to 7 RHA on 6 January '93 then it was off to Norway by 8 January '93.

The time for "the big game" arrived. The team was working well. In one training session the backs transformed themselves, to prove that although the Dukes won most games on the merit of the pack, things could have been made a lot easier had more specialist attention been paid earlier on in the season. This fact however, had nothing to do with the result against 7 RHA. A massive effort was put in on all fronts. The support from the side lines was inspiring to the very last. However the experience and

power of the 7 RHA pack achieved success. Nevertheless, even in defeat there was personal success. Jonny Mitchel had managed to play an entire game without knocking himself out.

After the game it slowly dawned on those of us who had yet to do a novice ski survival course that we only had one day to pack our kit ready for two months in Norway.

NSSC was my first introduction to living in Arctic conditions. By the end of NSSC I was confident that as long as I had my pocket contents in the correct pockets I could survive the meanest of conditions. The weather did its best not to disappoint us, with avalanche dangers at their highest in sixty-eight years, temperatures at minus 25°C and that was before being combined with windspeed to produce a cooling effect on the body known as "windchill".

Thus it was with a happy heart and a plastic bag for everything I possess that I went from NSSC to the real world of fighting in the Arctic. Again there were more lessons to learn. The first was not to go anywhere without curry powder. This being because there are only so many ways to cook mutton granules and chicken supreme, but which ever way it is they will both taste the same! The second lesson was a cunning little trick that CSM Sutcliffe learnt while trapping tigers in the jungle. If you dig a massive pit at the entrance to your tent and then peg the tent out over the top, any enemy that gets too close will fall into it and thus be at your mercy, as I discovered. However, the hole in the tent was not a problem as luckily I had brought my own cooker with me. Unluckily I had not used it before and as burning naphtha snaked its way across my rolemat towards Major Lehmann he tried to beat it to death with his tentboots. Those of us who know the fire resistant properties of a four man tent can, no doubt, understand his alarm.

On the final day of the Force FTX Major Toby Lehmann, in his quest to make the compo taste different, ate some contaminated nuts and, according to the umpire, died. News soon spread that no longer was the company in the charge of Major Lehmann, a Bisley one hundred shot and PMC, but instead command lay with 2nd Lieutenant "Harry Natpha" Moon, a cavalryman. There was only one thing to do and I decided to use the old cavalry method of being serene as a swan on top but paddling like a duck underneath. If that did not work then the old two up and bags of smoke was next.

The change in command did nothing to deter the Alma Company warriors, who produced a fine final assault that made the whole thing the highlight of my stay with the Dukes. There are not many subalterns who can claim to have commanded an infantry company in the assault in Arctic conditions!

Having now spent the best part of two months here, with only a week or so of exercise "Battle Griffin" before me, it is with regret that I will soon have to leave this place and the Dukes.

There have been times in Norway when it has been hard to believe that one is getting paid to do it, and times when it was hard to believe how little one is getting paid to do it. It has been here, in Norway, that I have really come to experience the Dukes as a Battalion. In England with copious amounts of guards and other such things it is not easy to see the true character of the men. I am very glad to have had the chance to come out here and equally glad that it was two months and not two weeks. I sincerely hope

that this sort of attachment between infantry and cavalry does not become a 'one off'. I have enjoyed myself enormously, learnt a lot and feel that should the opportunity arise, an infantryman would do the same in the cavalry, possibly a future close rece

commander. It is all too simple for people to adopt the "easy life" approach to other arms and I would like to thank the Battalion for making my stay an experience I will not forget.

T. E. G. Moon

WELLINGTON COLLEGE CCF VISIT

On 14 October 1992 Burma Company hosted seventy members of Wellington College CCF ably run by one of its many fine old boys, Lieutenant Mark Priest. This was to be the annual field day for the CCF's new recruits and for most of the schoolboys this was their first contact with army life. For that reason the day was designed to be as varied as possible. The schoolboys and their three masters were welcomed in the officers mess and given a fascinating talk on Regimental history and the Regimental Colours by Lieutenant Jonathan Cumberlege. From there the group was split down into three platoons and spent the rest of the morning on a round robin of bayonet drills, assault course training and due to the fine weather, a helicopter flight. The bayonet drill was enthusiastically run by Lance Corporal Hinchcliffe along with a few Burma soldiers, and he managed to get even the shyest of the schoolboys to scream their hearts out. They appeared from the woods covered from head to toe in cam cream and twigs, but all claimed to have enjoyed it! From learning to kill people they were then run over the assault course by our PT staff, including ex Burma soldier Private Holmes, and the coughing and wheezing could be heard all around the barracks! It was good for team

spirit and it was possible to see a few future officers emerging! The highlight of the morning for most people was the Gazelle flight kindly laid on by 2 Flight Army Air Corps from Netheravon and everyone just about managed to get a quick ride.

The afternoon was spent on the ranges where a simple practise was laid on for everyone to fire the SA80. They had only been trained on the cadet rifle which is a single shot version and therefore this was the first time any of them had fired a fully automatic weapon. The Burma soldiers had an opportunity to coach the cadets in correct techniques and everyone became fairly proficient. As concurrent activities on the range Somme Company personnel showed and demonstrated all the Battalion support weapons and the company ski instructors modelled all our Arctic clothing and equipment.

Once the range was cleared up the cadets were placed into three ranks and run back into camp. No one had any problems keeping up or maintaining the step with the likes of Private Hutty shouting at them! They got straight on to their coaches after a thoroughly exhausting day and everyone was asleep before they left the camp gates!

FOOTBALL



The six-a-side football team

Left to right, back row: Captain Sykes (manager), Lance Corporal Reynolds, Private Atherton, Sergeant Craddock, Corporal Roberts. Front row: Lance Corporal David, Sergeant Barratt, Lance Corporal Morgan, Private Shirt.

Pre-season training culminated when the team joined the KAPE tour of the West Riding, during which games were played against teams in Huddersfield and Halifax. Both games were won and the team came away well prepared for the SDIST(W) six-a-side competition, which was held at Warminster. It was a long hard day and the team did not start too well. However, we gradually hit our true form. As a result we reached the final, in which we beat HMS Osprey 1-0, and won the shield. The Dukes last won the shield in 1986 and two of our players, Sergeant

Barratt and Lance Corporal Reynolds, played in both winning sides.

We are doing very well in SDIST(W) first division and currently top the league. In the Infantry Challenge Cup we beat 1 Green Howards 3-1, but in the next round went out on the penalty rule to the newly formed 1 PWRR. In the Golding Chalke major unit's KO cup we beat 1 RWF 3-1, School of Signals 4-2 and 22 Engineer Regiment (the cup holders) 4-2, after extra time. In the final we played the School of Infantry and won 2-1.

'D' (WELLESLEY) COMPANY DWR YORKSHIRE ACF

The notes concerning exercise "Iron Duke" were submitted to the Editor for publication in the winter 1992 issue of the journal. For some reason they did not reach him, which is why there has been a delay in recording the event.

Exercise "Iron Duke" took place at Leek on a very wet and inhospitable weekend at the end of October 1992. In addition to the cadets from 'D' Company, Leeds Grammar School and Giggleswick School, we had seven teams from Humberside and South Yorkshire which brought the total number of teams competing to twenty one.

The competition began early on Saturday and, despite snow, sleet and rain the cadets tackled all the events and aspects of the competition with enthusiasm. The results were:

1st Keighley Cadet Detachment DWR.

Winners of the Iron Duke trophy for the second year running.

2nd Giggleswick School. Best CCF detachment.

3rd Thongsbridge Cadet Detachment DWR.

The prizes were presented by Colonel Westerby, Commandant Humberside and South Yorkshire ACF.

The company officers still do well in the TARA target rifle matches. Again three officers from the company were in the winning team representing Yorkshire: Major D. L. Bennett, Captain P. R. Cole and W/Lieutenant A. Riddle. All received gold medals. W/Lieutenant Riddle also came third in the individual competition for officers, to take the bronze medal.

In the annual cross-country 'D' Company cadets took 1st place in all three categories: Female, W/Cadet C. Johnson; Junior, L/Bdr Mitchell; Senior, Bdr Brogden. Other successes have been in the six-a-side soccer in which Junior 'D' Company were runners up and rugby seven-a-side, which was won by Junior 'D' Company.

Camp this year will be at Cultybragan Camp, Scotland for two weeks from 24 July to 7 August. "Iron Duke VI" will take place at Leek in October 1993.

THE WEST RIDING AND THE HAVERCAKE LADS

Until 1922 it was commonly believed that the 33rd Regiment was raised in Sowerby Bridge, near Halifax. In that year "The History of the 33rd Regiment" was published and, although the author did not expend too much of his energy on research, he found sufficient evidence to claim that the Regiment was first composed of men from the midland and south western counties (a). This information was not happily received by the more die-hard members of the Regiment and the author was obliged to add this paragraph:

"I am indebted to Colonel Duke for the following note: For a very considerable time Sowerby, near Halifax, has been regarded as the original recruiting ground of the 33rd. This therefore serves to indicate the association of the Regiment with the county of Yorkshire . . ."

The fact that Colonel Duke's (b) comments were recorded as a direct quotation indicates that his remarks in no way received the author's endorsement. Nevertheless, there is no doubt that at an early stage in its history the 33rd established recruiting links with West Yorkshire. In May 1782 all Regiments without Royal or other distinctive titles were informed that

they were to be formally associated with individual counties. At the same time they were requested to inform the Adjutant General whether they had ". . . any particular connection or attachment to a particular county, or any reason for wishing to bear the name of a particular county, and if so to name the county . . ." Lord Cornwallis, the Colonel of the 33rd, welcomed the idea and wrote:

"Sir,

I am to desire that you will please to inform General Conway (the commander-in-chief) that the 33rd Regiment of infantry has always recruited in the West Riding of Yorkshire . . . I should therefore wish . . . that my Regiment may bear the name the 33rd or West Yorkshire Regiment . . . I am fully sure that no older Regiment can claim so long and intimate connection with the West Riding of Yorkshire."

Cornwallis had been appointed Colonel of the 33rd in 1766 and his remarks infer that by that date the practice of recruiting in the West Riding had already been long established. It is unlikely that it started before 1715, as within six months of being raised in 1702 the Regiment was on active service and remained



The Havercake Lads
A recruiting sergeant carrying a havercake on his sword. c1814

so until the end of the war of the Spanish succession in 1713. For a short while in 1714 it was disbanded, but was re-raised in 1715. It is quite possible that the association started then, but there is no evidence one way or the other.

The next written record of the Regiment's association with the West Riding occurred in 1794. On 4 May in that year Captain Wheeler Collington wrote from Halifax to "The Honble Arthur Wesley MP, 33rd Regiment, Cork" that a recruit he had enlisted on 20 April deserted on the 26th but "was taken last Saturday and lodged in Wakefield jail". He went on to say (in a postscript) that he was due £400 in respect of recruiting expenses, which it seems reasonable to assume was the real reason for his letter.

On 5 September 1795 the War Office wrote to Cornwallis to inform him that the 33rd was destined for foreign service. The letter contained details of the proposed strength of each of the ten companies and how any shortfall was to be met. The letter also stated that "the 11th and 12th companies shall be considered as at home and be constantly employed on the Recruiting Service". Both companies were to have a strength of five sergeants, five corporals and fifty five private men.

There can be no doubt that at least one of the two recruiting companies was based in Halifax as Captain Collington continued to write to Arthur Wesley from there. For instance, on 29 January 1797, by which time the 33rd was in India, he wrote to Wesley on the subject of recruitment of drummers and the number of recruits sent to Chatham, which was then the main training and concentration depot for recruits who were due to be sent overseas.

In 1814 a book was published entitled "The Costumes of Yorkshire" which contained a number of coloured plates of Yorkshire subjects and personalities. Plate XXII was headed "Thirty Third Regiment" and had the following caption:

"This Regiment was raised during the American war (c) in the neighbourhood of Halifax, from which circumstance, and that of their recruiting sergeants always preceding the party with an oatcake upon their swords, the men have always been denominated the Haver-cake Lads. Till very lately the gallant Lord Wellington was the colonel of the regiment. To his portrait the eloquent sergeant in the Plate is appealing, which, with the strong additional aid of Sir John Barleycorn, will no doubt produce a powerful reinforcement to the Haver-cake Lads. The Regiment has lately been given to Sir John Sherbrooke."

Haver is an old Dutch word which means "oats". The word is usually to be found in conjunction with some other word, hence haver-cake and haver-sack.

In 1853 the 33rd was granted the title 33rd (or Duke of Wellington's) Regiment. While the Regiment was greatly honoured by the change of title, there is plenty of evidence that it had no desire to thereby lose the West Riding connection. Thus both the Crimea and Abyssinia memorials (erected in about 1859 and 1869) display the words West Riding inscribed on them in a manner similar to the Regiment's battle honours. More significant is the fact that in 1870 the Regiment applied to the War Office for the words West Riding to be added to its title. The application was turned down.

In 1872 the 33rd and 76th were linked together with a depot at Halifax, which was opened in 1877. Four

years later the 33rd and 76th were amalgamated. The first title selected for the new regiment was the Halifax Regiment (Duke of Wellington's), but because of confusion with Halifax, Nova Scotia, the title was soon changed to The Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) (d). Then as now every opportunity was taken to remind the people of the West Riding of their links with the Regiment. However, the scale was then far more lavish. Thus in 1903 the 1st Battalion, with a strength of 376 officers, NCOs and men, led by the band and drums and followed by a long line of carts, marched from York to Halifax, via Tadcaster, Pontefract, Wakefield and Huddersfield. Once the Regiment had entered its territorial area, each colour sergeant carried a haver-cake on his bayonet, while drummer boys distributed cakes to the spectators. On arrival at Halifax the Battalion was entertained at the Halifax Palace Theatre, "a new building very prettily arranged". The Battalion later marched to Bradford from where it took a train back to York.

The 33rd's nickname of the *Haver-cake Lads* continued to be freely used at least until the early part of the 20th century. Thus when the 1st Battalion started a quarterly magazine in 1897 it was given the title *The Havercake Lad*. The magazine was suspended during the Boer War but was started up again in 1905. It ceased publication in 1907.

Haver-cakes were still being made in the late 1940s, though by then there was only one individual who could make them, a Mr. Lord of Bradford. They were made either fresh and soft, which children preferred, or hard and crisp. In either case it is difficult to see how they could have been stuck on a sword. Mr. Lord recalled that in 1882 he saw a party of the 33rd marching down the road from Halifax to Bradford with haver-cakes fastened to wooden staves, but the cakes were made of wood.

The exact year in which the Regiment started its long association with the West Riding remains in doubt. But there can be no doubt that its link with its associated county is as long as that of any regiment and remains as strong as it has always been.

A.C.S.S.

Notes:

(a) Research since 1922 has established that the 33rd was first mustered at Gloucester and had drawn its recruits from Gloucestershire and the neighbouring counties.

(b) John Charles Duke was commissioned into the 33rd in 1871. In 1897 he was promoted Lieutenant Colonel. He retired in 1898.

(c) The author's knowledge of the history of the 33rd was not as good as his knowledge of the history of Yorkshire. The 33rd was raised in 1702.

(d) In 1920 the title was changed to The Duke of Wellington's Regiment (West Riding).

TROOPSHIPS AND PASSENGER LINERS: THE END OF AN ERA IN SEA TRAVEL

Nowadays, ocean travel is almost entirely for relaxation. However, not so long ago it was often the only means by which people were able to travel to and from the UK and their employment overseas.

My first experience of a sea voyage took place in 1953 when I sailed to Hong Kong on the "Empire Hallidale" with Majors Jones-Stamp and Harris and a draft of three subalterns (Tom Lawton, David Gamidge and myself) and seventy-four men. It was an interminable voyage - for it took no less than five weeks to reach Hong Kong. This was owing to the "Hallidale's" slow speed, and was despite omitting a call at Port Said, due to the poor state of the British-Egyptian relations at that time, and a shortened stop at Aden which left no time for a short visit and indeed anything save taking on fuel and supplies during the dark. No one got to stretch their legs and vary the monotony of the voyage until we reached Colombo. The strain on the soldiers in the troop decks was considerable, and was made worse by a particular private on the draft who took to hitting other people indiscriminately with a beer bottle during the small hours. I seemed to be with him before the OC troops too often for comfort and found Colonel Richardson's eye as much fixed on me as on the delinquent!

Assorted vignettes of seaboard life flit across my memory. They included a very hot boxing match in the Red Sea or Indian Ocean where I was pitted against a much taller adversary with a longer reach; our passing a homeward-bound troopship with, I think, the Cameronians on board after a stint in Malaya during the Emergency (they cheered us across the water); and the exotic batik sarongs worn as sleeping attire by several subalterns from the Malaya Regiment who shared the other berths in our large cabin. Delightful trips ashore in Colombo, Penang and Singapore varied the rather tedious shipboard routine as we ploughed slowly towards our destination.

I was fortunate in having the late Douglas Jones-Stamp as my senior officer, since he made the most of the long voyage by entertaining his friends whenever a regimental or national anniversary occasioned a celebration. These cheerful events enlivened seaboard life. They also served as my induction into the Regiment and greatly encouraged my interest in its past history. I look back on them, and him, with real pleasure and lasting affection.

My gradual progression in Douglas's esteem (barring few hiccups!) was assisted by having to deal

with a minor emergency after we had disembarked at Hong Kong. Upon arriving at our destination at Lo Wu Camp near the Sino-British frontier Douglas found he had left a treasured forage cap in his cabin on the "Hallidale". I was despatched to recover it, and sped back to the ship. Needless to say, very few staff were then on board and it was difficult to get hold of the keys to the locked cabin. By a stroke of luck I was ultimately successful, my determination fuelled by the thought of Douglas's face in the event of failure.

My next stint of ocean travel saw me retracing my steps to Hong Kong in the summer of 1956 to take up an appointment in the Hong Kong Civil Service. This was a faster, four week voyage on the RMS "Canton" of the P and O Line. Together with her sister ships like the "Carthage", "Corfu" and "Chusan", it was a "milk run" to the Far East from Southampton, arriving regularly as clockwork in the colony every three months. Although larger, speedier and more comfortable than the "Empire Hallidale", the voyage hardly differed in regard to heat and humidity, since the cabins were not air-conditioned, nor were the state rooms. On the other hand nor were the various government offices in Hong Kong that I was to occupy during working hours in the next few years, nor the apartment I shared with a colleague. Save for the banks and department stores, modern living in the tropics for expatriates had not yet arrived.

If, despite our irreverent doubts at the time, the Hong Kong government really had discovered the convenience of the aeroplane by then, it still persisted in bringing out its European officers by sea, save for the most senior ranks. This meant an eight weeks' addition to the usual six months leave after four years' service, during which we spent a leisurely month each way along the time-honoured sea route to the Far East. This sea voyaging continued in two way journeys in 1960-61 and 1965; but thereafter the tour shortened to three years, travel by air became the norm whether one liked it or not.

What has all this got to do with the Regiment? Simply that my experiences at that time, together with others of my age, were to make us among the last to travel to work or duty by ship. The demise of the trooper and of the scheduled services of passenger liners to the Far East marked the end of the Empire. They also closed a long chapter in the history of sea travel to far away places by the military and civilian servants of the Crown.

James Hayes

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

It is essential that subscribers, including serving members of the Regiment moving on individual postings, advise the Business Manager of their change of address without delay. Fill in this form and return it to:- The Business Manager, 'Iron Duke' Magazine, RHQ DWR, Wellesley Park, Halifax, HX2 0BA.

Name:

Please note that from my new address will be

Date Signed



SOLDIERING ON . . . IN CYPRUS . . . IN 1957

This particular day started like any other day in our camp at Kermia, just outside Nicosia. We'd had tent inspection and muster parade and were going about our various duties, when at about 10am the call to arms came.

We were the Spearhead Battalion for the "Fire Brigade", a quick response unit recently formed for the express purpose of fast intervention in any crisis that might arise. Our kit was packed and laid out on our beds, ready for just such a call. So all we had to do was draw our weapons from the arms kote, to be briefed and be on our way. I can't quite recall the reason for this operation. Was it the escape of three prisoners from Kyrenia prison, or the sighting of Grivas's second-in-command, Afxentious? No matter, it doesn't change what occurred.

We travelled for hours in the back of three tonners and it was late afternoon when we disembarked in a mountain village. The platoon commander, Lieutenant Lupton, drew everyone together and pointed at our destination, an enormous mountain. We decided that a lot of sweat would be shed climbing it. Time was short. The journey had taken us far too long, the roads being little better than wide cart tracks. In fact time was so short that RAF helicopters were called in to move us to the top of the mountain before dark closed in. As far as I can recall, nobody in the Battalion had ever been moved by helicopter before, so we were given a quick briefing on how to get in and out and how to use the rope if necessary. By the time we were esconced in the chopper day light was fading fast. We got airborne and it was rather like some new kind of ride at a fairground, a mixture of mild fear and excitement.

Before we reached the summit of the mountain visibility was fast fading. I was first in line to dismount, so I was keeping one eye on Mr. Lupton and one on our proposed landing site. The pilot couldn't find a suitable place, so he said we would have to use the rope and he would drop us on "those bushes". We'd been instructed that there must be no more than three men on the rope at one time, so I went down first, followed by Harry Holmes and one other. The end of this rope had a knot like a ship's fender and I had my feet on this, when Holmes trod on my fingers. I had been looking down at the "bushes", they turned out to be bloody big pine trees. Either the pilot was short sighted or didn't know a bush from a tree. I got my fingers out from under Holmes's boots and slid down the rope a bit to get a better grip, at the same time shouting up to him and Mr. Lupton that these ***** bushes were ***** pine trees and that we should climb back up the rope. The full weight of our Bergin packs, crammed with compo rations, sixty rounds of ammunition and all our kit, plus our rifles slung over our shoulders, made this virtually impossible. Having three men swaying about on a rope under his helicopter, the pilot was getting more uptight by the second due to darkness almost upon us and the lack of a suitable landing site. He told Mr. Lupton - "tell them to drop off". By this time I was only clinging to the huge knot at the bottom of the rope and once again Holmes was standing on my fingers.

The wind was swaying the chopper from side to side, up and down, and I was getting fed up, what with

all the weight on my back, Holmes on my fingers and being about ten feet above these "bushes/trees". I looked up at the doorway, to see Mr. Lupton peering anxiously down at me with my mate Tug Wilson and Bob Spring our sergeant. Mr. Lupton was shouting - "Can you hang on?, we're going back down the mountain". By this time I was losing all feeling in my fingers and decided there was no way I could hang on to this bloody great knot for a two or three thousand foot ride, so I shouted up to Mr. Lupton, asking him to tell the pilot to come a little lower, and maybe I could then get my feet onto a branch and thus have a chance of getting down the tree.

The pilot refused to come any lower and as this message was relayed to me, a side gust of wind took me over a huge branch. I let go, having told Holmes to lift his feet up. I missed the branch with my feet but caught it partially with my hands. I hurtled down through the tree which was thirty or forty feet high. Luckily for me the ground sloped downward so I hit it at an angle. But unluckily, I dropped into a vineyard and all the bushes had been picked and pruned. During my fall my thoughts were not only on landing but also on safeguarding my rifle, so I clamped my arm round it to keep it in an upright position. This had the effect of turning it into a vaulting pole, because when my feet touched the sharply sloping ground, they shot from under me, landing me on my backside. The rifle butt hit the ground and catapulted me sideways and up, so that I went tumbling down the mountain through the vines, which tore my pack apart with my kit, rations and ammunition leaving a scattered trail down the mountain.

How far I tumbled I don't know, but at the time it seemed about half way. When I gathered my senses, I found that I had twisted my right ankle and ricked my right knee, injuries which plagued me from then on, and still do. However, being young and foolish I put up with it and didn't "go sick". I crawled around in the semi-dark to look for my possessions and found a place near a terrace wall where I could wait for my platoon, and warm up some self-heating soup. A few hours later I heard people coming up the mountain and was greatly relieved it was them and not EOKA boys as by this time I was stiffening up and there wasn't one part of my body that didn't hurt. Mr. Lupton bound my ankle and gave permission for a fire to be lit and we had a hot meal and very welcome cups of tea.

The next morning, after a cold night spent huddled in our tropical light weight blankets (no sleeping bags in those days: modern soldiers please note!), a few of the lads went and found the rest of my kit. They did a bit of patrolling over the next day or two, and then we were called back to Nicosia, where a week later the "Tiffy" sent for me and was going to charge me for having a banana bend in my rifle barrel. When all was explained to him, however, he let me off. I've often wondered, if it did that to a rifle barrel, what the hell did it do to my body?

L. Rusby

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

From: Mr. Leon Taylor,
21 Brompton Road,
Clifton,
York, YO3 6NJ.
2 March 1993

The Editor
The 'Iron Duke'

Sir,

THE LEADERSHIP TRUST

I read with great interest the article by David Gilbert-Smith on the subject of The Leadership Trust, which was published in the winter issue of the 'Iron Duke'.

I was posted to the 1st Battalion in 1959, after having completed my training at Halifax - the last intake of recruits to do so. On arriving at Palace Barracks I was whisked off to Larne Outward Bound Camp with other members of the draft. I really enjoyed the challenge of the confidence course with the canoeing, mountaineering, marches, runs and by no means least the 'death slide'. It started off on a

platform half way up a tree, which was at the top of a cliff. You placed your hands into straps, which were on a pulley, and then launched yourself off the platform and flew down past trees and bushes before arriving over the beach. You then had to time your drop so that you landed in the water. If you failed to let go you ended up crashing into a post, which was held in place by rocks. Everyone made sure they let go at the right moment.

The Belfast Lough crossing in a force nine gale took place on 18 June 1959 and I have newspaper cuttings to remind me of the occasion and in which my photograph appeared, as I was in the same canoe as Bob Campbell-Lamerton. I do not remember being picked up from the sea as I came to in the sick bay of a naval frigate. I spent the night in Belfast but then went out the next day to continue with canoeing, climbing and trekking.

The course stood me in good stead throughout my years in the Dukes, which I left in 1968, and right up to the present day.

Yours sincerely,
L. Taylor

BOOK REVIEWS

THE HISTORY OF THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT (WEST RIDING) 1702-1992 by J. M. Brereton and A. C. S. Savory. 468 pages, 120 illustrations, 39 maps.

There has not been a comprehensive history of the Regiment before. Set against the backcloth of the history of the times, this book now remedies the situation. True, there was 'The History of the 33rd Foot', out of print for seventy years, but this did scant justice to its subject, while the history of the 76th Foot (an historical record) was more accurate, but difficult to read, and also out of print for eighty years. Now the Regiment has a history that does full justice to both these distinguished regiments.

Probably the first thing of interest to the reader as he opens the book is the page headed "Battles, battle honours and campaigns", a lengthy list covering every part of the world, except South America and Australasia. It may well prove an eye opener.

Another message that comes through particularly clearly is the great influence Lord Cornwallis had in establishing the standards and traditions of the 33rd. During the thirty nine years of his colonelcy the Regiment's state of training, behaviour and interior economy was such that it came to be called 'The Pattern'. Cornwallis was succeeded by Arthur Wellesley, 1st Duke of Wellington. Rarely, if ever, can a regiment have had two such distinguished colonels in succession. Between them they held the appointment for forty six years.

In some ways the history of the 76th Regiment is better known to us. This is because, firstly, its reputation was earned over a relatively short period and, secondly, we have the Honorary Colours to remind us of the famous battles it fought under General Lord Lake. In the words of the Hon. J.

Fortescue, the historian of the British army "It was the fighting battalion of one of Britain's most famous fighting generals".

The whole story flows easily forward from the raising of the 33rd in 1702 to 1992. Even the task of incorporating the activities of the fourteen battalions of the Regiment who fought on the western front during the first world war has been managed without disturbing the story telling. Many of the stories, such as the Abyssinia campaign, read like fiction but are nonetheless true.

The history is perforce set in the story of the rise and decline of the British Empire. Coming through time and time again is the indomitable spirit of the infantry soldier against often overwhelming odds, be it of the enemy, the climate or disease.

Lavishly illustrated and provided with thirty-nine maps covering every campaign in which the Regiment has been involved, the history has been beautifully produced by the Amadeus Press of Huddersfield. It also contains ten appendixes covering such subjects as the succession of colonels, the history of the volunteer movement, the Regimental music and rugby in the Regiment.

Every member of the Regiment (past and present), who has not already done so, should give himself a present and forthwith order a copy of this compelling book.

TRACKS IN TIME by S. F. Swift. £2.50.

It is said that the voice of the "ordinary infantryman" is seldom heard. More often than not military histories are written by those who have held command. However, from time to time memoirs emerge that record what it was like to be a soldier. "Tracks in Time" is such a memoir in which Mr. Swift

has condensed his experiences during twenty four years of service into a slim volume of verse.

Sydney Swift joined the Dukes before the war and thereafter saw service with the 2nd Battalion in India and the 1st Battalion in France until he was wounded. He later returned to the fray with 5th Inniskilling Dragoon Guards. His description of pre-battle fear will strike a chord with many who have known and overcome it. Food, weather and pay play a large part in his thoughts, along with daily survival, comradeship and humour.

The modern soldier will realise that although much has changed, much stays the same. However, he and his wife will wonder at the long separations endured during war time. Today R and R leave is granted if a tour lasts more than three months. No wonder Sydney was glad to return to "clean sheets . . . waking, you in my arms".

The book is privately produced and costs £2.50, of which £1.00 will be donated to SSAFA. It can be obtained from S. F. Swift, 15 High Street, Airmyn, Goole, DN14 8LT.

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: 8.30 p.m. first Thursday of each month at Slackside WMC, Beacon Road, Wibsey, Bradford.

Secretary: Mr. D. Woolley, Bute Terrace, 8 Smith House Lane, Brighouse, HD6 2JY.

Halifax: 8.30 p.m. third Thursday of each month at The Shay Hotel, Hunger Hill, Halifax.

Secretary: Mr. B. Searson, 205 Clarendon Road, Halifax, HX3 6JL.

Huddersfield: 8.15 p.m. last Friday of each month at Turnbridge WMC, St. Andrew's Road, Aspley.

Secretary: Mr. P. Holt, 23 Celandine Drive, Salendine Nook, Huddersfield, HD3 3UT.

Keighley: 8.30 p.m. last Tuesday of each month at Sergeants' Mess, The Drill Hall, Lawkholme Lane, Keighley.

Secretary: Mr. C. W. Akrigg, 10 Eastfield Place, Sutton-in-Craven, Keighley.

London: 7.00 p.m. last Monday of each month at Strand House, 7 Holbein Place, Nr. Sloane Square.

Secretary: Mr. N. Butler, 15 Chumleigh Walk, Surbiton, Surrey.

Mossley: 8.30 p.m. first Wednesday of each month at Mossley Conservative Club, Mossley.

Secretary: Mr. C. J. H. Quest, 39 Kingfisher Avenue, Audenshaw, Manchester.

Sheffield: 8.00 p.m. second Tuesday of each month at Sergeants' Mess, 4 Yorks, Endcliffe Hall, Sheffield.

Secretary: Mr. B. S. Maillard, 96 Callow Mount, Gleadless Valley, Sheffield, S14 1PH.

Skipton: 8.00 p.m. second Thursday of each month at The Royal British Legion Club, Newmarket Street, Skipton.

Secretary: Mrs. M. Clegg, 44 Church Street, Gargrave, Skipton.

York: 8.00 p.m. first Monday of each month at the Post Office Social Club, Marygate, York.

Secretary: Mr. P. Jackson, 34 Lancar Close, Wigginton, York, YO3 3SU.

TERRITORIAL AND SERVICE BATTALION'S OCA

5th Battalion. *Secretary:* Mr. L. Brook, 1 Hollin Terrace, March, Huddersfield.

6th Battalion. *Secretary:* Captain J. H. Turner, The Nook, Church Street, Gargrave, Skipton.

8th Battalion (145 Regiment) RAC. *Secretary:* Mr. A. T. E. Duncan, Millmore, Killan, Perthshire.

* * * * *

1st BATTALION, THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

1943-1945 OVERSEAS DINNER CLUB

The 48th Annual Dinner of the Club was held at Armoury House, London on Friday 12 March 1993. Due to the illness of Tony Randall and Jim Sills, Fred Huskisson organised this year's event. He also presided at the Dinner. The Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier Dick Mundell, made a brief speech covering recent changes in the army and the activities of the 1st Battalion of today. The members or honorary members present were:-

Dick Bristow	Liam O'Sullivan
Pat Cousens	Alastair Paterson
Richard Diacon	Guy Potts

Frank Dosseter	Dick Richardson
Michael Goodman-Smith	Walter Robins
Ronnie Hoyle	Derek Siddall
Donald Isles	John Streatfeild
Hugh LeMessurier	John Wilson
Ronnie Miller	Noel Wimpenny
Vic Oliver	

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION PILGRIMAGES: 1993

The following pilgrimages will take place in 1993:

1. Sicily - 50th anniversary
10-17 July (cost £749)

2. Salerno - 50th anniversary
5-12 September (cost £548)
3. Ypres Salient - 75th anniversary
10-12 November (cost £185)

Pilgrimage costs include:

All travel (departing from London)
Hotel accommodation
Breakfast, dinner and some lunches
Insurance
Escorts and medical cover
Visits to historical sites and war cemeteries

Anyone wishing to join one of these pilgrimages should write to:

The Pilgrimage Department,
Royal British Legion Village,
Aylesford, Kent, ME20 7NX.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION PILGRIMAGES: 1994

The following 50th anniversary pilgrimages will take place in 1994:

1. Kohima/Imphal
10 days in mid April, cost about £1800
2. Cassino/Anzio
12-19 May, cost about £595
3. Normandy
5-8 June, cost about £285
4. Arnhem
15-19 September, cost about £295

In addition there will be a pilgrimage to mark the 80th anniversary of the first action of the British Army

in World War I, which will include a visit to Mons, 21-24 August, cost about £225.

Those wishing to join any of these pilgrimages should send a reservation deposit of £25.00 to the Pilgrimage Department at the address shown above. Cheques to be made payable to: 'Pilgrimage Worldwide'. The subsidy for War Widows travelling under the Government grant-in-aid scheme will apply.

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION: MIRFIELD BRANCH

On Sunday 20 September 1992 the Mirfield Branch of the Royal British Legion held a church service and parade to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the reforming of the branch. During the service, which was at St. Paul's Church, Mirfield, Lieutenant Colonel S. J. E. Huxley, TD, unveiled a memorial plaque inscribed as follows:

"In memory of Lance Corporals H. H. Hemingway and E. Walker of the Mirfield Detachment of the Second Volunteer Battalion Duke of Wellington's West Riding Regiment who died in the service of their country during the war in South Africa 1900-02."

This plaque was recently unearthed by council workmen and handed to the 5th Battalion (DWR) Old Comrades Association. It had originally been installed in the local council offices in Mirfield. By invitation of the Mirfield Branch of the Royal British Legion, the Regiment was represented not only by Colonel Huxley but also by the banners of Bradford, Mossley and Skipton branches, carried respectively by Messrs David Woolley, Bill Middleton and David Higson.



The Branch Banners of Bradford, Mossley and Skipton on parade at the Mirfield Branch Royal British Legion parade on 20 September 1992.

1st ARMY 'DJEBELS' ASSOCIATION

The 1st Army landed in Algeria in November 1942 and was disbanded following the fall of Tunis in May 1943. A 1st Army Association has recently been formed and is in full, country wide operation. Former members of the 1st Army who are interested in joining the association should write to: Mr. Eric Grant, 20 Iona Avenue, Exmouth, Devon, EX8 3JQ.

TREES FOR ICELAND FUND

Wartime members of 1/6 and 1/7 DWR may wish to be aware of an appeal for funds to replant trees in Iceland that have been destroyed over many years. The appeal was launched in the United Kingdom by Mrs. May Haley of May's Bookshop, Sowerby Bridge, Halifax following a recent visit to Iceland. Donations may be sent to Mrs. Haley or paid directly into TSB Account 05391453 Sort Code 77.71.67.

A VISIT TO A WAR GRAVE IN POLAND

Two years ago Mrs. Barbara Armitage wrote to RHQ requesting information about the location of the grave of her uncle, 4618175 Private Stanley Armitage, who was taken prisoner in France in June 1940. He died while in a prison camp on 21 December 1941. Mrs. Armitage was informed that her uncle was buried in the British section of the War Cemetery at Krakow in Poland. The following is an extract of the letter she sent to RHQ on 18 January 1993.

"When you told us that my uncle's grave was in Krakow, in Poland, we never imagined that we would be able to visit the place. Even though the frontiers of Europe have since been opened up, Poland still seemed a long way from West Yorkshire.



Barbara Armitage at the grave side of her uncle, Private Stanley Armitage, at Krakow

Then, out of the blue, at the end of November 1992 my husband, who is a coach driver, was asked if he would take a party to Zacopoane for Christmas and the New Year. It was possible for me to go too. When we were informed that an excursion was planned to visit Krakow we immediately accepted.

On the day we visited the grave we took a taxi from the centre of Krakow to the cemetery. It cost us £1.50. The flowers and a candle cost £2.50. It seemed a very small amount to pay for this first visit to the grave, but we were not being stingy. These prices are normal in Poland where the average wage is about £25 per week. I felt my uncle would not have minded. When he left England £2.50 was a very good weekly wage.

I felt very privileged to have made this visit and very proud of the enclosed photograph. My uncle died before I was born, so I never saw him. He was only twenty-three years old when he died and a long, long way from home. My grandmother and father, who are both now dead, would dearly have loved to have been able to place some flowers on the grave. My mother is still alive and it has meant a lot to her.

Even though I was not born until nearly the end of the war I realise how many gave so much for us to be able to live as we do now."

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Mr. Harry Cartmell who was the Carrier Platoon commander with the 1st Battalion at Anzio in 1944 has been in touch with Regimental Headquarters. As has Mr. Gwyn Richards ex 146 Regiment RAC (9 DWR) who has just returned from a visit to India where he retraced his journeys of 1944-45. In particular he visited his old billet at Agra Fort. He also visited the Ridge Cemetery at Delhi where he found five Dukes' graves. He laid his poppy wreath among them and is pleased to report that the cemetery, one of scores that he has visited, is amongst the best kept.

Another recent contact has been Mr. Dennis Gibbard who served with the 1st Battalion in Palestine and the Sudan. He was, at one time, the Assistant Adjutant to the then Captain Donald Isles.

Richard Sharpe, who left the Regiment in December last year called at RHQ recently to purchase a Regimental tie prior to emigrating to Calgary, Canada. His last posting was two years with BATUS in Wainright.

In October 1992 Dr. James Hayes, who now lives in Australia, was invited to Hong Kong to receive the degree of Doctor of Letters from the university of Hong Kong. The award was for his "services to culture" and was in recognition of his long service with the Royal Asiatic Society (he was president from 1983-1990) and with the Museum of History with which he was associated for 25 years.

Mr. Bert Woolley of Keighley and his wife Mary recently called on Sir Charles and Lady Huxtable. Mr Woolley served in the 1/7th Battalion during World War II. When in Iceland in the 1940s he was the commanding officer's bugler. The commanding officer at that time was Lieutenant Colonel J. C. Lawlor, Lady Huxtable's father.

Lady Huxtable has succeeded Brigadier Charles Sloan as President of SSAFA and the Forces Help Society in North Yorkshire.

Mr. Tom Rothery set off on a round the world trip in March 1993, which will include a visit to South Korea. He commanded a platoon on the "Hook" position in Korea forty years ago.



General Sir Charles and Lady Huxtable with Mr. and Mrs. Bert Woolley



Major General Donald Isles and Mr. Walter Downs enjoy a day's shooting at Lockerbie

Mr. Donald Keeton JP, Dinnington, Sheffield was made a life member of the Royal British Legion in November 1992 in recognition of his services to the Legion over the last thirty years. Donald served with the 1st Battalion in Palestine and was later seconded to the Royal West African Frontier Force.

Major Derek Roberts has been appointed President of Ganton Golf Club. Ganton, about nine miles inland from Scarborough, has been the scene of many important championships and matches, including the Ryder Cup in 1949. In a recent survey of golf courses in Great Britain and Ireland, Ganton was ranked eighth in order of merit and rated the best inland course in England.

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* Mr. P. Harley, 11 Wain Park, Berry Brow, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire.

* Mr. P. Foxton, 2 St. James's Court, Piper Lane, Thirsk, North Yorkshire, YO7 1AN.

* Mr. W. Clarke, Endcliffe Hall, Endcliffe Vale Road, Sheffield, S10 3EU.

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Mr. S. J. N. Morgan, St. Anthony's Cottage, Goathurst, Somerset, TA5 2DF.

Obituaries

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

Major W. James, MBE

Larry James died on 10 February 1993 at the age of eighty nine.

Larry enlisted into the Regiment in London in 1920. After recruit training at the Depot in Halifax he was posted to the 2nd Battalion, then stationed at Collinstown, Dublin. In 1922 he was posted to the 1st Battalion where he saw service in Tidworth, Gibraltar and Turkey before returning to the 2nd Battalion, then in Egypt, in 1923. From then until 1940 he remained with the 2nd Battalion serving in Singapore and India and during that time rose to the rank of Company Sergeant Major. He took part in the Looe Agra campaign of 1935 in the NWPF, when he was the signal platoon sergeant, and earned an Army Commander's commendation.

In 1940 he was posted to the Depot at Halifax and then to the 2/6th Battalion with whom he went to France in April of that year. On his return from France he was posted as RSM of the 8th Battalion, then forming at Otley. In late 1940 Larry was commissioned and returned to the 8th Battalion as a platoon commander and later a company commander. He was posted from the 8th Battalion shortly after its conversion to 145 Regiment Royal Armoured Corps and held various ERE appointments, including OC of a POW camp, until his retirement in 1948.

In his retirement he took an active role in local SSAFA and the Army Cadet Force. He was made an MBE in 1959 and earned the Cadet Force medal.

The funeral service took place at Oldham where the Assistant Regimental Secretary represented the Regiment.

Major W. A. C. Johnson

Bill Johnson died on 3 June 1992 aged seventy four. He was commissioned into the 7th Battalion DWR in 1939 and went to France with the 2/7th Battalion in April 1940. After the Battalion was evacuated back to

the UK from St. Valery in June it was stationed in Norfolk on coastal defence duties. In 1941 he was posted to the Military Mission at Chungking where he served first as staff captain and later as major, until he returned to the UK in 1945.

After the war he joined the board of a Huddersfield firm of wool scourers and carbonisers.

Captain E. D. Mackintosh, TD

Ewen Duncan Mackintosh died on 5 February 1993. He was commissioned into the Regiment in 1940 and joined the 1/6th Battalion, having been a private of the Honourable Artillery Company from 1937-1939.

He remained with the 1/6th until late 1943 during which time he served in Iceland. He joined the 1st Battalion in November 1943 and took part in the Anzio landings of January 1944. He was taken prisoner in February 1944.

Mr. J. Wood

Jack Wood, a native of Mossley, joined the 7th Battalion (TA) in 1938 and was mobilised in September 1939 with that Battalion. In 1941 he was posted to the 2nd Battalion in India where he remained until returning to the UK in December 1944. During his time with the 2nd Battalion, he was in the withdrawal from the Sittang River in 1942 and was a member of the 76th Chundit column in 1944. He left the army in 1946 and returned to his civilian occupation as a driver.

He kept close ties with the Regiment and was an active member of the Mossley branch of the Regimental Association, where he was chairman for a number of years.

The funeral service took place at Mossley Cemetery Chapel. The Regiment was represented by the General Secretary of the Regimental Association and many old comrades from the Mossley area.

Mr. D. Crowley

Dermot Crowley died suddenly on 12 January 1993 at the age of forty seven.

He joined the Regiment in November 1965 and served for nine years with the 1st Battalion. In 1976 he joined the 3rd Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers for three years. In 1981 he rejoined the Territorial Army for another two years as a member of the Royal Army Medical Corps attached to the Yorkshire Volunteers. In civilian life, he was an ambulanceman for the West Yorkshire Ambulance Service, stationed at Skipton. He was a keen supporter of the Keighley branch of the Regimental Association and was chairman of that branch at the time of his death.

The funeral took place at St. Anne's Church, Keighley and was well attended by members of the Keighley and Skipton branches of the Regimental Association. The General Secretary represented the Regiment.

Mrs. J. Williams

Joan Williams, the widow of ex CSM Ron (Blondie) Williams died in Halifax on 7 January 1993. The funeral service took place at Clare Road Chapel of Rest, Halifax and was followed by cremation at Park Wood.

The Regimental Secretary represented the Regiment at the service.

Mr. P. L. Fairclough

Patrick (Paddy) Leslie Fairclough died on 8 December 1992 at the age of forty.

Paddy enlisted into the Regiment as a bandsman in April 1967 and served until March 1982, when he left as a Lance Corporal. His instrument was the French horn.

In 1982 he joined the North Yorkshire Police with whom he was a serving officer at the time of his death.

The funeral service was held at York on 14 December. Mr. John Sargeant was present to represent the Regiment and Corporal Foxton represented the Band of the 1st Battalion.

Mr. W. Wroe

Walter Wroe died in Huddersfield on 2 December 1992. He joined the Regiment in 1938 and was posted to the 2nd Battalion in 1939 with whom he served in India and Burma until 1945 when he returned to England. He served a further two years before ending his service in late 1946.

After his military service he worked in the coal mining industry until his retirement. He was a member of the Huddersfield and District Army Veterans Association.

The funeral service was held at Fixby Crematorium, Huddersfield and the General Secretary of the Regimental Association represented the Regiment.

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As at April 1993

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P. D. Gardner, OBE. King's Division Colonel
A. D. Meek. COS HQ Berlin Inf Bde

Lieutenant Colonels

P. D. D. J. Andrews. ITDU Warminster
P. J. Mellor. ACDS MOD
T. J. Isles. Inf Sch FRG
C. J. W. Gilbert. Trg Advisor Oman
D. M. Santa-Olalla, MC. CO 1 DWR
K. Best. CO 4/5 Green Howards

Majors

C. N. St. P. Bunbury, MBE. Asst Comdt MCTC
C. G. Fitzgerald. BMATT Namibia
P. J. Morgan. MOD - ACDS
M. S. Sherlock. 2i/c ITB Strensall
C. F. Grieve, MBE. HQ BAOR
A. H. S. Drake, MBE. US Mil Ac West Point
M. J. Stone. US Inf Sch
D. I. Richardson. 2i/c 1 Kings
S. J. N. Morgan. Trg Maj 5/8 Kings
S. C. Newton. 2i/c 1 DWR
M. J. B. Drake. MGO Sec MOD
P. R. S. Bailey. HQ SDIST
G. A. Kilburn, MBE. French SC
G. D. Shuttleworth. HQ King's Div
N. G. Borwell. Army Staff Course No. 27
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P. Wilkinson (LE). QM ITB Strensall
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Captains

D. S. Bruce. Army Staff Course No. 27
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J. C. Preston. HQNI
M. A. Lodge (A/Maj). 1 DWR
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M. D. Norman. 1 DWR
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B. J. T. Faithfull. 1 DWR
J. H. Purcell. 1 DWR
D. P. Monteith. 1 DWR
B. W. Sykes, MBE (LE). Tech QM 1 DWR
S. Pinder. Trg Centre RM

Subalterns

T. G. Vallings. ATR Glencorse
R. J. Douthwaite. 1 DWR
J. C. Mayo (SRC). 1 DWR

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Captains

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T. Butterworth (LE) (A/Maj). 1 DWR
P. Coates (LE). 1 DWR
J. T. Hogg (LE). Catterick Garrison
B. Hey (LE). 1 DWR (124 AYT)
G. Knight. 1 DWR

Subalterns

P. M. Ennis (LE). 1 DWR
A. J. D. Wheatley (A/Capt). Att AAC
J. C. K. Cumberlege. 1 DWR Att Op MINURSO
(Western Sahara)
M. J. T. Priest. 1 DWR
R. C. O'Connor. Att 1 King's Own Border
P. R. Fox. ATR Glencorse
R. F. E. Hammond. 1 DWR
J. N. Mitchell. 1 DWR
N. M. Wood. 1 DWR
B. H. Walsgrove. 1 DWR
S. J. Stewart. 1 DWR
N. M. Whitley. 1 DWR
W. T. Mundell. 1 DWR
R. C. Brearey. 1 DWR
N. M. Rhodes. 1 DWR