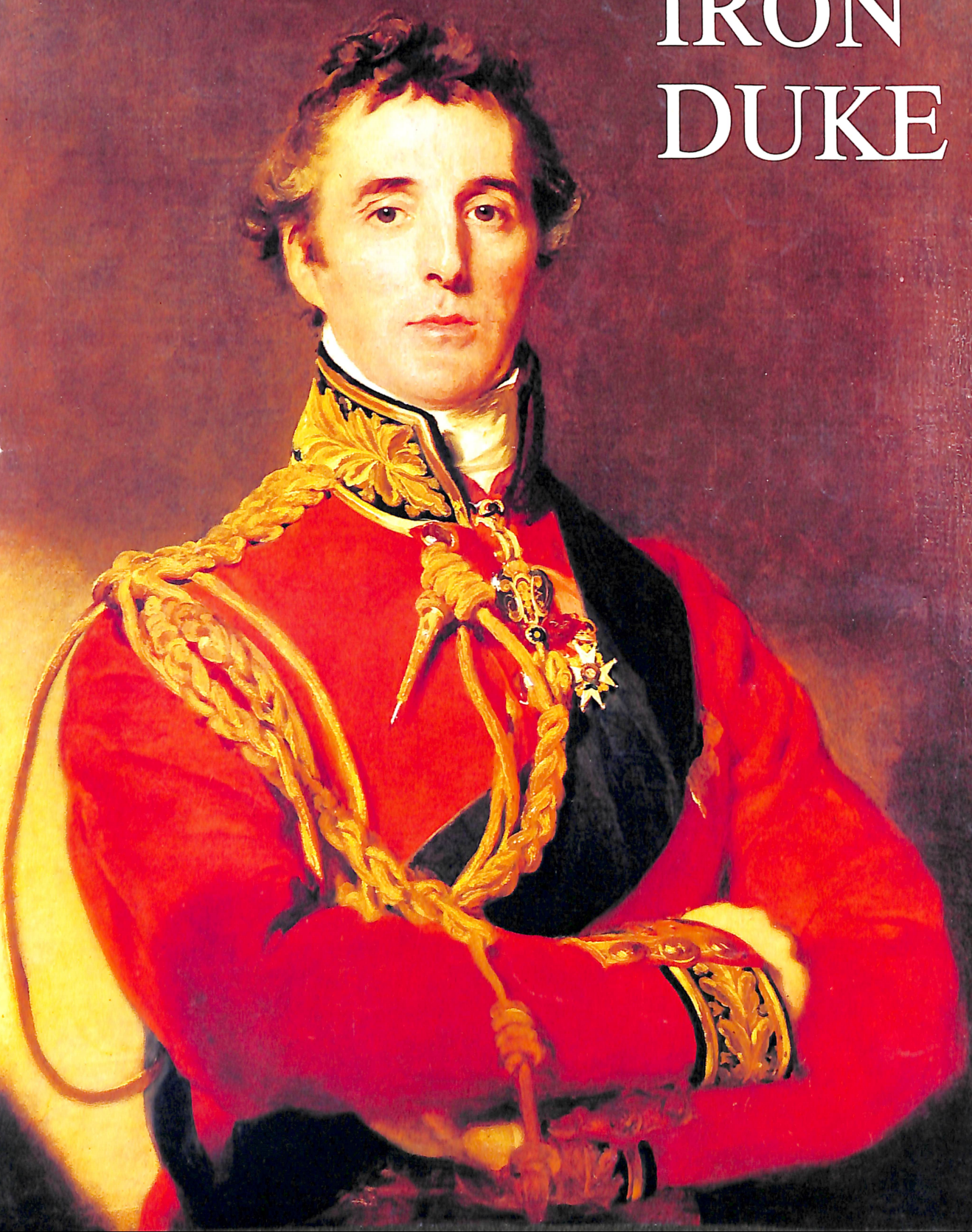


AUTUMN 1994  
No. 225

# 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 Ceko  
Burma 1942, '43, '44  
Sittang 1942  
Chindits 1944  
The Hook 1953  
Korea 1952-53*

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Autumn 1994

No. 225

### BUSINESS NOTES

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The opinions expressed in the articles of the journal are those of the  
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This publication contains official information. It should be treated  
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#### *Acknowledgement*

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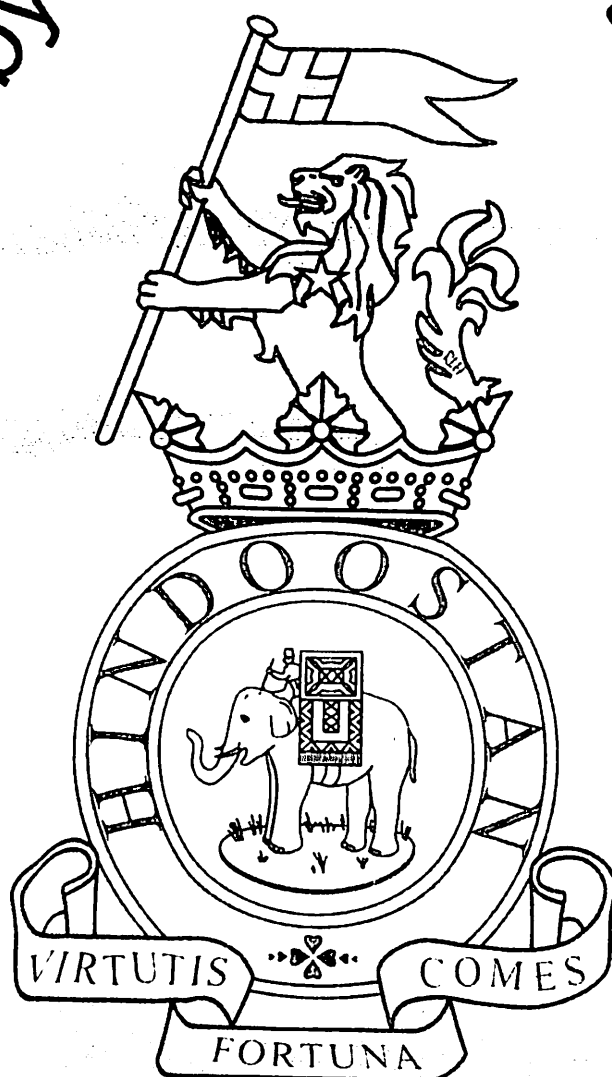
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# THE REGIMENT

## *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 T. J. Isles

Assistant Regimental Secretary: Major R. Heron

#### **1st Battalion**

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

Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Colonel D. M. Santa-Olalla MC.

Adjutant: Captain M. D. Norman

Regimental Sergeant Major: WO1 R. M. Pierce

#### **3rd Battalion**

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

Honorary Colonel: Major General M. J. D. Walker, CBE

Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Colonel T. C. S. Bonas, BA

Adjutant: Captain A. J. Adams

Regimental Sergeant Major: WO1 R. Chapman

### **ARMY CADET FORCE - DWR**

#### **Yorkshire (North & West)**

D Company Detachments  
OC: Major P. Cole

Halifax  
Huddersfield

Heckmondwike  
Keighley

Mirfield  
Skipton

Thongsbridge

#### **Humberside and South Yorkshire**

C Company Detachments  
OC: Major T. Scrivens

Barnsley  
Darfield

Thurcroft  
Wath on Dearne

Wombwell

D Company Detachments  
OC: Major D. Galloway

Birdwell

Endcliffe

### **COMBINED CADET FORCE - DWR**

#### **Giggleswick School CCF**

CO: 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-Allee,  
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 Majid Azim

### **AFFILIATED SHIPS OF THE ROYAL NAVY**

#### **H.M.S. Iron Duke**

*BFPO 309*

Commander C. A. Snow RN

#### **H.M.S. Sheffield**

*BFPO 383*

Commander S. M. Gillespie RN





The coffin of Private Shaun Taylor, who was killed while on duty at a UN observation post in Bosnia, being carried on to an RAF transport plane for the flight to the UK

# Regimental Headquarters

## Regimental Notes

### APPOINTMENTS AND PROMOTIONS

The following officers have been selected for promotion to the rank of lieutenant colonel: Major A. H. S. Drake, MBE, Major S. C. Newton and Major J. M. Stone.

### GENERAL SIR CHARLES HUXTABLE, KCB, CBE, DL

General Sir Charles Huxtable has been appointed a Deputy Lieutenant for the county of North Yorkshire.

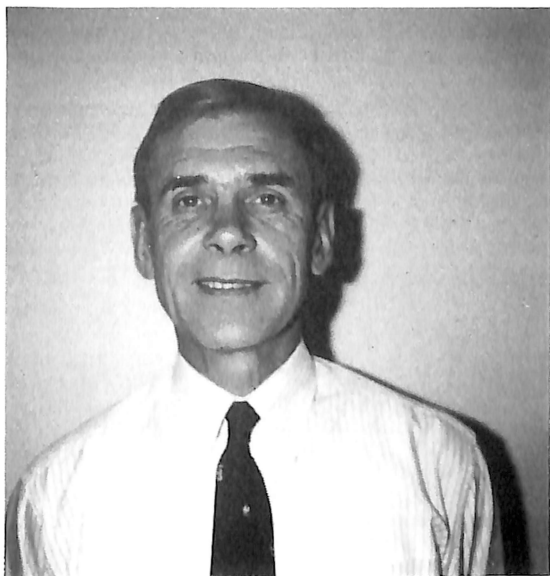
### BRIGADIER E. J. W. WALKER, OBE

Brigadier Walker has been awarded the Cross of Merit with Swords by the Roman Catholic Sovereign Military Order of Malta - the Knights of Malta. The award is in recognition of work associated with the establishment of sixteen residential homes for elderly people in Lincolnshire.

### THE ASSISTANT REGIMENTAL SECRETARY

Major Bob Heron assumed the appointment of Assistant Regimental Secretary on 8 June 1994.

Bob Heron joined the army at Strensall in November 1962 and was posted to the 1st Battalion at the time it moved from Catterick to Osnabruck in early 1964. He served in Cyprus, Hong Kong and Northern Ireland before being appointed RSM of 3rd Battalion Yorkshire Volunteers. In 1984 he returned to the 1st Battalion, then stationed in Gibraltar, to assume the appointment of RSM.



Major R. Heron

Major Heron was commissioned into the Regiment as a captain in 1985 and became MTO of the 1st Battalion. He was then appointed quartermaster of the newly reformed HQ 3 Brigade at Armagh. In 1990

he returned to the 1st Battalion as technical quartermaster. He was promoted to major in 1991 and became the quartermaster of the Battalion in 1992.

Major Heron retires from the army on 1 September 1994.

### BANDS: KING'S DIVISION

As part of the drawdown, regimental bands are to be disbanded and replaced by two divisional bands, to be known as the Normandy band (based at Weeton) and Waterloo band (based at Catterick). On current planning the bands will be available for tasking from November 1994. The matter of dress and badging is still under consideration by the Army Dress Committee.

### AN OFFICER OF THE 33rd REGIMENT, 1760c

The Regiment recently purchased an oil painting of an officer of the 33rd Regiment 1760c. The cost was £560 and it is proposed to spend a further £200 having the painting cleaned. It has not yet proved possible to identify the officer who is depicted in the painting.



An officer of the 33rd Regiment c1760



## THE REGIMENTAL MUSEUM AND ARCHIVES

### MEETING OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees met at Bankfield Museum on 14 April 1994. Present were: Brigadier E. J. W. Walker, OBE, (Chairman), Lieutenant Colonel T. J. Isles, Major K. M. McDonald, TD, JP, BA, and Major J. R. A. Ward, FBIM. In attendance were Ms. Rosie Crook, Assistant Director Museums and Arts Calderdale Leisure Services Department, the Reverend Pauline Millward and Mr. John Spencer of Bankfield Museum, and Major D. R. Dunston, 2I/C 3 DWR.

### CURATORIAL ADVISOR

The meeting confirmed the appointment of Ms. Crook as curatorial advisor to the Regimental Museum.

### GRANT-IN-AID

A grant-in-aid for the sum of £645 had been approved by the Yorkshire and Humberside Museums Authority. This money is to be put towards planned improvements.

### IMPROVEMENTS TO THE DISPLAY

Some £500 has been spent on improving the lighting system within the museum as a whole. In addition information sheets are now in place in the WW1 dugout to clarify the items on display. Finally the 'gate entry' has been brought fully into the 1990's with SA80, new helmet, clothing and webbing.

### FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS

New sound systems are to be purchased this year, assisted by the grant-in-aid. The battle simulation sound system in the WW1 dugout is to be replaced, and another system will be fitted in the Napoleonic section playing 18th century pipe and drum music. In addition a continuous loop video system will be fitted in the WW2 section, showing captioned slides.

### RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Recent acquisitions for the museum or archives include:-

- From Major General D. E. Isles, CB, OBE, DL. A service dress as worn when Colonel of the Regiment.
- One set of medals donated by Mrs. M. George, the property of her late husband, Sergeant L. George. The medals comprise the 39-45 Star, the Africa Star, the Defence Medal, the Victory Medal and the Territorial Efficiency Medal with two rosettes.
- From Mr. G. Hoyle, a scarlet tunic, with six white efficiency stars, formerly the property of C/Sgt John Riach of the 4th Battalion.
- From Mr. G. Kilburn, a photograph of W Company, 2/7th Battalion, taken in 1940.
- From Mr. R. Westlake, a facsimile edition of Volunteer Regulations 1881.
- From Halifax Parish Church, a very early collection box previously used by the church.
- By an unknown donor, the War Medal 1914-18 and Victory Medal 1914-19, awarded to 203279 Private W. Haworth DWR/E YORKS.
- From Colonel (retired) B. M. Laverack, MBE, the daughter of Major T. V. Laverack, the following Regimental publications: The War Memorials, Historical Records of the 76th Hindoostan Regiment, The Barclay History 1919-1952 and the Bruce History, 1881-1923.
- From Mrs. Diana Vaughan, a trunk containing numerous documents and account books, formerly the property of her uncle, the late Captain James Charles Clarkson.
- From Amedeo Monemaggi a copy of his recent book Rimini S. Marino 1944.
- From Mrs. Rona Roberts, stepdaughter of George Sunderland, 1/4th Battalion 1914-1916, a battalion history, his diary of life in the trenches and a notebook of poems.
- From Mr. A. Ballan, brother of L/Cpl P. Ballan, MM, who served with the 6th Battalion in WW1. The Military Medal, Defence Medal, Victory Medal, a portrait, a gold watch presented to L/Cpl Ballan by his village and two lapel badges fashioned from coins.

## THE REGIMENTAL COUNCIL

The Regimental Council met at Apsley House on 26 May 1994. Present were the Colonel in Chief, the Colonel of the Regiment, General Sir Charles Huxtable, KCB, CBE, Major General D. E. Isles, CB, OBE, DL, Brigadier J. B. K. Greenway, CB, JP, Lieutenant Colonel T. C. S. Bonas, BA, Lieutenant Colonel T. J. Isles, Major K. M. McDonald, TD, JP, BA, Lieutenant Colonel N. St. J. Hall, BA, and Major A. C. S. Savory, MBE, were in attendance. Brigadier E. J. W. Walker, OBE, Colonel A. D. Roberts, MBE, and Lieutenant Colonel D. M. Santa-Ollala, MC, were unable to attend and sent their apologies.

The Colonel in Chief informed the Council that he had received very good reports of the 1st Battalion in Bosnia. Senior officers had told him that the Battalion had made an impressive start and had established a fine reputation for being tough, professional soldiers.

**Recruitment:** The Colonel of the Regiment informed the Council of the present state of recruitment. Officers: Currently there are five officer cadets at Sandhurst, with a further three due to attend in September. The quality is good but there is some concern over the need to get the right men for the future. Soldiers: The 1st Battalion is approximately twenty men under strength, due mainly to previous limitations placed on recruiting. The 3rd Battalion is recruited to 110%, a proportion of whom are women.

**Bands:** Following the disbandment of regimental bands two King's Division bands will be formed. They are to be known as the Normandy and Waterloo bands. It was agreed that the future of band instruments and sheet music, which are the property of the Regiment, will be discussed at the meeting of the Regimental Trustees in September.

**Officers' Mess Central Fund:** In the year ended 31 March 1994 the trust had an income of £6352 (£5938 in 1993). Expenditure was £2170 (£1840 in 1993), including £683 for the portrait of Field Marshal Griffin Griffin, 4th Lord Howard de Walden, £350 towards the cost of the Regimental reception at Huddersfield, £353 towards the cost of a silver statuette for 1 DWR officers' mess and £125 for refurbishing a silver statuette of the Duke on horseback.

**Meeting of representative trustees:** Major General Isles reported that there had been two meetings since last year. As a result he was pleased to inform the Council that because of the establishment of a second silver room at Endcliffe Hall agreement had been reached not to sell any items of silver.

**Regimental history:** Majory Savory informed the Council that sales of the history within the Regiment had been most satisfactory, (392 copies in one year against an expected 400 within two years of

publication). However sales to the general public had been slow. Additional reviews were the key to success and he was taking action to try to obtain them.

**Officers' dinner club:** It was decided that the 1995 dinner would take place at the Army and Navy Club on Friday 2 June 1995. The 1996 dinner would be held in the north of England, either in York or Weeton.

**The Iron Duke:** A statement on the accounts of the Iron Duke was produced by the Regimental Secretary. It showed an excess of income over expenditure of £435 for the year ended 31 March 1994. A further £296 was due in income tax refunds, not yet received.

**Regimental Museum:** A report by Brigadier Walker, chairman of the trustees, was presented to the Council. It was noted that improvements to the museum display continued to be made, with financial assistance from the Yorkshire and Humberside Museum Council.

# 1st Battalion

## Commanding Officer's Introduction

I remember well what I felt when I last wrote this introduction having just been told, once more, that we were not deploying to Bosnia, despite an early recall from Kenya and a reduction in notice to move to 24 hours. I was feeling very frustrated and disappointed. Now, here we are half way through the tour which is proving to be every bit the challenge we have been trained for this past year.

The Battalion began to deploy by sea and air on 10 March and we were operational fourteen days later. We were based in Central Bosnia, at Bugojno, Tomislavgrad, Travnik, Gornji Vakuf and Vitez. Our principle mission remained the facilitation of the movement of humanitarian aid, but following the Muslim (BiH) and Croat (HVO) ceasefire and the onset of spring, our task quickly focused on the full implementation of the BiH/HVO Peace Accord. This work involved the mapping of the front lines, patrolling, establishment of observation posts and a great deal of negotiation on the ground. The next stage required the separation of forces, the creation of a buffer zone and the introduction of measures to return the region to normality, including the restoration of basic facilities. Our method of operation demanded the development of responsibility down to junior commanders who conducted negotiations and operated in sensitive situations, mostly on foot in very difficult terrain. The type of work was new for UNPROFOR operations and without doubt the Dukes forged the way by evolving procedures to meet the tasks. The professionalism, commitment and responsibility demonstrated by our soldiers and junior commanders was a pleasure to witness and was much appreciated not only by our chain of command but also by the ex-warring factions. In a war fought by unprofessional, disorganised and at times ill disciplined soldiers the British soldier commands enormous respect.

By the middle of April a great deal had been achieved in the BiH/HVO sectors but the BSA were

still prosecuting their war against the BiH, most notably in Gorazde. With the willingness of the French to deploy there, General Rose ordered TAC HQ and C Company to move to the town to join A Company in order to implement UN Security Council Resolution 913. This grouping was to work direct to General Rose's Headquarters, while the remainder of the Battalion (Main, B Company, Mortars and Echelon) were to continue in our area of operations in Central Bosnia. In Gorazde we were faced with a huge challenge, the situation was very volatile and was the focus of much attention. No doubt our work here will be covered by the company articles but I would like to say that the challenge was well met, stability was established and the Dukes once more made their mark, appreciated by all sides. At present we remain as a split Battalion, working in our two areas of operation.

Our success to date has been the result of a great deal of training, hard work and commitment on the part of all ranks. Sadly we have incurred several casualties, mostly through mine incidents but also as a result of shellfire into Bugojno. Lance Corporal Wood has returned to duty and we send our best wishes for a full recovery to Corporal Stott, Lance Corporal Stroyan, Corporal Leen and 2Lt Langlands-Pearce. Our ability to give full attention to the matters in hand here is in no small part due to the support of our rear party and families back in England. They have all done a fantastic job. We have been away a lot these past twelve months and the demands of a six month operational tour have been keenly felt by everybody.

In ending, I would only say that the Regiment can be very proud of all that is being done by the 1st Battalion here in Bosnia, and we would like to thank all who have sent their best wishes for our deployment.

*(An outline map of Bosnia is reproduced on page 64)*





Mr. Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, with Lieutenant Colonel D. M. Santa-Olalla, just before the 1st Battalion's departure for Bosnia



The 1st Battalion's vehicles leave Bulford on their way to Southampton. 10 March 1994

**ALMA COMPANY**

- OC - Major N. G. Borwell  
 2 I/C - Lieutenant N. P. Rhodes  
           & then Lieutenant N. R. E. Woolgar  
 CSM - Warrant Officer 2 A. J. Sutcliffe  
 CQMS - Colour Sergeant Dean

**1 Platoon**

Lieutenant R. F. E. Hammond  
 Sergeant M. Ness

**2 Platoon**

Lieutenant B. H. Walsgrove  
 Sergeant E. Innes

**3 Platoon**

Lieutenant G. Purcell  
 Sergeant G. N. Summersgill

Alma Company comprised the bulk of the Battalion's lead element for the deployment. Together with the advance party, we arrived in theatre in Split on the evening of 10 March and the next morning we were bouncing up Bosnian roads in a convoy bound for Vitez. In order to make the required political impact, Alma Company deployed on the heels of the government announcement and we did so without our vehicles. We were deployed rapidly to relieve the Warrior equipped Coldstream Guards of static tasks as they were hard pressed in the wake of a ceasefire agreement between Croats and Muslims. From what we had heard we expected to find the Coldstreamers standing back to back - heads bandaged - and surrounded by empty cases! There is no doubt that they were pleased to see us and we were there to help out from Omis (on the coast), to Tomislavgrad, to Gornje Vakuf and Vitez.

**Vitez**

After about ten days our Saxons arrived with the rest of the Battalion and we were ready to take over our own area of operations around Vitez. Our first ten days without transport were, in a way, frustrating but it did allow us to familiarise ourselves with the Vitez area and to get a feel for life in Bosnia. We also had to get used to working with the Guards who, we soon realised, had to be shown the value of Saxon and dismounted infantry patrols. We were made to feel most welcome and soon got into the swing of things. Our task was to mount confidence building patrols and secure the separation of Croat and Muslim forces in the Vitez pocket - an area that has seen the most bitter fighting over the past nine months or so. Over the next six weeks we patrolled exhaustively and built up the trust of both sides. This was achieved with confrontation line patrols, ensuring that, where possible, we patrolled both sides in parallel so that problems could be dealt with immediately. In addition Alma Company manned the checkpoint to the Muslim enclave of Stari Vitez. This remarkable place is an enclave within an enclave, in other words, a Muslim pocket within a Croat pocket. It is about 500 metres square and now has 700 inhabitants; 200 were killed in the fighting. Patrolling both sides of the enclave we could see the devastation brought by nine months of shelling and small arms fire. If Dien Bien Phu was "Hell in a very small place", Stari Vitez is smaller. It was here, with two weeks of our arrival, that Corporal Barney Warburton, RE, was killed disposing of mines and his tragic death highlighted the threat to all of us.

Whilst the Company was not directly targeted with small arms fire, there was still a great deal about as rogue elements on both sides settled old scores. The

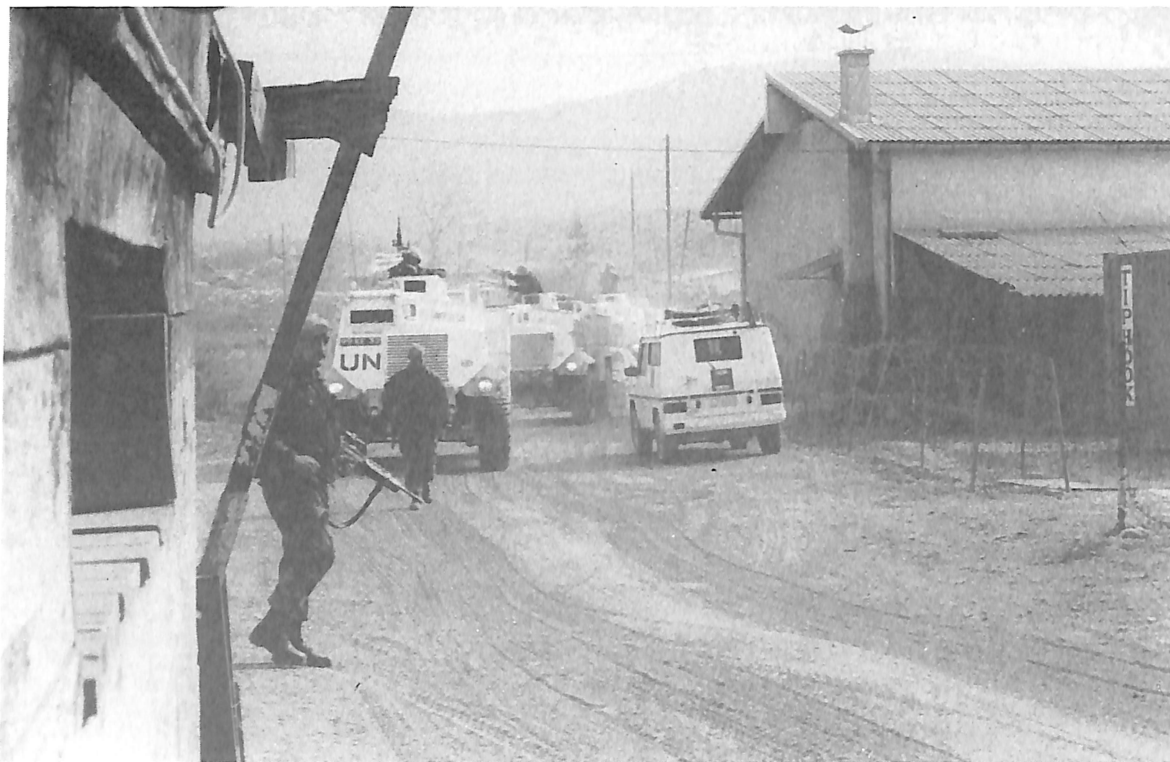
threat from mines was always with us. On one occasion two Muslim children were badly injured having walked into a tripwire attached to a mine. The two boys, aged eight and twelve, were critically ill at a rudimentary first aid centre and were in dire need of an ambulance. The snag was that to get to hospital the ambulance had to cross the Croat front line - and the Croats refused access. A robust "gripping" of the Croat Commander on the spot by a patrol commander ensured free passage for the ambulance and, as a direct result, the boys' lives were saved. In Bosnia war is still waged against children and non-combatants but this incident, amongst others, proves that we are making a difference.

By the time we had finished six weeks in Vitez the area had quietened down considerably. There were periodic flurries of activity of a less lethal variety. Muslims and Croats, on their feast days and holidays, celebrate by getting drunk and firing vast quantities of ammunition into the air. Rather than lifting blockades or embargoes, perhaps we should get them to take fewer holidays to conserve supplies. We did think that Waterloo Day may be livelier if we did the same - the look of consternation on local faces may even be worth a board of enquiry. By foot patrolling in Bosnia the Dukes broke new ground. Alma's relentless efforts in Vitez built up trust between the two sides and ensured that the peace agreement stuck. Just as life was beginning to become a touch routine the thunderbolt struck.

**Gorazde**

Gorazde had been filling the news for many days: two British troops hit, a Harrier downed, Serb tanks firing into the hospital, Muslim troops fleeing into the town. The news was as alarming as it was speculative because the Serbs strictly controlled access to the area. On St. George's Day we were ordered to prepare to move as a company to Gorazde. We were to deploy within eighteen hours of our order to move and link up with a small battalion of French troops with some Egyptians, Ukrainians and Russians. This was to take place at Sarajevo airport on Sunday 24 April prior to our convoy move, under French command, to Gorazde. We arrived to find a large proportion of the world's press in attendance and a French colonel championing at the bit to get to Gorazde. At the last minute the French colonel breathlessly dashed up to the company commander and told him that the French government had not approved his contingent's participation in the Gorazde force. With that he and all his men and vehicles decamped, leaving Alma Company with no orders and a disparate group of Egyptians, Ukrainians and Russians in tow. We naturally assumed that we would carry on anyway and





The Saxons of Alma Company arrive at Vitez. Sergeant Davison and Sergeant Ness supervise.



Lance Corporal Schofield, Alma Company, at the Stari Vitez checkpoint



Stari Vitez



*Meal time at Vitez*

Left to right; 2nd Lieutenant Purcell, Lieutenant Hammond, C/Sergeant Dean, WO II Sutcliffe, Lieutenant Rhodes



**OP 4, the Alma Company post between the lines on the Biserna feature, Gorazde**



**Members of Alma Company take a break from fortifying OP 4.  
Left to right: Private Carbine, Lance Corporal Wallace, Private Ogilvie, Private Fletcher, Lance Corporal Storrs,  
Lance Corporal Hill and Private McKee RAMC**



Private Sanderson and the Alma Company column at Sarajevo airport on the way to Gorazde



OC Alma Company, Major N. G. Borwell, Sergeant Ness and interpreter with Serb "police" at Gorazde



only needed a route to get started. So, still using our theatrical French callsign of "Panther 1" to maintain communications with Sarajevo, we started on a most peculiar journey to Gorazde. It took about eight hours to cover the fifty miles or so but within a few minutes two Russian vehicles had run off the winding mountain road and had to be recovered. This proved to be the shape of things to come. A while later a Ukrainian vehicle did much the same. Meanwhile our Saxons plodded on, as reliable as ever. Shortly after nightfall the Egyptians lost their water bowser in a ditch and crashed a lorry. The driver needed stitches in his head. All this required an Alma medic and an Alma recovery team to sort out these problems. At this point Captain David Hannah, our liaison officer from the Irish Guards, reported that his landrover and two Ukrainian vehicles at the tail of the convoy were being held up by a latter-day highwayman. It was, in fact, a drunken Serb policeman who jammed his Yugo in the middle of the road and then menacingly brandished his AK47 whilst blaming UNPROFOR for either starting or ending the war, we couldn't quite work out which. Lieutenant Gregor Purcell went back to help extract our beleaguered comrades and, after a delay of about two hours, with bowser, truck and Egyptian intact, we continued. Late that night we arrived at the now infamous Rogatica check point expecting and long and bureaucratic wait. A rather nervous Serb policeman approached Major Borwell who soon realised he was required to meet someone important. There, at the barrier was General Mladic, commander of the Bosnian Serb Army. He was cracking walnuts with his teeth and wanted to know why the convoy was late. As our late arrival was due, in part, to Serb bureaucracy he overlooked the matter but he had obviously been awaiting our convoy for several hours - he was not in particularly good humour. He offered some friendly words of advice which amounted to a series of thinly veiled threats along the lines of "these hills are dangerous". The General asked if we were French. Major Borwell pointed to his sleeve, showing the Union Flag badge; Mladic replied "Ah yes, General Rose!" and then chuckled as though we represented his arch rival. The OC was given a walnut and the convoy allowed to pass immediately.

We drove those last few miles through huge gorges under a full moon not quite sure what to expect. Five miles out from the town we encountered the first Serb troops besieging the town. In the gloom we could make out tanks and heavily armed men on the side of the road. These forces had been brought up short by the UN/NATO ultimatum and there were no cheery waves from them as we drove by. At the start of the three kilometre Total Exclusion Zone (TEZ) we were met by a Ukrainian vehicle, one of a company of Ukrainians which had arrived a few hours earlier. The valley ahead of us looked hellish. Burning houses lit the darkness. Tracer criss-crossed the sky and word came, after a while, to "turn left at the second dead cow". There were many cows and horses lying in the road recently killed by shelling.

We arrived in Gorazde to be met by a French general and a Ukrainian colonel under whose command we came. The French general was clearly disappointed that there were no French troops with us whilst the Ukrainian struggled on in barely decipherable English.

At dawn we found ourselves in a sports field and we moved the company into an all weather soccer pitch complete with its own "kop". Almost immediately the company was tasked with ensuring that the "right bank" (east) of the river Drina was clear of Serb forces out to three kilometres. With little chance to recce, foot and vehicle patrols set off into the hills to cajole the Serb forces out of the area. Corporal Fisher and his section worked their way onto a large hill called Biserna overlooking the town to find thirty or so heavily armed Serbs still in position. Until hours before they had been pounding the town and its defenders and Corporal Fisher showed great determination blended with good humour to get them to move back. Our second day was altogether more perplexing because we were still checking the zone with our patrols whilst at the same time the Joint Commission Observers (JCOs) were checking the zone for weapons. The pressure was on because if the JCOs could not verify that the Serbs had moved their artillery and tanks out, NATO would bomb the next day with predictable results for Alma Company in Gorazde. Lieutenant Rhodes and Captain Hannah also went out into the zone to help with this check and their efforts were not always welcomed by the Serbs. The bombing was averted, but not before the Ukrainians, including their Colonel had decamped to a new location outside town in anticipation of the expected NATO strike. Rather than haul down the UN flag from the centre of Gorazde, Alma stayed and we made our preparations, along with the Norwegian Medical Company, for the worst, if it came. Happily, instead of re-enacting Rorke's Drift we were able to continue to gain control of the zone, but another surprise lay in store.

Serb soldiers who had left the zone returned wearing "Police" uniforms - albeit blue camouflage! They were still soldiers in all but name and it was clear that this ruse was to exploit a loophole in the Security Council Resolution. Patrols found themselves unable to evict these aggressive "coppers" who were armed to the teeth and clearly had orders to stay. Sergeant Elcoate and his Milan section had a stand off with up to forty of these characters until orders from our French general made it clear that the "police" would remain. This was galling but not totally unexpected. The uneasy ceasefire was maintained in spite of Serb "police" who mystically turned into armed "civilians" who in turn tried to conceal their weapons over the next few weeks. For Alma Company, awaiting reinforcements, those first few days were exciting and uncertain. Four days after our arrival in Gorazde a foot patrol commanded by Corporal Williams had just ordered a small group of Serbs off the Biserna feature and was moving off when Corporal Lean stepped on an anti-personnel mine. The "crack" of the mine was so like a rifle shot that the patrol took cover and in doing so Lance Corporal Clegg stepped on another mine that tore off part of his boot but did not injure him - he claims to have been moving too fast to be hit! Miraculously, Corporal Lean was not too seriously injured and remained calm and still during efforts to evacuate him safely.

This was achieved when Corporal Williams and Lance Corporal Clegg cleared a path to him using their bayonets. Sergeant Elcoate and his assault pioneers together with some Ukrainian engineers cleared a path to the patrol up a very steep ridge and the Norwegian medics completed the evacuation.

Truly an international effort and Corporal Lean will be fine.

The very next day Lieutenant Purcell and Corporal Mills were on patrol near a hamlet called Vran Potok when they were fired on by a group of Chetniks - Serb irregulars - at a range of about sixty metres. The patrol returned fire, killing two of their assailants. Other Serbs in the area began firing so the patrol started to extract themselves. They had about a mile to withdraw down a valley to reach safety with Sergeant Summersgill's patrol providing flank protection. They were followed by the Serbs who were still firing. Corporal Mills, acting as rearguard, stopped them in their tracks by killing the leading Chetnik, and thus secured the patrol's safe withdrawal. Meanwhile the OC and Lieutenant Hammond with 1 Platoon were covering a large group of "police" astride the patrol's escape route and pushed up to help with the extraction. Throughout the skirmish these "police" seemed oblivious to events only a few hundred metres away and the whole Alma team returned to camp safely. So far we have been treated with a great deal

more respect by the Serbs since this incident. The professionalism, coolness and courage of the Vran Potok patrol was of a very high order.

Over the past six weeks or so since we have been in Gorazde we have been reinforced by Corunna Company and Tac Headquarters. The situation has largely stabilised although the peace agreement for Bosnia could stand or fall on what happens here. There are always problems to be resolved that threaten the ceasefire. Moslem civilians want their houses back in an area occupied by the Serbs and we have to persuade them not to embark on suicidal marches into Serb territory. Serb armed "civilians" still within the zone have had to be moved out or disarmed. Alma recovered 63 rifles at the beginning of June but there is still much to do. The first three months of our tour in Bosnia have been exciting and challenging. With a combination of patrolling, checkpoints and well constructed and defended observation posts the Company has had variety and achieved a great deal.

#### BURMA COMPANY

OC	- Major R. C. Barker
2 I/C	- Lieutenant R. C. Connor
CSM	- Warrant Officer 2 M. G. Pigg
CQMS	- Colour Sergeant C. A. Murten

#### 4 Platoon

2nd Lieutenant J. E. Townhill  
Sergeant R. A. Mosley

#### 5 Platoon

Lieutenant N. R. E. Woolgar  
Sergeant K. Craddock

#### 6 Platoon

Lieutenant W. T. Mundell  
Sergeant S. J. J. Lowther

The Battalion finally received the order to deploy to the former Yugoslavia on 10 March. Burma Company who, in addition to the standard training package, had devoted a considerable amount of time learning the basics of speaking Serbo-Croat, relished the prospects of putting it all into practice. The first television pictures of the Dukes preparing for role featured a clip of Lance Corporal Connel leading his Saxon around the vehicle park, a clip which was used regularly in the days leading up to our departure. A visit by the Secretary of State for Defence heralded the departure of the advance party the following day and within 48 hours the OC and CQMS arrived in Bugojno and prepared for the arrival of the main body. The down side of being the first rifle company to arrive in Bugojno was the requirement to turn former shoe and sheepskin factories into a working military base. Whilst platoon commanders travelled the ground with the OC in order to assess the operational tasks ahead, the Platoon sergeants supervised the remainder of the Company in building the camp. Rubbish clearing, sandbag filling, sweeping, digging, and most importantly guarding became the way of life in the first week.

The arrival of reinforcements released the Company to take up its operational duties which included patrols, camp guard and active site guard. Patrols were sub divided into town and confrontation line patrols. The aim of patrolling the town on foot was to meet the people and get used to working with the interpreters as well as providing the opportunity to ensure that all prohibited weapons had been removed

from the area. Weapons over 12.7mm calibre had to be placed in an active site of which Burma Company manned two. The active sites are areas chosen by the Bosnian Government Army (BiH) or Bosnian Croat Army (HVO) into which their heavy weapons are placed and monitored by the UN. A section of Burma Company ensures that the guns are only used against the Bosnian Serb Army (BSA) and not against each other. During our time here the BiH and HVO have generally withdrawn off the former confrontation lines leaving a UN patrolled buffer zone. In the early days our patrols monitored the ceasefire between fully occupied positions and attempted to generate some mutual confidence and trust. It was during a mobile patrol of one such area that the Company had its first casualty. Despite having a local army guide with the patrol, whose job it was to ensure the patrol's safety, a Saxon APC hit an anti-tank mine which resulted in a broken leg for Lance Corporal Stroyan. Unfortunately the damage to his leg was worse that we had imagined and Lance Corporal Stroyan, having been flown back to the Queen Elizabeth Military Hospital in Woolwich, had to have his foot amputated.

Despite the camp being hit by several incoming shells we have managed to avoid further casualties to date and an air of normality is maintained in Bugojno with Saturday night quizzes and bingo. We have also arranged through the local BiH command the use of a nearby valley for rangework which has allowed the whole Company to check zero and balance guns.

The Company has provided Sergeant Lowther and



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**The Territorial Army, Freepost, 4335 (Ref: 9000), Bristol BS1 3YX.  
3 DWR, Endcliffe Hall, Endcliffe Vale Road, Sheffield S10 3EU.**

Corporal Thackray to assist in the training of the RGBW Regiment which is due to replace us in September. As these words are written we hear that a

four week cessation of hostilities has been agreed between the federation and the BSA. The remainder of our tour could be interesting indeed.



Major R. C. Barker, OC B Company briefing Sergeant Lowther



The British element of the Gorazde convoy



## BURMA COMPANY TAKE PART IN A MULTI-NATIONAL CONVOY TO GORAZDE

On 20 April with the situation in Gorazde worsening Burma Company was tasked to provide a platoon as part of a multinational Company. This was to be ready to move by 1800hrs that day. There was some confusion about exactly how many people the Serbs would allow to go through their lines. Eventually we were allowed just twenty men with three Saxons, one Land Rover and one DAF. WO2 Pigg had the unenviable task of preparing the ever changing manifests.

The Company, which also consisted of French, Ukrainians and Norwegians, was to meet up at Sarajevo airport, but to get there we had to pass through the Serb S1 checkpoint. The policewoman there was not happy with the amount of small arms ammunition we were carrying but eventually we were let through. It is a good job that she did not see the anti-tank weapons and the grenades. We met up with the rest of the convoy on the runway where we were filmed by the BBC. The overall commander of the Company was a French colonel whose English was about as good as my French.

We left Sarajevo the morning of 21 April and made good progress towards Gorazde although the Ukrainian BTR-70s slowed us down. At 1600hrs we arrived at Rogatica where our progress was blocked by a large crowd of women and children together with a number of Serb soldiers. The women's grievance was supposedly that they wanted UNPROFOR to investigate the deaths of Serb men in Gorazde. Rather

than letting us through to do just that they blocked the road, a rather strange thing to do. It soon became clear that we were going nowhere that night and settled down.

Throughout the night the Serb soldiers, who looked like extras from a Rambo film, kept firing the odd burst of gunfire in an attempt to intimidate us. They tried this as soon as we arrived when one of them fired his pistol to disperse a crowd of children but backed down very quickly when he found himself staring down the barrel of Corporal Perrin's GPMG.

We stayed in a state of limbo throughout the day listening to the World Service where we heard that 99 people had been killed in Gorazde in the previous 24 hours. It was very frustrating to be a mere 20km from Gorazde but powerless to do anything. We also heard that the Security Council had authorised the use of airstrikes against a range of Serb targets. At this stage we received orders to return to Sarajevo, presumably to save us from the anger of the Serbs if NATO jets appeared. Unfortunately the Serbs then blocked us from behind. Eventually they released us at 1900.

We arrived back at Sarajevo airport at about 0130hrs on 23 April. We then had to cross through another Serb checkpoint before we could get into the Muslim controlled part of Sarajevo. By this stage I had had enough of Serbs and decided to be as intransigent as the Serb running the checkpoint. Eventually we made it into Sarajevo where we were looked after by number 2 Company of the Coldstream



Lieutenant O'Connor with a T34 tank just outside Bugojno

Guards. Because the Serbs would not let us out of Sarajevo we had to stay for three days but we did get to meet General Rose.

Even when we were finally allowed to leave Sarajevo our move did not pass without incident. We were held at the airport checkpoint for several hours. This might have something to do with our escort being the Warrior which had the previous week destroyed a number of Serb bunkers in a fire fight. However, it was more likely a combination of a breakdown in Serb

communications and a desire on their part to further inconvenience us.

The whole affair was an experience to say the least and is just one example of how difficult it is to remain impartial and not take sides when serving on a United Nations tour. Fortunately throughout the affair the Burma Company soldiers maintained their professionalism and most importantly retained their sense of humour.

R. C. O'Connor

### CORUNNA COMPANY

- OC - Major D. S. Bruce
- CSM - Warrant Officer 2 J. Frear
- CQMS - Colour Sergeant S. Grogan

#### 7 Platoon

2nd Lieutenant R. C. Breary  
Sergeant McConnel

#### 8 Platoon

Lieutenant J. Mitchell  
Sergeant A. Barratt

#### 9 Platoon

2nd Lieut C. P. B. Langlands-Pearce  
Sergeant S. Caine

Within hours of Mr. Rifkind announcing our deployment the Company advance party, consisting of the OC, Lance Corporal Parker and Private Horwell, departed quickly followed by the CQMS and the platoon comds. The Company arrived and we were complete with vehicles and equipment by 24 March 1994. The preparation and speed of deployment was a credit to all concerned.

The Company conducted a number of reces and was tasked to operate in the north of the Battalion AO in the area of Travnik. A forward operating base was established in an old warehouse close to the BiH/HVO confrontation line. The Company tasks included manning checkpoints, active sites (where BiH artillery pieces were guarded by UNPROFOR), patrolling the confrontation line, providing a QRF and securing the Company base. These tasks were all part of creating the conditions for a lasting ceasefire between the BiH and HVO in the area of the Vitez pocket. The Company took operational control of its AO on 26 March at 1200hrs.

While the Company established itself in its operational role much work was carried out to make the base habitable. This included a full clean out of rubbish, erection of tents, a kitchen, digging toilets and establishing recreation facilities. Over the weeks the base improved daily with makeshift showers, satellite television, table tennis and pool tables and other facilities adding to the quality of life. Sangars were built and protection improved and the Colour Sergeant's "two minute job" became a well worn phrase normally accompanied by a bomb burst of soldiers!

Operationally the Company worked hard to maintain the ceasefire in the area. Liaison was established between the warring factions and a confidence in UNPROFOR was quickly established. The checkpoints became the scene of emotional family reunions and civilian movement began to take place. The confrontation line was patrolled regularly, minefields mapped and shooting incidents kept to a minimum. Although the main task was centred on the BiH/HVO line, the Company had responsibility for monitoring the BiH-BSA confrontation in the area of Turbe. The active sites proved an interesting task,

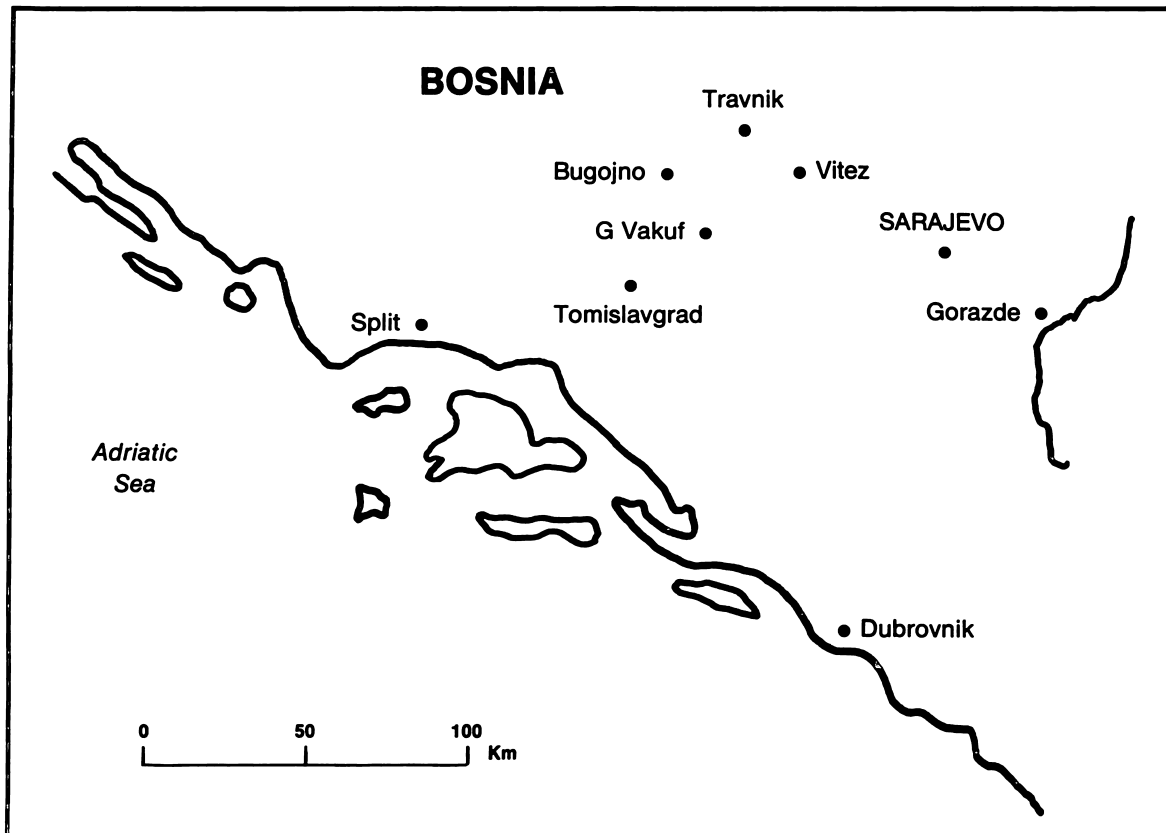
ensuring that BiH artillery fire was directed only at the BSA and on several occasions sections had to take evasive action to BSA counter battery fire. Assisting the delivery of humanitarian aid remains UNPROFORs primary role and convoys had to be escorted, and the Company spent a great deal of time ensuring their safety on the routes, in particular at the Turbe crossing between BSA and BiH lines.

Over the following weeks the situation between the BiH and HVO continued to improve and a plan to separate the forces was negotiated. After many hours of talks an agreement was finally made and on 13 April it was signed. The Company deployed every man on the ground along the line to supervise the separation. Perhaps the greatest indication of our success was in the town of Novi-Travnik, split in half by the war with frontlines divided by a single road and occupying flats and buildings in a classic urban warfare scenario. With the sides agreeing to separate, the Company deployed patrols and a checkpoint between the two halves, pulled down the barricades and started to rebuild the confidence of the people. Slowly normality began to return to the town, civilians started to mix and movement around the town became gradually easier.

Work now concentrated on improving the civil infrastructure. The military tasks were becoming less exciting and somewhat mundane. It was time to move on!

Help was on its way, the OC was warned of a possible move to Gorazde, "no panic; you will have at least 24 hours!" Four hours later it was "pack now you leave at 1100hrs tomorrow", it was now 2300hrs on 29 April. The camp was packed up immediately, the Company worked all night and the vehicles were loaded to the roof as we lined up with all we could carry ready for the road move.

The road trip to hell had started, a 120km move which should have taken about twelve hours lasted, courtesy of the Serbs, six days! The Company was joined by Engineers, Recce, TAC HQ and a collection of stores and supplies. Patience was tested to the limit as Serbian bureaucracy was encountered for the first time. The convoy arrived at the now infamous Rogatica checkpoint two days later to begin a five day



wait for permission to pass. We became a political bargaining chip as petty excuses were made for not allowing us to move. The convoy morale remained high as we set up camp on the road side, fresh rations were barbecued, ablutions dug, showers and even a bath built and activities programmed to occupy the soldiers. Throughout this briefings and preparations continued for our arrival in Gorazde, eventually on 4 May the convoy was finally cleared through as part of a larger agreement made by Mr. Akashi.

We arrived in Gorazde in the early hours of the morning having travelled a difficult route via Visegrad turning a 20km journey into 100km, again thanks to the Serbs. Camp was established in an old bus depot next to Alma Company and preparations began for our deployment on the BSA-BiH line.

On 6 May the Company deployed to its tasks, these including manning OPs and patrolling the 3km Total Exclusion Zone on the west bank of the Drina. The situation is very volatile in Gorazde and the Company monitors the uneasy ceasefire with the aim of keeping

the situation sufficiently stable to allow peace negotiations to be conducted at the highest level. By positioning ourselves between the two factions and patrolling their lines we are able to keep a lid on this explosive area. Every day is punctuated by incidents of shooting, mine explosions or manoeuvring by the factions. Several soldiers have experienced "crack and thump demo's" and we have returned fire on one occasion. Minefields remain a constant threat and both sides continue to lay mines often in areas patrolled by UNPROFOR. Several patrols have had close shaves with mines and 2nd Lieutenant Charles Langlands-Pearce set off a trip wire mine and was extremely lucky to suffer only minor injury.

The Company continues to work hard in the challenging and exciting environment around Gorazde. There are many frustrations but to a man everyone is enjoying the experience. As these notes are written a month long ceasefire has been announced in Geneva, we do not expect it to make a jot of difference in Gorazde!

### THE MORTAR PLATOON

The Mortar Platoon was the first I DWR sub unit to actually take operational control and on Wednesday 23 March we were up and running on task in Tomislavgrad. The priority tasking was the running of "Route Triangle" which is the main supply route from the coast into Central Bosnia. The route is used by the the UN aid convoys, UN resupply vehicles and

Bosnian civil and military traffic. The route starts at Tomislavgrad and ends some 45km north-east at Prosor. The route is an old loggers track that passes over a dramatic mountain range climbing some 2,500 feet in single lane and dirt track with numerous lethal hairpin bends.

Since the peace settlement the weight of traffic has increased enormously. An average day saw some 400 civilian lorries, 150 UN aid vehicles, United Nations military traffic, the coaches of HVO soldiers usually drunk on route to and from the front line, and numerous civilian cars. Further to this there was the obvious language problem, impatient civilian drivers, the unreliability of their vehicles and the adverse weather conditions. Thus traffic jams and accidents were the main problem. However the black market is also thriving and we often had to deal with local bandits trying to hijack aid convoys at gunpoint.

All this meant that traffic control and the security of "Route Triangle" was vital not only for the resupply of the United Nations but also to ensure that the aid convoys reached their destinations. In short if "Route Triangle" came to a standstill then so did Central Bosnia. The platoon had a very important task and while we controlled the route all UN aid convoys passed through safely and made their destinations. The importance of the job cannot be over stressed. After all the primary function of the UN in Bosnia is to safeguard aid convoys.

Our success was a result of the JNCOs on the ground thinking quickly and gripping the situation to ensure the route stayed open and 100-200 vehicle traffic jams occurred regularly. Everybody worked long hours and our work was much appreciated, but could not have been achieved without the help of the Engineers Recovery Troop.

On 8 May the platoon moved up to join Battalion Main and Burma Company in Bugojno. Although we were based in Bugojno we were actually under the tactical control of B Company 2 Royal Anglian based in Gornji Vakuf. Our main task was controlling the

confrontation line between the BiH and the HVO in the Dobrosin Valley. The platoon had to patrol the 28km of confrontation line on either side. This meant that half the platoon worked under Colour Sergeant Flynn on the BiH side and the other under Lieutenant Vallings on the HVO side, causing many amusing confrontations amongst the platoon.

The platoon achieved excellent results setting up two joint check points which was a good step forward for the peace plan as both sides were then working together. This meant that the thriving black market was unable to operate as the checkpoints would not let them pass through. The local leaders of both sides were often brought into the buffer zone to talk about local issues. The most satisfying achievement was the removal of an eleven year old Croatian girl from the Muslim village of Ivanci to be reunited with her parents after 18 months of separation. This was a highly contentious issue in the area as the girl had not been allowed to leave the village. Credit for this lies with WO2 Dowdall for his perseverance, negotiating skills and his personal contacts which enabled us to get the girl to her parents. It was a very emotional day for all involved.

The confrontation line is now stable and it is hoped that it will be totally demilitarized by the end of June. The main problems in the area remain the black market and the unmarked mine fields.

The platoon has had to remain flexible due to the diverse nature of the tasks and the many proposed plans for our deployment (we have been warned off for Gorazde and Sarajevo). The Mortars are working hard and spirits are high. We have all learnt a lot about ourselves out here and our work has been much appreciated.

## THE SIGNAL PLATOON

Left a bit Lofty . . . no right . . . that's it, nearly, just up a fraction Rutts . . . bang on! And so the Signal Platoon established contact with the outside world on one of the many radio nets that the platoon would have to man while stationed in Bugojno and Gorazde.

With all operations good communications are essential and this is particularly the case in Central Bosnia, where the battlegroup is spread out over a far larger area than normal. This problem was coupled with very difficult terrain and so called for some frantic communication testing in the first week of deployment. It became obvious early on that it would be very difficult to settle into any sort of regular routine with many different tasks to complete, filling in for company detachments on R and R, the many driving tasks, as well as providing the manpower for the G5 cell (a body responsible for liaison and coordination with the civil authorities and humanitarian aid agencies). So plenty to do, but the platoon, as always, proved to be both resourceful and adaptable.

It did not take long to sort out accommodation and the boys soon made themselves comfortable, partitioned off in a part of the shoe factory, as well as managing to build an improvised gym out of bits and pieces found in the factory, and the loan of the ops officers' weights which had been previously unused.

Around this time we had become used to being woken up each morning at roughly the same time by the sound of Serb shelling in the town. Unfortunately one morning at 0630 a shell exploded on the roof of the factory, directly above the Signal Platoon accommodation which resulted in a shower of shrapnel and rubble which badly injured Corporal Stott and Lance Corporal Wood. Medical attention was immediately on hand and we all owe many thanks to the people who gave first aid treatment. We were very fortunate that there were not more injured and both Corporal Stott and Lance Corporal Wood were flown back to the UK for further treatment. Lance Corporal Wood has since rejoined the platoon in Bosnia and Corporal Stott is making good progress in the UK.

Notwithstanding this incident the tour has been successful from a signalling point of view. The signallers have had to work with numerous new communication systems which have included a number of satellite systems, as a result most members of the platoon now claim to be expert on this intricate art.

The tour has been a good experience for all and some of the newer signallers have learnt a great deal more than they could ever have done based back in the UK.





**Corporal Armitage, Recce Platoon, casevac a Serb soldier injured by an anti-personnel mine**

### **MEDICAL CENTRE (RAP)**

On deployment to Bosnia in mid-March, the Medical Centre was to set up under Sergeant Frank 'Fragile' Teall and his associates, together with a few elements of the Regimental Band, who were to join the ranks in their role as medics.

Within days of being deployed the Medical Centre was to prove its worth, when on the morning of 25 March a hit was taken on the Signals' accommodation, resulting in our first casualties, Corporal Stott and Lance Corporal Wood. The medical team were soon on site, and both were attended to and their conditions stabilised. Thankfully both are doing well.

In charge of the overall decisions has been Captain Bushby, RMO, who upon deployment to Gorazde in April, succeeded (temporarily) by Captain Henning (who joined us from Tomislavgrad), and Captain Russell, our former RMO (now of the MST - Medical Support Troop).

Medical support has also been supplied in the Vitez and Travnik area, before being transferred on deployment to the Gorazde location, where we now have an RAP under Corporal Pat Brennan, working in liaison with the Medical Centre here in Bugojno.

The work here has been steady, but has included incidents due to mines, one of which involved Lance Corporal Stroyan of B Company, whose Saxon encountered a mine near Gornji Vakuf, an RTA involving three LAD members from Gornji Vakuf, and more recently, a local 'bricking' incident involving Private Robinson, again B Company, who was lucky to come away with just a few stitches to his forehead.

Together with the everyday "sick parade" illnesses, the Medical Centre has undertaken its tasks with a cheerful and competent attitude, despite having to adapt to the rather basic conditions encountered at Bugojno.

### **A RUGBY GAME IN BOSNIA**

The whistle blew and eight enthusiastic forwards charged towards the opposing forwards as Sergeant Phil Barr kicked off. A scene from this year's Army Cup? No, but despite the fact that the 1st Battalion has been deployed to Bosnia we have still managed to fit in a game of rugby amidst the huge variety of tasks we have undertaken.

Although soccer is the preferred sport in the former Yugoslavia, there is a healthy interest in rugby in many parts of the country. This is particularly the case in the city of Zenica where their rugby team had been national champions several times before the war started. A challenge was issued by the Zenica rugby team to the British Army in Central Bosnia, confident

that they would beat us, having already put The Cheshires to the sword and seeing the success of their soccer teams against ours.

A game was arranged for Saturday 30 April in the 2,500 seater "Celik" Stadium and a team comprising ten Dukes and five Coldstreamers travelled from Bugojno via Vitez to Zenica, having had the sum total of one training session due to the rushed deployment to Gorazde. The Zenicans take their rugby very seriously and a large crowd had gathered to see the expected thrashing of the British.

Due to their rather enforced exile from the sporting world, the locals were not up to date with the rules of rugby, so we were told that we would have to play the 1989 version of rules which proved to be rather a strain on the brain cells of most of the forwards who for the most part had difficulty remembering what they had for breakfast.

The game itself proved to be fast and furious. Despite an excellent start by the army side which resulted in a try for Private Camplin, the home side put us under pressure for long periods of time and were never afraid to run with the ball from all areas of the pitch. The excellence of their running play was not matched by their forward control which enabled our

forwards (for most of the match entirely Dukes) to dominate despite some dubious refereeing which allowed one or two of their forwards to get away with some distinctly illegal play.

Fine performances by Sergeant Barr at fly half and Private Nettleton at full back whose display included a brilliant individual try from his own half resulting in a victory for the British side, although the largest cheer of all was saved for the home side when they broke away for their only try late in the second half. Final score - British Army 15, Zenica 11.

The game was filmed for local television and a large reception afterwards saw a number of speeches and presentations, as well as a great sing-song which included a fine rendition of the Dukes' rugby song by the Dukes, ably led by Corporal McCabe, and accompanied by the excellent band of the 1st Battalion, The Coldstream Guards.

A great night which continued for many hours and a good way to get away from the serious side of the work out here. Hopefully it will be possible to arrange one or two other games out here and who knows maybe one day we will see a Balkan team competing at Twickenham?

S. J. Stewart



The British army rugby XV

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# 3rd Battalion

## Commanding Officer's Introduction

As I write these notes with six months under my belt in command, one of the many but perhaps most distinct impressions I have is how much we do with so little. I refer here not to men or equipment but the relatively small amount of money which is allocated for training a TA Battalion.

This year we have a training budget of just over £700,000 for a Battalion of 500 plus. The term "training" is perhaps a misnomer, for the money is used for so many different events and activities.

Turning to training first the pace has remained busy. By spring 380 members of the Battalion had qualified for bounty, a well above average figure for TA infantry battalions and a measure of the level of commitment which exists. Involvement in competitions has abounded. Our shooting team, which has been re-organised and strengthened, took part in the Eastern District Skill at Arms Competition, resulting in individuals qualifying for Bisley this year. A Battalion team is now busily preparing for the International Nijmegen Marches in Holland where the team has to march 160km over four days. The experiences of the team led by our signals officer, Jenny Ogden, will be reported on in the next issue of the 'Iron Duke', but suffice to say here that great credit must go to them for spending most non-training weekends marching up and down dales and all unpaid.

The SF Platoon has taken part in the Cheviot 2000 race in Northumberland, an endurance walk/run over some very tough terrain and certainly not for the faint hearted. The platoon's teams did very well covering the 22 miles in seven hours, a good five hours ahead of the last non DWR team. This was a most creditable result especially as there had been little opportunity to train beforehand. Elements of our Mortar Platoon, which remains officially un-established, took part in the United Kingdom Land Forces OP Competition and performed very well. Our Motor Transport Platoon is in the middle of a programme in preparation for the Eastern District Driving Competition.

We have had a company group take part in a Brigade run exercise called "Lone Centurion". We are about to embark on a summer of field firing and

company/battalion exercises culminating in exercise "Orient Express II", our summer camp in Belgium in September. Although emphasis in our training programme has been placed on competitions, shooting and field exercises, each company is holding an adventurous training weekend in areas ranging from North Wales to the Lake District.

The Battalion and HMS Sheffield have managed to forge even closer links. Many members of the Battalion have been visiting the ship and, despite a very busy programme whilst docked in Hull and visiting Sheffield, the ship still managed to send teams to compete in our sports day.

Our involvement with HMS Sheffield is just one example of a plethora of activity not directly linked to training. We provided a 26 strong staircase party for the prestigious Master Cutlers' Feast at the Cutlers Hall in Sheffield in May, and we regularly provide stands and displays for local fêtes and charities throughout both South and West Yorkshire. We also take part in parades and services organised by Mayor's office in our local towns and all these activities are important in maintaining the Regiment's profile and forging links with local people. To this end we also have company open days where the community is invited into our Territorial Army centres to see what we do.

We have been beneficiaries of the 1st Battalion's highly successful tour in Bosnia. They face demanding tasks and whilst it has been geographically and logistically difficult to offer much concrete support (although in small ways help has managed to be given), the links between the two Battalions has reinforced the value and success of Regiments having both a regular and reserve Battalion.

The 3rd Battalion is alive and kicking. What it achieves is effectively done in a month (spread over the year) since each man and woman is only funded for that amount of time and what the TA soldier packs in during that month sometimes to me, as a regular officer, seems impossible. I hope very much therefore, that with the levels of recruiting, manning and commitment which exist, the TA review leaves the Battalion untouched.

## THE COLONEL'S REWARD

In November 1993 Colonel Fox, CO 3 DWR (at the time), summoned me to his office and informed me that he wished me to command a composite company from the Battalion to take part in a Brigade exercise that was being planned for May '94. His parting words were along the lines of "it should be good fun, consider it a reward for the effort put in over the past year".

1993 turned into 1994. Colonel Bonas took over from Colonel Fox as CO and information began to trickle down from Brigade about the "reward" now called exercise "Lone Centurion".

Some of the Brigade objectives were to:

- Exercise commanders at all levels.

- Help commanders to evaluate their own performance through debrief.
- Enable units to assess strengths and weaknesses.
- Provide opportunities to practise C3.
- Practise all arms co-operation.

In addition, all the major units within 15 (NE) Brigade, i.e. 4 PARA, 3 PWO, 8 LI, 4/5 Green Howards, would, during 1994, be also providing composite companies to, in turn, go through the exercise.

As we moved into 1994 the requirements for exercise "Lone Centurion" grew with the addition of elements from Recce, Assault Pioneers, SF Platoon

and Mortars to the composite company. A work up weekend, appropriately named Ex Colonels Reward, was also slotted into an already busy training schedule as the importance of the exercise began to grow and the need to do well became apparent. The "reward" had become a Trojan Horse!

It was during this period that some of the realities of serving members of the Territorial Army began to show when in quick succession my 2IC, CSM and CQMS informed me that due to holidays, work, expectant wife, they would not be able to attend the exercise weekend. In addition some soldiers could not attend the work up weekend but could the actual exercise and vice versa. However, the flexibility of the TA also showed itself when, after a flurry of phone

calls, replacements were quickly slotted and a full company group of over 140 soldiers arrived at the assembly area in Catterick, on the evening of Friday 14 May 1994.

The exercise proved to be physically and mentally demanding for all concerned. The command element were put under a fair amount of pressure to achieve certain objectives within tight timescales. However, one of the constant themes for debriefs was of the professionalism, skills and particularly commitment of the soldiers.

I understand that Brigade intend to run the exercise on a yearly basis. I would therefore like to take this opportunity to volunteer OC A Company 3 DWR for the "reward" in 1995.

## THE SIGNAL PLATOON

1994 so far has been a busy year for the Signal Platoon. January started off with a BBGT. February/March saw the Signal Platoon preparing for the Standard II Cadre at Proteus. The Phase I weekends were hard work for the instructors and students alike, but proved invaluable in preparing for the cadre itself. The average day started at 0745hrs and went through till 2100hrs, but the social life still kicked off at 2130hrs.

The cadre contained several exercises which were designed to test the students in lessons learnt in the classroom. The first of these was a small man-pack exercise around the camp. The next exercise was a vehicle borne one in the local area. Exercise "Highway

Code" or "One of my Land Rovers is missing" displayed the fact that the Battalion has excellent signallers - but map reading in certain quarters was another matter!

Exercise "Damp Socks" went on to prove that Mercury may not be the only rival to British Telecom on the horizon. Exercise "Final Frontier" made the cadre students go where no student had gone before.

After the cadre Signal Platoon provided training for the Battalion's exercise "Martial Merlin" teams. Apart from the odd person who wanted to employ semaphore a very good standard of signalling was achieved.

## ASSAULT PIONEER PLATOON

When we were first formed in September 1992 we tended to be used as enemy to both the Company and the Battalion whilst on training, but as our skill levels and our holdings of equipment increased so did the variety of jobs we were asked to do.

When older military people use the word 'pioneer', it conjures up the image of a soldier digging graves or latrines, but today's assault pioneer is a very different animal. He is a highly motivated individual who is self-reliant with an enquiring mind. We are, in short, the Commanding Officer's own combat engineers.

We have over the last year been doing modular

training with the Royal Engineers of 15 Infantry Brigade. Most of us are now course qualified up to B2 level on demolitions, mine warfare, watermanship and water supply.

We have been taught and have practised watermanship at Halton in Lancashire, on the ponds and rivers at Ripon Parks with the Battalion and with the Royal Engineers. We have been taught and have practised placing demolition charges at Warcop under the expert guidance of 272 Field Squadron, Royal Engineers and have raised the fortifications at Endcliffe Hall in Sheffield.

## SPORTS

During the month of April the Battalion took part in two sporting competitions. The first was the inter company sports day which was held at the Rotherham Sports Centre on Saturday 16 April 1994.

All the companies entered a team in rugby sevens, hockey, soccer and tug o'war. B Company from Halifax just about swept the board clean, winning the rugby sevens, the hockey and soccer competitions. The tug o'war was won by A Company from Barnsley.

HMS Sheffield, being docked at Hull, sent a team to the sports centre for the hockey and soccer competitions.

The second sporting competition, the Brigade Sports Day, was held at Catterick. The Battalion fared very well against the remainder of the Brigade. A Company lost in the final of the tug o'war, B Company won the hockey competition, C Company made it to the plate final of the rugby sevens competition but was unfortunate not to go any further. HQ Company made it to the actual final of the rugby sevens, finally losing to a much fitter Leeds OTC. Overall a good performance by the Battalion and a great day out for all those families who travelled to Catterick to support the companies



## A VISIT OF HMS SHEFFIELD

I had been on warships before; as a boy I have visited both HMS Victory and HMS Belfast. But Sheffield would be different. After having been reminded twice in recent times about the importance of sea power - essential to victory in the Falklands War, and for logistic support to win Desert Storm, I was enormously looking forward to my visit.

The Adjutant and I arrived at the quayside at 0930hrs. As we walked up the gangway, one thing that I noticed was that the ship was big. HMS Sheffield is a frigate, and as far as the Royal Navy's fighting ships go, one of the largest.

We were welcomed on board by one of the ship's officers, and then led to the captain's cabin for coffee and to meet the other visitors for the day - which included the Mayor of Sheffield and his daughter, and the Master Cutler of Sheffield. Then I went to visit the innards of the ship. The first thing to notice was the corridors. Every thoroughfare had equipment attached to the sides; firefighting gear, breathing apparatus, spare power cables, the ice-making cabinet (padlocked in hot climates to ensure a supply of ice for the galleys), pipes and noticeboards.

We watched from on deck outside the bridge as the warship left berth and was towed to the sea dock. The harbour pilot controls the manoeuvring, but the Captain is still responsible for the safety of ship and crew even then. Once safely in dock, off we were led to continue the tour.

Good food was in preparation in the galley. The staff can cook in all weathers, but in storms it's stew

on the menu. The Sea Wolf computer room shared the style common to all rooms on board; there was very little space to swing the ship's cat; equipment filled most of the room available.

The operations room (from where the Captain fights the battle if he is not on the bridge) was very interesting. The layout appeared to the untrained eye to be similar to the submarine bridge in the film 'Hunt for Red October', without the periscope.

It was then back to the wardroom for lunch, passing via the damage and power control room. You would be amazed at the different systems in operation throughout the ship; electricity at two different voltages, fresh water, salt water, fire main and air, to name a few.

Lunch was excellent but all too soon the call came to prepare to leave the wardroom officers and guests (MOD researchers and civilians interested in joining the Royal Navy). We donned our rubber survival suits and lifejackets, and then filed down the length of the ship to the helipad aft.

As we awaited our pick-up back to shore by an RAF Wessex, I had a view of the thrill it must be to be Captain of Sheffield. We were steaming at 23 knots on one Tyne engine and one Olympus engine. (Two Olympus engines - as used on Concorde aircraft - can take over the diesel-powered Tynes for high speed manoeuvring.) The ship moved through the sea at an impressive speed, and I wondered before we left for shore; if I had done this visit when I was aged 18, would I have joined the Navy?



*A visit to HMS Sheffield*

Left to right: Captain Greenside, Lieutenant Johnson and Lieutenant Triplow with wives/girlfriends

## 'D' (WELLESLEY) COMPANY DWR YORKSHIRE ACF

The shooting season is in full swing at the moment with 'D' Company doing very well. In the County .22 championships Keighley and Skipton Detachments qualified to shoot in the finals. Cadets Smith and Hoare, Keighley Detachment, were second and third respectively in the individual junior competition and Keighley Detachment were junior champions. In the senior competition Lance Corporal Green of Keighley was third individual and Keighley Detachment was the second placed team.

The County SAAM this year was a special meeting as it was the 50th. The cadets' parents were invited to watch the competitions on the Sunday morning and had a barbecue at lunch time. 'D' Company teams did very well. First place in the Service Rifle Match went

to Team 3, our junior team, third place went to Team 1. The junior individual winner was Cadet Hickman, Keighley Detachment. The senior individual second place went to Colour Sergeant Bohanna, Heckmondwike Detachment and the county individual champion shot was Corporal Medlock, Mirfield Detachment.

The County Target Rifle Championships did not produce any medals for the Company but four cadets are training to represent the county at Bisley.

'D' Company did very well in the County Athletics Championships. We had twelve cadets selected to represent the county in the Brigade Championships and four cadets now go on to the National Championships.

## H.M.S. IRON DUKE

### An operational year in 1994

1994 has been a busy but fruitful and rewarding year operationally and there is more in store. Initially HMS Iron Duke undertook Basic Operational Sea Training (BOST) in and around the waters of Portland. This comprised the assessment of the ship's company in an operational environment including their ability to fight under different conditions, operational procedures, administration and responses to emergencies. For the time being HMS Iron Duke has the best assessment obtained by a Type 23 Frigate.

With one free weekend after BOST the training package continued. HMS Iron Duke took a well worked up crew and operationally proved systems into a more specific task of 'Area Capability Training' (ACT). As an anti-submarine warfare ship HMS Iron Duke was now required to develop submarine detection capabilities, the main element being Towed Array Operations (sub-surface detection using a passive sonar towed behind the ship). This period is the natural progression for such a ship following BOST and is of two weeks duration.

The final phase of the complete package was to be exercise 'Resolute Response', which followed only four hours alongside after ACT. The ship would now put into practice all the exertions of the previous few weeks in a combined NATO exercise. The theory that had been exercised was to be translated efficiently into a close approximation of reality. Safe passage was secured for merchant shipping convoys against both an air and a submarine threat. Iron Duke had ample reason to be proud of herself.

The rest of 1994 sees a 7½ month deployment to the South Atlantic including five months on station in and around the Falkland Islands and South Georgia, fulfilling United Kingdom commitments in the region. However, there are promises of visits planned in Africa, South America and the West Indies.

### Fitted to fight

The frigate is the workhorse of the surface fleet of the Royal Navy. Traditionally it was a small, fast and manoeuvrable craft capable of scouting ahead of a fleet or convoy. Consequently it was lightly armed. Nowadays, however, a frigate's role is less well defined, and, as a result, a modern frigate like HMS Iron Duke, is more heavily-armed in order to carry

out more flexible general purpose tasks. It can deal with threats from the three main spheres of naval warfare: anti-submarine (ASW), anti-surface (ASUW) and anti-air warfare (AAW).

ASW is the primary role of the Type 23 Frigate, and HMS Iron Duke is fitted with some of the most modern underwater sensors in the world, as well as being designed to run in an ultra-quiet manner, in order to evade detection by enemy submarines, while allowing optimum detection capability. She is equipped with both passive (listening) and active (transmitting) sonars. The former, the 2031Z Towed Array Sonar, is towed along behind the ship in order to reduce the ship's self noise, which degrades sonar performance. The latter, the 2050 sonar, is mounted in a sonardome under the bows of the ship. Information from either of these sensors is used to deploy weapons by various means against submerged targets. Iron Duke has both depth charges and torpedoes for this purpose. Technically speaking, the two types of ASW weapon are at either end of the scale. The depth charge is a basic "barrel" of explosive which is dropped by helicopter into the water in the close proximity of a submerged target, making life extremely uncomfortable for those within. The torpedo (in the Royal Navy's case, the Stingray Torpedo), however, is a sophisticated underwater homing missile, which uses its own sensors to detect, track and destroy its prey. It can be deployed by helicopter (HMS Iron Duke can operate Lynx, Sea King or Merlin helicopters), extending the range of the weapons system greatly. This helicopter can be controlled directly from the Iron Duke, or from another warship, or another helicopter, or even a maritime patrol aircraft, such as the Nimrod. The Stingray Torpedo can also be launched from the ship's magazine torpedo launch system (MTLS), which comprises two doors on either side of the hangar superstructure, fed by a magazine of torpedoes in the forward end of the hangar. The system allows the ship to have a quick reaction close-range system against submarines, and since the torpedoes are magazine loaded, there is no requirement for personnel to be exposed on the upperdeck while reloading is underway.

The helicopter is also able to carry a number of Sea Skua anti-surface missiles, used to great effect in the Gulf War. Again the combination of ship-helicopter-

missile allows greater flexibility while maintaining range.

In order to detect surface targets at the optimum range, and to aid their identification, the Iron Duke is equipped with extensive radar and electronic support measures equipment. They can be used to build up an overall picture of the tactical situation, and also to target the Harpoon surface-to-surface missile. This is an American made sea-skimming homing missile. Iron Duke is able to carry eight. The above mentioned radar system, namely the 996, also supplies targeting information to the Vertically-Launched Sea Wolf system (VLSW), a close range surface-to-air missile system. It is fully automatic, and once targeting information has been received, the system tracks its targets, be they aircraft or missiles, using two 911 trackers, one for'd and one aft. The Type 23 has a silo of 32 missiles, from which, as their name implies, the missiles are launched vertically. Once in flight, they lose their booster motors and adopt a normal flight

phase to their targets. The missile is constantly updated with information from the trackers.

HMS Iron Duke's 4.5" gun system can be used in an AAW mode, but its main uses are in naval gunfire support (NGS) and ASUW engagements. It is a fully automated gunnery system which receives targeting information from the 996-radar and the General Purpose Electro-Optical Director (GPEOD), which is pod mounted high on the mast, which contains a camera, an image intensifier and a laser designator. The ship is also equipped with two 30mm guns, mounted on either side of the superstructure for close-in self defence.

These sophisticated weapons systems, together with the state-of-the-art sensors and computer based command system, combine to make the Type 23 Frigate HMS Iron Duke a versatile, formidable and powerful asset to the Royal Navy, in all conditions and in all spheres of naval combat.

## REGIMENTAL GRAVES AND MEMORIALS

### PART II: THE CRIMEA, AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST

#### 1. ALMA, Crimea, 1854

In 1853 the Russians started a war with Turkey. On 28 March 1854 Britain and France allied themselves with Turkey. Among the British forces sent to the East was the 33rd Regiment, which was allocated to the 1st Brigade of the Light Division. In September the allies landed in the Crimea with the object of capturing the Russian port of Sevastopol. The Russians were established in a strong position overlooking the river Alma. There they were successfully attacked on 20 September. The 33rd had 239 killed in the battle. There is a record of a memorial being erected near the river to "E F du Pre Montagu and men of the 33rd Regiment".

#### 2. SEVASTOPOL, Crimea, 1854-1855

The siege of Sevastopol opened on 17 October 1854 and lasted until September 1855. Many attacks were made on the forts surrounding the town and there was one major battle at Inkerman. At the end of the war numerous cemeteries were established in the vicinity of Sevastopol, mostly on a divisional or brigade basis. That of the 1st Brigade was on Cathcart's Hill. It included a memorial to the twelve officers of the 33rd Regiment who were killed or died of wounds during the campaign and eight company memorials. In addition there were ten individual grave stones erected by the friends or relatives of those concerned. Included among them was one which was inscribed, under the heading 33rd Regiment, to the memory of Charlotte Elizabeth Bayford, who had almost certainly accompanied her husband to the Crimea.

#### 3. BALACLAVA, Crimea, 1855

There was a small cemetery near the General Hospital at Balacava. One officer of the 33rd was buried there.

#### 4. SCUTARI, Turkey, 1855

There are three 33rd graves at Scutari where the hospital with which Florence Nightingale's name is associated was located. Two of them were in memory of sergeants. Both graves were restored at the expense

of the members of the sergeants mess when the 1st Battalion was in Turkey in 1923.

#### NOTES

(i) *The principal source of information about the memorials and graves in the Crimea is the book "The last of the brave. Resting places of our fallen heroes in the Crimea and at Scutari" published in 1857. A copy is held in the Regimental archives.*

(ii) *As late as 1935 Major Rapp (late 7th Battalion) the British Consul in Moscow, reported that the memorials and graves were in relatively good order. However, it would appear that many of the stones from the walls surrounding the cemeteries and some of the grave stones were used in the rebuilding of Sevastopol, following the end of the second world war.*

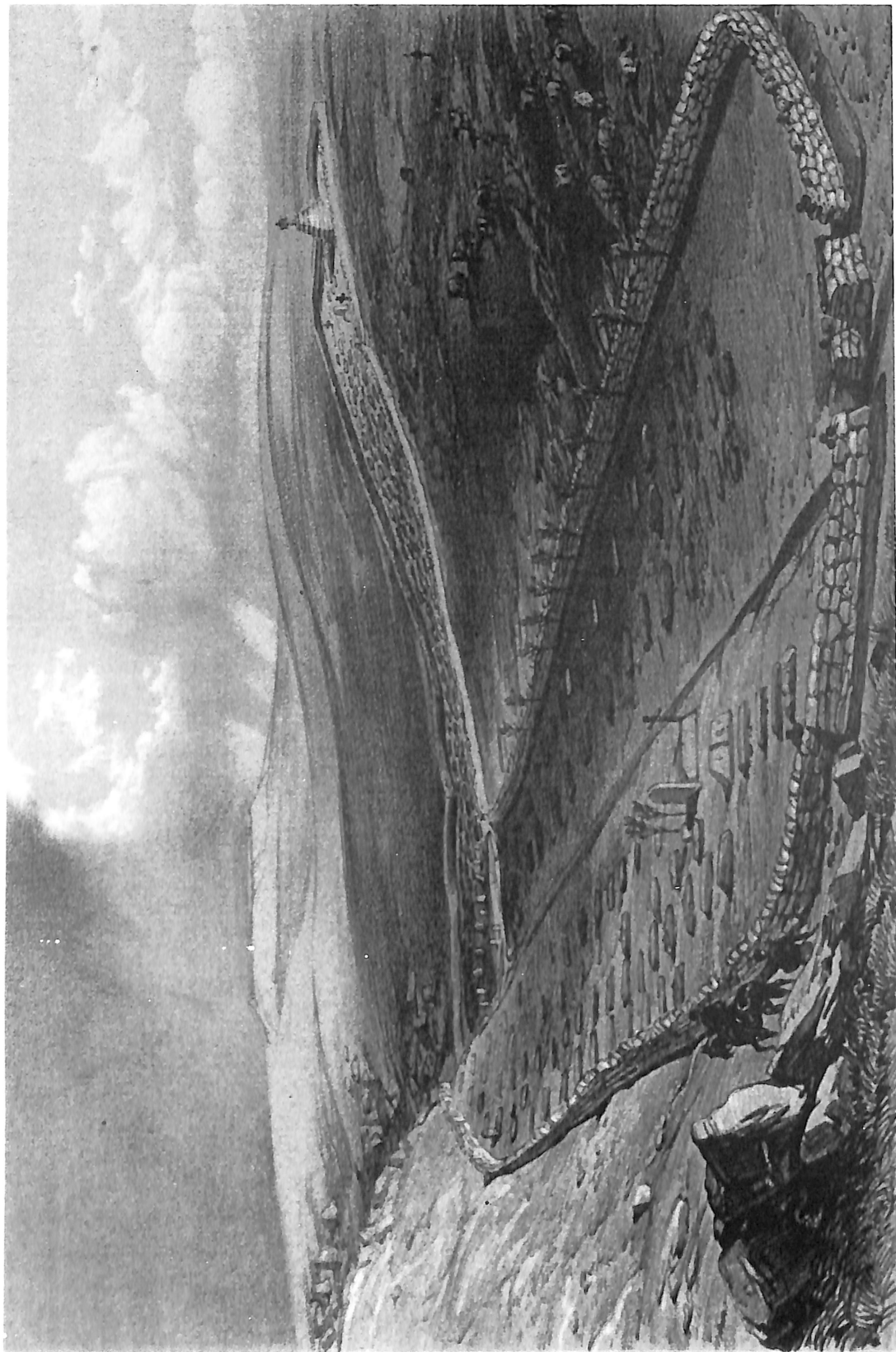
(iii) *At the height of the cold war the sites of the cemeteries were raised on the orders of the Kremlin.*

(iv) *In 1993 the people of Sevastopol, aided by donations from the regiments involved, erected a new memorial on Cathcart's Hill. On the walls surrounding the site are regimental plaques, each similarly worded, apart from the regimental title.*

(v) *The total of the 33rd killed or died of their wounds during the war, according to the memorial in York Minster, was 587. Another 357 died from cholera and other diseases.*

#### 5. SENAFE, Abyssinia, 1867-1868

In 1866 King Theodore of Abyssinia, who had imprisoned a number of Europeans, also imprisoned a British envoy who had been sent to help secure their release. In 1867 it was decided to send an expeditionary force to Abyssinia. Included in the force was the 33rd Regiment. A forward base was established at Senafe and it was there that the Regiment incurred its first casualty when Colonel A. R. Dunn, VC, accidentally shot himself while out shooting for game. By April 1868 the expeditionary force was at Magdala which was successfully attacked on the 13th. On 31 May the 33rd embarked for England. During the whole of the campaign no men of



*Cathcart's Hill, Sevastopol*  
The cemetery of the 1st Brigade, Light Division

the 33rd were killed in action. Five men, including the quartermaster, died and they and Colonel Dunn are buried at Senafe.

The graves have been well cared for and that of Colonel Dunn, in particular, has been refurbished several times.

#### 6. ADEN, 1889

In November 1888 the 1st Battalion was stationed in Aden. Two sergeants died during the Battalion's short stay there. They share a common head stone in the cemetery at Holkar Bay in the Crater district. The headstone was still standing in 1965.

#### 7. NIGERIA, 1893

In October 1893 Captain E. C. H. Price, then Commandant of the Niger Cost Constabulary was killed in an action at Oburike on the Cross River. A memorial to him was erected by his brother officers. A photograph exists of the memorial but its exact location is not known.

#### 8. MALTA, 1897

Between 1895 and 1898 the 1st Battalion was stationed in Malta. A number of men died during this period, but the only record of a grave is that of a sergeant.

#### 9. MARITZBURG, South Africa, 1895-1897

In September 1894 the 2nd Battalion moved from Cape Town to Pietermaritzburg, the capital of Natal. In June 1896 there was a rebellion in Mashonaland and 330 men of the Battalion were sent to help quell it. By the end of November this had been achieved. In the course of the operations Captain F. H. A. Swanson died of fever. There is a memorial to him and two soldiers at Maritzburg.

#### 10. SOUTH AFRICA, Boer War, 1900-1902

Following the outbreak of the Boer War in October 1899 the 1st Battalion was sent to South Africa, arriving in Cape Town in January 1900. The Battalion took part in the Relief of Kimberley and the defeat of the Boer army at Paardeberg in February 1900 in the course of which 24 members of the Battalion were killed. Then followed two years of guerilla warfare. On 28 November 1900 the Dukes were in a force that attacked a strong Boer position at Rhenoster Kop. In the course of the battle the Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel G. E. Lloyd, and seven men who were killed or died of wounds. The railways were constantly attacked by Boer commandos. In August 1901 a train being escorted by a detachment of the 1st Battalion ran over a mine and in the subsequent exchange of fire six men of the Battalion were killed.

The 2nd Battalion was stationed in Burma but, at the outbreak of the war, sent a company to South Africa to act as mounted infantry. During the war three members of the Battalion were killed and three died of disease.

The Battalions erected memorials at the following places:

#### WINBERG

There is a memorial to the memory of Captain N. G. H. Turner of the 2nd Battalion and four members of the 1st Battalion in the cemetery at Winberg, about fifty miles north west of Bloemfontein.

#### PRETORIA

A memorial was erected at Pretoria to the memory of eighteen members of the 1st Battalion and seven members of the volunteer battalions of the Regiment, who were killed while attached to the 1st Battalion.

#### BLOEMFONTEIN

At Bloemfontein there is a memorial to Captain Wallis of the mounted infantry company and twelve men who were killed campaigning in Cape Colony. The same memorial records the names of one officer and 64 men who were killed in the fighting in the Orange Free State.

#### RHENOSTER KOP

Two memorials were erected at Rhenoster Kop in eastern Transvaal. One was in memory of Lieutenant Colonel Lloyd and the other recorded the names of seven soldiers who were killed in the action. In 1963 the bodies were re-interred at Diamond Hill, about sixty miles east of Pretoria. The two monuments were also moved there.

#### Near PRETORIA

The eleven men (including six Dukes), who were killed when a Boer commando mined the railway, were buried near the site of the incident which was twenty miles north of Pretoria. A large wooden cross was erected in their memory. In 1937 the Northern Transvaal Soldiers Association decided to put up a stone monument in place of the wooden cross. A brass plaque with the names of those killed was added to the monument.



The Regimental memorial at Bloemfontein



**11. DARDANELLES, Turkey, 1915**

Early in 1915 the British Government received an appeal from the Russians to help relieve the pressure on their army in the Caucasus. Thus was born the Dardanelles campaign, which was designed to force a way through to the Black Sea. On 25 April 1915 an army composed of Australian, British, Indian and New Zealand troops commenced landing at Cape Helles and other points. Little progress being made, the force was augmented by a further three divisions from England. Included in it was the 8th Battalion. The campaign dragged on until the end of 1915, when the troops were evacuated. A memorial to those with no known grave was erected at Cape Helles. It contains the names of 189 members of the 8th Battalion.

**12. MALTA, 1915**

The graves of one sergeant and four privates of the 8th Battalion are located in Malta. It is possible that they died from their wounds on their way back from the Dardanelles to the UK.

**13. BASRA, Iraq, 1915-1918**

In order to protect the vital oil supplies in Mesopotamia (Iraq) troops were sent there in November 1914 and Basra was captured. However Turkish reinforcements meant that the British likewise had to be reinforced. The 1st Battalion was then stationed in India and it is clear it was a source of some of the additional troops, though there is no mention of this in the Battalion's Digest of Service. Between 1915 and 1918 one officer and eight men died or were killed in action. The names of six of them are inscribed on the Basra war memorial.

**14. RAMLEH, Palestine, 1923**

In September 1923 one company of the 2nd Battalion, then stationed in Egypt, was sent to Jerusalem. While there the CSM and CQMS had reason to go to Jaffa on business. On their return journey they were stopped by an Arab gang who, having robbed them of their money, shot and killed them. They were buried at Ramleh war cemetery, near Lydd. In 1947 the grave stones were reported to be in excellent condition.

**15. NAIROBI, Kenya, 1942**

2nd Lieutenant Denham died in Kenya in 1942 and is buried in the East Africa War Memorial cemetery in Nairobi. It is not known on what service he was employed in Kenya.

**16. NORTH AFRICA, 1943**

In November 1942 an Allied army landed in French Morocco and Algeria. Its task was to hasten the withdrawal of German and Italian troops from Africa who, at that time, were being pressed westwards towards Tunisia by the 8th Army. Among the allied troops were the 1st Battalion, the 4th Battalion (58th Anti-Tank Regiment RA) and the 8th Battalion (145 Regiment RAC). Bloody battles were fought at Banana Ridge, Djebel Bou Aoukaz and Medjez el Bab.

**MEDJEZ EL BAB, Tunisia**

A war cemetery was established at Medjez el Bab. The memorial for those with no known grave bears the names of five members of the Regiment. There are also known to be at least sixteen Regimental graves in the cemetery.

**TUNIS**

After the end of the war 145 Regiment RAC (8th Battalion) placed a plaque in the English church of St. George in Tunis. It bears the names of 33 members of the Regiment who were killed or died in the North Africa campaign.

**OULD ZARGA, Tunisia**

One soldier of 145 Regiment RAC is buried at Oud Zarga.

**17. CYPRUS, 1956-1957**

In 1956, at the time of the Suez crisis, the 1st Battalion was sent to Cyprus. There it conducted operations against General Grivas and his EOKA followers. One officer and three soldiers of the Battalion are buried in the war cemetery in Nicosia.

A. C. S. Savory

**NOTE**

The locations of war memorials are, for the most part, well documented. For the location of graves the Regiment is reliant on information being sent to RHQ.

## THE PRIDE OF THE REGIMENT IS AT STAKE

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## A 'D' DAY REHEARSAL - EXERCISE "HARLEQUIN"

In the mid 1930s, with the threat of war apparent, many units of the Territorial Army were given new roles. In December 1936 the 5th Battalion became 43rd (5th DWR) Anti-Aircraft Battalion RE and equipped with searchlights. In August 1940 when the Royal Artillery took over responsibility for searchlights, it became 43rd Searchlight Regiment RA (5 DWR). In 1943 the Regiment was stationed at Folkestone. In the late summer of that year 373 (Mirfield) Battery was detached for secret duties. Bill Oldroyd, who was serving in the Battery, recounts the events that followed.

"Our destination was Shirley, a suburb of Southampton, where we camped in a large wooded area. Also there were a number of other units which had arrived from various parts of the country. Among them were some French-Canadians. We were not allowed out of the camp and all our mail was censored. We were told nothing about any future plans. However, one day we were told to collect haversack rations before being embussed in three ton lorries. We then set off in convoy to the area of the docks in Southampton. The convoy was escorted by military police. When the convoy stopped some of the men tried to get letters posted by handing them to passing civilians, but they were quickly confiscated by the military police. On arrival at the docks we were sent to an area which had ramps running down to the sea. Over the next three or four weeks we were to get to know those ramps very well. Our job was to load an LCM (Landing Craft-Medium), a flat bottomed boat able to be loaded or unloaded at the shore line, with guns and lorries. Our lorry was a 15cwt truck mounted with twin Vickers machine guns. Having secured the vehicle we then had to help the Gunners to man handle two Bofors guns on board where they were placed amidship, one either side. Then came the stores

truck and after this had been loaded the ramp was raised and we moved into the harbour so that another LCM could move in and be loaded. This routine went on for several weeks and in the process we steadily reduced the time taken to load the LCM.

We still did not know what it was all about. Then, one day we were told to pack our kit. Once again we got on the lorries and followed the now familiar route to the docks. However, we noticed greatly increased security and even more MPs keeping a tight watch on the convoy. On reaching the docks our LCM came in and we loaded up before moving out into the harbour. We then became aware of the large number of other ships, each one going into load till all were full. We were formed up into flotilas and then set sail, line astern, into the Channel. After a while we were put on alert and told to test the guns and to keep a wary eye open for enemy aircraft. For a week we sailed up and down the Channel, living off American 'K' rations and some army rations i.e. hard biscuits, tins of spam and bully beef stews. We boiled our water on Tommy cookers. We thought we were lucky to be on an LCM as some of us were on LCAs, small landing craft with only room for one 15cwt truck. After an uneventful week we returned to harbour when we were told we had been within fifteen miles of the French coast and the object had been to draw out the German airforce and make them think an invasion was taking place. They didn't come. This exercise had taken place all along the south coast. We counted ourselves lucky when we heard about the German 'E' boats that had got among the American boats, causing many casualties.

The exercise was all part of the preparation for 'D' Day and must have been of great help to the planners."

## RECOLLECTIONS OF AN OLD SOLDIER

### PART II: GOSPORT 1925

Joining the army as a band boy in 1925 was an experience you never forget. The Duke of Wellington's Regiment being a Yorkshire regiment, you would expect most of the boys would come from the county of Yorkshire, but to my surprise most of them had never set foot in the county. Like all new boys my initiation came as a shock. In those days each bed had a box at its foot, where you kept all your kit. On the second day in barracks they all pulled their boxes into the middle of the room, and laid them out in the shape of a coffin. I was frightened when they told me to strip off my clothes. They laid me down in the coffin, and mopped me down with a soft brush which had been dipped in the piss bucket. That was bad enough but when they blanched my private parts, it was too much. But that was not the end of it. They formed up in two ranks and made me run through them, and each one smacked my behind. I was humiliated. I sat on my bed and cried, and the only boy who helped me wash and dry myself was Band Boy Jones who lived near Wapping Stairs in London. We were the best of friends and were the two chosen to

go to the 2nd Battalion which was stationed in Kasr-el-Nil Barracks in Egypt.

The food in those days was pretty good, but sometimes it was not, and when we sat down in the mess hall the orderly officer of the day came round with the cook sergeant, and, not knowing the golden rule never to make a complaint, the boys told me to tell the cook sergeant that the dinner was not up to standard. The result was that after dinner the cook sergeant sent for me, spoke a few kind words that I cannot repeat, and I was peeling spuds for two hours. In all my service after that I never complained or volunteered for anything again.

In the army you never stole anything. It was called scrounging, and being a Salvationist by religion, I was asked one night to nip out of a window and steal some food from the cookhouse next door. I refused and was told if I did not, I would get a hiding. We had to be in bed at eight o'clock every night, and most of the barracks were deserted, so there was little risk of being seen. Being a coward, I went with another boy who opened the cookhouse window. He said "grab what

you can" and ran back to the barrack room. The cookhouse was in darkness and I put one foot in the window, and felt something wet through my trousers. It was dark in the cookhouse and when I felt inside to see what it was I nearly passed out. One of the cooks had left the top of a milk churn open, and left it under the window, probably to see if any person had been in. Little did I know that it was a regular thing for the boys to raid the cookhouse. But they had never been caught. I was afraid to go back empty handed, so I went in the cookhouse and saw a lot of sausages on the table. Grabbing a handful I ran back to the barrack room and dived in through the window. The lads looked at me, and all went deathly silent. One of them said: "You bloody fool, look out of the window", and to my horror a string of sausages led back to the cookhouse window. I did not realise they had to be cut after going through the machine. They made me go back and cut the sausages and throw some back into the cookhouse, and make sure I had a couple of sausages apiece for every lad in the room, and I was warned, if ever I told any person about what had happened, I was going to get the hiding of my life. They cooked the sausages on the stove in the barrack room, and my share was half a sausage, and when I complained the head boy said it would cost me sixpence on the next pay day. I nearly fainted, and never slept a wink that night, thinking what was going to happen.

We had a lance corporal in charge of the boys, as they say in the army no names no pack drill. He played the bassoon, and every day at reveille we had to jump out of our beds, and stand to attention with only our shirts on. He marched in, playing his bassoon to a tune called "Jennie Long". It was a funny tune and every so often he stopped and poked you in the tummy, and if you laughed, which you could not help doing, he gave you a gentle tap on the top of your head with the top of his bassoon, and when he reached the door, shouted "Get dressed *guldee*". They said he was a *punkah wallah*; later on I discovered he had never been out of the country.

There were some very interesting characters in the Battalion, who had served in the first world war. The one who struck me most was Private Tandy, VC, DCM, MM, who to us boys was a very great man to be awarded a VC. I was told that when he went to the guard room the guard had to turn out. Two other old soldiers who stick in my memory were Lance Corporal Billy Whip and Arthur Hen who were in charge of the bathhouse. When it was our bath day we went in pairs to the baths. There must have been a shortage of water, for when I looked at my bath there was only twelve inches of water in it. I asked the lance corporal in charge, who happened to be Arthur Hen, if I could have some more water. He looked at me as though I had committed a crime. He glanced at his left arm which was covered half way up with good conduct stripes, and said "Listen boy, they call me Arthur Hen but this man aint no chicken, so in future when I put water in your barf, there is a reason. One young soldier committed suicide as he could not take it, so you should be grateful I do not give you the chance".

The longer I stayed in Gosport, the more I learned. Three officers stay in my mind. They were Lieutenant Strangeways, Lieutenant Webb-Carter and Lieutenant Rivett-Carnac. To me as a band boy, rank was very important, and an officer was a person from

another world and when a lance corporal shouted to me to stand to attention when I addressed him it made me feel I was one of the lowest things in the British Army. I got the impression nobody loved me.

As a band boy we practised morning, noon and night and the first instrument they gave me was a very old circular e-flat bass. It was filthy and I spent hours getting it clean, ready for parade the next day. I went to the NAFFI for a tea and a wadd and was only away about an hour, but when I returned to the barrack room a few of my so-called friends had to show their appreciation by pissing in it. There were times when I felt like running away, then I thought of my dad, and elder brother who had fought in the great war, and I made up my mind never to give in, and to this day I never did.

J. Kendrew

## National ex-Prisoner of War Association

The National ex-Prisoner of War  
Association annual reunion will  
take place from

21-24 October 1994

at

Warners Lakeside Village,  
Hayling Island.

All allied ex-POWs, friends and  
relations will be welcome.

For further details write to:

**C. Jago**  
**74 Norfolk Road**  
**West Harnham**  
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**SP2 8HG**

## FRIENDS OF THE REGIMENT FUND

During the financial year ending on 31 March 1994 the income of the fund was £3418 (£3697 in 1993). Expenditure in support of a number of Regimental projects was £722 (£5232 in 1993). There were no major items of expenditure during the period.

During the year investment income amounted to £1042 and a further £2376 was raised, mainly through subscriptions.

This fund depends solely on the generosity of ex-members of the Regiment. Ideally support given in the

form of an annual donation by Deed of Covenant is most suitable, as tax can be reclaimed from any such donation due to the fund's charitable status, but donations and bequests are also most welcome. Recent additions to the regular subscribers are: F. D. Murray, K. Leachman, P. J. Mellor and G. Blenkinsop. Donations have been received from D. Hall, A. Jacobsen and 6 DWR OCA in memory of J. Norton.

### ACCOUNTS FOR THE PERIOD 1 APRIL 1993 - 31 MARCH 1994

Expenditure	£
3 DWR rebadging parade .....	300.00
Audit fees .....	36.00
Adjust tax refund .....	19.54
Engraving .....	21.15
Prizes .....	87.80
Grant: bobsleigh team .....	100.00
Grant: to Canada Memorial Fund .....	50.00
Insurance .....	2.00
Short histories .....	12.50
S. Yorks welcome function .....	76.88
Investment handling charges .....	15.69
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>721.56</b>
<b>Excess of income over expenditure</b>	<b>2696.96</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3418.52</b>

Income	£
Donations .....	86.00
Subscriptions .....	1520.00
Dividends .....	1042.37
Interest .....	300.45
Tax refund .....	469.70

**Total 3418.52**

### BALANCE SHEET

#### Value of fund as at 1 April 1993

	£
Cash at bank or on deposit .....	4456.46
Market value of investments .....	26178.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>30634.46</b>
<b>Plus increase in value during period</b>	<b>9073.96</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>39708.42</b>

#### Value of fund as at 31 March 1994

	£
Cash at bank or on deposit .....	7153.42
Market value of investments .....	32555.00
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>39708.42</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>39708.42</b>

## 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. Use the tear off slip printed below.

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From: .....

Please note that from ..... my new address will be

Date ..... Signed .....

# 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 R. Heron, 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 Claremount 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, 37 Addison Gardens, Surbiton, Surrey, KT5 8DJ.

**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, 3 DWR, Endcliffe Hall, Sheffield.

*Secretary:* Mr. D. L. Keeton JP, 31 Burns Road, Dinnington, Sheffield, S31 7LN.

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

*Secretary:* Mrs. V. Spence, Hainsworth House Farmhouse, Hainsworth Road, Silsden, Keighley, BD20 0NB.

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

*Secretary:* Mr. J. Hemming, 10 Lockey Croft, Wiggington, York, YO3 3FP.

## TERRITORIAL AND SERVICE BATTALION'S OCA

**5th Battalion.** *Secretary:* Mr. L. Stott, 18 Manor Park, Mirfield, West Yorks, WF14 0EW.

**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.

**9th Battalion (146 Regiment) RAC.** *Secretary:* Mr. T. Moore, 229 Rochester Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 4TW.

\* \* \* \* \*

## ARMY BENEVOLENT FUND

*"1994 marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the Army Benevolent Fund. As chairman of the trustees of the Regimental Benevolent Funds I am very conscious of the critical role the Army Benevolent Fund plays in assisting our soldiers and officers, both serving and retired, at a time of need. In the last year the fund provided £3,110 in aid out of £13,192 disbursed to Dukes in need. I would like to both acknowledge and thank the Army Benevolent Fund for this continuing support."*

W. R. Mundell, Colonel of the Regiment

\* \* \* \* \*

Though the British Army's history goes back well over 300 years, it was not until 15 August 1944 that the Army Benevolent Fund was founded under the patronage of King George VI "in order to provide financial assistance to those organisations and benevolent funds, which already deal with the need of the soldier and the service woman, commissioned or otherwise, whether serving or retired, and their dependants".

Before then individual corps and regiments raised their own benevolent and charitable funds to look after comrades in need. Memory of the strains placed on regimental funds at the end of WWI, and with victory in sight in 1944, it was realised that extra resources would be needed to assist the 4.5 million men and women in uniform to return to civilian life.

The Army Benevolent Fund thus provides help to serving soldiers and ex-soldiers, and their families, when they are in need. As before financial help is given to individuals through their corps and regimental associations, but is then supplemented, where necessary, by grants from the fund. Practical help is provided through the support given by the fund, on behalf of all corps and regiments, to those charitable organisations which provide for the special needs of soldiers and their wives.

The fund's aim is to bring help to many cases where state assistance is either inapplicable, inadequate, or unable to meet the immediate need at the time it is required.

## REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION: AGM AND DINNER

The Regimental Association's Annual General Meeting, dinner and dance will be held this year at the Norfolk Gardens Hotel, Bradford, on Saturday 8 October 1994. The AGM will start at 6.30 p.m. in 'The Bishopgate Suite' on the 6th floor, followed by the dinner at 8.00 p.m. Music for dancing will be provided by the Original Country Road Rock Band.

Tickets at £12.00 can be obtained from branch secretaries or Regimental Headquarters. Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to DWR Management Fund.

The Norfolk Gardens Hotel is offering accommodation with breakfast at £25.00 per person for the Saturday night. Bookings should be made direct with the hotel (0274 734734).



**REGIMENTAL SERVICE: YORK MINSTER**

The annual Regimental Service will be held in the Lady Chapel, York Minster at 11.30 a.m. on Saturday 5 November 1994. Prior to the service, St. William's College will be open at 10.30 a.m. for coffee and biscuits.

**CHRISTMAS CARDS**

Regimental Christmas cards are available from RHQ. An order form is printed in the notice section. Payment to include the appropriate amount in respect of postal charges.

**LONDON & HOME COUNTIES BRANCH**

The annual dinner and dance was held at the Park Court Hotel on St. George's Day. We were delighted to welcome the Colonel of the Regiment and Mrs. Jilly Mundell as our guests, as well as the Yorkshire party, who helped to bring the number at dinner to over fifty, besides adding volume to the after-dinner sing song. The ladies were all provided with a white rose to wear in honour of the occasion. Nicky Lock worked wonders, once again, in obtaining some marvellous draw prizes, which raised over £400. Mr and Mrs Armitage won the weekend for two in a London hotel, while messrs Bray and Nicholson won the air flights.

Patrick Lewis paraded with the branch standard, among at least one hundred others, in Green Park on 3 June, when Her Majesty The Queen unveiled the new Canada Memorial, which commemorates the involvement of one million Canadians in the two world wars, of whom nearly 100,000 lost their lives. Brigadier John Greenway, Branch Chairman, represented the Colonel on this occasion.

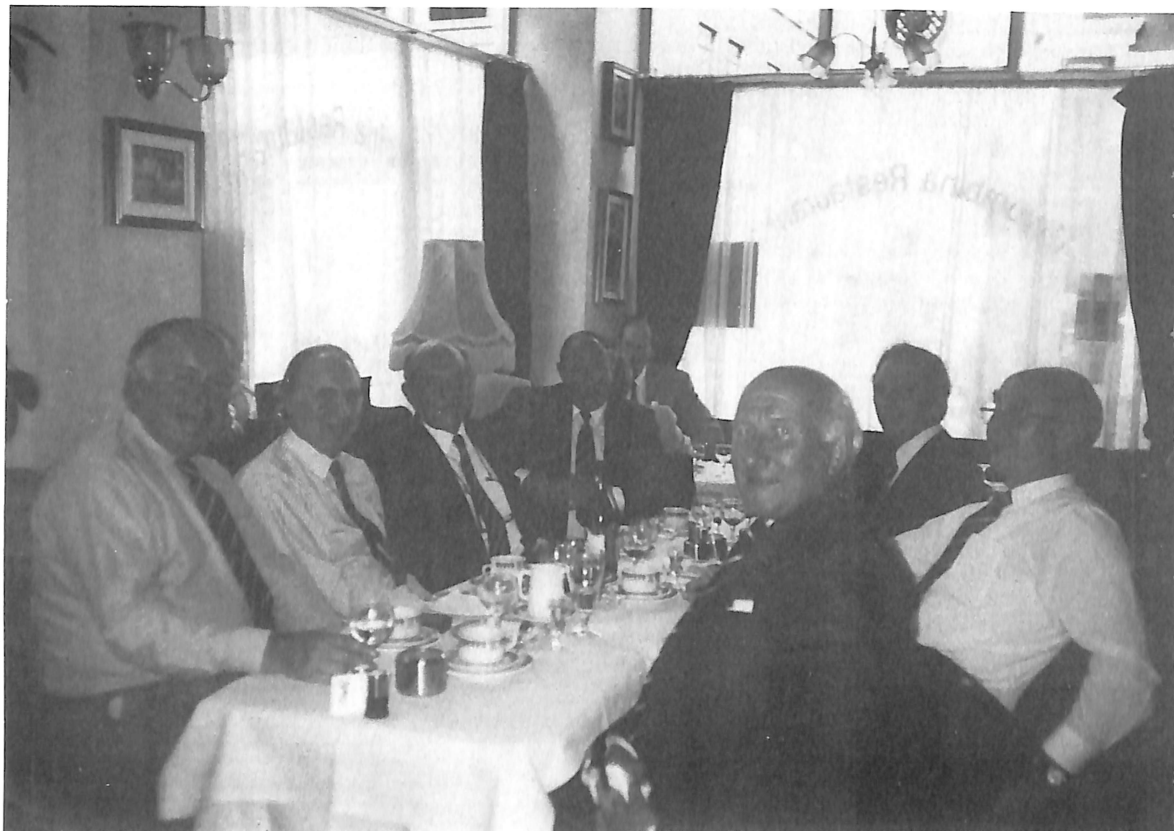
On 9 June, a number of branch members attended the Founder's Day Parade at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

**LONDON BRANCH DINNER: 1995**

The London branch dinner, in 1995, will be held at the Park Court Hotel, Lancaster Gate, on Saturday 22 April 1995. The Regimental Association will again be sponsoring a coach from the West Riding to London. Accommodation will be booked for the Friday and Saturday nights in the Victory Services Club and a visit will be organised for Sunday 23 April, before returning to Yorkshire. All branch secretaries will be informed of the cost and confirmed details as soon as they are available. They will also be published in the winter issue of the Iron Duke.



The London Branch dinner, the party from Yorkshire



A reunion of officers of Burma Company who served in British Honduras from 1962-1963 took place in London on 21 July 1994. Present (from left to right) were: Dick Mundell, Wilf Charlesworth, Donald Isles, Hugh Cartwright, Sid Kirk, Leslie Evans and Jim Newton

### ANZIO AND ROME REVISITED

On 4 June 1944 the 1st Battalion entered Rome for the first time, prior to its ceremonial entry with General Mark Clark and the US 5th Army on 8 June, having been engaged in the Anzio beachhead campaign since the allied landing on 23 January. This year, on 4 June 1994, five ex-members of the Battalion entered Rome to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the city's liberation. Fred Huskisson, Peter Faulks, John Streatfeild, Alistair Paterson (our RMO) and Donald Isles together with wives and Fred's two charming daughters formed the Dukes' party - twelve in all.

Arriving at Rome's Leonardo da Vinci airport on 2 June we were quickly transported to Anzio where we stayed for two nights. In this hotel was a large gathering of veterans of the US 45th Division, which had landed on the beachhead some time after the 1st British Division and the US 3rd Division. Veterans of both US divisions were all set to meet President Clinton the next day on the occasion of his visit to Anzio and Rome.

On 3 June we visited the two British war cemeteries and paid tribute at the graves of Major 'Brainy' Benson, MC, CSM McNea and many other Dukes. We had intended to go to the American cemetery but, in the event, our emotions decided against the visit. The graves and the cemeteries were most beautifully

kept and maintained and stand as a great tribute to the War Graves Commission. Later, we drove to the notorious Flyover (where there is a commemorative plaque dedicated to all those British and German soldiers who died in the fighting around the Flyover); the Railway Bed where Major Benson was killed and Fred Huskisson wounded; and then on to Campoleone, which was the farthest point reached by the Dukes before the final breakout in May. The station at Campoleone and its surrounds were virtually unchanged since 1944 and Fred and Peter recognised the exact locations of where they and the forward troops had been positioned. After lunch we drove along the lateral road, on either side of the Flyover, and saw what little we could of the Wadis, about which so much has been written and which figured so largely and significantly in the intense fighting from February to May 1944.

On Friday, 4 June we left Anzio and drove to Rome through the Alban Hills. From these hills we could see what a vantage point they had been for the Germans. Observation over the whole spread of the beachhead could clearly be seen by the German FOOs and it is no wonder that German artillery and mortar fire was so accurate and so deadly in its effect. Then we drove on into Rome, exactly fifty years since the Battalion and the five of us first entered the Eternal City.



*The British cemetery at Anzio*

Left to right: Donald Isles, John Streatfeild, Fred Hukisson, Peter Faulkes and Alistair Paterson

Three nights were spent in Rome at the Hotel Flora, only a block away from the Hotel Exelsior, taken over by the Americans in 1944 and where Colonel Brian Webb-Carter and the Battalion gave a cocktail party graced by General Mark Clark and also where, at a separate function with some Dukes present, the General pinned a second star on Brigadier-General Mike O'Daniel on his promotion and assumption of command of the 3rd US Division. Dick Ince, especially, and other members of the Battalion who served in Korea will remember the general as Commander of the American I Corps in that war.

The Battalion had but a short stay in Rome as the sole representatives of the British Army in the Rome garrison, because the Pope protested that our presence violated the status of Rome as an 'open' city and consequently, back to our wadi and bivvies to the south of Rome we had to go, leaving behind the comparatively luxurious barracks we had been allotted in the city. While we were then garrisoning Rome the English church re-opened and on the Sunday of our visit there was a service of thanksgiving attended by a large congregation including the British Ambassador and the three service attachés. Brigadier Thoyts (late 11H), the Military Attaché, informed us that President Clinton had, the day before, unveiled a plaque in the Piazza Venezia to all those killed in the Italian campaign. Also in the English church we saw a very fine memorial in honour of all members of the 1st British Division killed in action in Italy.

JLS/DEI



*Anzio cemetery*

The grave of Major P. P. Benson, MC

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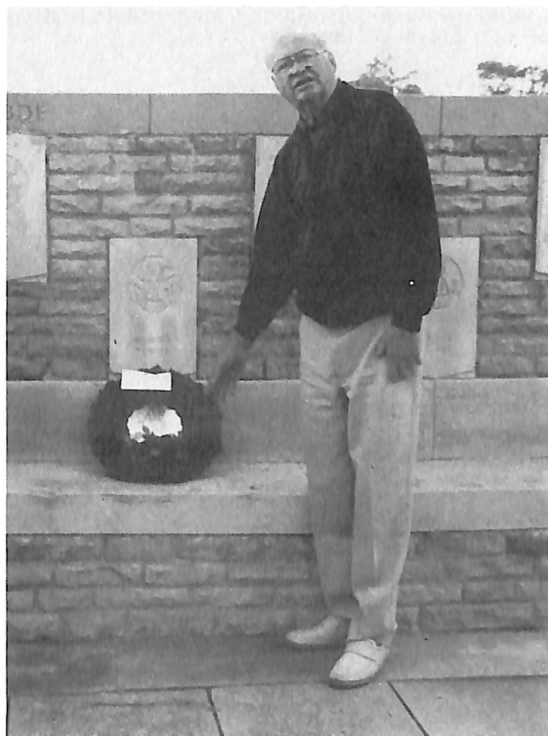


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**NORMANDY REVISITED**

Five former members of the 7th Battalion paid a pilgrimage to Normandy between 1-7 June 1994. They were: Walter Downs, Albert Stephenson, Robert Thompson, Ron Ellis and Fred Bean. They visited Arramanches, Hermeville and Pegasus Bridge and laid a wreath on the 49th "Polar Bear" Division memorial at Fontenay. During the visit they were based in St. Aubin, where they enjoyed overwhelming hospitality.



**Walter Downs laying a wreath at the 49th Division memorial, Fontenay**

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS/\*NEW SUBSCRIBERS**

- \* Mr. G. H. Wragg, 155 Long Lane, Attenbrough, Beeston, Notts, NG9 6BZ.
- \* Mr. N. St. J. Hall, 91 The Keep, King's Road, Kingston upon Thames, KT2 5UD.
- \* Mr. W. K. Busfield, 14 Walker Clough, Golcar, Huddersfield, HD7 4NN.

\* J. R. Brierley, 94A Radcliffe Road, Golcar, Huddersfield, HD7 4BZ.

Lieutenant P. Fox DWR, Officers' Mess, 4 Royal Irish, St. Lucia Barracks, Omagh, BFPO 804.

Mr. P. D. Gardner, Yews Mill House, The Yews, Firbeck, Worksop, Notts, S81 8JW.

Mr. L. Kennedy, Dar-Tanghnuu, Brightlingsea Hall, Church Road, Brightlingsea, CO7 0RZ.

Mr. J. W. Wood, 4 Cryals Court, Cryals Road, Matfield, Tonbridge, Kent, TN12 7HP.

\* Councillor Albert Berry, 2 Chester Street, Ackroyden, Boothtown, Halifax, HX3 6LT.

\* Colour Sergeant Hosty, RMAS, Camberley, Surrey.

\* Mr. R. Heron, Buckley Gate, Park Lane, Mytholmroyd, Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire.

Mr. C. J. W. Gilbert, Trellis House, 41 The Street, Appleford, Ashford, Kent, TN26 2BU.

Major C. F. Grieve MBE, 3 DWR, Endcliffe Hall, Endcliffe Vale Road, Sheffield, S10 3EU.

\* Sergeant Harvey, KDRT, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Strensall, York, YO3 8SW.

\* Mr. Haydock, 12 Chelford Drive, Swinton.

\* Captain R. C. Holroyd DWR, HQ NI, BFPO 825.

\* Mr. P. Lewis, 136 Munster Avenue, Hounslow, Middlesex, TW4 5BT.

Mr. J. H. Brocklehurst MM, Flat 1, The Newlands, Western Green Road, Thames Ditton, Surrey, KT7 0LA.

Captain B. Noble DWR, c/o ITB Strensall, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Strensall, York.

\* Colour Sergeant Pedley, KDRT, Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Strensall, York.

\* Mr. K. H. Waterhouse, Overstone, Ferncliffe Drive, Keighley, West Yorkshire.

\* Major E. W. Beckwith, 2 Ryder Gardens, Leeds, LS8 1JS.

\* Mr. B. Rogers, 26 Hollin Drive, Sheffield, S6 5GP.

\* The Lord Savile DL JP, Gryce Hall, Shelley, Huddersfield, HD8 8LP.

\* Lieutenant Colonel A. T. J. Stone, HQ QMG, DGES (A), Monkton Road, Andover, Hants.

\* Mr. D. A. Lee, West Overton, Brook, Godalming, Surrey, GU8 5UH.

RSC Lichfield, Whittington Barracks, Lichfield, Staffs, WS14 9PY.

RSC Clencorse, Milton Bridge, Penicuik, Midlothian, EH26 0NP.



## Obituaries

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

### Major J. H. Davis

John Davis died in the Airedale Hospital on 25 May 1994 aged 78. A family service was held at Skipton Crematorium on 2 June. This was followed by a well attended memorial service at St. Oswald's Church, Arncliffe on 16 June. An address was made by General Sir Charles Huxtable. Readings were made by Lieutenant Colonel Walter Robins and Major Patrick Davis, John's nephew and an ex Gurkha.

John Davis was commissioned into the Regiment in 1936 and joined the 2nd Battalion in India later the same year. In 1939 he was seconded to the Nigerian Regiment and served with its 1st Battalion in Nigeria, Abyssinia, Somaliland, Sierra Leone, India and Burma during the second world war, initially as a company officer, but from July 1940 as a company commander and as the Battalion second in command from August 1943. After the war he held a number of training and staff appointments in the United Kingdom, BAOR, Headquarters Allied Forces, then based in France and in Japan. He attended the Staff College in 1948 and commanded the depot in Halifax from April 1952 to July 1954. In February 1956 John joined the 1st Battalion in Chiselden, subsequently serving in Malta and Cyprus, initially in command of Burma Company, then as Battalion second in command and later as acting Commanding Officer. John left the 1st Battalion on its return to the United Kingdom at the end of 1957 to take up a staff appointment at Headquarters Northumbrian District/Catterick area which he held until his retirement from the regular army in July 1959.

In August 1959 John was appointed as the first Regimental Secretary at the newly established Regimental Headquarters in Halifax following reorganisations in the army involving the closure of regimental depots. His work in setting up the Regimental Headquarters, the move of the Regimental Museum to its present home in Bankfield, and establishing the services to the Regiment, were of immense importance.

From the address by General Sir Charles Huxtable at the memorial service:-

"John was a thoughtful and private man and I have heard him described as someone who would never use two words when one would do, but he was too an immensely kind man once you had broken through that crust. He was very kind and welcoming to me as a very young and inexperienced officer. Full of quiet humour with a fund of subtle stories, but he was a much deeper person than one might imagine and he really enjoyed the quiet things of life. It was here in Arncliffe that John was so content. He entered fully into the affairs of the village, he was chairman of the parish meetings for a number of years during which time he visited every house and raised the idea of making Arncliffe a conservation area.

So, how shall I remember John? As a quiet friend who had a wry sense of humour, always lurking there just below the surface, a generous and welcoming host

with a twinkle in his eye, a kind and thoughtful man with an understanding of the countryside and a love of wildlife; a keen interest in young people and, of course, a loyal soldier of the Dukes."

### Mr. J. W. Summers

John William Summers died on 3 May 1994 aged 90. He joined the Regiment in 1922 on a seven year engagement and served in the United Kingdom, Gibraltar and Turkey. For a good part of his service he was an officers' mess steward and later batman to Lieutenant Colonel F. H. B. Wellesley. He re-enlisted in 1939 and served throughout the second world war as a sergeant drill and weapons instructor with the Royal Artillery. Following his release he worked for 36 years as a civil servant at RAF Andover and was awarded the Imperial Service Medal in 1964.

### Lieutenant M. H. P. Rawlins

Lieutenant M. H. P. Rawlins died on 30 April 1994 aged 76. From 1938 to 1941 Lieutenant Rawlins served as a corporal with the 4th Battalion Gloster Regiment. He then trained at the depot in Halifax prior to being commissioned and joining the 9th Battalion DWR. In October 1941 he moved to India where he served with the Battalion in many areas throughout that country. In 1944 he was invalided home due to sever illness.

### Mr. S. C. Falconbridge

Stanley Falconbridge, late of the 2nd Battalion, died at his home in Nottingham on 16 June 1994. His funeral was held in the Redhill Cemetery Chapel, Nottingham on 23 June. Stanley joined the Regiment in 1933 and served as a chef in Malta and India before the war and in NWE in 1944/45 before his discharge in December 1945. The Regiment was represented at the funeral by Major R. Heron, Assistant Regimental Secretary.

### Major J. A. Randall

Tony Randall died on 22 April 1994 aged 80 years after a brave struggle for over a year against the effects of a stroke which had left him partially paralysed and totally speechless but mentally unimpaired.

Tony was a member of the HAC during peacetime and was commissioned at the outbreak of war in 1939 and posted to our 1st Battalion in France. He commanded a platoon during the retreat to Dunkirk and was badly wounded during the Battalion's rearguard action to cover the evacuation from the port. After some weeks in hospital and a spell at the depot he rejoined the Battalion in Lincolnshire. He was subsequently appointed 3rd Brigade transport officer and served in that capacity during the North African campaign. He was always anxious to return to the Battalion and was posted back to command B Company for the landing at Anzio. He was again wounded in the heavy fighting which followed the



**Major J. A. Randall**

German counter-attacks. He subsequently returned to the Battalion and remained with it for the rest of the Italian campaign, still as OC B Company, and in the Middle East until he was released into civilian life.

These are the bare facts of his wartime service but those who were with him knew him as a fine soldier held in high regard by his fellow officers and by the men he commanded. He had a great gift for friendship and was at ease with men of all stations in life. He was unfailingly cheerful, a wonderful companion and a great raconteur. Tony was a modest man who talked little about his military exploits except in a self-deprecatory way.

Back in civilian life, he returned to the textile trade, but as the result of a company take-over he found himself retired at an early age. He then enjoyed many happy years as secretary of Porter's Park Golf Club and latterly acted as honorary secretary of the HAC Golfing Society and played regularly up to the time of his stroke. For many years he acted as joint-secretary of the 1st Battalion 1943-45 Officers' Dining Club and will be greatly missed at the fiftieth dinner in 1995. He is survived by his wife Ann, who has nursed him devotedly in his terminal illness, and by two sons, a daughter and four grandchildren.

A memorial service took place at Christ Church, Radlett on 4 May when the size of the congregation was evidence of the affection in which he was held. A number of his old comrades were present including Major General Donald Isles, representing the Colonel of the Regiment.

P.R.F.

#### **Mr. A. V. Simpson**

Victor Simpson of Skipton died on 17 May 1994 just a few days short of his 97th birthday.

Victor joined the 6th Battalion in December 1914 but as he was too young he did not go to France until September 1916 when he joined the 8th Battalion. He later served with the 9th Battalion from January to May 1918 when he joined the 5th Battalion. During this period he saw considerable action, working mainly as a signaller. At the end of the war he was with the 5th Battalion in Germany as part of the army of occupation before his release and return to Skipton in March 1919.

Shortly after the war he and his brother established a coach company known as Pennine Motors which developed into a prosperous business. Victor became a prominent, and greatly respected, citizen of Skipton and his upright figure was always to be seen, even in old age, on parade on Remembrance Sunday. During the second world war he was commissioned in the Home Guard. He also maintained an interest in military and regimental history and produced a very good account of his experiences in the Great War. In 1986 Victor, his wife Nellie and two daughters joined the regimental group that visited Thiepval for the ceremony to mark the 70th anniversary of the battle of the Somme. His almost perfect recall of events and places provided some very interesting accounts of actions in that area.

The funeral service was attended by Lieutenant Colonel W. Robins and a strong group of representatives from the Skipton branch of the Regimental Association and the Old Comrades Association of the 6th Battalion.

#### **Mr. A. G. Moore**

In Pensioner Arthur George (Pony) Moore died at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea on 13 March 1994 after a long illness. He was aged 85.

Pony joined the Regiment as a band boy at Gosport in 1924, having been recruited by Bandmaster Ovington. He went on to man service in 1926 and remained with the 1st Battalion band until he transferred to the RAOC Staff Band in 1934. He left the army in 1946. He entered the Royal Hospital in November 1987.

#### **Major L. Otter-Barry MC**

Major Leicester Otter-Barry died in June 1994 aged 79.

Leicester, who was commissioned into the KSLI in 1934, was well known to members of the 1st Battalion. He served in Italy, Palestine and the Sudan from 1944 to 1947. He was one of "Bunny" Careless company commanders (see obituary in Iron Duke No. 224) and won his MC at Anzio where he was wounded on two occasions. He rejoined the Battalion after the breakout and took part in the fighting on the Arno and through the Gothic Line. After service in Palestine and the Sudan he retired from the army and went into the hotel agency business. I came to know him well in Khartoum where we saw much of him. He and Brian Webb-Carter were especially good friends - no doubt their experiences at Anzio and in the Wadis had much to do with this. Leicester was a splendid, brave soldier, much admired by the Dukes.

D.E.I.

### Colonel E. M. P. Hardy

Colonel Peter Mitchell writes with reference to the obituary of Colonel Hardy published in the last issue of the Iron Duke:

"I first heard of Mike when I arrived at Ampleforth College as a new boy. He had just left in a blaze of sporting glory. Our first meeting was not until a few years later at the annual inspection of the CCF when he, as a lieutenant, with Denis Shuttleworth and others from Strensall carried out various tests and checks. I well remember that the location of a latrine was apparently a key element in siting a section defensive position.

Subsequently I joined the 1st Battalion in Korea where Mike was commanding the Mortar Platoon and was much envied by Mike Campbell-Lamerton and I for the excellence of the food hampers he was sent by Liz. Later he was adjutant during the Suez crisis and organised the flight to Malta, where he calmed fevered brows and coped with a variety of problems both great and small. The latter included the aftermath of a company barbecue on Gozo being fuelled by a number of the island's few and protected trees.

Mike was disappointed not to be selected for the Staff College but struggled gamely with the technical and scientific mysteries at Shrivenham to obtain the qualification *ptsc*. His career thereafter included a very successful term in command of 1 Yorks, characterised by strong motivation of his subordinates combined with skilful, imaginative training.

He was a natural sportsman who excelled at rugby. As a cricketer he was good enough to play in the Combined Services side against Warwickshire, in 1959. As a golfer he was difficult to beat off his handicap and had a good short game. To these, and all sports, he brought knowledge, enthusiasm, a sense of fun and a strong competitive spirit, combined with generosity in victory or defeat.

Throughout, he was very much a family man being lovingly and ably supported by Liz and their six children. He was an immensely devout and devoted Christian. A lover of good stories which he would tell with great ebullience and good humour. He, nevertheless, took seriously his duties whether in the army, as a sportsman, as an administrator or, latterly, as a governor of Prior Park School.

I and his many friends will miss Mike enormously and find it hard to believe that such a vital character,

with his infectious enthusiasm for life, is no longer with us".

### Mr. J. Kershaw, MM

John Kershaw died on 6 July 1994. He enlisted into the Regiment on 31 August 1914 and served in France until 30 September 1918 when he was captured and made prisoner of war by the Germans. At the time of his capture he received gunshot wounds which caused the loss of his left eye and deafness in his left ear. He was also awarded the military medal.

After his discharge from the army in 1919, Mr. Kershaw obtained work as a driver, despite the loss of sight in one eye, and continued working as a driver until the sight of his "good" eye deteriorated. By 1987 he was totally blind. After training by St. Dunstons he was able to return to his home at Brighouse where he lived until his death.

### Private S. R. Taylor

Shaun Taylor was killed by a Serb sniper while carrying out observation post duty in Gorazde on 26 June 1994. He was 20 years of age.

He was raised in Thornaby and was a popular and well known member of the local community. From the age of six he was a member of the local youth club run by the Salvation Army and is well remembered for his full participation.

In July 1992 he entered recruit training at Glencourse. He quickly made his mark as a lively, enthusiastic young soldier and passed out with flying colours. He joined the 1st Battalion in February 1993 and was posted to Corunna Company with whom he established himself as a popular and active member of the team. He was known as "Tigs" by his friends and was often ribbed about the fact that he was not from the West Riding. Shaun was very quick witted and had a great sense of humour; always ready with a line to raise his section's morale. He represented his company at both football and boxing. He had limited success in the ring, but he clearly demonstrated his courage and enthusiasm with a gutsy performance.

Shaun, who was fiercely proud of the job he was doing in Bosnia as a member of the United Nations Protection Force, was a fine young man whose death is a tragic loss to his family, friends and the Regiment.

## NOTICES

**REGIMENTAL ITEMS FOR SALE**

The following items may be purchased from the General Secretary of the Regimental Association, RHQ DWR, Wellesley Park, Halifax, HX2 0BA.

	<b>£.</b>	<b>Add p&amp;p</b>
Regimental tie	3.80	.25
Regimental cravat	5.95	.25
Wool jersey (cap badge)	25.00	.75
(combined badge)	25.00	.75
Blazer badge (cap badge)	10.00	.25
(combined badge)	10.00	.25
Cap badge	1.50	.25
Lapel badge (pin or clutch fastener)	1.00	.25
Regimental buttons: (p&p 36p per set)		
Large	.32	
Medium	.35	
Small	.65	
Ladies brooch (combined badge) - silver	32.00	.75
- silver gilt	35.00	.75
Watch strap	1.15	.25
Horse brass	4.00	1.00
Horse brass (large)	10.00	1.00
Wall plaque	10.50	1.00
Paper weight	4.50	1.00
History of the Regiment 1702-1992	23.00	4.00
Short history of the Regiment	1.50	.36

Cheques/postal orders to be made payable to: DWR Regimental Association Fund.