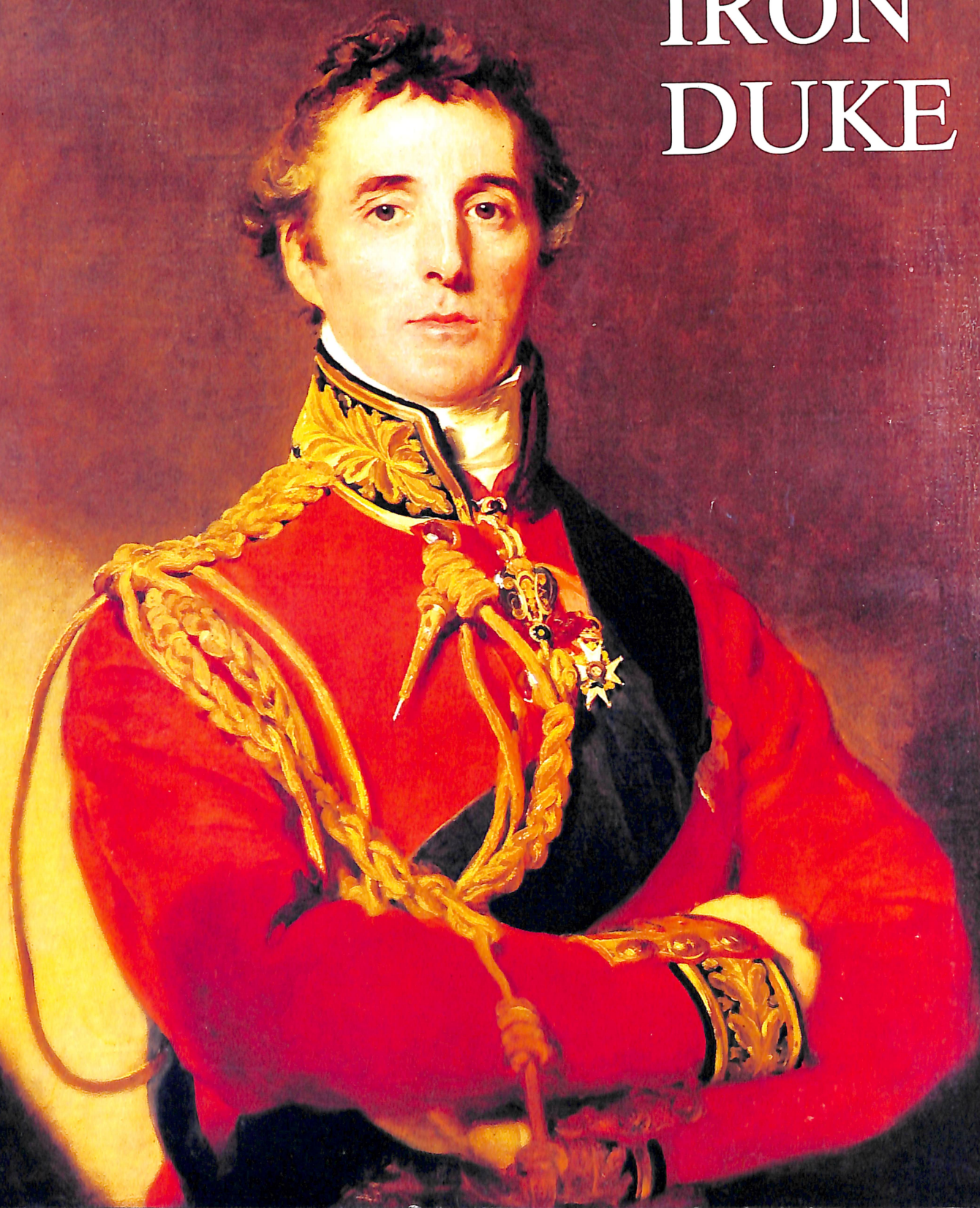


SPRING 1996
No. 230

THE IRON DUKE



THE IRON DUKE

The Regimental Journal of

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

(WEST RIDING)

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



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

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BUSINESS NOTES

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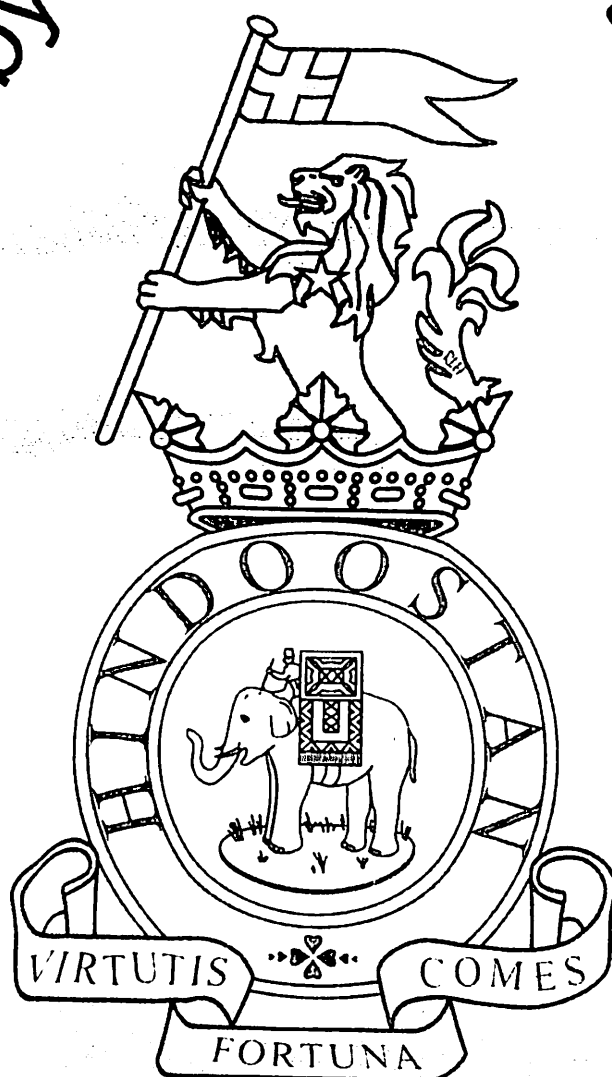
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THE REGIMENT

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 Royal Armouries Museum, Armouries Drive, Leeds LS10 1LT

Regimental Headquarters
*Wellesley Park,
Highroad Well,
Halifax, HX2 0BA.*

Regimental Secretary: Major D. L. J. Harrap, LL.B.
Assistant Regimental Secretary: Major R. Heron

1st Battalion
*Weeton Camp,
Preston,
Lancashire, PR4 3JQ.*

Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Colonel N. St. J. Hall, BA
Adjutant: Captain D. P. Monteith
Regimental Sergeant Major: WO1 A. J. Sutcliffe

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

Honorary Colonel: Lieutenant General Sir Michael Walker, KCB, CBE
Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Colonel A. H. S. Drake, MBE
Adjutant: Captain J. H. Purcell
Regimental Sergeant Major: WO1 B. J. Thomas, BEM

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 B. Bradford

Barnsley
Darfield

Thurcroft
Wath on Dearne

Wombwell

D Company Detachments
OC: Major T. Scrivens

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 Colonels: Colonel Marcel Jobin CM, CQ
Honorary Colonels: Lieutenant Colonel André Desmarais
Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Colonel Claude Pichette, 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. J. Bryning BSc, RN

H.M.S. Sheffield
BFPO 383

Commander S. M. Gillespie RN



1st Battalion: Novices boxing team (winners of the army inter-unit championship 1996)

Left to right, standing: Lance Corporal Huddy, Major Sullivan, Privates Andrew, Cook, Decarolis, Harman and Clemie, Lance Corporal Rutter, Corporal Watson, Lance Corporal Collins, Sergeant Boswell and Corporal Towler.
Kneeling: Privates Fox and Madden, Lance Corporal Jessop, Private Morley, Lance Corporal Jackson, Private Edmans and Corporal Marsden.

Regimental Headquarters

Regimental Notes

ITC CATTERICK

As the result of a decision to name each barrack block at the ITC Catterick after that of an infantry soldier awarded the VC, the name of Richard Burton VC was selected for that of the King's Division. On Friday 17 November 1995 the Colonel of the Regiment unveiled a plaque, photograph and a copy of the citation to mark the naming of the block. All serving Dukes officers, NCOs and soldiers serving at the ITC were present, together with Richard Burton's two sons and Mr. Douglas Emery DCM, BEM, who was private Burton's platoon sergeant.



The Richard Burton VC block

The Colonel of the Regiment with the two sons of Richard Burton and Mr D. Emery DCM, BEM, who was Burton's platoon sergeant.

CRIMEA MEDAL WITH CLASP "BALACLAVA"

In the article about the Regimental medal collection published in Iron Duke No. 228 (Autumn 1995) it was noted that the Regimental records/histories made no reference to any men of the 33rd being present at the battle of Balacava. Nevertheless the Regiment held five medals with the clasp for that battle. It was therefore assumed that they must have been among those medals which are known to have been issued with clasps to which the individuals concerned were

not entitled. As a result of further research it has been found that attached to the medal roll of the 33rd for the Crimea war is a separate roll, prepared two months after the original, headed: "Under arms at Balacava on 25 October 1854". The roll lists one sergeant and sixteen soldiers. Of the Regiment's five medals with the clasp "Balacava" only two refer to individuals shown on the roll. A statement has also been found that "Some members of the 33rd were present at Balacava as a ration, baggage or medical detachment", but no source for the statement is given.

ROYAL ARMOURIES MUSEUM: LEEDS

The Royal Armouries, in the Tower of London, is the oldest museum in the country. It has now moved the greater part of its collection to a brand new, purpose built museum on the waterfront at Leeds. It houses five main galleries depicting war, hunting, self defence, tournament and oriental weapons. Emphasis is placed on both education and entertainment. There are touch screen computers, object handling displays, costumed re-enactments, a menagerie and a tilt yard.

The museum was opened by the Queen on 15 March 1996. Among those present were the Colonel in Chief, Chairman of the Armouries Development Trust and the Colonel of the Regiment, head of Marketing and Development. Also present were the Drums and a section of men from the 1st Battalion, ACF cadets from Huddersfield and Thongsbridge and representatives of the Colonel's Company of the 33rd Regiment, who had travelled from California.

THE COLONEL'S COMPANY OF THE 33rd REGIMENT

A small group of American living history re-enactors visited Yorkshire as guests of the Royal Armouries on the occasion of the opening of the Leeds Museum. The group, which represents the Colonel's Company of the 33rd Regiment at the time of the American Revolution, regularly tour the USA demonstrating the drill, camp life and field tactics of the time.

The group, led by Mr Radford Polinsky, having participated in the opening ceremony of the Royal Armouries Museum, spent the following day (16 March) in Halifax as guests of John Spencer and the Regimental Museum. There, following a tour of the museum, they mounted a most impressive guard in the entrance and main hall. In the afternoon they visited Shibden Hall, where they gave a demonstration of the drill of the period of the American Revolution, before re-enacting the role of a recruiting party, using very authentic local dialect.

On Sunday 17 March the group was given a guided tour of York before visiting Sheffield where, after a visit to the Cutler's Hall, they met the 3rd Battalion at Endcliffe Hall. In thanking his hosts for the hospitality the group had received Mr Polinsky expressed his hope that the Colonel's Company would be able to participate in the Regimental tercentenary celebrations in 2002.



Members of the Colonel's Company 33rd Regiment, dressed in the uniforms of the period of the war of the American Revolution.

HUNTLY

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1st Battalion

Commanding Officer's Introduction

It is hard to believe that we are now half way through our present tour and that it is a year since we arrived in Weeton. Much has been accomplished, and we continue to enjoy being based in an excellent barracks close to West and South Yorkshire. But we wait to see how our plans for 1996 might change!

I am delighted to report that our manning is extremely healthy - indeed we are on target to be over fifty above establishment by the autumn, and are one of the few battalions currently in surplus. Of course, we are fortunate to have one of the best recruiting areas in the army, nevertheless, this would not have happened but for the enormous efforts of our recruiters and nearly everyone in the Battalion. I can also bestow some good news on the sporting front, that is after the bad news - that the Royal Regiment of

Wales got the better of us in the Army Rugby Cup quarter finals. The football side are through to the semi finals of the Infantry Cup against 1 Staffords and the quarter finals of the Army Football Cup, whilst our novice boxers leave for Germany shortly to fight 7 Regiment RLC (last year's finalists) in the army semi finals. And our Nordic and Alpine skiing teams enjoyed a very creditable season winning the Divisional Combined Championships and doing well in the infantry events. Hopefully, we will build upon all these successes this year, and it is excellent to know that in our final year in Weeton and in the following two in London, we will be extremely well placed to give sport the priority that too often in recent years we have been unable to do.



Lieutenant Colonel N. St. J. Hall, Sergeant Sumps and Major J. C. Bailey at 'B' Company's pre-deployment training.

RSM A. SUTCLIFFE

WO1 Anthony Sutcliffe assumed the appointment of RSM of the 1st Battalion in April 1996. He joined the Battalion in August 1976 and for the next four years was a rifleman in Alma Company and an anti-tank detachment commander in Somme Company. In 1987, after having served as a platoon sergeant in both Alma and Corunna companies, he was posted to Kenya as a military adviser to the Kenya police.

In August 1988 he became a colour sergeant instructor at the Royal Military Academy. He returned to the Battalion in 1990 and, after a brief spell as second in command of the Reconnaissance Platoon, was appointed CQMS Burma Company. In 1992 he was promoted to WO2 and assumed the appointment of CSM of Alma Company.

Prior to being appointed RSM, he was the Chief Instructor, Urban Tactics, at the Security Operations Training and Advisory Team (formerly NITAT), Germany. During the past twenty years he has seen service in Germany, Northern Ireland, Canada, USA, Belize, Gibraltar, Portugal, Kenya, Denmark, Norway and the former Yugoslavia.

He has been married to Karen for seventeen years and they have four children.



ALMA COMPANY

OC - Major P. M. Lewis
 2i/c - Lieutenant G. A. M. Purcell
 CSM - WO2 S. Grogan
 CQMS - Colour Sergeant Denton

1 Platoon

Lieutenant T. Golding
 Sergeant Robert

2 Platoon

Lieutenant Richardson
 Sergeant Hollinshead

3 Platoon

Lieutenant Garner
 Sergeant Bramwell

Alma Company has deployed twice to Ulster recently and at present we find ourselves in Armagh city awaiting PIRA's decision on a course of terrorist action in the province. This most recent emergency deployment was unscheduled and was in reaction to the terrorist atrocities in London on the night of 9 February and in anticipation of a full resumption of violence in the province. In a short space of time, therefore, we have experienced and played our own part in two extremes in the level of military and RUC activity in Northern Ireland.

In mid November we deployed to South Armagh for a scheduled six week roulement tour, which would see us in Bessbrook Mill for Christmas and back home just before the New Year. Despite the cease-fire still being in place at the time our soldiers were kept very busy. As operations company in support of the Royal Scots we continued to provide the Air Reaction Force and Air Support Multiple. In addition multiples were deployed to Forkhill and Crossmaglen for periods of four to five days and were tasked to conduct patrols in support of the RUC from those locations. Even though on the surface the cease-fire appeared to be solid, it was apparent even then that it could break at short notice. As we now all know, PIRA's bomb attack in London on 9 February put an end to the cease-fire and we now find ourselves operating in different and difficult circumstances. Despite this, our soldiers have risen the challenge and are well prepared to deal with worst case scenario. What is clear from our now daily contact with the public is that no one wants a return to the bad old days and though sad to see us back on the ground in strength, people are generally reassured by our presence. Should the situation continue to deteriorate we face the prospect of numerous future deployments which will obviously place a great deal of strain on our families, wives and girlfriends back at home.

Whilst Northern Ireland dominates our minds at the moment, life has to go on. We have enjoyed almost a year in role during a cease-fire and we have been able to take full advantage of the situation. During this most recent period we have been able to send individual soldiers away to attend a number of adventure training courses, including UEL, kayaking and para-gliding. Lieutenant Tom Golding and Private Nugent returned to us recently after three months Alpine and down hill skiing. Career courses must continue and we currently have two NCOs on Senior Brecon and one NCO on Junior Brecon. The company will also continue to support Battalion level representative sport and we hope to maintain our links with A Company 3 DWR with whom we enjoyed a recent games night in Barnsley.

A look at the New Zealand Army (exercise "Long Look" 1995)

Due to a late cancellation I was fortunate to obtain a vacancy on exercise "Long Look" 1995. On arrival in New Zealand I was attached to the 1st Battalion Royal New Zealand Regiment in Linton, which is near Palmerston North, just south of the central plateau on North Island.

The New Zealand Army is divided into two Land Force Groups (LFG), one located in North Island and the other in South Island. Each LFG is composed of one regular and two territorial infantry battalions, together with a regiment of light armour (one squadron of regulars and two of territorials), a regiment of artillery of similar composition and the necessary ancillary logistic support units. In relation to the size of the country's population the New Zealand Army is of similar strength to that of the UK. Organised on the same lines and principles of the British Army, the New Zealand Army compares extremely well. In some areas, such as knowledge, experience and ability, the New Zealand forces surpass their British counterparts. The majority of the units are located in five main bases in North and South Islands. This results in a much greater awareness of the capability of the supporting arms, who they are and how to get hold of them. Messes are shared and while this results in some loss of regimental identity there is the advantage of increased co-operation and cross fertilisation of ideas.

During my stay I was involved in the evacuation of Waiourou Military Camp, which is the equivalent of Brecon Beacons with volcanoes. One of them, Whaipapa, erupted and continued to erupt at a dangerous level for a month. When it first erupted there were skiers on the upper slopes who were forced to out ski the streams of boiling mud and boulders which were being thrown out of the mouth of the volcano.

Because of the British Army's breadth of knowledge of internal security, all those on "Long Look" are asked to help provide training on the subject. I developed an introduction package and helped plan and run an internal security exercise, based on low level insurgency in the South Pacific. More practical aid to the civil power arose when Mount Ruapehu erupted and showed a startling level of activity, thereby threatening a nearby town. The army established evacuation points and started the task of evacuation. Fortunately the volcanic activity subsided.

I was well looked after during my stay in New Zealand and learnt a great deal about the country's fighting forces.

G. A. M. Purcell

BURMA COMPANY

OC - Major J. C. Bailey
 2i/c - Captain M. J. Wolff
 CSM - WO2 A. Stead
 CQMS - Colour Sergeant D. Dobbs

4 Platoon

Sergeant G. Perrin
 Corporal P. Beetham

5 Platoon

Lieutenant G. Bell AAC
 Sergeant T. G. McCabe

6 Platoon

Lieutenant A. J. M. Liddle
 Sergeant D. Cole

Short term training team to Kuwait, October-December

As an outcome from the 1990/91 Gulf war, Kuwait has embarked on a mission to achieve a realistic self defence capability. For this to be possible its military requires massive restructuring and investment. All the necessary equipment and weapons have been purchased from the Coalition Forces as a means of showing their gratitude for their emancipation. This also involves hiring teams from the relevant nations to train their armed forces.

The Kuwaitis have purchased equipment from all over the world. For example, the Abrams MBT from the USA, Desert Challenger from the UK and BMPs

from Russia! Compatibility and logistical economics clearly can be questioned at the outset. The Kuwaiti's army is receiving the first deliveries of this equipment at the moment. Its soldiers are going through the slow process of being re-trained; the process being made slower as all pamphlets have to be translated into Arabic and all lessons are delivered through an interpreter!

The Kuwaiti's army has a further problem since the end of the war. All foreign nationals in the armed forces, whose parent nation supported Iraq, have been expelled. This has resulted in an army devoid of private soldiers and junior NCOs! To create a

***Short term training team: Kuwait***

Left to right, back row: Corporal Devenny, Lance Corporal Baxter, Major Graham (PWRR), Lieutenant Liddle, WO2 Davidson (Para), Corporal Morgan (RMP).

Front row: Corporal Porter (KORBR), Corporal Barker (KORBR), Corporal Mott (KORBR) and Lance Corporal Langthorpe.

workable rank structure, Kuwait has chosen the British method of training.

The British Military Mission provides a small team of senior NCOs and senior officers to set up all the necessary training establishments. The initial training given to the Kuwaitis is provided by small short term training teams. To this end Lieutenant Liddle took a contingent of four Dukes, three KORBRs and one RMP to Kuwait. This team had seven weeks to set up and run a method of instruction course in tactics and fieldcraft for Kuwait NCOs.

Several problems faced this team. Firstly, despite being NCOs, the Kuwaitis had no relevant knowledge of field soldiering. It was soon realised therefore, that instruction had to start from scratch and not at the instructor level. Secondly, soldiers below the rank of captain had no real authority. The whole of the team had thus to gain the respect of the pupils and the senior staff before any effective training could be conducted. Associated with this, all requests for stores and equipment, even toilet roll, had to go up to a colonel for sanction! Lastly, we were teaching tactics in a desert environment, and none of us had soldiered in the desert before!

Patience and simplicity resolved most of these problems. It was decided to structure the course along the same lines as a basic NCO's cadre. Tactics and skills up to platoon level were taught and tested. Those deemed up to it were then assessed on their teaching skills. This was a slow process as the instructors laboured with interpreters, and everything came second to prayers and meals!

The range management package of the course was interesting. It was soon apparent that the Kuwaitis had a very different understanding of safety and range planning! For example there was no interpretation, let alone a punishment, for a negligent discharge! Despite a few hair raising moments, respectable results were achieved and a greater understanding of coaching and marksmanship principles was realised by the Kuwaitis.

The fieldcraft package was to follow. A progressive series of exercises in the desert was planned over five weeks. Again, a conflict had to be overcome: it was a constant battle to prevent the Kuwaitis sending out a whole village of carpeted tents for their people to sleep in. A sound working system developed, whereby the British NCOs conducted their training, whilst Sergeant Cole laboured over achieving the required admin backup, and Lieutenant Liddle distracted the senior Kuwaitis from being over involved in the instruction.

Various approaches were adapted by the British instructors to achieve their goals. Realistically, physical efforts had to be kept to a minimum and discipline imposed sensitively. The Kuwaitis' equipment was inadequate and this had to be considered too. The climate was very harsh with roasting hot days and freezing cold nights. With this weather together with rugged environment the training was testing.

Weekends were spent at the local beach club which was a refreshing break from the desert. We soon met up with the Kuwait Rugby Club who entertained us well. Indeed all the Dukes played rugby in the invitation rugby sevens and an international fifteen aside game. Having no kit for the sevens it was decided to play in desert combats and boots!

The course culminated in a test exercise finishing with a platoon live firing exercise. This went well with Corporal Devaney's section being chosen, as the best section, to carry out the hardest part of the attack. All the hierarchy from the Kuwaitis School and the British Military Mission came out to observe the dawn attack. Everybody present, I believe, was very impressed by the standards demonstrated by the pupils. Despite the slow and often frustrating progress, it was with some sadness that the course came to a close. Kuwait had been a memorable and thoroughly rewarding experience.

A. J. M. Liddle

CORUNNA COMPANY

| | | |
|------|---|----------------------------|
| OC | - | Major R. C. Holroyd |
| 2i/c | - | Captain B. J. T. Faithfull |
| CSM | - | WO2 (CSM) Coles |
| CQMS | - | Colour Sergeant Chin-Chan |

7 Platoon
Lieutenant J. W. Charlesworth
RGR
Sergeant Lawrence

8 Platoon
Lieutenant R. M. Abernethy
2nd Lieutenant J. Kirk
Sergeant Fisher

9 Platoon
Sergeant Scott

On return from Christmas leave the company began preparations for another Northern Ireland tour. The training package involved a series of early morning starts for a trek to the ranges and three days at Strensall. As usual the weather conspired against us, as the country was caught in an icy blast. It was so cold and the snow drifts so high it was more akin to training for Norway than for Northern Ireland. On arrival in Northern Ireland the company was briefed

that although things looked gloomy the cease-fire should hold for a little while longer. Famous last words. Within four hours a device had been detonated in Canary Wharf and the cease-fire was at an end. The following few days saw a flurry of activity and re-organisation as Gunners and Royal Scots came under command. Thankfully there was no terrorist activity throughout the tour.

SOMME COMPANY

- OC - Major S. E. Bostock
- 2i/c - Captain R. J. Douthwaite
- CSM - WO2 P. Mitchell
- CQMS - Colour Sergeant S. McCabe

Mortar Platoon
 Captain N. M. B. Wood
 Sergeant A. D. Williams

Milan Platoon
 Captain N. P. Rhodes
 Sergeant J. G. Ashworth

MMG Platoon
 Lieut. C. P. B. Langlands-Pearse
 Drum Major G. Ryder

Live Firing - Otterburn

At the end of January Somme Company headed off into the snowy, unwelcoming countryside that is Otterburn for a mixture of support weapons training and small arms field firing exercises.

For the first three days of training the platoons headed their own way to concentrate on dry drills before some live firing. For mortars and machine guns it was a good opportunity to introduce their new members to the practicalities of working with their given weapons instead of fulfilling the same role as a rifle platoon, as they tend to have to in the present role. Hopefully the experience will help the young drummers on their courses at Catterick. Five departed for their cadres at the end of the week.

For the Mortar Platoon the aim was to sharpen up skills and drills before working on Salisbury Plain as demonstration troops for JDSC students in February.

Unfortunately the Milan Platoon was without any missiles but some good training was accomplished on the O'Keefe Trainer using the Rhodes handle, a

modification designed by OC Milan himself. This training forms part of the Milan Platoon build up for the IFFC, also held at Otterburn, when they will have six missiles to fire. The change of emphasis from support weapons to small arms field firing was punctuated on Wednesday by the visit of reporters from the *Halifax Evening Courier* and by our trip back to Weeton in the evening to watch our boxers beat 1 PWO.

Thursday and Friday saw Somme completing training circuits involving team and multiple shoots on the excellent field firing ranges as well as several stands involving pre deployment training objectives. A few fun stands were involved including an arrest and restraint techniques period and a command task stand.

The company returned to Weeton on Friday evening exhausted for a short weekend break before deploying to Strensall the following week for centralised PORT training.

EXERCISE "COAST TO COAST" (BHQ DAY OUT)

The concept of a coast to coast walk is certainly not a new idea but when Alfred Wainwright published his coast to coast guide book in 1973 he inspired a new generation of walkers to discover the beauty of North England for themselves. The route Wainwright described covered the width of the country from St. Bees Head in Cumbria to Robin Hood's Bay on Yorkshire's east coast.

The nature of life in Battalion Headquarters does not always make it easy to get on adventure training, so it was decided that we would complete a coast to coast walk in a series of one day stages, setting aside one day each month for the task. Stage one was a 22km walk from St. Bees to Ennerdale Bridge.

After travelling through the Lake District to get there, St. Bees itself proved to be a disappointment. It is huddled in a valley near the Irish Sea, several miles south of the industrial eyesore that is Whitehaven. Before embarking on the walk two traditions should be complied with; firstly, one should take a dip in the sea (it being January some contented themselves with merely dipping a hand whilst others felt that even this was too much to endure), secondly, one should collect a pebble to carry all the way to Robin Hood's Bay. Whilst collecting his pebble Staff Sergeant Harwood decided to fall in, thus killing two birds with one stone!

The formalities completed we set off on our adventure. The initial phase of the walk is pleasant

enough, a cliff top stroll along the coast passing by Fleswick Bay and St. Bees Lighthouse, however the harmony is disrupted somewhat by the appearance of the Whitehaven Chemical Works. From here the route heads inland for the Lake District border town of Cleator. Cleator sounds like a horrible place and it is. Its only saving grace was a rather fine pie and quiche shop which provided a welcome enhancement to our packed lunches. Having taken our lunch in a rather dubious pub we set off on the afternoon phase of the walk.

At last the squalid farmland gave way to the foothills of the Lake District and the serious walking began. One foothill deserves a special mention, Dent Fell. The Commanding Officer wanted the first trip to be a warm up for the walks to come and Dent Fell certainly gets the heart pumping. Wainwright wrote that the Dent "... impels the ... urge to linger a while", however he obviously didn't climb it in a howling gale and cloud cover that reduced vision so much that Cleator itself was out of view, which was a blessing.

The walk from Dent Fall was very pleasant indeed. The track drops down to a valley bottom and meanders its way into the quaint village of Ennerdale Bridge. However it is possible to make the route more exciting by giving an officer the map!

The Lake District proper now beckons for our intrepid walkers from BHQ.

REGIMENTAL RECRUITING CELL

The Regimental Recruiting Cell was formed in October 1995 by the Commanding Officer in direct response to army wide concern about recruiting for the infantry. Although not really in keeping with our grand title the cell consisted only of myself and WO2 John Nutter. Our initial task was to act as a liaison cell between the Battalion and the various recruiting agencies and in particular to co-ordinate the activities of our special recruiters. This was completed relatively soon and we could widen our activities to take in active recruiting and publicising the Dukes in Yorkshire. The first and most important task was to set up a recruiting display worthy of the Dukes who were going to man it in the various towns around the area. We were helped in that by the purchase of two Regimental marquees in true Dukes colours and the "donation" of a 14' caravan by Goodalls of Huddersfield. The cost of the refurbishment was met

by RHQ and after some two months of cleaning and painting it is now ready for its first showing in Barnsley in the near future.

During the winter months we have concentrated our efforts on one day "Look at Life" courses here at Weeton. These have given some five hundred youngsters from the Yorkshire area the opportunity to look at the way a modern infantry unit lives and operates whilst in the UK. They have been a great success with some forty entrants into the army as a direct result. We are now well into the planning for the summer months with displays in all the major towns at some point. The Battalion is currently well up to strength and hopefully as a result of the continuing activity around Yorkshire the Dukes name will continue to spread and the Battalion will go from strength to strength.

R. Pierce



The Regimental Recruiting Cell at work in Peel Square, Barnsley.

THREE MONTHS WITH THE GURKHAS: BRUNEI 1995

The first bonus of the attachment to the Gurkhas in Brunei came with a twenty four hour stop-over in Hong Kong. I had never been there, and therefore took the opportunity to see as much as I could. On arrival I fully expected to be met by the obligatory four tonne truck and transit accommodation, but to my surprise the Movement NCO gave me my hotel tickets and pointed me towards the air conditioned Mercedes. It got even better when I found out that it was taking me to the New World Hotel, a five star

affair with H\$ 1000 as expenses. Needless to say it was all spent.

Brunei, situated in northern Borneo, is very small. It is however, very rich on account of the fact that it floats on top of a lake of oil. Being Muslim there is no alcohol allowed for the locals although the expats and the army get an ample allowance. All of the expats work for Shell which is the only oil company in the country. The Sultan of Brunei also happens to be the world's richest man. In the 1960s there was a coup

attempt in which the Gurkhas, as part of a larger British force, helped restore the present Sultan. Since then he has paid for a resident battalion plus a garrison that includes 7 Flight Army Air Corps and the Training Team Brunei.

My role with the 2nd Battalion The Royal Gurkha Rifles was as the Training Officer. Basically this meant running pre courses for those Gurkhas coming to the UK on the Section Commanders and Platoon Sergeants Battle Courses at Brecon. To help me run them was a team of one warrant officer, one colour sergeant and two sergeants. The courses were three weeks long and included all of the basic tactics that one would expect, such as patrolling, platoon and section attacks etc. As an officer I was expected to teach more subjects than would be expected in a British battalion as it was important that the lessons were conducted in English. We also had the added challenge of trying to find clear areas with hills to try and match the Brecon terrain. This proved difficult as the only clear area in the country is the coastal plain. Nevertheless with a little imagination, some areas were found that almost resembled the Welsh countryside, if not in temperature then at least in steepness.

The Gurkhas themselves are everything their reputation says about them, very cheerful, hard working and exceptionally willing to help. I had the advantage of being there during the Hindu festival of Dashain. This is their equivalent of Christmas, only rather than trying to fit everything into one day they have the good idea of spreading it over fifteen. The

whole ceremony involves celebrating the start of the world, with some days having more importance than others. The events over the two weeks included culture shows, numerous parties and then to top it all off the sacrificing of goats in the temple.

The main way that the Battalion, and indeed the whole expat community, seemed to keep themselves occupied was through sport. The Gurkhas by their very nature are not rugby players, I, therefore, found myself playing the local side Panaga RFC. The highlight was a tour to Bali for the rather grandly named Bali International Tens Tournament. This involved five days with an overnight stay in Singapore on both the outgoing and incoming flights. There were about twelve teams in the tournament from as far afield as the Philippines and Malaysia to Australia. The ground was as solid as it comes and there was more than one dislocated shoulder due to particularly painful falls. Nevertheless we gave a good account of ourselves reaching the semi finals and having the distinction of being the only team to beat the eventual winners, which we did in the qualifying rounds. The winners, incidentally, were a scratch side of Australian surfers over on holiday, who happened to have between them a couple of rugby league stars and the New South Wales scrum half.

All in all the three months gave me an opportunity to see another part of the world that is in complete contrast to where we normally operate, and there was the added interest of working with soldiers whose outlook on life is so different to our own.

J. Townhill

RUGBY

The rugby team has has a mixed season so far. Some good results against civilian sides, and two fine matches in the Army Cup were overshadowed by a convincing defeat in the quarter-final by 1 RRW.

In the early season the 1st XV won seven out of the first nine matches, including an easy victory against 1 WFR in the third round of the Army Cup. The fourth round produced some very open rugby in an exciting match against 1 KOSB. On this occasion we scored some well worked tries, but in fairness to the Borderers they played far better than the 35-15 score line suggests. The company commanders and CSMs deserve much credit for these successes, releasing players from both operational and training commitments whenever possible. Primarily of course it was the players who earned the victories, working well in training and always trying to play fifteen-man rugby, in spite of a number of long term injuries to the team's nucleus.

The Dukes' cup run ended at the quarter final stage with a trip to Lisburn to play 1 RRW. The Welsh

played very much to type, keeping the play close to their forwards who produced some uncompromising rucking that deprived us of any quality possession. There can be no doubt that added strength and experience in the front five will be essential for future success.

Following that defeat the focus has turned towards the sevens competitions. We have the potential to do well in the Army UK Sevens, but our success will depend on the changing operational situation in Northern Ireland. As a build up to the Army District and UK Sevens, the sevens squad (plus a rather large admin team!) is undertaking an Easter weekend tour to Yorkshire. We will have no training time before this, so it promises to be a baptism of fire with tournaments at Pocklington on Friday 5 April, Bridlington on Sunday 7 April and the District Sevens on Wednesday 10 April. The Army UK Sevens tournament is at Aldershot on Wednesday 1 May 1996.

FOOTBALL

After a keenly contested semi-final played at Weeton Barracks against 1 Staffords we find ourselves, at last, in the final of the Infantry Cup, which will be played at the Tidworth Oval on Wednesday 27 March 1996. The first final of the Infantry Challenge Cup was played in 1969 and since then, although always participating and reaching the semi-final on three occasions, the Dukes have never

before equalled this unique achievement. The results were as follows:

| | | |
|-----------------|---|---------------|
| 1 DWR 4 | - | 1 KORB 3 |
| 1 DWR 3 | - | 2 RRF 1 |
| 1 RWF 3 | - | 1 DWR 5 |
| ITC Catterick 0 | - | 1 DWR 3 |
| 1 DWR 4 | - | 1 Staffords 0 |

Success in the Infantry Cup is not our only achievement this season and presently the team is preparing itself to play 39 Regiment RE in the fourth round of the Army Cup. Victory in this game would

give us a home tie against this year's favourites, 3 RSME, also we are soon to play 14 Signals Regiment in the semi-final of the 5 Division Cup of which we are the holders.

BOXING

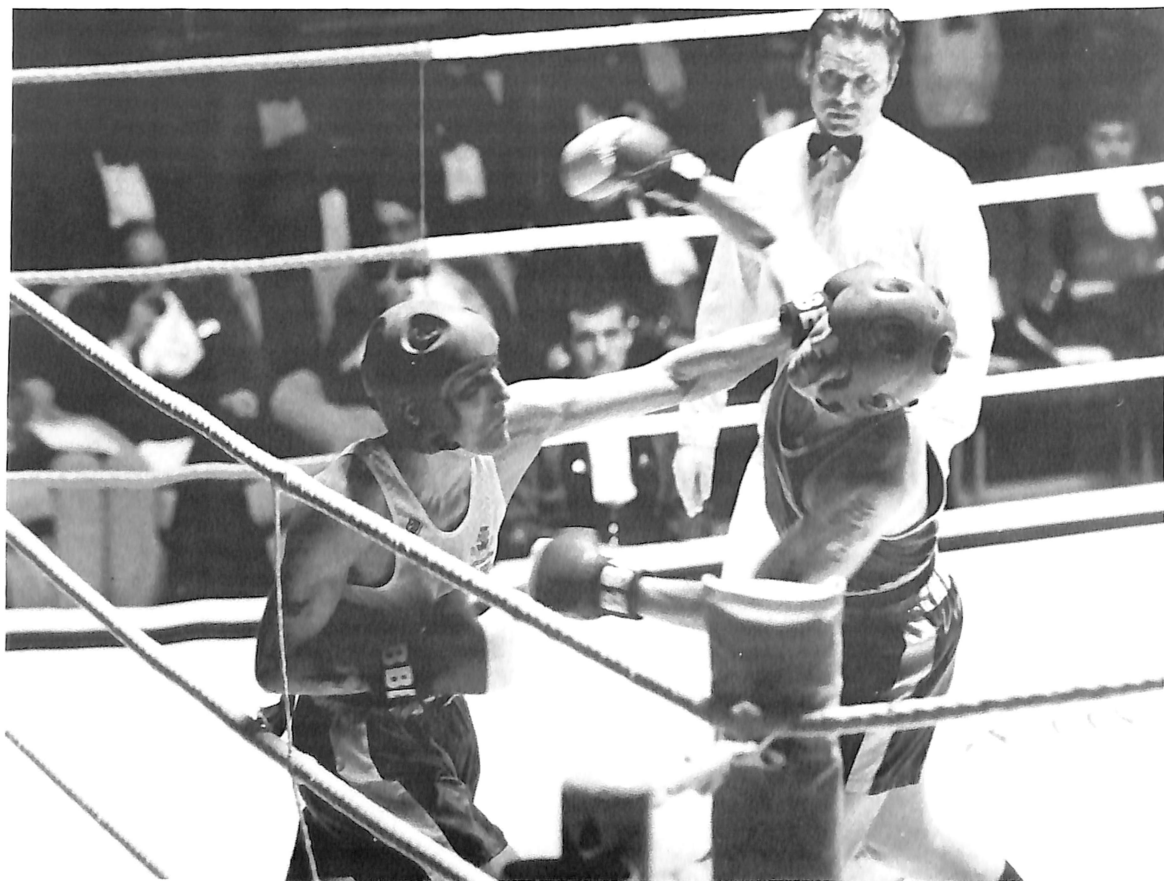
It is eighteen years since the Battalion entered an army boxing championship, therefore it was with some apprehension that the Boxing Officer entered the 1995/96 season Army Grade 3 Novices Inter-Unit Championships (the starting point for team boxing in the army).

Much of the talent had been identified at the Army Individual Championships earlier in the year and they made up the core of the squad. The coach and main driving force was Corporal Towler. Corporal Towler had become the 1995 Army Light-Welter Weight champion but was now a grade two boxer and was therefore ineligible to compete but would make an ideal coach. The squad was then supplemented with more potential team members identified at the inter-company competition held in October and they went into full-time training on 1 November 1995.

The first round saw the team draw against 5 Airborne Logistics Battalion, an unknown quantity

although there were no doubts that they would be fit and aggressive 'Paras'. Fortunately they agreed to travel to Weeton for the match on 6 December, which proved to be a good opener for the team. After six bouts (of a total of nine) it was 4-2 to the Dukes and to lose the last three would have been disastrous. However, Private Hannan boxed very well at middleweight to beat a former army champion and at 5-2 it was clinched. The seal was put on a good performance with wins for the last two red corner boxers and 7-2 was, in retrospect, a fair result.

In the next round, on 31 January, the team were matched against 1 PWO and, because of a forthcoming arms plot move, they also agreed to travel to Lancashire. To compete against another Yorkshire infantry battalion is always a pleasure, and 1 PWO were as strong as expected and at 4-3 with two to go there were one or two worried expressions in the Dukes camp. This time Private Fox, the stand-in light



1 DWR v 1 PWO: The lightweight contest
Corporal Marsden (DWR) fights Private Kingsley (PWO).

heavyweight, was the hero of the hour and got the biggest cheer of the evening when he made it 5-3. The final result was 6-3, another good performance.

It was always known that the team would have to travel to Germany if they managed to reach the semi-final stage and so the next four weeks were spent in preparation for what was being forecast as the hardest tie so far: the match against 7 Transport Regiment, Royal Logistic Corps in Bielefeld. They were last year's finalists and this year's German champions and by all accounts a very strong team with lots of confidence.

Lots of vocal support is always very important at a boxing match, especially when the boxers are evenly matched. A noisy crowd can raise a boxer's morale at a crucial stage and occasionally turn a bout. It was very disappointing therefore when the IRA's resumption of violence resulted in only some fifty spectators being able to travel to Bielefeld for the match on 29 February 1996.

Not one member of the squad of seventeen boxers had been to Germany before and this, allied to the fact

that the support was heavily in the opposition's favour, meant that 1 DWR went into the match with a big disadvantage.

It is always difficult to know how good a team is until it is seen in competition against good opposition. In army boxing this problem is compounded by the fact that not many opportunities arise to compete, with at least a month between rounds in army championships. However, this team was looking fit, strong and confident. Their confidence was justified and every member of the team put in a superb performance which resulted in an 8-1 win.

However, serious training has now begun again for what promises to be a very tough army final on Wednesday 3 April, against 1st Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment. The first round went to the opposition when they won the toss for choice of venue and opted for Colchester. It is hoped that lots of Dukes, both serving and retired, will be able to watch the final and hopefully cheer the team to the first of many wins over the next few years.

(Final: 1 DWR won 7-2)



Some of the old comrades who attended the boxing on 31 January 1996 are entertained in the WOs and Sergeants' Mess.

Left to right: Mr P. Draper, Mr R. Turner, Mr M. Doyle, Mr E. Ramsbotham, WO1 (RSM) M. Smith, Mr D. Higson, Sergeant M. Taylor, Sergeant J. Capel and WO2 M. S. Flaving.

SKIING

1995 saw the re-formation of the Battalion's nordic ski team after a break of over ten years. Nordic skiing is the sport most related to actual military training, and requires a high calibre of soldier in order to achieve success in a field where the competition is becoming tougher all the time. As the continuing cut backs begin to bite into adventure training funds,

nordic skiing is attracting more support rather than less. This is due to its relevance to the job of the infantry soldier, in the fact that it demands supreme fitness and the ability to shoot while under pressure. The pursuit is looked upon as a way to improve a soldier's professional skills while providing him with a break from routine training.

The eight man squad of one officer, one sergeant, one lance corporal and five privates set off from Weeton Barracks on 18 November in a heavily laden minibus heading towards Newcastle. Their destination was the infantry training camp in Nordsetter, Norway. After nearly twenty four hours on a ferry that made the roller coasters on Blackpool Pleasure Beach look like British Rail Inter-City rides, followed by a further thirteen hours on the road in Norway, it was a very weary team that arrived at the Norwegian pine cabin that was to be home for the next four weeks.

The squad had been together only very briefly before deploying, due to the pressure of Battalion commitments, but had managed to fit in a two day civilian run, roller skiing course, which proved to be invaluable. The training began in earnest with the help of two Norwegian instructors and the experienced skiers from other teams at the camp. Apart from learning to ski, the team worked on circuits, distance running and range work, using SA80s with iron sights and Anschutz Biathlon rifles. Such an intense programme demanded that the calorie intake had to be high and vast amounts of pasta were consumed in every shape and form, as well as porridge. A skilled chef is a vital requirement on such expeditions. It was also learnt that Norwegians sell dairy produce by the hectogram and not the kilogramme which nearly resulted in someone spending thirteen pounds on a block of expensive cheese.

The town of Lillehammer, the location of the '94 Winter Olympics, was 20km from Nordseter. The Olympic bobsleigh run was open to those mad enough to attempt it and so as a break from the training a trip was booked. A professional pilot and brake man wedged two fool-hardy victims between them and once given a small push there was no way back from the wall of ice that flashed by as the bob hurtled down the track. The speed was awesome and you felt that this is what it must be like to fly in a jet fighter. It took fifty seven seconds to descend the course but much longer for the heart to return to normal. After three weeks of hard training the Infantry Championship commenced. As the Regiment had served in Norway as AMF(L) most of the squad were not regarded as novices. This meant that the team had to compete in the open category against the very experienced racers of 1 Highlanders and 1 KORBR. Considerable time was now being spent in the evenings preparing and waxing skis for the race of the following day. Selecting the correct wax for the conditions is a science in itself and means the difference between going nowhere because you have too much grip, going nowhere because you have no grip at all and getting it right which at least gives you a fighting chance in the race. Starting a 15km race and knowing that you have the wrong wax on within the first 15m is not a pleasant feeling.

The races were hampered by the problem that had plagued the entire training camp: a lack of a decent



The Nordic Ski Team: 5 Division champions

Left to right, back row: Sergeant Caple, Lance Corporal Hall and Private Nugent.
Front row: Private Parkin, Captain Mayo and Private McLeod.



1st Battalion Alpine Ski Team

Left to right: Privates Dickenson, Waller and Simms, Lieutenant Golding, Privates Cronk and Thomas.

amount of snow. The icy conditions meant that falling on a downhill stretch was most definitely going to hurt and could result in a bad injury. There were several blood stains left on the snow and people sporting faces that looked as though they had spent the day rubbing them with Scotchbright. There were five races in all. An individual 10km, designed to give the novices a feel for race conditions, a 4 x 5km relay, a 15km, a 4 x 7.5km biathlon relay involving a prone shoot and a standing shoot and finally the 20km patrol race, which can be likened to a 'march and shoot' on skis, with four command tasks.

With an eight man squad it was possible to field an A and a B team and there were some determined performances from both. The best result was in the biathlon where the A team managed a silver medal when 1 KORBR were disqualified for exchanging a broken rifle out on the course rather than on the range.

The squad had learnt a great deal in the time they had spent in Norway and it was to reap dividends in the new year when they went forward to the divisional championships held in Serre Chevalier, France. Here the quality of the opposition was higher including the Royal Marine Commandos, but the team were

competing against the other members of 5 Division. The standard of the courses was much harder, with the course setter seeming to have an affinity for going up hill. The snow conditions were much better than in Norway.

The squad had been cut by two, leaving the quickest six, and a week of training before the races brought the sharpness back to the legs and arms, which had dulled over the Christmas break. The basic technique of the squad had also come on in skates and glides since Norway, maximising the power applied to the levers.

The results speak for themselves. The Dukes were crowned 5 Division Nordic Champions. They won the 4 x 5km relay, the 15km, the 4 x 7.5km biathlon relay, and the 20km patrol race. With the Battalion Alpine team also competing, the Nordic/Alpine Combination Cup was also bagged, not bad for the first season of racing.

Apart from learning to ski, the expedition taught the squad a great deal about living together and working as a team. When you spend two months together you have to learn toleration and consideration of others. You have to take on responsibilities without being prompted. There is no room for selfishness in a nordic ski team.

SAILING

Exercise "Wet Wellesley" was a two week offshore sailing exercise for twelve members of Corunna Company of the 1st Battalion. It took place between 30 October and 10 November '95, onboard the "Bold Fusilier" and "Light Infanteer" the two yachts of the Infantry Sailing Association. The aim of the exercise was not only to have a very enjoyable two weeks but also to teach the novice sailors all the skills and knowledge they need to be qualified as Royal Yachting Association competent crew.

On arriving at Whale Island in Portsmouth, the lads were soon busy familiarising themselves with the yachts and getting into their cramped bunk spaces. The yachts are Saddler 34s and can sleep up to seven, we had six 'Dukes' and a fully qualified staff skipper on each.

The first four days were spent in and around the Solent area, from Cowes on the second night to Poole on the fourth, ready for our Channel crossing. In this time the lads had not only to learn all the basics of sailing on the deck but also all of the pleasures of life down below. For instance getting used to wearing waterproofs to cook in so you do not burn yourself as you chase a hot saucepan around the cabin in heavy seas.

Passing the Needles on day four, on our way to Poole, the crew of the "Bold Fusilier" decided to put their cold water drills to the test and dived into the Channel on a bright but bitterly cold November day. The "Light Infanteer" was alongside at the time but her crew sensibly stayed firmly on deck. The crossing from Poole to Alderney was slow due to poor wind, but the sea was fairly rough because of a far away Atlantic storm. This took its toll on about 80% of the crew's breakfast, with OC exercise leading the way to the Leeward side of the boat!

By day six we were in St. Peter's Port, Guernsey, where the crew spent its R & R. On an island that does not sell alcohol on Sundays, the Dukes, true to form, managed to find the one rugby club that was allowed to open all day! After a couple of really good days in Guernsey it was time for an early night and a very early start to catch the tide to help us along our way to Cherbourg. Downtown Cherbourg on a Tuesday night is not the best introduction to the pleasures of

France, so for many it was another early night in preparation for the next day's crossing back to Southampton.

The passage took about sixteen hours and for most of it we had a good force four westerly which gave us possibly the best day's sailing we had. On the last full day we sailed from Southampton to Gosport and had a full day testing the soldiers on the theory and practical skills they had learnt. The crews did very well on this and obtained a 100% pass rate. Overall exercise "Wet Wellesley" was a large success, enjoyable, hard work and a great introduction to sailing, which I am sure many of the soldiers will want to do again.



Exercise "Wet Wellesley"
The skipper, Corporal Gary Hall (IRRF), points the course to Private Cronk ('C' Company) off the coast of Alderney.

3rd Battalion

Commanding Officer's Introduction

I can report that the Battalion is in fine health and everywhere I go I meet cheerful, willing, capable soldiers. I am quickly learning that enthusiasm and friendliness are the mark of the territorial soldier and this has made my introduction to the Battalion a particular pleasure.

During the past year a major effort has been placed on recruiting which has produced results, the Battalion's strength has risen to over 100%. Although the spearhead of the effort is the company recruiting cell, all members of the Battalion are involved and this

has been a collective effort. The challenge is now to maintain the current levels of recruiting and to improve the retention rate particularly of private soldiers.

Another busy year stretches ahead, the highlights will include exercising our freedom, with the 1st Battalion, by marching through Bradford and Huddersfield in May. In June we are the sponsor unit for Executive Stretch, when on behalf of TAVRA we will acquaint young businessmen and women with the life of a TA soldier. The highlight of the training year

will be annual camp which will see the Battalion on a brigade exercise in western Scotland.

Training is the rationale for a TA battalion and in acknowledgement of our ARRC role there will be a concentration this year on collective field training with three battalion exercises planned to cover different phases of war. We will enter the 2nd Division

military competitions where our aim will be to be successful and bring home some silver.

In addition we will send a platoon on exercise to Ascension Island, six soldiers will visit BATUS for six weeks as part of the enemy force and we hope to send a group of soldiers with the 1st Battalion to Belize.



The 3rd Battalion says farewell to Lieutenant Colonel T. C. S. Bonas.

'A' COMPANY

OC - Major I. Marshall
2i/c - Captain P. A. Davies
CSM - WO2 I. Machin
CQMS - Colour Sergeant M. Smith

1 Platoon

Lieutenant M. K. Hunter
Sergeant R. S. Pilley

2 Platoon

WO2 N. Hinchcliffe
Sergeant S. A. Padley

3 Platoon

Lieutenant T. Carsley
Sergeant A. G. Goddard

Games night: 'A' Company 3 DWR v Alma Company 1 DWR

Wanting to forge good relations between 'A' Company and our sister company in 1 DWR, a group from Alma Company was invited to travel down from Weeton to Barnsley on one of our Tuesday training evenings to participate in a fun games night. There were to be four events in our inter company trial of strength. The first was the log saw relay event. Despite Alma having the choice of log - leaving 'A' Company with the choice of saw - all four of our teams had finished leaving Alma's CO trying desperately to coax some movement out of his saw blade trapped in the log.

Rollmat boxing was gallant warriors equipped with helmet and armed with rollmats. To win, one had to push one's opponent outside the area Sumo-style.

Our skill at bottle sticks was evenly matched, where balancing on bottles with the aid of a stave was done at the same time as trying to unbalance the opponent with the same stave.

Finally, the boat race saw pairs, with both right legs and both left legs tied together onto scaffold bars, racing to drink a cocktail of two glasses of beer and two cups of cornflakes. 'A' Company's win was greatly helped when Alma Company's 2i/c gave away the secret that his mouth was still full of dry cornflakes after having crossed the finish line! Everyone then retired to the bar.

The spirit of the night was excellent, with fellow Dukes getting on well with each other. For those in 'A' Company considering a short six month engagement with the 1st Battalion, or a full blown army career, what better way to meet the people with whom one day they might serve, than on a night such as this.

'B' COMPANY

OC - Major A. Greenside
 2i/c - Captain D. Bentley
 CSM - WO2 J. Diamond
 CQMS - Colour Sergeant G. R. Moore

4 Platoon

Lieutenant P. A. Sherris
 Sergeant R. K. Whiteley

5 Platoon

Lieutenant C. Baron
 Sergeant S. R. Williams

6 Platoon

Officer Cadet J. Hunt
 Colour Sergeant G. J. Roberts
 Sergeant P. Karkoszka

Exercise "Lifeline Endeavour"

Exercise "Lifeline Endeavour" is an inter company competition designed to make all members of the Battalion more aware of some aspects which are our very life blood: recruiting, retention, attendance and publicity.

The competition ran from January to the end of November 1995. It certainly created a great deal of interest in all companies, especially when it was announced that the winning company would receive a cash prize of £500.

Throughout West and South Yorkshire the

companies became more involved in shows, fetes and galas, putting on displays and showing our military equipment to members of the public. 'C' Company, for example, made closer contact with their local police and scout organisations and arranged exchange visits with them. All companies had various open days. The overall winner was 'B' Company from Halifax and Keighley. A cheque for £500 was presented to Major Buczko the Company Commander, who was just about to leave and become the Battalion 2i/c after handing over to Major Greenside.

'C' COMPANY

OC - Major R. Bramham
 2i/c - Captain T. Johnston
 CSM - WO2 S. A. Routh
 CQMS - Colour Sergeant L. L. F. Robinson

7 Platoon

2nd Lieutenant C. Cadogan
 Sergeant D. A. Bentley

8 Platoon

Lieutenant M. Abbott
 Sergeant C. R. Bamforth

9 Platoon

Officer Cadet T. Brearley
 Sergeant V. J. Kirkley

Exercise "Lone Centurion"

The TA is relied upon more and more by the regular army than ever before in peacetime. TA soldiers are on both short and long term attachments to the regular army due to its manpower shortages in the regular army and earlier this year we saw a company of TA stationed in the Falkland Islands. TA soldiers have also served in the Gulf War and more recently in Bosnia. The TA continues to train with the possibility of at least partial deployment becoming more of a reality, as proposed by the Reserve Forces Act presently passing through Parliament.

During the course of 1995 15 Infantry Brigade has been exercising its units in the Catterick and Feldom training areas of North Yorkshire for such an eventuality. As most TA battalions are under strength and not all soldiers are able to train every weekend, these exercises, known as exercise "Lone Centurion", have been planned for a company size group, which is approximately one third of the fighting strength of a battalion, being 115 men. In the snow and biting cold of a Friday night straight from work, 'C' Company deployed to a wood in North Yorkshire near Catterick garrison.

The company, with assault pioneer and artillery attachments, was to secure an area in North Yorkshire (in reality Feldom Training Area) which had been

subject to attack by small pockets of enemy. The enemy had been blowing roads and bridges and later was to carry out atrocities against the local civilian population. There was a problem however. All the roads and bridle paths between our present location and our objective area were not suitable for vehicles. Not only that, but the enemy had established defensive positions on the high ground overlooking the river we had to cross en route.

In order to have an unopposed river crossing, early Saturday morning the rifle platoons were tasked to take out the enemy on the hillside. Simultaneously the reconnaissance platoon was dispatched to ensure the actual crossing point was clear of enemy. Once the recce platoon had given us the all clear, our assault pioneers deployed with an infantry foot bridge, which was erected in fifteen minutes, across the river. This would be our only supply route and our only evacuation route across the river. Even whilst Yorkshire was in the grip of a drought, this river was deep enough and fast enough to hinder a crossing by foot, especially if soldiers were carrying supplies or evacuating casualties.

Number 1 platoon cleared the first enemy position easily. The enemy had dug in on a prominent but obvious hill. They could see our approach, but we were able to stay out of range of their small arms

whilst we used our longer range artillery to blow the hill to smithereens before assaulting the position. The depth positions were a little more difficult to winkle out as they were not in such obvious positions. With 1 platoon on the hillside giving covering fire, numbers 2 and 3 platoons swept round from the left flank to take these positions.

Recce platoon was ordered to push forward to the farm buildings we were to occupy as a forward operating base. They reported these buildings to be clear but the enemy had booby trapped most of the rooms which had to be cleared before we could move in. Darkness fell and the temperature dropped even lower. The enemy had been reported in the area and we now had the task of ambushing and attacking woods where enemy activity had been reported by local civilians.

All patrols except one returned having encountered the enemy. The one patrol that had not encountered the enemy, the Recce platoon, had discovered a map on a wall of an enemy building giving details of enemy positions in the area. We moved off before first light on Sunday morning. The enemy, we learned, had also taken civilian hostages and we obviously could not endanger their lives unnecessarily. The enemy refused to be "talked" out and a fire fight ensued which resulted in three of the nine hostages being killed.

Further enemy positions were attacked where the defence proved to be more stubborn than we had encountered in the past. 3 platoon took a bit of a hammering, losing both their platoon commander and a section commander amongst others. Luckily the exercise was completed by lunchtime enabling us to return to our base locations to pack away kit and weapons before Sunday evening . . . after all we all have proper jobs to go to on Monday morning!!

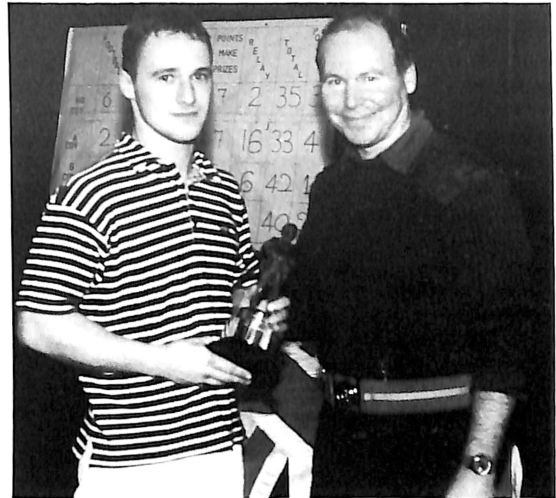
Whilst we are not as capable overall as our regular counterparts, we do have the basis of a competent fighting unit. Our specialised platoons, in particular, have a definite role to play in any future conflict. This and other exercises the TA continues to run are

becoming more in tune with the smaller and more "localised" war which is becoming common in the modern world.

The Elliott Trophy 1995

The Elliott Trophy is awarded annually to the best JNCO. The trophy, which is a bronze statue of a soldier, was donated to the Battalion by Colonel Richard Elliott, the last Regimental Colonel of the Yorkshire Volunteers. Each year the company commanders write a citation for their nomination(s) for the trophy. The Commanding Officer then decides on the award.

Since the first award was made the trophy has only gone once to a JNCO from outside 'C' Company. This year the trophy was awarded to Corporal Mark Mathewman again from 'C' Company.



Corporal Mark Mathewman receives the Elliot trophy from Lieutenant Colonel T. C. S. Bonas.

HQ COMPANY

- OC - Major S. Boocock
- CSM - WO2 D. Braisby
- CQMS - Colour Sergeant M. A. Joel

Battalion Support Group

- OC - Captain D. K. Rhodes
- 2i/c - WO2 J. Stevenson

Assault Pioneers

- OC - WO2 A. A. Nanney

OC Recce Platoon

- Captain R. P. Wyithe

OC SF Platoon

- Captain D. Curran

Sniper Platoon

- OC - Captain P. Reaney

2 Division Intelligence Competition

Over the weekend of 9-10 December 1995, six members of 3 DWR Intelligence Cell attended Queen Elizabeth Barracks Strensall, to take part in the competition. There were only six teams competing.

The first phase of the competition involved a general and military knowledge test on five countries: Georgia, Iraq, Bermuda, Angola and the Turk and

Caucas Islands. This involved such bizarre questions as:

- a. Who was the Moslem who fought against the Crusaders?
- b. What is the average life expectancy of a female on the Turk and Caucas Islands?

The second phase involved an AFV competition involving some 100 equipments from around the

world. The third phase involved an intelligence collection process based on an imaginary West African state "Rowena" that was in turmoil with a natural disaster and threatened by its neighbours, with a British contingent having been sent as part of a larger UN force. This phase went on until late Saturday evening.

The final phase of the competition involved "Rowena" being invaded by one of her neighbours and required the Cell plotting, preparing an IPB and a PCIINTUM, showing the enemy's primary and secondary objectives. At about 1300hrs the competition came to a close.

We came 5th out of six teams, not as well as we had hoped. But bearing in mind our commitments, and the fact that all but one of the Cell was untrained and new to the intelligence game it was not a bad effort. In all it was an excellent weekend and a great aid to intelligence training.

J. Hughes

MT Platoon: Exercise "Hard Drive"

Exercise "Hard Drive" is a 2 Division driving competition to test driving skills, map reading knowledge and time appreciation. The Battalion had not had much experience in such competitions before, however, this did not deter us.

Training was designed to ensure that the drivers got a good feel of what the competition was about. We drove all night on motorways, A and B roads, and cross country. We gave them a map reading test on the move using spot heights, tulips and trace problems.

We did our final training weekend on 18-19 November, and we, once again, put the crews through strenuous competition conditions, but, due to other training commitments, only two crews attended. This time we used Sherwood Forest as a training ground, concentrating on difficult routes and time appreciation.

After only two training weekends, "Hard Drive" was upon us. We decided to ferry the crews down to the competition so they could sleep on the way. At 1500hrs on 25 November, engines roared and they were on their way (on their own now). It was a little daunting for them seeing the regular soldiers, who had been training for nearly nine months with all the very best of kit. 116 teams had entered from all over the UK. Six team vehicles were so badly dented that they had to withdraw from the competition.

The team finished a commendable 76th, having learned so much from the competition this year.

Team 1

Sergeant Beech and Lance Corporal Booth
(HQ Company)

Team 2

Corporal Boswell and Private Wilkinson
(C Company)

Team 3

Lance Corporal Cleland and Private Birch
(HQ Company)

G. Metcalf

UNPF Liaison Officer to HQ AFSOUTH

I had been sent to Naples at seven days notice as the United Nations Protection Force Liaison Officer to HQ AFSOUTH in Naples. On arrival I found out that the job required an intelligence corps lieutenant colonel, with previous recent experience in Bosnia, familiar with NATO staff procedures and a whole raft of security clearances. I fitted none of these parameters. Fortunately I worked for an excellent man in Naples who told me to go off to Bosnia to get a feel for the situation but to be back in six days. I returned fifteen days later having been held up in Sarajevo whilst the government forces tried to break out. It was quite bizarre sitting there on the roof of the PTT building having tea in the sunshine and watching a firepower display taking place. The only difference from a school of infantry type display was that when the targets went down they did not get up again. Another strange incident occurred when we were coming down the infamous Igman route and our Saxon vehicle was stopped and only allowed to proceed once the driver had had two healthy slugs of Slivovitz. Drinking and driving is obviously a skill to practise in pre deployment training for Bosnia. We passed a tractor drawing a trailer carrying a heavily camouflaged mountain gun. Some way on we had to pull over and park on the edge of a sheer drop to allow some trucks to come up the Igman route. As we were sitting there the tractor and cart we had passed earlier used us as a set of buffers. I thought we were definitely going over the side as the American mediation team were to do, so tragically, a few months later.

The job was demanding and very interesting. Fortunately I was one of the few people in the know. This is not as trite as it sounds. Because of the need for NATO and national security, the inability of some staff in the UN and AFSOUTH to cope and the unwillingness of others to cope, very few people were allowed to be in the know.

The three types of staff were respectively known as the swimmers, the non swimmers and the floaters. My eyes were opened to several facets of which I was, possibly naively, unaware. My privileged position kept me in the know but also led to some long hours in a tunnel dug into the Neapolitan hillside and briefing a multitude of stars at all hours of the day and night whilst the non swimmers and floaters enjoyed the local scenery.

I visited Bosnia once a month for a week or ten days and spent the rest of my time in Naples. The contrast was incredible. War torn Bosnia with its beautiful countryside and impoverished Naples with all its former beauty, monuments, Capri, Vesuvius, wonderful restaurants and fabulous weather. The only thing the two appeared to have in common was the spirit and friendliness of the people that I met. I did have some time off to visit the local beauty spots and made a special point of visiting the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery at Anzio. I was surprised to see such a preponderance of Dukes there.

ARMY CADET FORCE

'D' Company, Yorkshire (North and West)

Exercise "Iron Duke" took place over the weekend 20-22 October 1995 at Strensall Training Camp. The competition was organised and run by Captain David Rhodes and the officers and men of the 3rd Battalion. The competition was keenly fought between detachments from Yorkshire (North and West), Humberside and South Yorkshire Army Cadet Forces and Leeds Grammar School CCF. It was soon clear that any one of a number of detachments were in the running for the trophy and this was finally decided after the March and Shoot on the Sunday morning. Keighley detachment excelled in the March and Shoot

and became the clear winners of the competition and bring the trophy back to Yorkshire (North and West).

Keighley detachment also won Yorkshire (North and West) 12th Annual Junior Cadets .22 Competition for 1995 with a score of 240 from a possible maximum of 250 points with their five member team.

The county held their cross country championships on Sunday 10 February 1996. Corporal Byrne of Halifax detachment was the individual senior inner and the rest of the team ensured that 'D' Company was the senior team winner.



Exercise "Iron Duke"

The Colonel of the Regiment presents prizes to the Keighley detachment.

HMS IRON DUKE

The year 1995 began in the operational environment of the South Atlantic as the Falkland Islands' guard ship and turned full circle to end in dry dock in Plymouth undergoing docking and essential defects (DED) period, or mini refit. Since returning from the South Atlantic deployment the ship was activated in her role as a towed array patrol ship number two to conduct sonar operations against submarines in the North Atlantic, leading into a two week NATO exercise in and around the Straits of Gibraltar. The North Atlantic operations meant three weeks of intense, often frustrating work, but nothing could compare to being attached to a Spanish task group on exercise. Language difficulties aside it

proved an interesting and educational experience in anti-submarine warfare, anti-air warfare, anti-surface warfare and convoy escort sanitation duties. Then came a very enjoyable visit to Larne in Northern Ireland, the first frigate to visit in many years. Irish hospitality proved to be outstanding and the coincidence of the ship's visit with the Rugby World Cup final made for a most sociable time. "Iron Duke" then had two rather important commitments to fulfil prior to docking down and, in order to carry out this duty, she had to look her best. Firstly a long weekend was scheduled in Hull, the affiliated town of the ship, during which time the Commanding Officer was to accept, on behalf of the entire ship's company, the

Freedom of the City. This event hardened the ship's faith in the hospitality offered to Royal Navy warships around the United Kingdom. And then for ten days she was to accompany the Royal yacht as escort for the Royal family's annual cruise in the Western Isles.

The ship then entered DED in September and the Commanding Officer, Commander Chris Snow, left for an appointment in the Ministry of Defence. His relief, Commander Chris Bryning, is now in post having joined in December 1995. It certainly was a most enjoyable and rewarding year. In twelve months the "Iron Duke" visited South America, the Falklands, South Africa, Scotland, Ireland and Hull, operating in the waters around the UK, Europe, Africa and the South Atlantic. The DED has been a busy, fulfilling time. Much needed maintenance, modification and improvement has taken place for the first dedicated period of time since the ship was

commissioned in 1993. Perhaps, most importantly, the new command system for coordination and control of the various state of the art weapon systems on board is being fitted. But also, opportunities have arisen to play a greater amount of sport, conduct adventurous training and further everyone's professional training through various course. "Iron Duke" will, on the completion of this 'refit', be ready in ALL respects for sea.

And what does the future have in store? On completion of our maintenance period "Iron Duke" will undergo several weeks of sea trials in order to assess the work which has been done and to allow engineers to prove that the ship's equipment is operational again. This precedes a period of intense operational sea training in preparation for another deployment in 1997 as the wheel turns full circle again.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From: Mr. W. W. Cook
16 Stainesway
Louth
Lincs, LN11 0DF
27 February 1996

To: The Editor
The 'Iron Duke'
Sir,

The Battle of the Sittang and the Rangoon War Memorial

I recently had the privilege of being a member of the Royal British Legion's pilgrimage to war graves in Thailand and Myanmar (Burma). The reason for my visit was to see for myself the remains of the old bridge over the Sittang River and my uncle's name inscribed on the Rangoon War Memorial in the Taukkyan Cemetery. Burma has been difficult to visit for about thirty years and our party was the first to be allowed to visit, although I believe individual visits have been allowed from time to time.

My uncle, John (Jack) Cook, was a private soldier (4610150), who served in the 2nd Battalion in India in the 1930s and was killed at Sittang on 23 February 1942, he has no known grave. A member of our party of fifty nine pilgrims was Mr. Maurice Baxter, who also served in the 2nd Battalion, and was a member of 'D' Company at the time the Sittang bridge was blown up. He was able to recount his memories of the events leading up to the battle, but had no recollection of my uncle. Of the old Sittang bridge only the supporting columns remain. A new road/rail bridge has been built some distance down stream. There is no indication that a battle was fought in the area and the inhabitants of the large village on the eastern bank of the Sittang seemed to be unaware of the events of fifty four years ago.

We found the cemetery and the memorial in excellent condition. The Commonwealth War Graves Commission has maintained all the cemeteries we visited to the standard we have come to accept as the norm. A service was held, during which wreaths were laid in the rotunda at the centre of the massive

memorial, which records the names of the 27,000 officers and men killed during the Burma and Assam campaigns, including those of 106 members of the Regiment who have no known graves. The service was conducted by clergy from Rangoon Cathedral and buglers from the Burmese Army played the Last Post and Reveille. In addition to the services at each cemetery we took part in a service of remembrance in Rangoon Cathedral, which was conducted by the



Mr Maurice Baxter on the east bank of the river Sittang. In the background is the old bridge, which he was the last man to cross before it was blown up.

Bishop of Yangon (Rangoon). Afterwards we were allowed to see the illuminated Roll of Honour book, of which one page is turned each day. The Dukes names are recorded on pages 90 and 91 of the book. Plaques have been presented by many of the regiments which took part in the Burma campaigns, but I was unable to find one of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment. Perhaps it might be possible for the Regiment to donate a plaque, in the form of a shield, to be included among those already on display in the cathedral.

If any ex-members of the Regiment remember my uncle and could give me any information about him, I would be most grateful.

Yours sincerely,
Wm. W. Cook

From: Mr. W. Norman
17 Bank Street
Jackson Bridge
Huddersfield, HD7 7HE
24 January 1996

To: The Editor
The 'Iron Duke'
Sir,

"The Dukes are coming up the hill"

We all know this popular regimental song, but I wonder if anyone knows from where it originated? When I enlisted into the 1st Battalion in the 1930s it was called the rugby song and the words were "The Dukes are coming up the *wing* boys" and not "the *hill*". It went on: "If the *navy* want the cup . . . etc" I rather think that it originated when the 1st Battalion was at Gosport (1923-27) or Devonport (1927-30). There was a strong naval presence in both places and much rivalry, which was not always too friendly, between the army and the navy. I think the change from "wing" to "hill" was made when the song caught up with the 2nd Battalion which was stationed in the mountainous North West Frontier during the mid 1930s.

Our old friends the King's Regiment have "The Kings are marching up the hill" and I wonder if it is to the same tune? Maybe they picked it up in Korea when it was sung with great gusto in every company canteen, along with "Soldiers of the Queen".

Are there any old soldiers who can throw more light on this subject?

Yours sincerely
Bill Norman

From: Father Alberic Stacpoole
St. Chads
Kirbymoorside
York, YO6 6DQ
6 March 1996

To: The Editor
The 'Iron Duke'
Sir,

Campaign medals

I write to register changing times. An article in the Yorkshire Post entitled "Medals but no rest", suggests that the UK is coming in line with the USA in awarding medals, viz like confetti.

The men of 27 Transport Regiment are to receive four medals at once, in peacetime. One is for Northern Ireland, perhaps deservedly, though there has been a ceasefire for eighteen months. They are to get another for their tour in Angola, although not a battle area. For Bosnia they are not given a British medal, but a pair of others from the UN and then NATO, for one tour!

By contrast, I recall my brother, who like me served in the Regiment and later in the Paras. For four tours of Northern Ireland, including thirty days in Crossmaglen, he received a medal and a mention in despatches. For Aden, he received nothing. There he commanded the POW's Reconnaissance Platoon: of his twenty two men, one was killed, one had his legs blown off, nine were wounded, and he had a live grenade in his Land Rover. This in a "peaceful withdrawal".

One has to recall the issue of medals after Waterloo. Colonel Elphinstone, commanding the 33rd Foot, sent back to the Mint sixty eight medals - those of all who had not stood in the squares at Quatre Bras and Waterloo. Waterloo medals were the first general issue and hence the prototypes of all we wear today. Perhaps the Elphinstone principle should stand today as well.

Yours sincerely,
John Stacpoole

BOOK REVIEWS

"THE POLAR BEARS". MONTY'S LEFT FLANK.
By Patrick Delaforce. (Alan Sutton Publishing Ltd.)
234 pages. £16.99.

"The Polar Bears", the history of the 49th (West Riding) Infantry Division during World War II, is the fifth title from Patrick Delaforce in a series of British Army divisional histories. Both the 1/6th and 1/7th Battalions of the Dukes served in the Division. As in the other histories the author draws heavily on the experiences of soldiers, NCOs and officers who fought with the Division, particularly during the campaign in north west Europe in 1944 and 1945. The numerous quotations, while giving very vivid accounts of what life was like at the sharp end, sometimes give the

impression of a "scissors and paste" job. This may be due to shortcomings in the editing of the book as exemplified by inconsistencies in the use of military terms. Thus on a single page there are "coy" and "company", "bn" and "battalion" and "capt" and "captain". Notwithstanding these defects the history gives a very clear account of the unfolding story from the early actions at Fontenay Le Pesnel, the advance to the Seine, the taking of Le Havre, the final actions at Nijmegen and Arnhem and the liberation of northern Holland. For those who served in the Division the book will bring back many memories of those stirring times. For others, who did not serve in north west Europe, it will give insights into what it was

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like to fight a determined, skilful and well armed enemy in rugged conditions, particularly those in the bocage of Normandy and on the "Island" in Holland during the winter of 1944/45.

SADDLEWORTH 1914-1919: The experience of a Pennine community during the Great War. By K. W. Mitchinson. (Published by Saddleworth Historical Society.) 240 pages. £14.00.

At first sight the title of this book does not appear to be one to tempt the average reader. However, in many ways, it is a remarkable one, not least because of the impressive research which has gone into its production. It shows, in considerable detail, how the first world war affected one small community and how their local efforts fitted in and contributed to the larger picture. Saddleworth is in the recruitment area of the old 7th Battalion and it comes as no surprise to discover that the great majority who enlisted or who was called up, served in the Dukes. Of great interest is an appendix which lists the 258 Saddleworth men who were killed and whose names are recorded on the local memorial. For each man details are given of the battalion and regiment in which he served, plus short biographical details and where he is buried or the name of the memorial on which his name is inscribed. Of the 110 Dukes listed, fifty served in the 7th Battalion, twenty two in the 5th Battalion and the others in every battalion of the Dukes bar the 1st, which was stationed in India. This book will be of particular interest to those with connections with the Colne Valley and the 7th Battalion.

A CULINARY CAMPAIGN. Alexis Soyer. (Southover Press, 2 Cockshot Road, Lewes BN7 1JH.) 334 pages. £22.00.

During the winter of 1854/55 the British troops in the Crimea suffered appalling hardships, due to lack of warm clothing, leaking tents, scanty food and hopelessly inadequate medical services. The public at home was scandalised when details began to leak out as officers appraised their friends and relations of the conditions. However, it was the reports of Mr. William Russell, the first war correspondent, that stirred individuals and the government into action. Among the first to respond was Florence Nightingale, who arrived at the base hospital at Scutari in November 1854 and immediately started to rectify the deficiencies in hospital administration. Another to respond was Alexis Soyer, a distinguished chef. He arrived at Scutari in March 1855 and had soon brought about greatly improved catering arrangements, both in terms of the cooking of meals and of their content. Soyer then embarked for the Crimea where he turned his attention to the preparation of meals under active service conditions. He had already given some thought to the problems involved and so was quickly able to demonstrate the advantages of his famous stove in the preparation of meals, both under cover and in the open, and very considerable savings in the consumption of fuel. One hundred years later his stove was still in use.

His account of his experiences in Turkey and the Crimea was published as "A Culinary Campaign" in 1857. This edition is a facsimile of the original. Soyer's style is flowery and adjectives abound, but that does not detract from the most interesting story which he tells. If Soyer had a weakness it was his vanity. Every smallest word of praise is religiously recorded. But there can be few to whom the British army owes a greater debt of gratitude, other than Florence Nightingale, with whom he closely worked.

THE CRIMEA WAR: THE LETTERS OF PRIVATE JAMES DEMPSEY AND COLOUR SERGEANT GEORGE SPENSE

On 1 March 1854 the 33rd Regiment embarked at Kingston, Ireland, for service in the Crimea. After a stop over in Malta the 33rd and 41st arrived off Constantinople on 14 May, the first British troops seen there since the days of the Crusades. On disembarkation they were quartered at Scutari, on the Asian side of the Bosphorus. The rest of the British Army was encamped in the same general area. There was some confusion, partly due to the fact that until their arrival in the seat of war the regiments were not allocated to brigades and divisions. The French on the other hand, who were camped at Gallipoli, were far better organised because they maintained the same organisation in peace as in war. The 33rd, together with the 7th Royal Fusilier and the 23rd Royal Welch Fusiliers, were allocated to the 1st Brigade of the Light Division (Lieutenant General Sir George Brown). The brigade commander was Brigadier General R. Airey.

At the end of May the British and French armies were moved to Varna, in Bulgaria, the 33rd arriving there on 31 May. On arrival in Bulgaria General Brown and Brigadier Airey set about exercising their respective formations, a matter which Private James

Dempsey recorded, with some feeling, in a letter to his parents dated 20 July 1854:

"Province of Bulgaria, Turkey,
Camp Devna, July 20th 1854

My dear Parents,

I sit down to address you once more after a long silence - hoping that this will find you all in good health and every other blessing that this world can afford you. I never was better in my life than at present. I have as good health as I need to wish for, only I am not quite as fat as when you seen me. I received your kind and well dictated letter of 30th June, but as we were not properly settled, I could not write before this as my last letter was from Scutari. We left Scutari Camp on 29th May and landed the 31st at Varna. We were encamped on Varna Plains for five days when we got the route to Aladyn one day's march from Varna. We was well treated when in Varna, but when we went to Aladyn we got what we call it hot and warm. We remained at Aladyn for twenty five days, and during that period there never was an army could be so much put about as we was. We had to march out

twice a week, besides field days in marching order, at 9 or perhaps 7 o'clock. The evening before we would get the order for the following day, cook our beef overnight (God forgive me for calling it beef), strike tents at 3 or 4 o'clock in the morning, keep working until 7 when we ought to breakfast according to order, but God help the half of us, there's none for some - for if they get their bread overnight, their shure to eat it they are that gone with fatigue and hunger; and them thats more fortunate to have a small portion of Black Eck (or) bread, they have neither tea or coffee, milk or even as much as a good drink of spring water, but is forced to wet their food with stagnant water, that is lying in our canteens all night. We then march out for several miles through horses, tents, and all our encampment under a scorching sun. Perhaps we get back by 1 or 2 o'clock, pitch our tents and sit on the sand (for grass there is none) to some buffalo beef without salt or pepper or even the smell of soup. Dear parents we were not quite so bad all the time. Their was some time we got coffee without sugar at 9 or 10 o'clock of the day. When the men on duty is forced to mount guard without breaking their fast. I myself had to do it for one. I dare say the great fault of all this is that the commissary was never up with our Division in time. Perhaps for one week after one day's march we would get them up and would live on green beef and our allowance of bread. Well now for Field Days. General Brown ordered 2 field days a week in marching order and his Brigadier General Arie is shure to have 2-3 more for his own private practice. Well as before (we) get an early breakfast of the same sort of food as above related, go 2 or 3 miles through bushes, trees and every kind of obstacles, up to your knees in sand under a sun that is enough to burn the brains of the strongest animal, much more of a weak delicate handful of men. For we are no more than a handful in comparison to what we was at home and not half as strong. We get home by half past one or two o'clock, then they keep us on fatigue duty until tattoo. So by marching and field days, fatigues and other duties and bad diet, that it would be better for us to be fighting all the time than to be as we are always with a wet shirt. I can safely say that my shirt is never dry from 4 o'clock a.m. to 8 o'clock p.m., but all this does not daunt us as long as we have good health. I will tell you an instance of the Aristocratic tyranny of the physicians of our army. There was one man of the 19th Regiment sick in the morning at Aladyn, the surgeon said he was not ill, only trying to miss the field day. He accordingly went to the field day, but was forced to fall out on the field and in about one hour after he came home he died from nothing but fatigue. They buried him the same evening with nothing for his coffin but a blanket. So if a man is sick or bad, he may be, for all they will hardly give him a dose of salts.

My chief reason for telling you all the affairs of our army is that I know people thinks at home we are well off and gets everything we want. We was to get porter, potatoes, rice, sugar, coffee and in fact everything we would require. Certainly I must say we have seen little of some of the above articles. We got two pints of porter since we came out. We got tea twice or three times, rice as often and then as much would feed a hungry child of 9 months old. They are more liberal with the coffee. They give it as it is, whole, and a very

small allowance of sugar, that is when they do give at all, but often we was doomed to go without any and if we grumbled or said anything they would tell us that they did all they could for us - that we was better off than the army of the last campaign. But what matter for all this if they did not give us so much drill and fatigues. They did one good thing for us, they did away with the stocks on the line of march and they got our blankets carried, but ourselves they know would not be able to carry them, for the sun is as strong as ever it was in India.

We left Aladyn on the 30th of June for Devna one day's march from Varna. We are nearly on the side of a hill on a plain of several miles surrounded by mountains almost on every side. We have to go at least one English mile to the top of one of these mountains in the heat of the sun for wood and carry it like donkeys on our back and what's worse they would not allow us to mifs one parade of any kind. It not only for cooking the wood is brought but to build stables for horses, summer houses for officers besides several things that's too numerous to mention, all to keep us employed - but if they break our constitution, they cannot break our hearts, for I never seen a more loyal army than ours in this affair. The only thing you will hear, and go through whatever regiment you will, is all about the Russians and when we will have a slap at them. Its the only thing we want is to have a shy at the enemy. If we do we will let them know the kind of metal the English soldier is made of. The only talk here is of Sebastopol. I believe myself this time that we are going to storm that fortress. We leave here on the 22nd for Varna back where we came from, there to embark for Sebastopol, us and the French. As soon as we take it I will make off some keepsake for my sister from some Russian lafsie or perhaps a fashionable old cha-bouk (pipe) might be acceptable to my dear father.

But do not fret on my account, for I am shure the hand of God is with me, for I never had a day's ill health since I seen you, and in fact our Division has very good health all through. The water we use is very bad. River full of water snakes and other obnoxious animals as well as reptiles, and like the wood its about the same distance from camp; but there's spring water to be had at about one or two miles from us. Certainly when the river water is boiled for cooking our rations it's purified. There's one thing I must say in praise of this country for rich lands, beautiful views and fruitful meadows richly adorned with all sort of fruit trees that you can mention. Also it's a great place for poultry, eggs and milk, all quite cheap. But there not worthy to posses such a place for they are lazy idle useless in almost every sense unlefs smoking and drinking Rakai or eating onions. There is a wonderful army of French here, somewhere about 60 thousand of as good looking, warlike, as determined soldiers as ever I seen, both horse and foot, and they would die for any of our men. I was one night in their camp at Varna, before I left, and they thought to make as much of me as if I was an officer of some powerful nation. At anyrate one word for all English and French. I am shure they would clear the world before them and I would not care if I was one of them, and I am very proud of my position as I hope to be one of the number that will muzzle the Russian Bear and revenge the wrongs of

the weak on the tyrant's head. All I wish in the world for is to bring us at it at once and not delay as long as we have the fine weather. Let us reap our harvest, for if the winter comes and our roads are blocked with snow or ice we may be forced to part with the fruits of our spring toil. But enough of this for the present.

I am your dear son, James Dempsey

Address: 33rd Duke of Wellington's Regiment, No. 3355 "G" Company, Light Division of the British Army en route for the seat of war, Turkey, via Marseilles, France.

We left Devna 24th July and since I have not had time to send it away. We are at place called Monastir, one day's march farther on. We left on account of sickness. Their has been a great number of dead, but thank God it's all nearly over. I had a letter from Johnnie. He is well and in good health."

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Also serving with the 33rd was Colour Sergeant George Spense. He was born in Leeds in 1818 and became a spindle forger. In 1838 he enlisted in the 6th Foot (The Royal Warwickshire Regiment). He reached the rank of sergeant but, on being court martialled on 25 January 1842 for being drunk in barracks, he was reduced to the rank of private. In January 1845 he transferred to the 33rd Regiment. He was promoted to corporal in 1851 and had become a sergeant on 1 April 1853. On 10 August 1854, while the Regiment was in Bulgaria, he had been promoted to the rank of colour sergeant in the light company. He took part in the battle of the Alma, on 20 September 1854, where he was wounded. On 27 September he wrote from the hospital at Scutari to his brother, Private John Spense, 33rd Regiment, then with the rear party at Varna:

"Scutari Barrack Hospital, 27th Sept, 1854

My Dear Brother and Sister,

I will give you a Short account of one of the most horrible Battles that was ever fought. We landed on the Crema on the 14 September without any opposition. We took up our Respective Stations and we lay there without tents for 2 or 3 nights; we then got 7 for a company. We had them for one night, they was then sent away and we were for the road the Next Morning. Well we got fairly away by 9 o'clock we marched in dubble column of Brigades Artillery on Both Flanks. You must understand that the Crema is a fine level piece of ground. Well we marched and halted until about 4 o'clock at that time we marched across a muddy river about 2 feet deep, and then halted for the night. The men ran away like Madmen for to get a Drink of water for they had not been able to get a Drink the Whole Day, but they had Scasely got away before the fall in sounded and of we went for about another mile for the Cossacks Came in Sight about 10,000 of them. The Light Division formed line and our Artillery got in order and Payed them for their trouble. We then Piled arms and Lay down with our Wet Things on us, ready to turn out at a Moment's notice but they did not Trubble us any more, that Night. At 4 o'clock next Morning we fell in and remained under arms until Daylight. We then packed our Bits of traps together and we commenced to form



Colour Sergeant George Spense, 33rd Regiment.

up. We got that done about 10 o'clock. We then came in view of a range of hills and over these hills Lay the Road we had to pass Which almost Looked Impossible to think of for there was Brest Works in every Corner and they mounted about 100 guns. At the foot of this mountain was a Village and in the Rear of the Village there was a River in Rear of the River there was an entrenchment but all these things had to be passed. We advanced steadily until we got within 2 miles of the Hill. At this Time they set fire to the Village and Corn Stacks then commenced firing at us. After the first Shot the Light Division formed Line and the 2nd Heavy Division formed Line to the right. They then advanced for a 100 yards, the Light then advanced 200 and as we halted we Lay down. Mr Greenwood, Mr Siree, St Mason, Bairstow and Me was on the Colors. Me, Bairstow and Mason was the advance Serjeants of the Line. So as I stated we advanced and halted in this Way until we got to within about 500 yards of the Hill we then advanced steadily until we came to the River. The Colonel Said in you go, but one of the Serjeants Said, I cannot swim; but while they were talking in I went on Speck and the Regiment followed in gallant Stile. Over we went across an entrenchment over the Road and up the Hill and a 5 gun battery Playing Shell and Grape and Canister at us with awful effect, for many a fine Fellow never got over the river. Then the advanced Files got to the Hill Top. I never expected to live another

Moment but we rushed the Battery and Mounted the Brest Work Silenced their Guns, and then turned to for to pay them for the Loss of our poor Comrades. The Russians had two companies out Scemagin but in less 5 minutes there was only 3 men of them Left. They then marched down a Column of 1000 Men and halted them. Our fellows knocked them down three at once, in fact it was Slaughter and no Mistake, for the Russians Lay down like Skittle Balls. I will just tell you my own Misfortunes and after all Fortune. I was in the act of Loading my rifle when a Musket Ball struck my Bayonet and made it into an Irish one, the Ball Split one half Struck Me on the middle finger of the Right and the other on the 3rd finger of the Left Hand, another Ball cut a bit out of My jacket it never touched the Skin, another Split the Leaf of my Pouch, it done me no harm, another struck the edge My doghead, and Blew it out of My Hat and Ripped my Beaver to the Peak. I got a Blow on the Left Elbow with a bit of a Shell but it only burnt me. There is a Blister on it about as big as a sixpence, another musket ball Struck Me on the Head and Ploughed away the Flesh, but thanks be unto God it did not break the Skull but it is a bad wound for the Skull is bare and the Cut is about 2 inches long. I had my old Pipe in my Cap a newspaper and a Handkerchief the Ball Passed out of the Back of my Cap and pushed the best part of the Handkerchief out of the Hole and I have it so still with the Hare stuck on it. If you come down here you will be able to see it. Dear Brother I fully expected that you was down here for when I came I had nothing but what I stood in, and from the time I landed until I came here I never had my Cloths of. I will write you a few of the names of the Wounded. I will give you the Serjeants. Checkley Lost a leg. G Lee Dead, C Byrne Dead, Feather Dead, Byrne and Feather was killed down at the river. Ryan Dead, Vince Shoulder, Hancock Legs of, Townsend Leg wound, Mason Leg Wound at the Colors. Giles I believe is Dead but not shore, Forsyth arm, Bairstow arm at the Colors, Gilbert Skin wound. I think he will lose his Leg. Clark arm slightly, O'Brian Struck with a Spent 6 pounder and stuned, McGill arm, Sugden at the Colors a Shell burst among the Colors and the Powder went into his eye, Keen in the belly, out at the hip, Hare in the Groin out at the back of hip, Minary slightly, Cockcross slightly through the leg. Now the Officers. Mr Greenwood in the belly, Siree in the belly in 3 or 4 places. Since Dead. Worthington through both Legs had Left cut of, but he died in the Passage Mr Montague Shot Dead, Mr Wallace Leg. Those officers was wounded at the Colors. Major Gough Wounded, the Ball entered his Left Hip, and came out at his ribs, just over the Hart, but I think he will get better. Tracy, Stewart, Quince, Geoffrey, Jack McHugh, the 2 Wagans, the 2 Powers, Hughes, N. Smith, Ogden, Longstaff, killed. Dare, McFarlane, Skeggs is wounded. I cannot think of all their names at present. Jem Connell lost his left hand, in all our Company had 3 killed and 25 wounded So far as I can collect the Names. I cannot give any more news this time, for it makes my head ache writing so long. The Dr told me it would be along time getting Better. 3 Cassidys got wounded and Butler lost his finger. Mrs Kilney died since the Wounded came down here. All the Women is in Barracks here. I am given to understand that our Regiment lost 390 killed

and wounded. The 23rd lost the Colonel, the Adjutant, Sergt Major, 7 Captains, 5 subalterns and as many wounded as we. I would give you an account of the Battle field the Day after the Fight, but you must wait until I see you.

So no more at Present from your affectionate Brother,

G Spense
Color Serjeant L C 33rd Regt

I forgot to tell you that when I got Shot it knocked me Senseless and Blind for a Time. I then could find my senses coming back for which I was truly thankful. M'Gurk the Captain's Servant died on the Passage out, Mr Thistlethwayte and Major Erskine was not at the Fight he was on board ship sick.

I must halt.

From George Spense Color-Serjeant 33rd Regiment

To John Spense
Private D W Regiment
Depot Varna"

In February 1856 George Spense was promoted to the rank of regimental quartermaster sergeant. He completed his time for pension in December 1859 and was discharged at Fermoy, giving his intended place of residence as "With 1st West York Militia".

* * * * *

The painting of George Spense, which was found in an antique shop in Halifax in 1963, is now in the Regimental Museum. At the foot of the painting is written, *G Spense Color Serjt 33 Regiment Equipped for the Alma 20th Sep 1854*. He wears the green ball tuft of the Light Company in his shako and wears wings on each shoulder of his tunic to show he is a member of a flank company. On the right arm he wears the thick gold chevron surmounted by crossed swords and a union flag of a colour sergeant. On his left arm he wears the normal chevrons of a sergeant. On the water bottle are the letters "LI" for light infantry, "33R" and his army number of "1883".

A. C. S. Savory

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PRIVATE H. TANDEY VC, DCM, MM

5th BATTALION THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

Henry Tandey was born in Leamington Spa in 1891. In 1910 he enlisted into the Green Howards and, following the outbreak of war, served on the Western Front in various battalions of that Regiment. On 26 July 1918 he was transferred to the 5th Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment. In the short spell of five weeks, between 25 August and 28 September 1918, he won the VC, the DCM and the MM, and so became the most decorated private soldier during the Great War.

His first award, the DCM, was for his determined bravery and initiative during operations from 25 August to 2 September 1918. The citation stated that he was an example of daring courage throughout the operation. He was then awarded the MM for exhibiting great heroism and devotion to duty during an attack at Havrincourt on 12 September 1918. Finally he was awarded the VC for his bravery during the capture of the village at Marcoing on 28 September 1918. A Special Order by the GOC 62nd (West Riding) Division is more descriptive than the official citation:

"For desperate bravery and great initiative during the capture of the village and crossings at Marcoing and the later counter attack on 28 September 1918. During the advance on Marcoing this soldier's platoon was held up machine gun fire and stopped. He at once crawled forward under heavy fire, located the machine gun position, led a Lewis gun team into a neighbouring house from which they able to knock out the gun, and his platoon continued the advance.

On arrival at the crossings the plank bridge was broken, and under heavy fire and seemingly impassable, he crawled forward, putting the planks into position and making the bridge passable under a hail of bullets, thus enabling the first crossing to be made at this vital spot. Later in the evening, during an attack by his company to enlarge the bridgehead and capture Marcoing support trench, he, with eight comrades, was surrounded by an overwhelming number of Germans, and though the position was apparently hopeless, he led a bayonet charge through them, fighting so fiercely that 37 of the enemy were driven into the remainder of his company in the rear and taken prisoners, the party winning clear, though he was twice wounded. Even then he refused to leave, leading parties into dug-outs and capturing over 20 of the enemy, and though faint from loss of blood, stayed until the fight was won."

Because of his wounds he left the Battalion and did not rejoin it, though remaining on its strength until the end of the war. In March 1919 he was discharged from the Green Howards and on the following day re-enlisted into The Duke of Wellington's Regiment. He thereafter served at the Regimental Depot at Halifax and from February 1921 with the 2nd Battalion until discharged in 1926. He then settled in Coventry, where he lived for the rest of his life, working until his final retirement, with the Standard Motor Company.

In 1960 he presented his medals (VC, DCM, MM, 1914 Star, British War Medal (1914-20), Allied Victory Medal (1914-18), Coronation Medal (KG VI), Coronation Medal QE II) to the Regimental Museum. Later in the year he asked for the loan of the medals to wear on Armistice Day. He did not return them, possibly because he had learnt of their potential value. Tandey died on 18 December 1977. His ashes were interred at the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery at Masinieres, the nearest to Marcoing where he had won his VC. In 1980 his widow, Mrs Annie Tandey, put up the medals for auction at Sothebys. Efforts were made by the Green Howards and The Duke of Wellington's Regiment and the Civic authorities in Leamington Spa (of which Henry Tandey had been a freeman) to raise sufficient money to buy them. The sale took place on 26 November 1980 when the medals were sold to a private purchaser, believed to be an Englishman, for the then record sum of £27,000.



Private H. Tandey VC, DCM, MM.

RECOLLECTIONS OF AN OLD SOLDIER

PART VII: FROM SINGAPORE TO INDIA: 1928

On 21 November 1928 the 2nd Battalion embarked at Singapore on the troopship "Shropshire" for the voyage to India. By now I was used to life on board a troopship and was pleased to find that the "Shropshire" seemed to have more space and that the food was better. The weather was calm so we had a quite good voyage. On arrival at Bombay we disembarked and marched to the railway station passing through an impressive arch called the Gateway of India on our way. What impressed us all on arrival at the station was the outside of the carriages of the troop train. They looked great with coats of arms on the side and painted a bright yellow. I remarked to Jonah, my mate, that at last we were going to travel in luxury. But, when we boarded the train it was back to normal. Each compartment had a table and folding seats of hard wood, which became our beds at night. It was a long journey to our destination and to add insult to injury we were shunted onto sidings to let other trains go by. Also at every stop a sentry with rifle and bayonet was posted to stop anyone getting on or off the train. The whole atmosphere in India was so different from Singapore, and it made us realise that to be a soldier in India was to be in a different world. We were in a country in which both the 1st and 2nd Battalions had fought and served in all parts of India with distinction. After a day and a night on the train, and a few lousy meals, we arrived at our destination. It was a place ninety miles from Poona, called Ahmadnagar. Being late in the year it was cold compared to Singapore. Every company had its own barrack block and had with it all its arms and ammunition so that it could defend itself if attacked. We were told that this practice was introduced after the Indian Mutiny. Even when going to church on Sunday every man carried his rifle and ammunition and in every pew there was a rifle rack. At night each company had its rifles put in a rifle rack with steel bars at the top and bottom and a thick steel chain, which passed through the trigger guards and fastened by a large steel lock, also the doors and windows were sealed.

My first shock came when someone lifted up my mosquito net and emerged brandishing a razor near my throat. A character with a turban on his head and a big beard said: "Teak hi sahib I give good shave". He was the local barber or *nappy*, as we called him, who had permission to shave us in bed. India was so different. Each man had a bearer to clean his equipment and there was a *charwallah* sold us tea and cakes. Of course we had to pay them a few rupees at the week end. We did not have much money, so when

he came round for his money many lads jumped out of the window to miss him. At times, I am ashamed to say, I was one of them. It meant no tea or wads until he was paid. But the charwallahs were very understanding having been with British soldiers ever since they were boys and eventually they always received their money. Sixteen annas to one rupee was equal to a pound in English money. To prevent you committing suicide for lack of cash the company came up with a brilliant idea. It had some cards printed called Bluelights, worth sixteen annas or one rupee. If you took them to the "wet canteen" you could exchange them for beer or cigarettes. The only trouble was that on Friday, when you saluted for your pay, you found that you had nothing to draw.

Every barrack block had a thatched roof. The mosquito nets were fastened in a square, unlike those in Singapore which were round. One night I was lying under my net when something fell from the roof and dropped onto my net. It was a deadly cobra, which could have killed me. Some of the lads knocked it off with a broom and killed it. India was full of surprises. We had to have tins full of disinfectant under each bed leg in order to stop ants and other insects getting into one's bed. On Thursday, which was a day of rest, we had to take our beds outside to air them and get rid of any bugs.

We had some queer visitors. One was a very old guru or holy man, who used to sit under a tree and cover himself with ashes. One day I had received a letter from my mother, which I had not opened, and as I was passing him he called "Sahib. I have a message for you" in very good English. He went on "You have a letter in your pocket that you have not opened, from your mother, in it your mother says that your father will die. This will not be so. In 1940 there will be a world war and you will be with your father when he dies". When I later opened the letter, his words about my father were true, but I could not believe he could foretell the future. This happened in 1928. He used to come every Thursday all the time we were in Ahmadnagar, and I used to sit with him at times and later I will tell what I learned from him. His prophesy about my father came true. In 1940 I was serving with the King's Own Scottish Borderers in France. I came back on leave and during my second week at home my dad died in my arms.

I stayed in India nearly six years with the 2nd Battalion, so I have quite a lot to write about in the future.

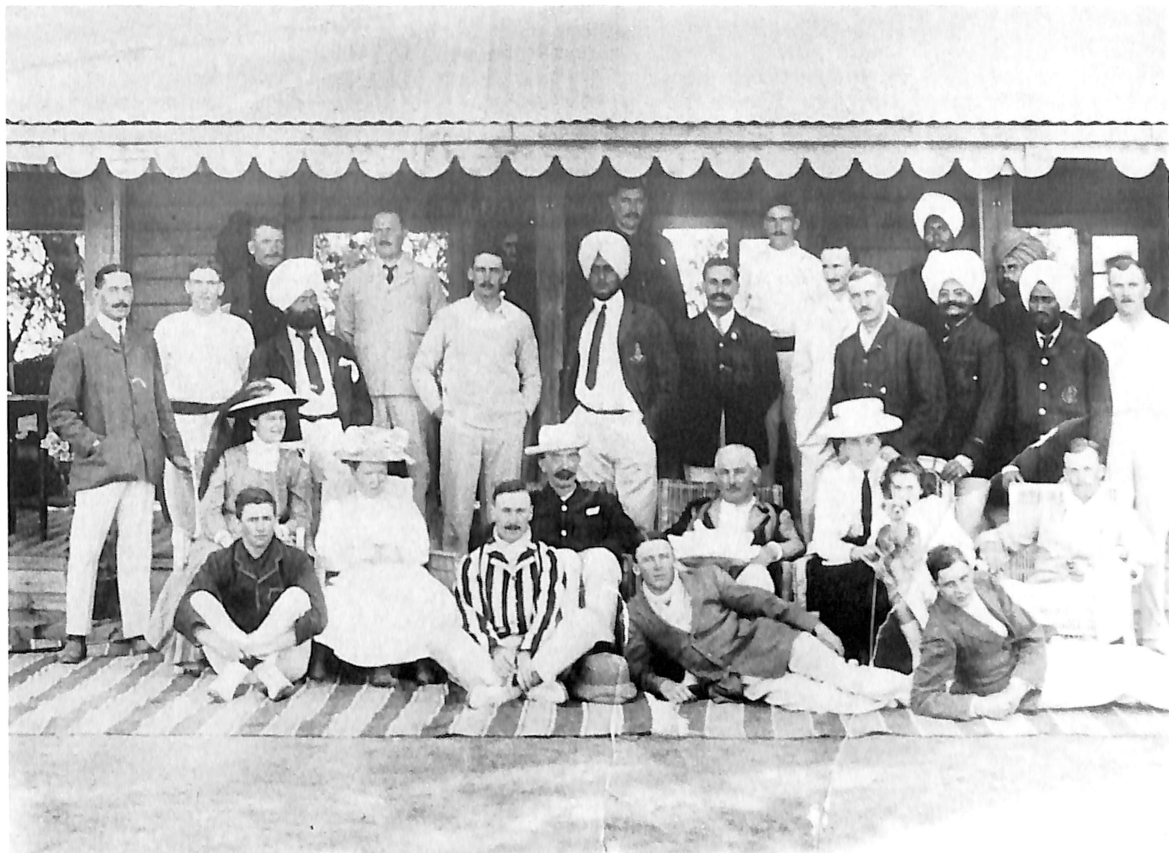
J. Kendrew

THREE VIEWS FROM THE PAST

Cricket in India: 1911c

In 1908 the 1st Battalion, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel C. V. Humphreys, arrived in Ambala, which is about 100 miles north west of Delhi. The hot weather hill station, to which half the Battalion would be sent at a time, was Solon near Simla. The photograph was taken at a cricket ground built by the Maharaja of Patalia, said to be the highest

cricket ground in the world. Sitting in the centre, without a hat, is Major P. A. Turner, who became Colonel of the Regiment in 1934. Also in the photograph is Lieutenant Denys Firth (the father of Brigadier A. D. Firth), standing in the centre alongside the Maharaja of Patalia. Unfortunately the names of the other members of the Battalion have not been identified.



Cricket in India: 1911c.

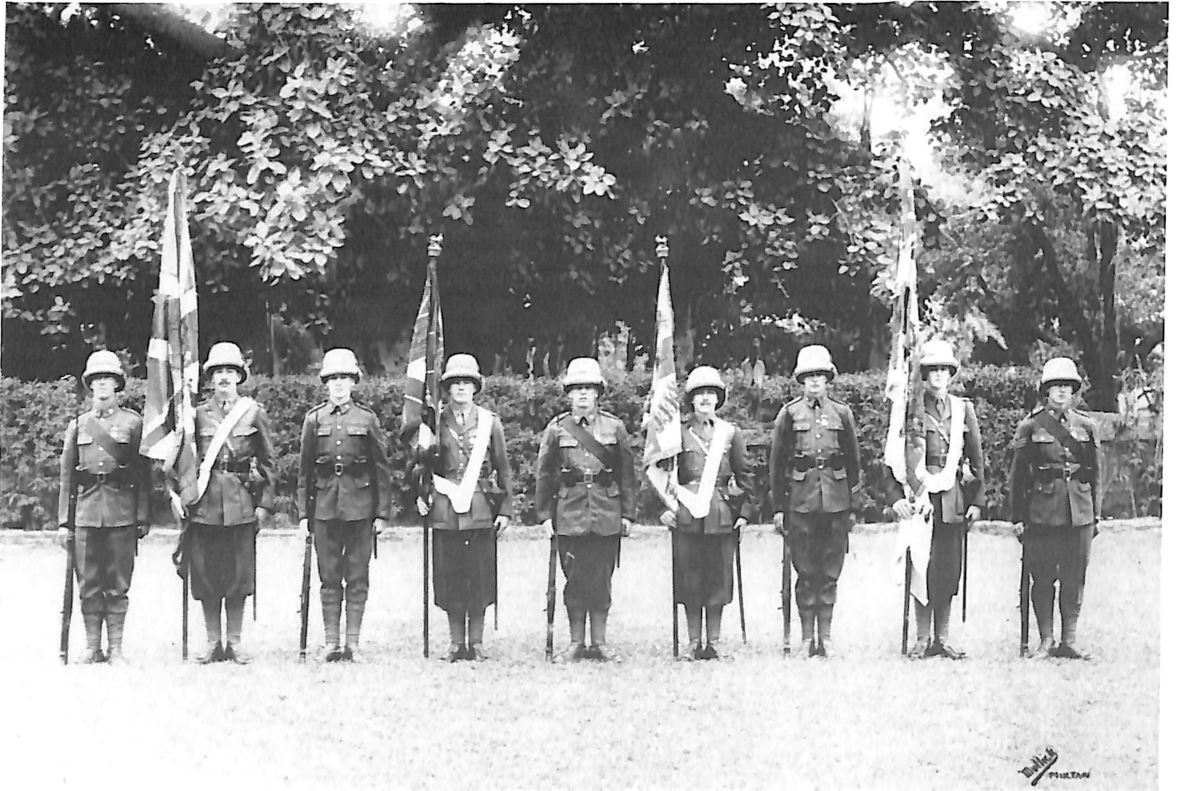
Proclamation Day in Multan: 1939

On 1 January 1878 Queen Victoria was proclaimed Empress of India. Thereafter, on each 1 January, parades were held in the military garrisons throughout India to commemorate the occasion. The 2nd Battalion had arrived in Multan (located about 200 miles south west of Lahore), at the end of 1937. The photograph shows the Colour party that took part in the Proclamation Day parade on 1 January 1939. They are, from left to right:

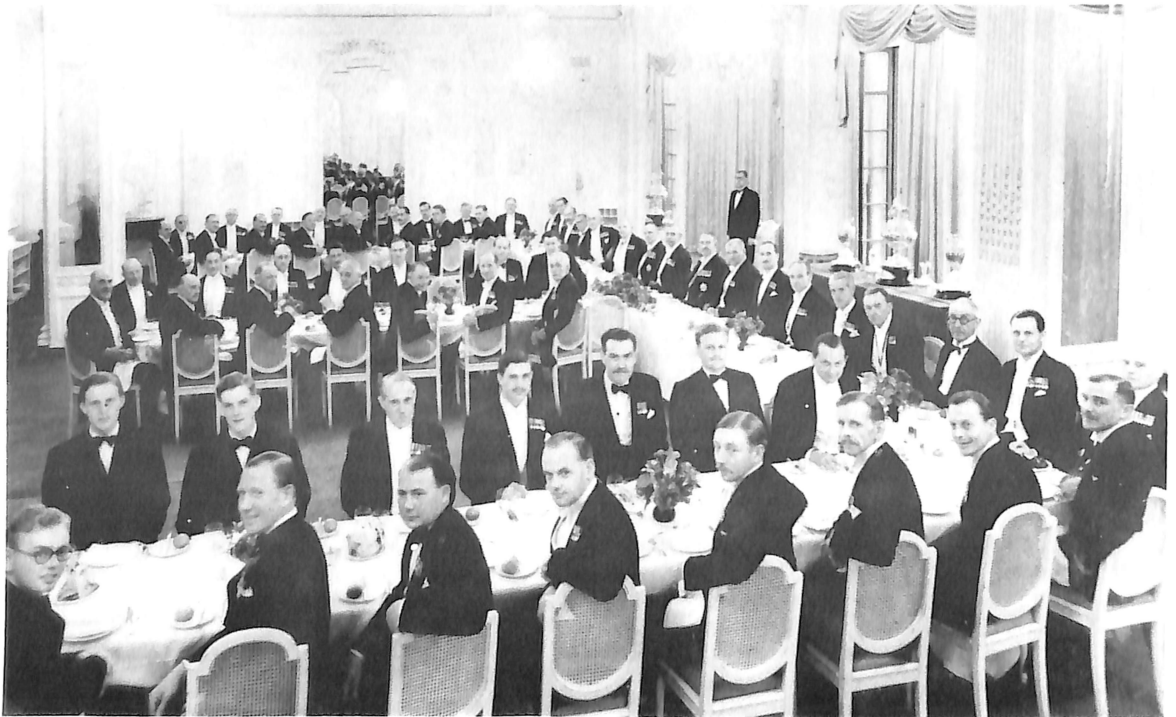
Sergeant P. Stafford; 2nd Lieutenant R. H. Burton; Lance Corporal E. Davis; Lieutenant C. J. MacLaren; Colour Sergeant G. Foster; 2nd Lieutenant D. S. D. Jones-Stamp; Private J. Redfern; 2nd Lieutenant A. C. S. Savory; Sergeant J. Hird.

The officers dinner in London: 1950

The 48th annual dinner was held at the Hyde Park Hotel on 2 June 1950. General Sir Philip Christison presided and sixty two officers attended. The hotel remained the venue for the dinner until 1972, when it was decided to move to the Army and Navy Club. Most officers are wearing evening dress, only a few are in dinner jackets. Permission to wear miniature medals with a dinner jacket had only recently been granted. "White tie and tails" continued to be worn by some for a number of years, but eventually the dinner jacket prevailed.



Proclamation Day in India: 1939.



The officers' dinner in London: 1950.

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: Mrs. R. Woolley, Bute Terrace, 8 Smith House Lane, Brighouse, HD6 2JY.

Halifax: 8.00 p.m. second Tuesday of each month at the WOs & Sgts Mess, The Drill Hall, Prescott Street, Halifax.

Secretary: Mr. P. R. Taylor, 55 Grove Avenue, Ovenden, Halifax, HX3 5QY.

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 Thursday of each month at Boothy's Public House, Low Mill Lane, Keighley.

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

London: 1996 meetings on 28 January and 22 June at the Union Jack Club, near Waterloo Station, London, at 12.00 noon.

Secretary: Mr. K. Jagger, 26 Digby Road, Barking, Essex, IG11 9PU.

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. M. Bell, 39 Western Road, Skipton, BD23 2RU.

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 Yorkshire, WF14 0EW.

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

8th Battalion (145 Regiment) RAC. *Secretary:* Major F. B. Murgatroyd, Millcrest, 3 Fulwith Mill Lane, Harrogate, HG2 8HT.

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

* * * * *

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

a. Waterloo weekend visit to 1st Battalion, 15/16 June 1996.

The 1st Battalion has extended an invitation to all ex-members of the Regiment and their partners to visit it in Weeton Barracks over the weekend 15/16 June. Details of the weekend have been sent to everyone on the RHQ mailing list. Anyone who has not received a copy, but may wish to attend, should contact RHQ as soon as possible.

b. OCA Reunion Dinner and Regimental Service, York Minster.

This year's reunion dinner and dance will again take place in Bradford on Saturday 5 October 1996. The Regimental Service in York will take place on Saturday 2 November. Details on both events will be posted in August. (N.B. The Regimental Service was unintentionally omitted from the Regimental Calendar.)

c. 6 DWR Annual Dinner

The 6th Battalion will hold their annual dinner in the Devonshire Hotel, Skipton, on Saturday 21 September 1996.

d. 9 DWR (146 Regiment) RAC Reunion Lunch

The 9th Battalion will hold their 49th reunion, which will take the form of a lunch in the Golden Lion Hotel, Leeds, on Tuesday 1 October 1996.

OLD COMRADES VISIT TO THE 3rd BATTALION

On Saturday 17 February 1996 about fifty members of the OCA accepted an invitation to visit the Headquarters of the 3rd Battalion in Endcliffe Hall, Sheffield. The visit included a display of the battalion's equipment and weapons, an introduction and a shoot on the latest laser small arms trainer, a most interesting tour of Endcliffe Hall and a buffet in the WOs and Sergeants Mess.

MR NORMAN BOOTH

Mr Norman Booth, of Golcar, recently celebrated his 100th birthday. Mr Booth joined the 1/7th Battalion TF in 1912. In 1915 the 1,000 strong battalion was sent to France with 147 Brigade of the 49 (West Riding) Division. Very many lost their lives in the battles of the Somme and Ypres. Mr Booth is the last regimental survivor of those terrible days. He was demobbed in 1918. He rejoined the Territorials the following year and served until 1925.

THE ROYAL HOSPITAL, CHELSEA: MR S. F. SWIFT

Mr S. F. Swift, who was recently widowed and is now 84 years of age, has been admitted as an In Pensioner to the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. Mr Swift enlisted into the Regiment in 1930. He served in the 1st, 2nd and 2nd/7th Battalions before transferring to

the 5th Inniskilling Dragoon Guards in 1942. He retired in 1954 in the rank of WO2.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS/*NEW SUBSCRIBERS

* Mr B. Alim, 5418 Waycross Drive, Alexandria, Va. 22310, USA.

* Mr G. Holmes, Lyvennet, 37 Ridgeway Road, Bracebridge Heath, Lincoln, LN4 2LH.

* Mr N. R. Armitage, 11 Aireworth Grove, Stockbridge, Keighley, West Yorkshire.

* Mr P. Laws, 7 Albion Place, Thornton, Bradford, BD13 3QA.

Mr P. Taylor, 55 Grove Avenue, Ovenden, Halifax, HX3 5QY.

Mr J. H. Brocklehurst MM, 56 Stormont Way, Chessington, Surrey, KT9 2QN.

* Mr J. M. Humphrey, 7 Manor Place, Benton, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE7 7XR.

* Mr D. Knowles, 68 Skipton Road, Silsden, Keighley, BD20 8TT.

Mr S. Johnston, 2 Rochester Road, Carshalton, Surrey 2LB.

Mr T. Terry, 31 Dunstanburgh Road, St Anthony's Estate, Walker, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE6 2PU.

* Mr G. A. Waterhouse, 1 Allerton Close, Allerton, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD15 7PS.

* Mr A. Ellison, 3 Merlin Court, Keighley, West Yorkshire, BD21 1PS.

* Mr J. P. Collins, 85 Hull Road, Withernsea, East Yorkshire, HU19 2EE.

* Dr H. J. T. Steers, Consul General of the USA, Yekaterinburg, Russia.



Some of the visitors to Endcliffe Hall on 17 February 1996.



On a visit to Malta Mr S. Thompson, of the Sheffield branch, accompanied by Messrs Mick Wilks and Doug Mailford, took time out to give the backing to the Regimental badge a new coat of red paint.

Obituaries

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

Colonel P. G. L. Cousens CBE

Pat Cousens died on 1 November 1995, aged 83.

He was commissioned into the Regiment from Sandhurst and joined the 1st Battalion, in Malta, in 1934. There were opportunities for all forms of sport and Pat, who was a good all round games player, soon became a member of the Battalion's polo team. In 1936 the team won the Tunis Cup against eight other teams. In 1937 he applied to join the Sudan Defence Force, in the meantime studying for an interpretership in Italian.

In 1938 he arrived in the Sudan and was posted to The Eastern Arab Corps, one of the four corps, each of about battalion strength, which then formed the Sudan Defence Force (SDF). When Italy entered the war most of the SDF moved up to the border with Abyssinia, which was then occupied by Italy. At the same time each of the Corps recruited an additional company. The Eastern Arab Corps' new company was designated Banda Bakra, command of which was given to Pat. As the war progressed a composite battalion was formed consisting of two companies of the Eastern Arab Corps, including Pat's company, and two companies of the Camel Corps. For two years they guarded the frontier between Gallabat and Roseires. One of its more conspicuous successes was at Chilga, a fortress garrisoned by a force of brigade strength. The officer commanding the battalion decided that there was a chance that the Italian commander might be persuaded to surrender. The task was given to Pat, who, apart from speaking fluent Italian, was also fluent in Arabic and Swahili. Impressively dressed, mounted on the finest mule and accompanied by two attendants, one with a white flag, he entered the fort. He returned at nightfall with signed conditions of surrender, having persuaded the Italian commander that the SDF force was far larger than in fact it was.

In 1944 Pat was posted to the 1st Battalion, which was then fighting in Italy, on the Gothic Line. By VE Day he was back in the UK, prior to a year with the Commission in Italy. Then followed postings to the 1st Battalion in Yorkshire and a period on the staff in Germany. In 1949 he returned to the Sudan, this time in command of the Camel Corps. A further spell at the War Office was followed by a tour in Mauritius with the King's African Rifles between 1957 and 1958. His next appointment was as Military Attache in Rome. From 1962 he commanded the Advanced Base, near Antwerp, before retiring in 1964.

Following his retirement he was, for some years, secretary of the Army Ski Association. He was always a keen golfer and several times represented the Regiment in inter-regiment competitions. Pat was a kind and modest man, who in thirty five years service spent thirty of them overseas.

Major D. G. Massey TD

David Massey died on 15 December 1995 aged 49 years.

David was commissioned into 3 Yorks (V) in 1971. He served a tour as a subaltern with 1 DWR in 1974/75, in Aldershot, Northern Ireland and Cyprus, before returning to 3 Yorks (V). He eventually became second in command of 3 Yorks (V) and subsequently commander of the Home Service Force detachment in Huddersfield until his retirement in 1992.

David Massey will be remembered as a 'larger than life' character by his many friends in the Dukes and Yorkshire Volunteers.

Mr H. Randall MBE

Harry Randall died at Poole, Dorset on 16 December 1995, aged 77.

With almost six years in the appointment, "Big Harry", as he was affectionately known, was the longest serving Regimental Sergeant Major with the 1st Battalion since the second world war and his tall guardsman-like figure and strong sense of discipline made him one of the most impressive. Harry Randall first enlisted in the Coldstream Guards in 1935, with whom he served in the United Kingdom, Egypt and Palestine during the troubles of 1936 and 1937. His transfer to the 2nd Battalion Black Watch in June 1939 resulted in further service in Palestine and in Egypt, Aden, British Somaliland, Libya and Greece, where he was taken prisoner by the Germans in 1941. He remained a prisoner of war in camps in Germany and Poland until released in April 1945. Discharged from the army in July 1946 he did not settle in civilian life and re-enlisted into the Parachute Regiment in April 1947. After service in Germany and promotion to sergeant, he left the army once more in April 1950 only to re-enlist in August of the same year. He joined 1 DWR at Strensall and on being regranted his previous rank he became the Provost Sergeant, with rapid promotion to Colour Sergeant and then Company Sergeant Major of 'C' Company in November 1951. In this appointment he served in Chisleton, Minden, Korea and Gibraltar. He was reported as being a "tower of strength" in the company during this period, particularly in Korea. Having left the 1st Battalion on promotion in July 1956 he was recalled as Regimental Sergeant Major in September of that year. Thereafter he served with the Battalion in Cyprus, Northern Ireland, Brentwood and Colchester with two emergency tours in Kenya as part of the Strategic Reserve.

Although a strict disciplinarian, Harry Randall had a very strong sense of humour and a wealth of funny

stories, many of which related to his experiences as a prisoner of war. A keen supporter of all battalion sporting activities he was particularly eager that soccer should thrive and that the Battalion team should do well in army competitions. "Big Harry" was a man with a character and personality to match. Both military and socially he made an immense contribution to the life and reputation of the 1st Battalion during his time with the Regiment.

On leaving the army Harry continued his travels as a security officer for the Foreign Office at a series of our embassies throughout the world. On retirement from that job Harry and his wife Margaret lived in Kyrenia for some years, but moved to Poole about two years ago to be near their son Michael when Harry became ill.



RSM H. Randall MBE

Mr F. Myers

Frank Myers died on 9 February 1996, aged 82 years.

Frank enlisted into the Dukes in February 1932. He completed his basic training at the Depot in Halifax before being posted to the 1st Battalion at Mandora Barracks, Aldershot. In December 1932 he sailed with the Battalion to Malta, where he was a signaller in 'A' Company. He returned with the Battalion to Bordon, Hants in 1938, and to the Depot in 1939.

Throughout his service in the Dukes, Frank was a very keen sportsman, representing both the Depot and the 1st Battalion in soccer, boxing and athletics.

In 1940 Frank volunteered and joined the Commandos with whom he served throughout the second world war, including in Madagascar, India and Burma. He was demobilised in February 1946.

The funeral service took place in Barnsley on 16 February 1996.

The following have also died during recent months:

Mr M. Swailes

Mick Swailes died on 9 January 1996. He served in the 1st Battalion from 1950-53, in Minden and Korea.

Mr P. Williamson

Peter Williamson died on 3 December 1995, aged 57. He served in the 1st Battalion from 1956-58. He was a member of the Special Operations Platoon during the EOKA campaign in Cyprus and subsequently served in Northern Ireland.

Colonel C. Robinson OBE, MC

Charles Robinson, who died recently at the age of 83, saw service in North West Europe with 600 Regiment RA (DWR). The Regiment was originally the 5th Battalion The Duke of Wellington's Regiment TA. He was awarded the MC for his leadership and bravery in an action on the outskirts of Dunkirk, as the allies pushed the Germans out of France and Holland.

Dr P. Hewlings DSO

Dr Pat Hewlings died on 19 January 1995. He was commissioned into the RAMC in 1939. When France capitulated he was evacuated and posted to a battalion of the Regiment. He was awarded the DSO for the part his field ambulance played in the crossing of the Rhine in 1945.

Mr H. Simpson

Henry Simpson died on 21 January 1996, aged 82 years. He joined the Territorial Army before the second world war. He served with the 1/7th Battalion throughout the war, including in Iceland and North West Europe. He was awarded the DCM in 1945.

Mr F. Lightowler

Frank Lightowler died on 31 December 1995, aged 76. Frank served with the 2/6th Battalion in France and in the Recce Platoon of the 2nd Battalion in the Chindit operations in 1944.

Mrs D. M. B. Davidson

Dorothy Davidson, the widow of Colonel J. Davidson, died on 24 April 1996.

Officers' Location List

as at 1 April 1996

Colonels

A. D. Meek, Comdt ITC Wales

Lieutenant Colonels

D. M. Santa-Olalla DSO, MC, SO 1 (DS) Staff College

N. St. J. Hall, CO 1 DWR

M. J. Stone, CO 1 Bn ITC Catterick

A. H. S. Drake MBE, CO 3 DWR

S. C. Newton MBE, SOI UN Trg Adv Gp CATAC

Majors

J. C. Bailey, 1 DWR

P. R. S. Bailey, 2i/c 1 DWR

N. G. Borwell, HQ 3 (UK) Div

D. S. Bruce, COS HQ 39 Infantry Brigade

C. G. Fitzgerald, OC RSC Winchester

R. N. Goodwin, HQ Land

C. F. Grieve MBE, 3 DWR

R. C. Holroyd, 1 DWR

G. A. Kilburn MBE, HQ ARRC

C. S. T. Lehmann, DNBC Centre

P. M. Lewis, 1 DWR

M. A. Lodge, 4 KORBR

P. M. Morgan, MOD (DAR)

D. I. Richardson, JSDC

M. S. Sherlock, PSO CRLS East

G. D. Shuttleworth, 1 Kings

Captains

A. J. Adams, HQ 7 Armd Bde

R. N. Chadwick, HQ 1 (UK) Armd Div

R. J. Douthwaite, 1 DWR

B. J. T. Faithfull, 1 DWR (HQ 160 (Wales) Bde 0896)

P. R. Fox, HQ 3 Inf Bde

J. C. Mayo, 1 DWR

D. P. Monteith, 1 DWR

W. T. Mundell, ITC Catterick (1 DWR 0496)

M. D. Norman, RMAS

R. C. O'Connor, 1 DWR

S. C. Pinder, 1 DWR

J. M. Purcell, 3 DWR

S. B. Stewart, CTC RM

T. G. Vallings, 1 DWR

M. G. Wolff, 1 DWR

N. M. B. Wood, 1 DWR

Subalterns

J. R. Bryden, ATR (Glencorse)

J. W. Charlesworth, 1 DWR

T. G. Golding, 1 DWR

C. P. B. Langlands Pearse, 1 DWR

A. J. Liddle, 1 DWR

D. J. J. Kirk, 1 DWR

G. A. M. Purcell, 1 DWR

N. P. Rhodes, 1 DWR

S. Richardson, 1 DWR

J. E. Townhill, OC 124 AYT

J. F. C. Vitoria, ITC Catterick

Late Entry Officers

Major P. Wilkinson, OC KDRT (Yorks)

Major B. W. Sykes MBE, QM 1 DWR

Captain P. M. Ennis, QM (T) 1 DWR

Lieutenant R. M. Pierce, MTO 1 DWR

Notification of change of address on assuming a new appointment

Officers, warrant officers and sergeants who assume a new appointment, which involves a change of address, are requested to notify the Chief Clerk, RHQ DWR, Wellesley Park, Halifax, HX2 0BA, by completing the following:

No..... Rank.....

Name & Initials

Posted from

To

New Address

.....

.....

With effect from