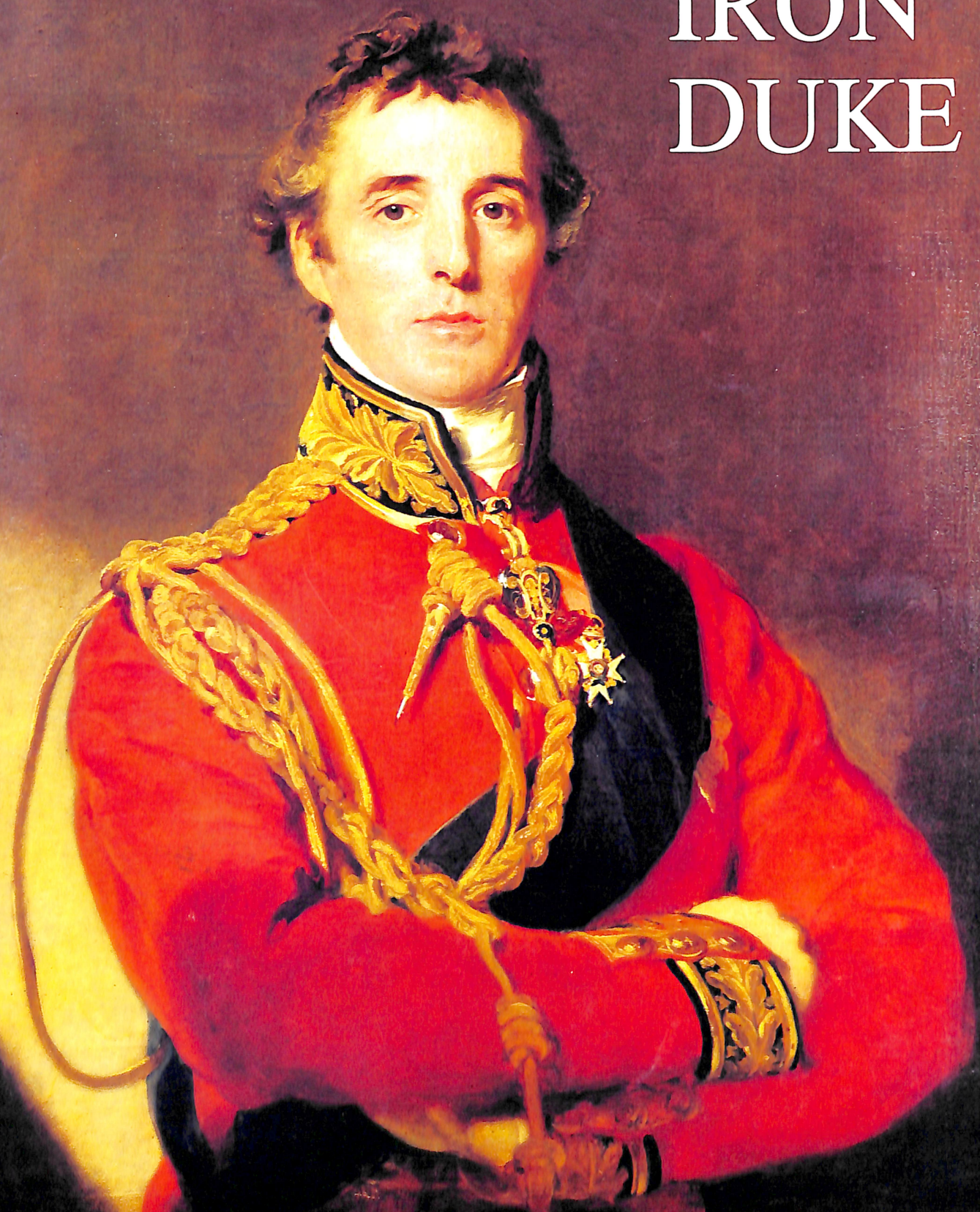


WINTER 1997
No. 235

THE IRON DUKE



THE IRON DUKE

The Regimental Journal of

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S REGIMENT

(WEST RIDING)

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



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

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Winter 1997

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BUSINESS NOTES

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The opinions expressed in the articles of the journal are those of the
authors and do not necessarily reflect the policy and view, official or
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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 S. C. Newton, MBE

Adjutant: Captain T. G. Vallings

Regimental Sergeant Major: WO1 A. J. Sutcliffe

3rd Battalion

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

Honorary Colonel: General Sir Michael Walker, KCB, CBE, ADC Gen

Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Colonel A. H. S. Drake, MBE

Adjutant: Captain J. C. Mayo

Regimental Sergeant Major: WO1 A. Pigg

ARMY CADET FORCE - DWR

Yorkshire (North & West)

D Company Detachments
OC: Major P. Cole

Halifax	Spennithorne	Mirfield	Thongsbridge
Huddersfield	Keighley	Skipton	

Humberside and South Yorkshire

C Company Detachments
OC: Major B. Bradford
D Company Detachments
OC: Major T. Scrivens

Barnsley	Thurcroft	Wombwell
Darfield	Wath on Dearne	
Birdwell	Endcliffe	

COMBINED CADET FORCE - DWR

Giggleswick School CCF

CO: Lieut. Col. N. J. Mussett

Leeds Grammar School CCF

CO: Squadron Leader R. Hill

Wellington College CCF

CO: Lieut. Commander J. J. Hutchinson

ALLIED REGIMENT OF THE CANADIAN ARMY

Les Voltigeurs de Quebec

*Manège Militaire,
Grande-Allée,
Quebec, Canada.*

Honorary Colonels: Colonel Marcel Jobin, CM, CQ
Lieutenant Colonel André Desmarais
Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Colonel Claude Pichette, CD

ALLIED REGIMENT OF THE PAKISTAN ARMY

10th Bn The Baluch Regiment

*Sialkot Cantonment,
Pakistan.*

Colonel: Brigadier Ajaz Hussain Shah SI(M)
Commanding Officer: Lieutenant Colonel Tasadduq Hussain Zahid

AFFILIATED SHIPS OF THE ROYAL NAVY

H.M.S. Iron Duke

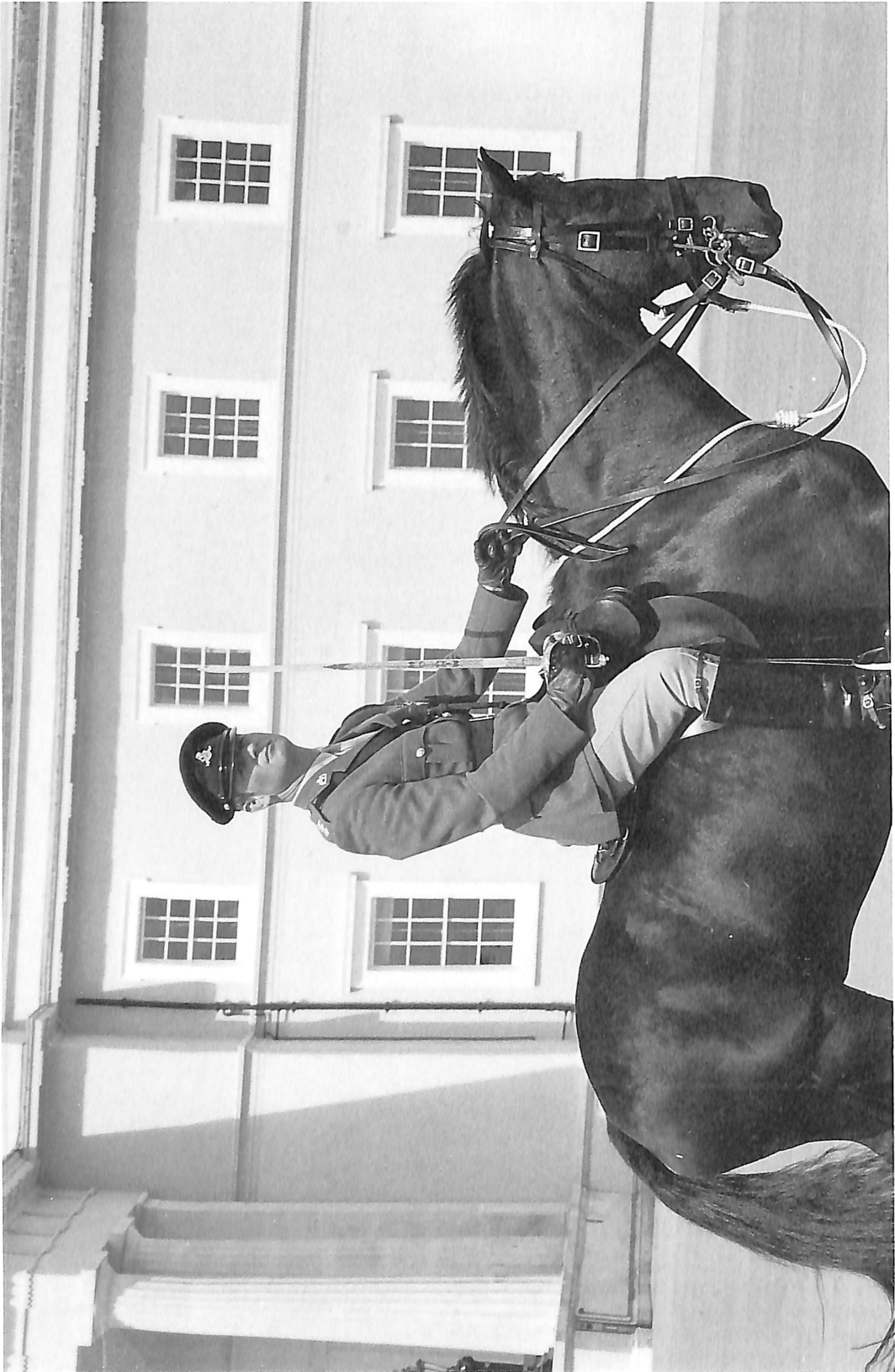
BFPO 309

Commander C. J. Bryning, BSc, RN

H.M.S. Sheffield

BFPO 383

Commander C. J. Hamp, BSc, RN



Captain R. J. Douthwaite, Adjutant, Old College, mounted on India for a TA Commissioning Parade at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

Regimental Headquarters

Regimental Notes

OFFICERS' DINNER

The annual Officers' Dinner was held at the Army and Navy Club, Pall Mall, London, on Friday 4 July 1997. The Colonel-in-Chief presided and 76 officers were present. General Sir Roger Wheeler GCB, CBE, ADC Gen, Chief of the General Staff, and Lieutenant General Scott Grant CB, Commandant of the Royal College of Defence Studies and Commandant of The King's Division, were the guests.

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

After many years in the appointment, Brigadier Dennis Shuttleworth has stood down as Vice President of the Regimental Association. He has been succeeded by Brigadier Johnny Walker.

KOREA 1952-1953

In 1950 North Korea invaded South Korea. As a result of a United Nations' decision to support the United States in resisting the North Korean attack, the 1st Commonwealth Division was formed of British, Australian and Canadian troops. Our 1st Battalion joined the Division at the end of 1952 and was soon in the front line. There, on the night of 28/29 May 1953, the Chinese, who were supporting the North Koreans, launched a fierce attack on a position called the Hook, which the 1st Battalion was then holding. The battle raged all night, but eventually the Chinese attack was thrown back. In the words of the Brigade Commander: "The attack on the Hook was the worst in all my experience. The Dukes did all I asked. They held the Hook."

In addition to the Battle Honour "The Hook 1953", the Regiment was also awarded the Honour "Korea 1952-1953".

45th ANNIVERSARY - SATURDAY 30 MAY 1998

The Regiment is planning to mark the 45th anniversary of the Battle of The Hook and the Korean War. This will take place on Saturday 30 May 1998 in Halifax, with a reception in the Town Hall, a service in the Parish Church, the laying of a wreath at the town cenotaph and a lunch function at the Stakis Hotel, Bradford.

Details will be circulated in the new year to all Association members and Korean Veterans that we have on our records.

The success of the day will depend heavily on bringing together as many Dukes' Korean Veterans as can be found. Many of those who served in Korea were National Servicemen and have lost contact with the Regiment. Any reader who knows of a Duke who served in Korea and whose details may not be known at RHQ, is asked to pass on their name and address to RHQ.

FROM THE EDITOR: THE IRON DUKE - A LIVING HISTORY

As some readers will know, I intend to make The Iron Duke rather more of a living history than it is at present.

To this end, I am keen that those who served in World War 2, or in the various conflicts which have taken place since then, should have the opportunity to record their memories or experiences for publication.

If publication in The Iron Duke is not appropriate, the material recorded could still become a valuable addition to the Regimental archive.

If, like most of us, you do not find it easy to put your thoughts on paper, we have people who would gladly sit down with you and write up your story. All you need to do is to telephone your Regimental Association Branch Secretary, or Major Bob Heron at RHQ, or me in Farnborough, and one of us will make the necessary arrangements.

With your cooperation, we could not only make The Iron Duke more interesting, but also provide future historians with a valuable additional source of first-hand information.

We look forward to hearing from you.

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THE STATE OF THE REALM

Brigadier Michael Bray is both Chief Executive of The Honourable Artillery Company and Editor of The Honourable Artillery Company Journal. He has kindly given us his permission to publish the Editorial which he wrote for the Autumn 1997 edition of the latter.

* * * * *

As I started work on this issue of the *Journal* I was finishing a remarkable book, the *Politics of Hope* by Jonathan Sachs. If it is permissible to assert that those committed to the defence of the Realm must also be concerned about the state of it, then you should read this book.

Starting from the generally held view that our society is in a worrying state of moral decline, Jonathan Sachs analyses why this is, most persuasively. He is refreshingly loath to criticise governments, of the left or right, that have over the past fifty years tackled the challenge of running a modern democratic society, but he maintains they have all failed. What has been proved is that neither the removal of social responsibility from the individual and giving it to the State (traditional socialist policy) nor giving the individual freedom to find his own way (Hayek/Thatcherite philosophy), provides a solution. Jonathan Sachs says that we must have strong family life, good schools and a whole raft of voluntary bodies and social groupings that fill the gap between State and individual, setting the standards and guiding the behaviour of society.

Our great mistake in the 1960s was, according to Sachs, to become confused between liberalism and libertarianism. The right of the individual to pursue his own choices was put before the needs of the society. Thus the family unit was thought of as old hat and well tried methods of education were abandoned. Theories can easily be constructed to suggest that when partners get into difficulty they should separate and try again elsewhere but what of the effect on the children? In theory, children in schools given freedom from discipline and imposed learning might develop into free and exciting spirits, but the experiment has failed.

As I pondered his conclusions, Princess Diana was killed and at the end of an extraordinary week, I write just after her funeral. Looking beyond the immediate emotion and drama is not easy to do but I have some optimism that Princess Diana may have enhanced the status of our Monarchy despite the disruption brought to the Royal Family by a failed marriage and many consequential difficulties.

In the 1900s, Monarchy has too often been portrayed as an anachronism in a modern democracy and hence there has been an increasing tendency to undermine it. As with the traditional family and the traditional school, this is a fundamental error if, as is the case, despite its shortcomings, there is nothing better to put in its place. There is no evidence from anywhere else in the world that a presidential system would suit this country better

than our Monarchy. The arguments for each are well rehearsed, and will not be here, but Princess Diana was a Royal, most certainly this last week the "Queen of Hearts" and not by any wild stretch of the imagination can we suppose that the estranged daughter-in-law of a president (himself a temporary appointee of variable merit and status) would be such a powerful influence for good, whatever her merits. Princess Diana has proved the remarkable strength of feeling of the people of Britain for their Monarchy.

Earl Spencer, with his powerful address, focused a spotlight on an important issue. What of the press in the Diana tragedy? This is a complex matter and it is easy to make a circular argument: if we didn't buy the papers, editors would not print the photographs and the paparazzi would not get paid, but this is too simplistic. The media have enormous influence; they do not merely follow public opinion, they create it. They have an essential role in a democracy of investigating and exposing abuses of power but that was not their function in this case. In their "hounding" of Princess Diana and more generally in their promotion of an anti-Monarchist debate, they are undermining it and making a very difficult job nearly impossible. The Monarchy is the most important institution that inhabits the void, identified by Sachs, between Government and people. It should not be destroyed when there is nothing better to replace it. The media has acted irresponsibly; no-one put their position better than Baldwin as long ago as 1930, when referring to the press, he said ".... power without responsibility is the prerogative of the harlot throughout the ages."

Princess Diana in her life demonstrated the importance of the Monarchy being human and in touch with the people but her contribution should in no way blind us to the fact that many other members of the Royal Family have contributed as much, or more, to charity, and similar work, but without the same sensational publicity, magnified by her tragic end. In her death she has demonstrated the unique advantage this country has in its Monarchy, and that the public does not expect the members of the Royal Family to be perfect so long as their hearts are in the right place.

Every country has families and schools and people of all nations must nurture them as the basis for morality in society, but only our country has its unique Monarchy, and all those who have undertaken to "defend the realm" should protect it, at least by the pen and the tongue if not by the sword.

M. R. N. B.

1st Battalion

Commanding Officer's Introduction

At the time of writing (October '97) the Battalion is widely dispersed around the world, with companies in the Falklands and the Oman, and with platoons in Northern Ireland and Cyprus. I recently visited our companies in the Falklands and the Oman and it is a testament to the versatility and professionalism of our soldiers that we can have companies, with little preparatory training, working simultaneously 5,000 miles apart and at different ends of the climatic range (-15° and +51°C respectively!).

After our move to London in February next year we shall again be busy carrying out our share of ceremonial duties in the capital and in Windsor. However, we shall also be conducting a full military training programme, which will include a company exercise in Belize and platoons training in Poland, Canada and Kenya. We are also tasked to be the Support Regiment for the Royal Tournament at Earls Court next summer! I am confident our programme has a sustainable and rewarding balance of ceremonial, military training and travel.

The Battalion is currently 42 over strength, although there is no room for complacency; other regiments are now beginning to recruit with increasing efficiency in the same pool and unemployment continues to reduce (which impacts both on recruiting and retention). To meet the challenge we are moving the Regimental

Recruiting Team to Huddersfield in December from where they will coordinate all recruiting activity. Recruiting in the late 1990s requires modern and imaginative techniques which relate to the target audience - for example, some 1,200 school children from West and South Yorkshire will have passed through the gates of Weeton this year on one-day "Look at Life" visits.

The Armed Services are currently involved in the Government's Strategic Defence Review, which is seeking to match military capability (size, equipment, readiness, grouping etc) to the needs of the nation in the 21st century. The Review will also examine all areas of how we go about our business in peacetime and the changes needed to keep in step with the society in which we now live. I make no suggestions as to the outcome, however we must be prepared to embrace further change in the future, especially to our terms of service and working practices - many of which may be long overdue modernisation.

As a trial, we have changed the format of the 1st Battalion's contribution to the Iron Duke, aimed at making articles more informative and removing repetition. Although only a small change to the way we have traditionally presented ourselves, it may be a sign of things to come!

WATERLOO COMPANY

The Falkland Islands Tour

As part of the Operational Tour Plot the Battalion was tasked to provide the Falkland Islands Reinforced Infantry Company (FIRIC) from July - November 1997. So Waterloo Company was re-formed on 23 June 1997, after seven years' suspended animation following the last Falkland Island tour conducted by the Battalion. On that occasion the company was commanded by a certain Major S. C. Newton; what goes around comes around! Some 190 personnel were drawn from Alma, Somme and Hook Companies and were bolstered by eight individuals from the 3rd Battalion keen to see some more soldiering.

The company comprised three rifle platoons, the Recce Platoon, a support weapons platoon from Mortars and Milan and a large echelon slice to provide the much-required G4 back-up. This was a fairly substantial manpower bill at a time when the Battalion was faced with a great many other commitments. In addition, at the last hour, OC Alma Company, Major Phil Lewis, was posted to CGS' Staff and Major Nigel Goodwin was tasked to fill the breach and swap the joys of Canada for a South Atlantic winter.

Following pre-tour training and two weeks' leave, the move "down south" began on 1 July 1997 when the Advance Party headed off to Brize Norton for an eighteen hour flight via Ascension. Slowly adding extra

layers of clothing, it arrived at a snow covered Mount Pleasant Airfield (MPA) located, rather amusingly, in the middle of nowhere. Following several days of hand-over the main body arrived a day late after stopping over in Montevideo. The take-over from 'A' Company 1 RGR was successful and the Company was formally operational on 10 July 1997.

The role of the FIRIC is to dominate the surrounding area around MPA in order to keep the runway open should "anyone" wish to close it down. In addition, it is tasked to patrol the islands to reassure the locals, to familiarise its soldiers with the ground and to demonstrate HMG's commitment to the islands. Most readers will be familiar with the joys of Brecon; the Falkland Islands are rather similar, but without the exciting night life. In essence it is Wales with attitude. A rugged, rocky outcrop covered in coarse tundra, rock runs and dominated by some harsh hilly features; St Tropez it is not. Located some 36 kms south west of Stanley, MPA offers some excellent facilities. Fully-equipped gym, Olympic sized pool, cinema and several clubs and bars, it is everything that the RAF could want. Unfortunately, the role of the Company and the high level of training activity meant most soldiers rarely had the opportunity to see, let alone use these facilities. The weather initially was fairly miserable and Sergeants Bramwell and Miller were tasked to conduct a hasty

winter warfare cadre for all. The skills learnt in Norway on our AMF deployments in the early '90s were thus brushed off and applied, successfully preventing any cold weather injuries. Platoons were rotated through a five week cycle of live firing, QRF, settlement patrols, platoon training, guard/duties. All, less the latter, were located away from MPA. The live firing was based in the most remote range complex ever seen. High in the hills, Onion Range is a series of portacabins set in the middle of a bowl and surrounded by mountains. As a result, platoons and the company had the opportunity to plan and conduct realistic and demanding training. The only limitations were the obvious safety considerations and our own imaginations. It was universally agreed that this was the best field firing that any member of the company had been involved in.

Meanwhile, our patrols across the islands were making contact with the locals, who seemed pleased to meet Yorkshiremen and discuss football etc. The Gurkhas, however popular, had not been up to date on the latest Premiership transfer market, nor indeed knew that Barnsley were now amongst the top flight. Probably the most popular of the five activities, patrolling allowed everyone the opportunity to see more of the islands and witness the hard lives that people lead here. Help was offered in return for brews and the chance to sleep in a barn and so the soldiers were engaged in mending fences and moving peat - some may claim it was a pre-release course!

The pace of life was hectic from the start. In addition to training, the Company found time to organise two open days. CSM Cooper and his team produced stands that could have graced the Royal Tournament, including the Recce Platoon's two-man Belly Hide and a sub-

surface OP built inside a hangar. In sport we were determined to demonstrate the Infantry's prowess. Since the weather forbade any outside sport all the competitions took place in the gym. Although we inherited an excellent position from the Gurkhas in the MPA sports competition (1st), we managed to seal victory in the remaining events and carried off the Theatre Trophy.

Half way through the tour and the pace appears relentless. Having hosted the Recce Party from 1 PWRR, the RSM and the CO, the Company deployed on the culmination of our live firing - Exercise Purple Strike, a week-long tri-service exercise which is described elsewhere.

Looking forward, the Company now has some six weeks to complete. Exercise Cape Petrel will take a week of that and we host visits by the Parachute Company from ATR Lichfield, conducting a series of battlefield tours, the Colonel of the Regiment, the Normandy Band and finally members of the Drums Platoon. To date the Company has had a demanding, yet rewarding time. The level of activity has been high and much training has been achieved. In addition, we have had the opportunity to see at first hand what the other arms and services get up to and, more importantly, we have managed to get individuals away to experience the full spectrum of activities. Saying that, to a man we are all looking forward to getting back to Weeton.

Sniper Training in the Falklands

Captain Tim Mundell and Corporal Stephen Blake organized a successful Sniper Cadre during the tour, making full use of the terrain and excellent live firing facilities.



Sniper Cadre '97

**Back row: Private Lee, Private Lunn, Corporal Clegg, Private Billington.
Front row: Private Kitson, Corporal Blake, Captain Mundell, Private Foster.**

Exercise Purple Strike

During the recent deployment to the Falkland Islands, Waterloo Company participated in Exercise Purple Strike which lasted over the period 22-27 September 1997. This was a theatre level, joint live firing exercise co-ordinated by the HQ British Forces Falkland Islands operations land cell, in which Captain James Purcell played a large role. Despite having lived in a 'purple' environment for three months, this was, for most members of Waterloo Company, the first opportunity they had had in seeing the other services at work. This exercise was also the culmination of all company live firing and conventional training. In this respect it was to test the Company Group in its role, including all aspects of logistic planning and resupply.

The exercise started with Recce Platoon and 2 Platoon embarking on HMS Leeds Castle and moving from Mare Harbour to the Falklands Sound. Recce Platoon was then crossed decked after last light onto a landing craft and inserted into the Port Howard area, which is on West Falkland. Whilst Recce Platoon carried out close target reconnaissance on the enemy positions, the rest of the Company carried out rehearsals for the forthcoming beach landings. So far the exercise troops had been very lucky with the weather, the sea state had been calm and there had been no hint of rain. This meant that when D Day came the landing troops who had secured the beachhead were relatively dry.

Once the Company had established a beachhead it was then time to start the live firing. There was a total of five enemy objectives in the Port Howard area. Each deliberate attack was fortunate to have fighter ground attack, naval gun support and our own Mortars in fire support. The platoons were worked hard with attack after attack until the Port Howard area was clear of any menacing figure 11 targets!

On completion of this, Recce Platoon was moved by Chinook to Onion Range on East Falkland to carry out recce of the final enemy positions. The following day the rest of the Company moved to Onion Range and dug in. The culmination of the two company attacks was Milan being flown in to take out an armoured threat in depth of the final objective. They scored a direct hit with the missile.

The exercise was an excellent opportunity for Waterloo Company to work in a tri-service environment within a general war scenario. Waterloo Company took this opportunity to show to all those who came and watched the attacks, or who were safety supervisors, how much hard work had been put into training over the previous months. It also enhanced Waterloo Company's reputation as a robust and professional Company Group.

Captain T. G. J. Golding, OC Recce Platoon

Goose Green Battlefield Tour

One of the many duties of the young officers of the Falkland Islands Reinforced Infantry Company is to run Goose Green and Mount Tumbledown battlefield tours. Inevitably, this tends to be one of those tasks that is greeted with despair at the prospect of losing a Sunday, yet, once done, provides a great deal of satisfaction.

At the beginning of October, I was given the somewhat daunting task of accompanying ten serving veterans of the 1982 campaign, from 2 and 3 PARA, to the San Carlos Memorial, then taking them through Goose Green battlefield tour. Considering I was eleven years old at the time of the battle, the difficulty of this is obvious. It was their first time back and I was very anxious that I struck the right balance between giving a clear overview of the battle, yet let them provide all the comments, opinions and details. In the event, they had anticipated my dilemma and any fears I had quickly disappeared amidst their stream of witty anecdotes and memories.

The battle for Goose Green is well documented, although interestingly, to a man, they seemed to have little interest in reading the written accounts. What they did obviously enjoy doing was reminding each other of the more personal stories about all the friends and acquaintances they had shared at the time. For the ten or so Dukes who accompanied the tour, basic yet vital lessons were brought out and emphasised:- No plan survives contact with the enemy; you cannot move without fire support or until the fire fight is won; unlike in training, the five minutes given to winning the fight takes nearer five hours; any movement is done on your belt buckle, not at a crouch or run; the confusion of battle is such that command and control is everything. These were all the things my very large and scary PARA colour sergeant instructor, himself a veteran of the war, used to scream at the thirty terrified officer cadets that made up my platoon at RMAS; yet we often pay lipservice to them.

The majority of their tales, however, revolved around the unrepeatable black humour that accompanies all soldiers' stories, involving both enemy and friendly forces. Three of the more repeatable ones stand out. First, although I had purposely steered clear of the numerous written opinions of Lieutenant Colonel 'H' Jones' action, to a man they stated that what their CO had done was what was required at the time and his action and leadership from the front was instrumental in their victory. Second, when Lieutenant Barry of 'C' Company went forward to take the surrender of enemy troops and was killed, the command structure of that platoon had to change and the Platoon Sergeant took over. Even though that Platoon Sergeant did extremely well and was later decorated, they pointed out that command structure was vital and when broken and changed provided huge problems for the Battalion. Finally, and somewhat amusingly, one then section commander told of an eighteen year old private, two weeks out of training. At the time the section was stuck out in the open receiving intense fire from small arms and a 105mm Howitzer being used in the direct role! 400m to their front were some vacant trenches and the commander decided they had to make a dash for it. Understandably this was accomplished with great reluctance and having completed the scariest and fastest 400m of his life, when safely in the trench, the Corporal's panic-stricken thoughts were interrupted by the eighteen year old, innocently inquiring "Corporal, is a Northern Ireland tour exactly the same as this?!".

Captain J. W. Charlesworth

BURMA COMPANY**Exercise "Medicine Man" 3/97
BATUS 6 July - 12 August 1997**

At short notice I was asked to take Burma Company to BATUS in Canada as the Infantry element of the OPFOR Group, the "enemy" unit that fights the battle groups being exercised. Thus I was to command a rifle company with support elements from the Milan Platoon (my own platoon) and attachments from the TA. Obviously I jumped at the chance of this command. Information on what was required from us was in short supply, so what we guessed was needed was gathered together and we departed for Canada.

On arrival we began to establish what our role was to be. BATUS is now the main training ground for the armoured battle groups from Germany, which rotate through BATUS throughout the year. The battle groups spend a week live firing, followed by two weeks of TESEX. TES is the latest in battle simulation kit designed to make training realistic. It enables two forces to fight each other using all their usual weapons and equipment. These are fitted with a system of lasers and receivers that simulate firing and being hit. The system is controlled by computers that simulate signals appropriate to the weapon being fired. Therefore a rifle will not kill a tank, a LAW 94 may damage a tank but not kill it, and a Milan missile will cease to work after 2000m. Everything is fitted with receivers that record hits and will immobilise the soldier or vehicle if he/it is "killed".

OPFOR operates on the tactics of the Generic Enemy (similar to Soviet doctrine). It uses old British equipment modified to look like Russian kit. The TES kit likewise is programmed to simulate Russian equipment. Burma Company was to be the infantry element in an enemy armoured battalion group. Milan Platoon provided the AT3 teams for the recce screen, whilst the TA soldiers attached to us acted largely as the sniper pairs. The majority of the Group came from the Queen's Royal Lancers. They provided the vehicle commanders, drivers and gunners for our "BMP 2s", all the crews for two squadrons of "T 80s", and the crews for the Recce Squadron equipped with T 80s and "TUMs" for the AT3 teams.

The first week's training enabled the Dukes to get used to working with the Lancers and procedures were worked out. This period proved useful as we had only limited experience of armoured warfare. Initially, all tasks were largely Lancers led, as they had the experience from being out in BATUS for the past five months. Gradually infantry commanders at all levels grew in confidence and began to work with the Lancer's commanders. Battles progressed from being largely a tank battle with infantry playing a supporting role, to a fully-integrated operation with infantry being crucial to its success. During this period shortfalls in our orbit were ironed out. This resulted in WO2 Hosty being promoted to the Recce Squadron to act as 2IC/Liaison Officer/ AT3 Operator. I am assured that he earned his AT3 badge! Colour Sergeant Craddock was dragged out of the stores and promoted to Platoon Commander, a task he relished and excelled at (although he died in

every battle!). Second Lieutenant Smart was tasked with maintaining the morale of the troops, a task that came naturally to him! The Sergeants' Mess hopes that he accepts their invitation to return to the Dukes at Christmas! WO2 James acted as CQMS, and provided a rear link. Through him all the Company's R&R and adventure training was organised, a vital job as BATUS itself provided no help or resources for this.

Finally we were ready to face the enemy. Two weeks of continuous battle followed. Controlled from above, we advanced, defended, attacked, counter attacked and withdrew. In every battle the OPFOR was very successful and accounted for nearly every battle group vehicle and soldier. The Lancers/Dukes combination proved very effective. At all levels the Lancers had the same attitude and approach to the tasks given as the Dukes did. Nothing but the highest standards were accepted. The TES kit proved very satisfying, as there were no arguments as to whether you had won, since you were either dead or not.

At times the system was frustrating. The OPFOR would be clearly winning a battle at one point, but then all of a sudden the umpires would kill off a large chunk of our force. This was because OPFOR is a training tool for the benefit of the battle groups. In order for them to achieve their training objectives a guiding hand from "God" was often required. This was annoying for all involved, particularly the soldiers on the ground. Despite this, the training was very satisfying and the threat of actually being killed off sharpened individual and collective skills. The Milan teams experienced very valuable training under Corporals Smith and Johnson. The weapon system proved very effective when used aggressively in conjunction with the ground.

All ranks learned many lessons from the exercise, particularly from watching mistakes made by the battle groups and the successes of OPFOR. These lessons will prove most useful to the Dukes when we move to the armoured role in 1999. Some of the lessons learned are noted here.

The practice of driving APCs onto the enemy position is not practicable unless you are enjoying overwhelming fire support. The infantry was better employed out of the vehicles to fight through the enemy. The APCs should then be controlled at the highest level and used aggressively to provide fire support and work with tanks to take out the enemy armour. All levels need to be aware of their rears, especially vehicle commanders. A mobile force with a good eye for the ground was able to work around to the enemy's rear and take them completely by surprise. The use of "Recce pull" is all very well, but, when finally committed to an attack, it must be swift with the emphasis on the maximum use of the concentration of force. Prior to the assault, as little time as possible should be spent in concentration areas and FUPs as they are extremely vulnerable.

A Recce screen with Milan working within it proved very successful. Milan used aggressively from cut down Land Rovers was most effective, and by being very mobile prolonged its survivability. Forward, the Recce



Milan Detachment BATUS '97.

Commander controlled the screen's assets. By working to the Milan Commander all assets could be controlled and directed. Information gathered could be filtered via OC Milan and the relevant details passed on up through the chain of command. Some of these practices should be further developed back in the Battalion.

For commanders, the use of mission command required further understanding. In a battle, often covering a considerable amount of ground, commanders at all levels needed to be able to work without guidance. With the TES kit commanders often "died". Whether their subordinates were able to continue without them proved whether the orders process had worked. The battles were fast, fluid and unpredictable. Commanders needed to be able to look ahead and plan within the mission. To help this, the core functions of manoeuvre,

find, fix and strike were replaced by find, fix, fight, follow and finish. With this guideline battles could be decisive.

After our brief education in armoured warfare, a period of adventure training and R&R followed. Various packages were set up, which included white water rafting, mountain biking, mountain walking and parachuting. Most of the company visited Edmonton, Jasper and Calgary. Tanned and refreshed, Burma Company embarked on the two-day journey back to the UK courtesy of the RAF. Exercise "Medicine Man" had proved to be a most rewarding and educational experience. Without doubt all parties had thoroughly enjoyed it. A just reward after two years in and out of Northern Ireland.

Captain A. J. M. Liddle

CORUNNA COMPANY

Exercise Rocky Lance: Oman

Corunna Company embarked on Exercise Rocky Lance to the Sultanate of Oman on 2 September 1997. The company was based 180km south east of Muscat, near the Port of Sur. Oman is a beautiful, rugged country with extremes of both terrain and climate. The training area is a mix of desert, jebel (mountain) and coastal plain with an excellent field firing area. The Exercise is a company commander's paradise, as the only limitations to training are one's imagination. Furthermore, Battalion HQ is 3,000 miles away!

The Company stepped off the aircraft to encounter temperatures of 36°C and 90% humidity and that was at 2100hrs. It was a shock to the system; the Company had done some preparation for hot weather training in Weeton prior to deployment, but nothing can prepare you for field training in temperatures of 54°C. The exercise is designed to be arduous and it certainly met that criterion. The heat is oppressive and there is no

escape from it. After a week the Company became able to bear it, but it was some weeks before we were truly acclimatised. The heat however did not limit the exercise and the Company completed some outstanding field firing and adventure training. We joint trained with the Jebel Regiment of the Royal Army of Oman, investigated wadis (steep valleys) and of course played rugby. The exercise was truly memorable and a real achievement, as we regularly amazed the Omanis with our determination to continue to train in temperatures that they too found oppressive. After months of relatively mundane tasks, the Company thoroughly enjoyed being a formed fighting unit once again. Each member of the Company has learnt a great deal both about his profession and himself. The Company is now fit and training standards are high. It is vital that, come what may, the Army keeps funding these company level overseas training exercises, as the training value is enormous.

The collection of articles that follow are the subalterns' views of various aspects of the exercise.

Major R. C. Holroyd
Officer Commanding Corunna Company

Field Firing

The Company in the Oman consisted of composite platoons put together for the Exercise. 7 Platoon contained the Burma Company element and 8 Platoon and 9 Platoon a mixture of new and old soldiers from Corunna Company. Also accompanying the Corunna Company Group was a contingent from the 3rd Battalion the Royal Irish Regiment.

Upon reaching Fortuna Camp, it became perfectly clear to all present that the climate and the terrain were going to provide quite a few challenges. The field firing package boasted excellent training areas, near 360° arcs and enough ammunition for our purposes. The package started with fire team and section ranges, providing an excellent opportunity for section commanders to evaluate their own sections and practise their battle drills. For platoon commanders, it provided time to evaluate the balance of the sections and to identify any problems hindering our search for perfection.

The terrain encountered in the Oman is very similar in part to that of Kenya, but with the temperature approximately 10° hotter; wadis are more prominent and very useful, but far too obvious to use as cover. The jebel proved quite breathtaking, but also difficult for adopting fire positions and for movement. Sending sections left or right flanking was hard to execute, as for the ground to provide a covered approach a section

could actually have to box an entire kilometre or more, thus taking time and causing problems with ammunition replenishment. As always, the main effort had to be the ability to see and fire upon the enemy, therefore the ground dictated the position to take.

Once all the basic problems were rectified, then it was time to move on to company tactics. On analysing the first company attack it appeared frighteningly obvious that the company was not winning the fire fight. This was overcome by delaying the launch of the break in until absolutely sure that a sufficient weight of fire was being laid down to suppress the position.

During the later stages of the field firing package the company was extremely lucky to be able to train with No.2 Company, The Jebel Regiment of the Royal Army of Oman. This proved an invaluable period of training for commanders and soldiers at all levels. What had been a problem area for the British company, winning the fire fight, seemed almost easy to the Omani company, as at platoon level they use three general purpose machine guns and at company level they use two vehicle-mounted Browning .50 calibre heavy machine guns. This display of fire power made everyone extremely envious.

The majority of the training consisted of doing joint ranges, with each British platoon being paired off with an Omani platoon. This provided an extremely good chance to mix and try to find out more about each other and their cultures. The daily highlight had to be the Omanis having their breakfast brought to the ranges. As always, the Omanis wanted to share everything with us, this also extended to their breakfast and the British soldiers needed no second invitation to join them.



Major Holroyd at breakfast with the Co-ord Officers of the Jebel Regiment.



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Major Holroyd at breakfast with the Co-ord Officers of the Jebel Regiment.



Sun Dance. Ready for the off.

Left to right: Lance Corporal Hiles, Corporal Beetham, Lance Corporal Hind, Private Chadburn.

Working with the Dukes

In July 1996 Corunna Company was under command of the 3rd Battalion, The Royal Irish Regiment for two hectic weeks during the "Seige of Drumcree". The Company formed a good working relationship with the men from County Armagh during that period and this was reinforced during a second deployment to Portadown in early 1997. It was in recognition of this close tie that Corunna Company offered to take a group of soldiers from 3rd Royal Irish with them on Exercise Rocky Lance.

We came from the four corners of the 3 Royal Irish TAOR, namely the company locations of Portadown, Rathfriland, Ballykinler and Kilkeel. The troops were a mixture of Full Time and Part Time Home Service, with limited knowledge of conventional warfare. After a few days of administration in Weeton, we deployed with 9 Platoon, Corunna Company, to Oman. Training began on arrival, learning the basics of fire and manoeuvre and how a rifle platoon would operate in the desert.

Under the watchful eye of Sergeant Brennan we quickly progressed up to section and then platoon attacks. The training was completely alien to most of my soldiers. However, the Dukes would rally round and there would always be good advice given on tactics and fieldcraft. The storming of an enemy bunker with grenades and bayonets fixed was most definitely not to be found in the Northern Ireland Emergency Provisions Act, and it sure was different.

By the end of week two the Royal Irish had settled into platoon life in the field. We were learning every minute of the day, particularly field discipline, which in general was more robust than what we were used to in the Province. The platoon was bonding well and had a good working relationship, which gave us more confidence as each day passed.

The range work was particularly demanding, due to the heat and terrain, however the platoon pulled together and produced some good results.

Joint training with the Omani's Jebel Regiment also gave us the opportunity of firing other types of weapons, namely the Steyr rifle and .50 calibre Browning heavy machine gun. There was also a number of days joint field firing in which we would observe their tactics and how they could carry out a platoon attack without breaking into a sweat.

The adventure training was also particularly good, with visits to Wadi Ash Shab, which has scenery nothing like anywhere in the world. The troops also got the chance to dive in clear warm water and observe many different types of fish and coral, this was truly memorable. Other activities included various sports of which the football team was a combined force of Dukes, Royal Irish and other attachments.

Nightly activity in Camp Fortuna brought us together as a company, with an outstanding night at the races. The effort which had been put into the setting up and running of this fun event was of the highest order and, although 3 Royal Irish teams were sold three-legged camels, we still managed to win something.

Life in camp was comfortable, with excellent food which was cooked under difficult conditions and a very good admin system.

Now, what have we achieved by coming here? Well, first, and by far the most important, is the experience of field firing of the type and intensity which some of my soldiers will never witness again. The drive and will to fight from the Dukes has lifted my men's enthusiasm to stay in the army, this alone is a great achievement.

We have also learned how to operate under extreme conditions in the desert environment, which few soldiers in the whole of the Royal Irish could boast.

Altogether it has been an excellent Exercise which had its ups and downs. The 3 Royal Irish troops can now return to the Province fitter in mind and body, able to pass on many war stories about living and fighting in the desert with the Dukes. Many friendships have been made and we hope that they will continue. Whenever

THE ARMY TAUGHT YOU NEVER TO GIVE UP, SO DON'T

So there you are in civvy street. Completely at a loose end. But...why?...The Army's what you're good at. What about joining the TA? It's part of the British Army so you'll still be a soldier.

There are two options open to you. First, you can join one of the Territorial Army Independent Units based in the TAVRA region in which you have decided to settle. An ideal route for those who wish to serve locally. Which Unit you join will depend on those available in the area you live in. Second, if you are leaving a Corps, you could retain your capbadge and become a member of either an Independent Unit as above, or a TA Specialist Unit. In either, you can maintain and extend the special skills that you have learned.

The minimum commitment as a member of the Independent TA is 6 weekends, a two-week Summer Camp and some weekday evenings. As a Specialist we ask only 15 days training and 2 weekends. In return, you will earn Army rates of pay and an annual tax-free bonus.

Anyway, I can't imagine you in a suit and tie all of the time. Go on! Phone or write. We need you.



BE THE BEST

Phone 0345 300111, or write to The Territorial Army, Freepost 4335 (Ref: 9100), Bristol BS1 3YX.

the Dukes visit the Province we hope that we can return their patience and generosity and help out with any internal security tactics which we could pass on to them.

We wish them all the best for the future. Faugh ah Ballagh (Clear the way).

Sgt J. Parkinson, 3 R. Irish

WARRANT OFFICERS' AND SERGEANTS' MESS

1997 has been, to put it mildly, a hectic year, both socially and operationally. Many Mess members have travelled extensively and as a consequence have missed out on quite a few of the social activities that are now no more than pleasant memories. April 23 saw the Mess celebrating St George's Day in Sennybridge, Wales. The celebrations took the form of a Regimental Dinner with the Mess members wearing combat dress rather than the more traditional Mess Dress. All who were present had a thoroughly enjoyable evening, to such an extent that it is planned to hold a similar function in 1998. In May we dined-in the Commanding Officer (photos of his rendition of "Singing in the Rain" are available, at great cost, from the PMC).

July saw the deployment of Waterloo Company to the Falkland Islands and with it a large hole in our ranks, nine Mess members to be precise, headed by WO2 Mick Cooper. Also in July, the Mess was the venue for our Regimental (Hindoostan) weekend, which, just as the year before, was a tremendous success. The weather was glorious, the Band and the Drums outstanding, the food, the drink, and the company of the Regimental Association members an absolute pleasure.

On a more sober note, the Mess has sadly said farewell to WO2 Stan Acklam, WO2 Chris Gibson and Colour Sergeant Tony Williams on completion of their 22 years' service. We wish them and their families the best of luck for the future.

Talking of the future, the Mess looks forward to holding a Ladies' Dinner in November, when the majority of Mess members will be together again before our arms plot move to Hounslow. We of course look forward with tingling anticipation to Christmas, or, more specifically, the Rupert/Andy Capp presentation, or should that be the Second Lieutenant Toby Smart Xmas Special?

Congratulations and welcome to the Mess on promotion to Sergeant Nick Wilson, Sergeant Rich Carter and Sergeant Lyndon Mower.

Finally, I must mention three of our number who are currently acting as 'mercenaries' to 1 KOSB and sadly will not be back with us until early in the new year, Colour Sergeant Nick McConnell, Sergeant Baz Barrett and Sergeant Stan Stannard, take care boys, our thoughts are with you and we look forward to seeing you in London.

WO1 A. J. Sutcliffe, Regimental Sergeant Major

HINDOOSTAN WEEKEND 19-20 JULY 1997

Saturday 19 July and it is the start of the Hindoostan celebrations weekend. The weather could play a vital part in the success of the event, and all the organisers' eyes are cast sky-wards. Would there be a requirement for an indoor event to take place? Thankfully not, the great British weather was proving to be kind, the day looked set to be full of sunshine and above all else dry. Sun block rather than raincoats at dawn!

Early lunchtime and the guests started to arrive, not only members of the Regimental Association, but wives and families of those members of the Battalion who were unable to attend due to commitments elsewhere. Following the barbecue lunch and refreshments, the Regimental Association members were given an update by the Battalion Second-in-Command as to the movements of the 1st Battalion over the last twelve



WO1 Sutcliffe, Regimental Sergeant Major, accepting a carved Regimental badge from Mr B. Moran, Chairman of the Keighley Branch of the Regimental Association, during the Hindoostan weekend.

months. Meanwhile the families began an afternoon of gala events totalling some thirty-five attractions that had been staged in the area of the sports field, which by this time had been transformed into a hive of activity, colour and noise. The large majority of the attractions had been designed and constructed by members of the Battalion. They ranged from the old favourites like hoopla, darts and "beat the goalie" (complete in bygone age dress) to the more unusual, like paint balling, observation, clay pigeon shooting and driving skills, to name but a few. The sunshine remained throughout the afternoon, and into the early evening. This provided an ideal backdrop on the main square for the Normandy Band and the 1st Battalion's Corps of Drums to "strutt their stuff" and entertain the crowds with their highly acclaimed Beating of the Retreat.

Throughout the night and into the small hours, reunions were made, past events relived and new friendships formed, as all ranks held evening functions in the Messes and the Pennine Club. After hours of much entertainment and great company the old and young alike retired to their beds to regain some composure and refresh themselves for the church service on the Sunday morning, which was then followed by long handshakes, and reluctant farewells. The weekend undoubtedly proved to be a great success and helped maintain the strong bonds between the 1st Battalion and Association members.

WO2 G. Cracknell
Company Sergeant Major, Somme Company

ALL ARMS PACE STICKING CONTEST



The Dukes' Team

Left to right: WO2 Murten, Sergeant Moroney, Drum Major Johnson, Sergeant Innes.

"Ah, Company Sergeant Major, glad I caught you. What are you doing on 27 June? Nothing? Excellent. In that case I want you to knock together a team for the All Arms World Pace Sticking Championships to be held at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst."

"Oh, and Sergeant Major, 27 June is in four weeks' time. Best get your skates on, alright?"

So began a frenetic month of tailoring parades, boot polishing, kit exchanging, stick turning and hand bandaging (the pace stick causes painful blisters to the 'untempered palm').

Pace stick drill is nothing new. The original user of the pace stick was the Royal Regiment of Artillery. The 'stick' being used to determine the correct distance between guns on the firing line; this of course was all prior to 1893 when pace sticks were first mentioned in the Infantry Drill Manual, when some bright sergeant saw the potential of the stick in the Crimea as an aid to drill.

Before 1893 the length of the pace was taught at training depots by painting white lines thirty inches apart on parade grounds. The late Academy Sergeant

Major A. J. Brand MVD, MBE, devised a 'drill' for pace sticking in 1923 for use by instructors at the Royal Military Academy. In 1952 this was taken one stage further by the late J. C. Lord MVD, MBE, who staged a competition to promote the use of the 'stick' throughout the army. The competition is held annually at RMAS and in recent years has become in danger of losing its way due to under-participation. With this in mind and also with the aim of getting our senior NCOs into the right frame of mind for our impending public duties tour, I decided to enter a Dukes' team.

Weather conditions on the day of the competition this year were far from ideal. Rain and high winds did not add to the confidence of the team, who would have been happy merely to complete the march up the 'runway' in slow and quick time without dropping a stick, never mind having to worry about the possibility of a hat being blown off in front of the fairly large and partisan (Guards) spectators. Add to this the fact that the Dukes were drawn thirteenth in the order of march, and one of our judges was to be the awesome (some would say terrifying) figure of Garrison Sergeant Major (Perry) Mason, Coldstream Guards. The hastily-bolted glasses of port, quaffed minutes before the 'step off', did nothing to quell the stomach 'butterflies'. However, the team drew heavily on their reserves of Yorkshire grit and put in a creditable, although not a winning, performance.

To be fair and honest, the team knew they would not win. Their performance is best summed up in the words of Garrison Sergeant Major Mason (a man, incidentally, whom we in the 1st Battalion will get to know exceedingly well in Hounslow). He congratulated the team on its performance, thanked the team members genuinely for 'having a go' at what is undoubtedly a Guards' specialist sport, and offered encouragement for an even stronger assault by the Dukes next year.

The final result was:

Winners - Sandhurst A

Runners Up - 1st Battalion Scots Guards

The prize for the best international team went to the South African Army 'B' Team (much to the chagrin of the Royal Regiment of Wales).

To summarise, the Dukes went to Sandhurst this year very much as underdogs and rank outsiders. Next year I intend to put in two, possibly three, teams. These teams will be decided as a result of a Battalion Pace Sticking Contest to be held soon after our arrival in Hounslow, and I feel absolutely confident that the habitual winners of this contest, i.e. the Sandhurst instructors, the Guards Drill Instructors Pirbright, will get the message that as far as pace sticking is concerned "The Dukes are coming up the Hill!"

WO1 A. J. Sutcliffe, Regimental Sergeant Major

REJOINING THE DUKES

At the time, my decision to leave the army was an easy one, it's not until you've actually left that you realise what a big decision you've made. It doesn't matter what anyone says to you, or even if you are offered any courses or postings, all you have on your mind is getting out. Everyone kept saying how much I would miss the life and my mates. I think I knew deep inside that they were right. I tried to get on a pre-release course, but, as we were in and out of Ireland so much, things were really difficult to organise, and because I'd left it so late, all the course places were already filled. So eventually I gave up and decided to look for a job while on leave, which wasn't very successful due to the fact that I didn't have any qualifications in anything I wanted to do. The inevitable had to happen, which was a job in security. The money was poor and the hours

were long. After a while, I started to think about the Dukes and what an easier and more fulfilling life I'd thrown away. My girlfriend didn't seem to agree! After a lot of thinking, talking and, mainly, arguing, I decided to make an even bigger decision: TO REJOIN THE DUKES.

When everyone gets out they all say they will never come back and I suppose most don't. But everyone I know who terminated or PVRed wanted to get back in. They just lacked the motivation because they lived with such a boring lot. The fact you have to bite your lip so hard is also off-putting. I don't regret getting out, in fact I'm a better person now, knowing the grass is definitely not greener on the other side!

Private Mick Gratton, Mortar Platoon

VISIT TO THE MEMORIAL TO PRIVATE SHAUN TAYLOR

On Sunday 28 September 1997 the Regimental Sergeant Major of the 1st Battalion accompanied by Private Andrew Dawber flew into Gorazde, a small town in the former Republic of Yugoslavia where the Battalion Tactical Headquarters was based for five months in 1994, along with Alma and Corunna Companies. On 26 June 1994, whilst manning an observation post (OP) in the hills surrounding the town, Private Shaun Taylor was killed by a Bosnian Serb sniper. Private Dawber was one of the soldiers present at the OP on that tragic day.

After an extremely long helicopter flight from Split, the RSM and Private Dawber arrived at the former Ukrainian Barracks (now occupied by Portuguese Stabilization Force (SFOR Troops) and were promptly escorted to the site of the OP. On arrival it was plain to see that the OP had been abandoned in a hurry and anything of value or practical use had been looted (I hasten to add that the OP was not abandoned during the Dukes' tenure). The site had also become overgrown with weeds and thorn bushes, which at first made locating the original memorial difficult.



Padre Hart conducts a Service of Remembrance at the Memorial of Private Shaun Taylor. Among others in attendance were Major Peter Clarke 3 DWR, WO1 A. J. Sutcliffe RSM 1 DWR, and Private A. Dawber.

Eventually, and with the assistance of our Portuguese Armed Guard, we located the marble and concrete plinth. It saddened all present to find that the memorial had fallen into a bad state of repair. Due to the imminent helicopter pick up and a lack of suitable materials it proved impossible to repair. So a simple wooden crucifix bearing a brass plate was erected on the same spot. There then followed a brief but poignant ceremony conducted by Padre Hart (our Regimental Padre during the Dukes' tour in 1994). Also present were Colonel Tim Isles, Major Martin Drake (both now civilians working for the UN) and Major Peter Clarke 3 DWR (serving with SFOR in Sarajevo).

At the conclusion of the service a bugler from the 2nd Battalion Royal Regiment of Fusiliers blew Last Post and Reveille. Wreaths were then laid by the RSM and Major Clarke.

Immediately afterwards a similar service was conducted at the site where three Royal Gloucester Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment soldiers lost their lives in a vehicle accident, just days after relieving the Dukes in Gorazde.

On completion of the second memorial service we were hosted in the Portuguese Officers' Mess to some much-needed food and drink. It was whilst chatting to the Portuguese Commanding Officer that the RSM secured an agreement that Private Taylor's memorial would be looked after by his soldiers for as long as his unit was based there.

It is worthy of note that the Portuguese Army was absolutely professional, helpful and respectful throughout our brief visit. Overall, it was a very sad day, but a day that RSM Sutcliffe and Private Dawber were honoured to have been involved in.

On a much happier note, the town of Gorazde, where the Dukes faced many hardships and danger, seems to be recovering from the ravages of war; houses have been repaired, the power and the water supplies are now back in operation, the shops are well stocked and the only people carrying guns are the official police force. The last time that I had been in Gorazde I thought the town was surely doomed, now I believe there is a chance for the community to survive.

WO1 A. J. Sutcliffe
Regimental Sergeant Major

REGIMENTAL RECRUITING CELL

It is now the end of the summer show season and the Regimental Recruiting Cell, including the 3rd Battalion, can report that 17 shows/galas have been attended throughout this period, in both West and South Yorkshire, flying the flag and getting home the message that the Army (both Regular and TA) is still recruiting and the Regulars can offer over 15,000 job vacancies a year in over 150 differing trades.

The KAPE Tours in the south in June and west in July went particularly well this year, and a full month is already in the calendar for the same period next year.

I am pleased to report that the 1st Battalion is still well over strength and is setting the pace for the Infantry, but the rest of the King's Division are waking up and striving to catch us. For this reason (not to mention logistics), when the 1st Battalion moves to Hounslow in February, a six man Recruiting Cell will be left behind in Huddersfield to continue the motion. This will result in an even more focused effort on recruiting than ever before, right in the heart of our Regimental area. If you know of any potential recruits, tell them to either ring the Recruiting Cell for advice

and information (telephone 01484 425492) or contact their nearest ACIO for a job interview and career counselling.

The 'Look at Life' courses held in Weeton Barracks have continued at a pace, with 37 conducted already and a total of 47 forecast to be conducted this year. We have received over 1,000 youths on the visits already up to 1 October 1997 and should equal last year's tally of 1,228 by Christmas. An innovation in these visits has been an invitation to Asian 'Gatekeepers' to visit Weeton for a specially adapted one day 'Look at Life'. The 'Gatekeepers' are the parents, school teachers and religious leaders from within our recruiting area and it is these people we must influence if we are to attract any ethnic minorities into the Army. One has been sponsored in June from Darnall in Sheffield and a party visited from Halifax in July.

'Look at Lifes' will continue in Weeton Barracks throughout the school terms, courtesy of 1st Battalion the King's Regiment, when the 1st Battalion deploys to London.

Lieutenant B. J. Thomas, BEM



Regimental Recruiting Officer, Lieutenant Brian Thomas, BEM, hands out Certificates on an Asian 'Gatekeeper's' 'Look at Life' one-day visit to Weeton Camp.

PENNINE CLUB



The Pennine Club Families' Barbecue on 8 July.

Since the last edition, I am pleased to report that the Pennine Families Club has continued to thrive, thanks mainly to the staff within the Families' Office, the Wives' Committee and, last but not least, our families who have supported various events held within the Club.

Throughout the summer husbands have scattered across the world, leaving their better halves behind to cope with everyday life. To that end, it was important that our ladies and their families were not forgotten, hence an interesting and varied programme was produced with lots of activities for adults and children, with little or no financial outlay required.

The first of these events was a families' barbecue held on 8 July. This proved to be a great success, feeding approximately 185 hungry mouths. The event included lots of side stalls, eg: treasure hunt, bouncy castle, kiddies' assault course and a raffle. At a cost of £1 per person it was great value for money.

After the success of the barbecue, other events were to follow, including: Hindoostan Gala Day; Safari Park (Liverpool); Chester Zoo; and a shopping trip to Manchester.

During early August some of our older children (aged 13-16) entered a six-a-side football competition within the local area. Unfortunately, only four teams had entered with each team playing each other once. Our boys proved too strong for all others, winning all their matches convincingly and winning the tournament.

Continuing with football, the Pennine Club is well represented within the "Fylde District" Sunday League. After a successful 1996/97 season the team finished runners up in their league, having played 24 games, winning 16 with six games drawn and suffering only two defeats. The team scored 114 goals conceding 39. Well done to all the players, particularly to Sergeant Major Stead who scored 49 goals, which, I believe, set a new league record of goals scored by one player in a season.

Having secured promotion, the team has started this campaign reasonably well, they have played six games, winning three with one game drawn and two defeats. As the season progresses the team should get stronger, particularly as and when other players return from overseas exercises.

With the football season well under way, we must also plan for future activities for all our families. These will include: Sunday lunch; a family outing at Martin Mere Wetlands; a families' shopping trip at the Metro Centre; and a families' disco and karaoke. Add to these the unit bonfire, with entertainment in respective Messes, and all of the Christmas festivities, including the traditional wives' Christmas party, and we hope our families can end 1997 in good spirits; roll on 1998.

Lieutenant M. Smith
Unit Families' Officer

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RUGBY SEASON 1997-98

- Club Chairman - Major Holroyd
- Club Captain - Captain Vallings
- 1st Team Captain - 2nd Lieutenant McCormick

In the new era of professionalism within the game, and to mark our commitment and determination to return as a force within the Army Cup we have employed a coach to focus and mould the team to that very purpose. Mr Ian Geary has taken on the task of coaching the Battalion side with relish; he sees it has a new challenge. Ian's coaching credentials are excellent, including a spell with Fylde. He is employed by the RFU as a coaching coordinator for the north of England.

The season started in late August with warm-up games against Preston Grasshoppers and Rochdale before our deployment to the Oman on Exercise Rocky Lance. Despite losing both games, many strengths and weaknesses were brought to our attention which could be worked on, including our match fitness and discipline. Our initial priority in Oman was fitness, under PTI Sergeant Douglas a progressive programme was undertaken in preparation for the arrival of Ian three weeks later. The harsh environment of the desert lent itself greatly to this task.

Our two fixtures in Oman were the Muscat Sevens Tournament and a match against Muscat RFC. The Dukes had entered two teams in the tournament. After a long day in the heat and humidity the 'A' team secured its place in the final, with the 'B' team only missing the final by having to take part in a play-off game due to equal numbers of tries scored within the tournament.

Under Captain of the day Lieutenant Richardson The Dukes won the Sevens Tournament, with Sergeant Douglas named as player of the tournament.

We believed such a convincing win in the Sevens would be the platform for an easy win over Muscat RFC. This was not the case. We started strongly but a lapse in concentration on a dimly lit pitch gave Muscat the edge and we narrowly lost to them in a well contested match. We were 'turned over' by a weaker team and we must learn to take the opposition seriously all the time, as there are no certain wins in this game anymore.

The first round of the Army Cup was played on 30 October and our opponents were 24 Airmobile Brigade CSS Battalion. The Dukes won 51-0. The next round, at Colchester, brought a 43-0 win over 1st Battalion The Royal Gloucester, Berkshire and Wiltshire Regiment. There is a growing confidence within the club and we are optimistically looking forward to the new season.

"You can list things like fitness, skills, concentration, talent, confidence and you have the ingredients of a great team. If you add the main ingredient of hardened mental attitude, then you create the awesome team."

Ian Geary
(borrowed from Stu Wilson - former All Black Captain)

BRITISH ARMY SOUTH AFRICA RUGBY TOUR, 21 JUNE - 13 JULY 1997

Sadly we are not able to print 2nd Lieutenant Liam McCormick's full account of the British Army's successful rugby tour of South Africa in June/July 1997. Suffice to say that the tour party included two Dukes in Captain Seb Stewart and Liam, as well as two ex-Dukes

in Captain Rob Abernathy and QMSI Chris Spowat. The team achieved five wins in six matches, only losing narrowly, 30-25, to the South African Defence Force in the final match.

OFFICERS, WARRANT OFFICERS AND SNCOs SERVING WITH 1 DWR AS AT 14 OCTOBER 1997**Battalion Headquarters**

CO - Lieut Colonel S. C. Newton MBE
 Battalion 2i/c - Major P. R. S. Bailey
 Adjutant - Captain T. G. Vallings
 Ops Officer - Captain N. M. B. Wood
 RSO - Captain J. E. Townhill
 A/Adjutant - Lieutenant S. Richardson
 RSM - WO1 (RSM) A. J. Sutcliffe
 Pro Sergeant - Sergeant E. Innes
 Int Sergeant - Sergeant P. Wilson

RAO

RAO - Captain J. A. Lamb AGC (SPS)
 AGC Det Comd - Lieut R. P. Wilkinson AGC (SPS)
 RAOWO - WO2 R. Patterson AGC (SPS)
 FSA - WO2 D. J. Hulse AGC (SPS)
 Regt Acct - S/Sergeant J. Kitching AGC (SPS)
 Sys Coord - Sergeant P. G. Bentley AGC (SPS)

Burma Company

OC - Major R. N. Chadwick
 2i/c - Lieutenant J. F. C. Vitoria
 CSM - WO2 C. Hosty
 Colour Sergeant - Colour Sergeant K. N. Craddock
 4 Platoon - Sergeant N. S. Wilson
 5 Platoon - Sergeant A. S. Knight
 6 Platoon - 2nd Lieutenant L. R. McCormick
 - Sergeant R. Carter

Corunna Company

OC - Major R. C. Holroyd
 2i/c - Captain P. R. Fox
 CSM - WO2 C. A. Murten
 Colour Sergeant - Colour Sergeant S. Caine
 8 Platoon - 2nd Lieutenant J. P. Hinchliffe
 - Sergeant S. D. Moroney
 9 Platoon - 2nd Lieutenant R. A. Harford
 - Sergeant N. Brennan

Somme Company

OC - Captain R. C. O'Connor
 CSM - WO2 G. Cracknell
 Colour Sergeant - Colour Sergeant M. P. Birkett
 OC Milan - Captain A. J. M. Liddle
 2i/c Milan - Colour Sergeant S. A. Davidson
 Mortar SNCO - Sergeant A. D. Williams
 - Sergeant M. D. Hughes
 Drum Major - Sergeant I. D. Johnson
 Recce SNCO - Sergeant L. J. Mower

Waterloo Company

OC - Major R. N. Goodwin
 2i/c - Captain W. T. Mundell
 RMO - Captain N. H. Fraser
 CSM - WO2 M. A. Cooper
 Colour Sergeant - Colour Sergeant M. Ness
 G1098 - Sergeant G. Batley
 Pay Sergeant - Sergeant M. J. Haslett AGC (SPS)
 Chef - Sergeant M. J. Allen RLC
 OC Onion Range - Colour Sergeant J. F. Ellis
 OC Sp Wpns - Captain J. W. Charlesworth
 2i/c Sp Wpns Pl - Sergeant R. Miller
 OC Recce - Captain T. G. J. Golding
 Recce Sergeant - Sergeant M. P. J. Lumber
 1 Platoon - 2nd Lieutenant M. Robinson
 - Sergeant B. W. Roberts
 2 Platoon - 2nd Lieutenant M. M. D. Stear
 - Sergeant J. D. Foster
 3 Platoon - Lieutenant P. J. Wilson
 - Sergeant S. J. Bramwell

Northern Ireland

PI Commander - Colour Sergeant N. McConnell
 Mult Comds - Sergeant A. Barratt
 - Sergeant M. D. Stannard

Cyprus Detachment

10 Platoon - 2nd Lieutenant P. M. J. Cowell
 - Sergeant D. R. Walton
 - Sergeant R. D. Hind

Hook Company

- OC - Major K. G. Johnson
 CSM - WO2 I. R. Greaves
 Colour Sergeant - Colour Sergeant S. J. J. Lowther

QM'S Department

- QM - Captain P. M. Ennis
 QM (T) - Captain R. M. Pierce
 RQMS (G) - WO2 P. Mitchell
 RQMS (T) - WO2 S. W. Grogan
 G1098 - Colour Sergeant D. Dobbs
 Clothing - Sergeant J. G. Ashworth

Families

- UFO - Lieutenant M. Smith
 Fam MOV - Colour Sergeant G. R. Ingham
 Fam SNCO - Colour Sergeant M. B. Kennedy

Catering Platoon

- SQMS - WO2 I. Patterson RLC
 Chefs - Sergeant P. J. Bennison RLC
 - Sergeant N. F. Holden RLC

X Platoon

- PCBC - 2nd Lieutenant G. R. Triplow
 - 2nd Lieutenant J. Maude
 - 2nd Lieutenant K. D. Smith
 - 2nd Lieutenant R. M. Sutcliffe
 - 2nd Lieutenant M. C. Tetley
 124 AYT - Colour Sergeant S. Acklam
 - Colour Sergeant D. Flynn
 - Sergeant J. E. Lawrence

Signals Platoon

- RSWO - Colour Sergeant A. Proctor
 Med Sergeant - Sergeant P. J. Brennan
 Sigs SNCO - Sergeant N. K. Mason
 - Sergeant G. R. Sharp

Training Wing

- TWWO - WO2 A. Stead

MT/RRO

- RRO - Lieutenant B. J. Thomas BEM
 MTWO - WO2 R. Coles
 RRWO - WO2 K. J. James
 MTSNCO - Sergeant T. J. Newhouse

Messes

- Officers Mess - Colour Sergeant M. Taylor
 Sergeants Mess - Corporal R. Mann

LAD

- OC - Staff Sergeant M. Muir REME
 - Sergeant K. A. Gunner REME

- KDRT - WO2 M. I. Chin-Chan
 - WO2 J. C. Nutter

- ACIO - Colour Sergeant M. Varley
 - Colour Sergeant P. A. Brewer
 - Sergeant I. Bottomley
 - Sergeant D. H. P. Harley
 - Sergeant R. F. Whelan

THE STORY OF A SOLDIER***'THE FOURTH PROVINCE'***

by David Griffin

The author served six tours in Northern Ireland with the Royal Marines, three on covert operations. This is his story, using a mixture of fact and fiction to bring out his points, from which he draws serious conclusions on the future of Ireland, on operations in Northern Ireland, tactics, training, weapons performance, rules of engagement and much more.

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3rd Battalion

Commanding Officer's Introduction

The 3rd Battalion continues to be actively involved in training, supporting the Regular Army and playing a large part in representing the Regiment and the Army in our home recruiting area.

The battle for recruitment and retention is still being waged, with much effort being applied from all ranks. 124 soldiers have been recruited as at 30 September this year, compared to 169 in total for 1996. This decline is a national trend for the TA and it has meant that our recent efforts to improve retention have become even more significant, and, as a result, retention has improved by 25%. Both figures are a clear indication that this area must remain our main effort. The 3rd Battalion played a full part in this year's two KAPE tours, organised by the 1st Battalion. The effort proved particularly beneficial, with a significant number of recruits joining as a direct result. Part of the recruitment drive has also involved attendance at many local shows and galas. One example was when 4 Platoon B Company attended the Shelf Gala and in front of 3,000 people conducted a demonstration attack commanded by Corporal Mallas, with blanks, smoke and pyrotechnics. The Company also conducted an "It's a Knockout" competition on the river near the TAC, which involved Gladiator-type events that were enjoyed by competitors and spectators alike.

Officer recruiting continues to be healthier. Two officers were commissioned into the Battalion this summer, Second Lieutenants Cameron and Hargreaves, and the remaining four Officer Cadets have good prospects of being commissioned within the next year. We also welcome Major Mark Lodge to the Battalion to take on the role of OC RRTT.

The Battalion has said goodbye to two long-serving members, WO2 Alan Nanney has decided to leave the Territorial Army having served over twenty years. He commanded the Assault Pioneer Platoon and had spent most of his time with B Company in Halifax. Major Peter Allen has recently retired after thirty years' service as the Medical Officer. He was dined out at the Ladies' Dinner night, where he was also presented with a second clasp to his TD by the Honorary Colonel. Joining our Honorary Colonel at the dinner were the Colonel of the Regiment and the new CO of HMS Sheffield, Commander Colin Hamp, and their wives.

In preparation for Annual Camp, three Battalion weekends were held. Two were at Warcop concentrating on field firing. The training focused on Stage 5 shooting, progressing from pairs fire and manoeuvre to section attacks. The TA soldier is well recognised for his ability to learn and progress quickly and the TA Dukes are no exception. The high standards reached on these weekends gave a clear indication of this characteristic.

Our final preparation for Annual Camp 1997, Exercise Eastern Harrier, took place at Langdale Forest on 11-13 July 1997. This weekend was a field training Exercise Forest Furnace. The exercise was designed to allow the Battalion to regroup with the supporting arms element of 3 PWO, namely Milan, Mortars and MG Platoon. Once this had been achieved, the battle group occupied a defensive position-only to be overrun by a much stronger enemy force. On withdrawing from the defensive position, we said farewell to 3 PWO, who had to move on to Otterburn. The final two phases of the Exercise saw the occupation of company harbour areas, when A and B Company each had no idea where the



The Honorary Colonel, The Commanding Officer, Major Peter Allen, TD, and the Colonel of the Regiment.

other was deployed. Each company was then tasked to locate and attack the other. With the early evening light to its advantage A Company managed to locate B Company's position and put in an assault before time was up. Unfortunately B Company failed to locate A Company. During the frustration of trying to locate A Company, Corporal Brunton came up with another of his famous sayings: "I can hear them snoring sir, but exactly where they are God only knows". Langdale Forest is not the easiest of places to navigate around, even the most up-to-date maps do not indicate all the tracks and a number of patrol commanders found themselves disorientated. However, the weekend went well, with the Battalion achieving all the aims, which stood us all in good stead for Exercise Eastern Harrier.

Since Annual Camp there have been three company weekends, one of which was spent adventure training. As an experiment, the training on another weekend, which was only planned for one day, was held on a Sunday. This was a success as it gave the soldiers who often have to work on a Saturday the chance to shoot their annual rifle test.

The Battalion continues to support the Regular Army in many ways. Nine soldiers are still with the 1st Battalion in the Falklands, while Colour Sergeant

Whiteley has been acting as a sub aqua instructor with Corunna Company in the Oman. Three soldiers from A Company are coming to the end of their tour with 2 RRF in Bosnia, while another three are training with 1 KORBR prior to their forthcoming deployment. Captain Chris Baron and Colour Sergeant Goddard have recently returned from an eye-opening experience in Latvia, where they have been training the local militia on a patrols cadre. Captain Jeremy Hughes has just returned from his second attachment to 20 Armoured Brigade, this time on exercise in Poland.

Having spent the first half of the year concentrating on collective training in preparation for camp, the second half will see a concentration on our annual events towards the Inter-Company Competition, these will include the Battalion Skill-at-Arms meeting, the Inter-Platoon Competition and the Sports Competition.

Separate from the deliberations on the Strategic Defence Review, of which there are no indications as yet, the long term costings for 98/99 are looking gloomy and will see a 15-20% reduction in our allocation of MTDs. This will curtail the number of opportunities for training next year, but both the programme and the Battalion will remain sustainable.

ANNUAL CAMP '97: EXERCISE EASTERN HARRIER

The Battalion Annual Camp, at Sennybridge, was attended by 250 TA soldiers, a similar number to previous years. Exercise Eastern Harrier was a divisional concentration involving 2,500 soldiers, including a company from the Czech Army attached to another Battalion. The timing of the exercise, in August, had led to worries of a poor turn out due to the clash with school holidays, but these worries were ill-founded.

Following a long drive from the TACs in Yorkshire, Exercise Eastern Harrier commenced in just the right manner, with the companies being inserted onto the ground by Chinook. The first week at camp was to be company level work-up training and exercises prior to the main exercises, so it was decided to spend the whole of the first week in the field with the companies laying up in harbour areas, in order to practice their administration. During the recce of Sennybridge, the



Colour Sergeant Kevin Whiteley, CQMS B Company, pauses before the deployment onto Exercise Eastern Harrier. He later deployed with Corunna Company, 1 DWR, to the Oman.

weather had been glorious. It was therefore deemed inconceivable that, although they might get a little wet, it would rain constantly for the whole of the first week! But rain it did, and it is of credit to many of the soldiers, who usually have to endure no more than 36 hours of poor weather during a weekend, that they worked hard and well, and were in just as high spirits at the end of the week as they were at the beginning.

We were delighted that the Colonel of the Regiment was able to visit during the week and report that the rain relented for some of his visit.

The highlight of the first week, undoubtedly, was a company live firing attack, with Milan, Mortars and Artillery in support. For most TA soldiers this is a rare experience and one which is unlikely to be repeated often. It was a fitting end to the company training and the first week.

The second week of Exercise Eastern Harrier proved to be an excellent training package where all elements of the Battalion, from the CO's R Group to Company HQs, to soldiers in fire teams, were thoroughly challenged. Three operational phases were exercised - helicopter operations, OBUA (operations in built up areas) and FIWAF (fighting in woods and forests). The OBUA phase was the most interesting and exciting as far as the soldiers were concerned, using the excellent facilities on the Cileni Village complex to the full, battling against the 4 PARA enemy force. Any good OBUA exercise should bring out qualities of enthusiasm and aggression in its participants and this one was a particularly fine example of the genre. From a tactical point of view, the FIWAF was probably our most successful phase. It combined a challenging scenario with some interesting tactical and physical problems. A particularly enjoyable final attack against an enemy formed of soldiers of 1 Royal Anglian was an excellent finish to the week as a whole.



Private Julie Greenhow, one of the six women out in the field manpacking full kit and radio for the complete Exercise, with Lance Corporal Lappage; both A Company.

The concept of a divisional concentration proved an undoubted success and will be remembered for more than just the weather for a long time to come.



Newly-commissioned 2nd Lieutenant Jim Cameron, A Company, speaking to the Colonel on Exercise Eastern Harrier with OC A Company, Major Rhodes, looking on. Cameron had been commissioned on the Saturday and was in the field on the Monday to take command of his Platoon.

BATTALION SKILL-AT-ARMS MEETING

The 3rd Battalion held its annual Skill-at-Arms meeting at Catterick Ranges during the weekend 11-12 October 1997. The meeting was the first event in the Inter-Company Competition for 1997. The weather smiled down on the ranges for once, even the icy cold wind abated now and then to allow the sun to warm the limbs of the firers. A good turnout saw soldiers compete in the pistol shoot, the rifle APWT, the section match and, finally, the falling plate. The competition turned out to be close with Headquarter Company One winning the best team trophy, with B Company One second. However, the overall competition was won by A Company by twenty points from B Company. The best rifle shot was Sergeant Johnson, with Sergeant

Lynch as runner up. WO2 Braisby was the best pistol shot.

The climax of the event was the falling plate competition. The construction of the range gave a distinct advantage to the team on the left hand side as they did not have to negotiate the ten foot high earth works to gain access to the firing point after having raced from the 300m point. The Commander 15 North East Brigade, Brigadier A. P. Deed, visited on the Sunday to present the prizes and took the opportunity to compete in the Officers' Mess 'B' team for the falling plate. Future careers were secured as the Officers' Mess 'B' team clinched the title over the RSM's team. The main event was won by B Company's number One team.



A Company winners of the Battalion Skill-at-Arms Meeting '97.

A PIVO IN BOSNIA AND POLAND

For those who have not served in Bosnia, PIVO is Serbo Croat for beer, however in reality it stands for Professionally Indispensable Volunteer Officer. That is what I became on 9 September 1996 when I mobilised at CTC Catterick for a six month tour in the Former Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY).

My first week of mobilised service was spent at Catterick undertaking some basic training, kit issue, a medical and range work, along with several hundred TAVR and Reservists. Our second week was spent on Salisbury Plain with UNTAT undergoing pre-deployment training, this included learning to use interpreters, escaping from minefields, intelligence briefs and situation reports, and more range work.

I then found myself en route to Paderborn and 20 Armoured Brigade, where I was to become the Brigade

Liaison Officer (BLO). I spent two weeks in Germany getting to know the brigade staff and undergoing further pre-deployment training and taking part in Exercise Green Star.

I then found myself back in the UK at Warminster with UNTAT, to complete the Faction Liaison Officers' Course. This involved learning how to speak to and deal with the members of the three Former Warring Factions (FWF).

Finally I found myself standing on the tarmac at Split airport on 21 October. After a six hour drive along some very bumpy and winding roads I arrived at Brigade HQ in the Hotel Janji at Sipivo.

The first ten weeks of my tour was spent liaising with the battle groups within the Brigade, liaising with neighbouring brigades such as the Canadians, Turks



Captain Jeremy Hughes in Bosnia.

and, my favourite, the Nordpol Brigade. The latter being my favourite because the sentries were usually tall, blond, blue eyed, gorgeous women! I also found myself liaising with MND(SW) and HQ ARRC. With all the liaising I was doing it meant many hours sat bouncing in my rover along some of the worst roads in Europe. The advantage was that there was little of this war-torn country that I did not get to see.

The situation in the country was reasonably stable upon my arrival, the killings had stopped and IFOR had stamped its authority on the factions. However the situation was still tense, a day didn't go by without one of the factions causing problems, be it blowing up villages, laying mines, or assaulting innocent civilians. Gunfire was heard and seen on most nights, but this was usually put down to "celebratory fire" as a result of too much "slipinaditch", the locally-brewed alcohol.

One of my roles as BLO was to work alongside the Faction Liaison Officers when they visited the FWF. This meant spending many interesting hours sat in cramped and smoky offices explaining the ways of the world to certain members of the factions. I also ended up organising various events for the FWF such as a weapons amnesty in Tomislavgrad which was in the Brigade area.

After ten weeks at Sipivo the Brigade moved to Banja Luka to take over running MND(SW) from 1(UK) Div. This move had several implications for myself. Firstly I moved from a house without electricity and heating in the centre of Sipivo to a warm and cosy corrimec inside a secure base. Secondly the Brigade HQ had doubled in size (even bigger than the old Div HQ), and as a result I became unemployed due to the number of LOs already in place and about to arrive. As a result, I was moved to the post of SO3 G3 Trg for MND(SW), as you can imagine this was going to be somewhat of a challenge for someone who had had no formal staff training. My

responsibilities were wide and far-reaching and were split with a Dutch officer. I became responsible for all UK training within theatre, I became responsible for the establishment and development of adventure training within theatre, and coordinating theatre support for UNTAT training both in the UK and Germany. As a secondary role I became responsible for the development of artillery, tank and infantry ranges and targetry within the Divisional AOR, and assisted in coordinating the training for the FWF.

My two main challenges were how to drink lots of strong Dutch coffee, and how to use a computer (never having touched one before). Sadly, most of my time was spent driving a desk at Div HQ, my only bids for freedom were to the ranges and the adventure training facilities. Having the onerous responsibility of organising the adventure training for BRITFOR in theatre, this sadly meant I had to occasionally visit the sunny island of Brace off the Croatian coast, stay in a hotel next to the sea, and check that the training and facilities were up to scratch!

The only other release I had were my daily runs outside the wire, it was on one of these that I decided to organise a half marathon for the Div HQ. I put the idea to the Brigadier who approved, provided that the race was open to everyone within MND(SW) and the local population. I wish I had kept my mouth shut. The event took a great deal of coordinating and a lot of hard work. I had to appear on Radio Big and broadcast to a supposed five million listeners (part of the Commander's information campaign), to advertise the event. Thankfully with the help of Sergeant Spiers APTC the event went well, and over 600 runners took part.

The greatest challenge for me in the training role was the development and clearance of the Glamoc range for the SFOR firepower demo to the FWF. This involved

a great deal of coordination with the FWF, HQ SFOR and the Royal Engineers due to the amount of mines in the area, the targetry to be established and the expansion of the range.

I left Bosnia on 19 April and returned to the UK and my civilian career in the Greater Manchester Police. However, I rejoined 20 Brigade four months later and travelled to Poland for a divisional and brigade armoured exercise. On this occasion I again acted as a LO and also as a watchkeeper. This was a tremendous opportunity to see a full armoured brigade operating tactically in the field, with kit I had never seen before and will be unlikely to see again if the coming defence review is anything to go by! Sat in the back of a 436 or in the middle of a dark Polish wood you tend not to see much, but the little I saw of Poland it was not dissimilar from Bosnia, and became known throughout the brigade as Bosnia with windows and roofs. The training area bore a remarkable resemblance to Thetford and forestry block D at Sennybridge. Was it really worth 27 hours in a train to get there! The most memorable

thing about Poland was the lack of ambient light, which resulted in a complete nightmare if you had to navigate or move in total darkness.

My overall impression of the time I spent with the Regular Army is that it was a tremendous experience and great fun, and one I hope to repeat someday. The TAVR has much to learn from the Regular Army, and it appeared to me that the more senior you were the harder work it became to keep level with your regular peers, mainly due to a lack of experience. However the Regular Army must realise that the TAVR has much to offer. We may have unorthodox methods, but we can and did keep pace with our regular peers, and we do get the job done. The army of today must understand that it cannot function without the TAVR when on operations. In Bosnia 10% of BRIFOR were TAVR and reservists, almost 48% of HQ MND(SW) were TAVR and reservists. We must therefore learn to work more closely and have greater understanding of each other's needs.

Captain Jeremy Hughes

THE CASE OF THE MYSTERIOUS ARKANSAS BARKING SPIDER

With a screech of tyres the 747 landed at Washington Dulles Airport. It was carrying four VIPs, well we thought so anyway. We were four members of the TA/USNG (US National Guard) Exchange Visit 1997. Sergeant Steve "Padders" Padley and myself Colour Sergeant "Smudge" Smith represented 3 DWR.

My story goes back several months. I was approached by OC A Company who congratulated me on being selected to go to America on the exchange. Surprised, I nearly bought a round. Even better, my mate Sergeant Padley, also of A Company, was going with me. It was unusual, two being selected from the same company, but we weren't complaining.

Our adventure started with a trip to the Duke of York's HQ in London for a briefing, where we received all the information needed for the trip. Only 50 SNCOs a year from the whole of the UK are selected for this visit, I'm sure you will agree a select club indeed.

We set off on a Friday morning at daft o'clock, hoping to avoid the traffic. Everything went smoothly, arriving at Heathrow on time. Checking in, we soon found ourselves in the departure lounge with several hours to kill. Like most soldiers, we used this time constructively!

Several time zones later, we arrived in Washington, after a nightmare flight of pretty hostesses, free alcohol, food and a serious helping of Braveheart. After several connecting flights we arrived at Fort Smith, Arkansas (pronounced Ark-an-saw). Taking into account the time difference we had been travelling for 27 hours. We were met by our respective counterparts and soon found ourselves at our final destination, Fort Chaffee (once home to one million servicemen, and the camp in which Elvis received his first army haircut).

Sergeant Padley and I found ourselves attached to the 2nd and 3rd Battalions' Headquarters, 153rd Infantry Regiment. I was in a rifle platoon, Sergeant Padley in Battalion Headquarters. However, after two days in the

TOC (Tactical Operations Centre), drinking coffee and eating doughnuts with the Colonel's driver, he got fed up and winged his way into a rifle platoon as well. Visions of M113 APCs and Blackhawk Helicopters, .50 calibre machine guns and Dragon missiles soon fell by the wayside. I found myself issued with a set of webbing, rucksack, M16 rifle, MILES (similar to our SAWES), a set of NVGs (night vision goggles) and the most uncomfortable helmet in America.

We were given a safety brief - don't touch the spiders they are all deadly poisonous. Even the daddy long legs, which don't bite, contain enough venom to kill a large elephant and have been known to crawl into sleeping people's mouths. We were also told not to touch the snakes, all but one are poisonous - but that one could eat you whole, and don't touch the poison ivy. We were also faced with ticks, chiggers and no-see-ums, so called because until they've filled themselves with your blood you can't see-um. Razor-back boars, grizzly bears, I'm surprised that we could train at all. Added to this, temperatures reaching 95° and it's no wonder we came back pounds lighter.

The training was very similar to our own, in fact I could have done the same thing at Catterick, just without the sun and the bugs. I found myself taking part in recces, rehearsals and attacks, as we would have done. Everything was in slow time, followed the same format and each company attack built up over three days. Two of the main differences concerned the use of MILES and the NVGs. In one platoon attack, all but five were shot (myself included). This suddenly made things seem that much more serious, especially for the ones that had been 'killed' (true to form, one squad was taken out by friendly fire). NVGs were relied upon a lot, complete attacks took place at night, but due to the limitations of the kit it usually degenerated to stum^h around in the dark and walking into trees. NVGs ar all they are cracked up to be.



Sergeant Evan Hale, Colour Sergeant Smith, Colonel Paulson, Sergeant Padley and Sergeant Dennis Smith

I was surprised by many of the soldiers I trained with, some, mainly the younger ones, were dedicated, serious and well motivated. However, I found many, especially NCOs, to be past their sell by date. This was probably due to the fact that they only wanted to stick it out for a couple more years in order to collect their pensions. Unlike the TA, the USNG receive a pension, free education, private medical care for themselves and their families and employer protection - have we got something to learn I asked myself?

The heat wasn't unbearable, just a little uncomfortable. The American kit is not heavy, and I soon found that 'humping your ruck' never exceeded distances of more than a couple of kilometres. Critters were a problem, with regular inspections for ticks and chiggers. I was lucky, I didn't get bitten once, didn't even get a tick (thanks Deet!!) but Sergeant Padley came back looking like his body had been used for darts practice. Such is life.

It wasn't all hard work, with trips to the Rodeo in Arkansas, and into Oklahoma to an Indian reservation. We left Arkansas to head back to Washington DC on the second Wednesday, where we met up with our Scottish pals and became tourists for three days.

The three days at the Inn Hotel in Arlington made up for all the hardships of the first week. We got to visit such places as the Korean and Vietnam War Memorial, the White House, and many of the museums on the Washington Mall. Night times were spent, you've guessed it, frequenting the local bars, where we soon gained ourselves quite a reputation as the Yorkshire v Scotland drinking championship, which was quite fierce at times.

Eventually it was time to leave, but what an exit it was, back to the airport in a chauffeur driven Cadillac limo, complete with phone, television and bar! We arrived back home on Sunday morning after another long flight. The exchange was an experience I'll never forget, and was indeed an honour. It is open only to SNCOs or officers, so if you are just starting out on the promotional ladder it could be worth climbing that bit harder.

On a final note, if the Commanding Officer is reading this we would like to make our services available again for 1998; it's hard, but someone's got to do it.

Colour Sergeant Smith and Sergeant Padley
TA/USNG Exchange Programme 1997
A Company 3 DWR

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P. D. Buczko - Bn 2i/c 3 DWR	G. Metcalf - MTO 3 DWR
W. A. Butt - Padre 3 DWR	A. M. Mohr - RAO 3 DWR
P. Davies - OC C Company 3 DWR	J. Ogden - Wing Commander SUOTC
D. Dunston - Inf Adviser 250 FD AMB	P. A. Sherris - OC Recce 3 DWR
A. J. Greenside - OC B Company 3 DWR	R. P. Wyithe - 2i/c HQ Company 3 DWR
M. A. Lodge - OC RTT Trg 3 DWR	
I. Marshall - OC HQ Company 3 DWR	
M. D. Murton - RMO 3 DWR	
D. K. Rhodes - OC A Company 3 DWR	
	Subalterns
	D. Curran - OC SF 3 DWR
	M. K. Hunter - B Company 3 DWR
	T. H. L. Brearley - C Company 3 DWR
	P. Stephenson - C Company 3 DWR
	J. A. E. Cameron - A Company 3 DWR
	J. H. Hargreaves - A Company 3 DWR
	Officer Cadets
	I. Hetherington - B Company 3 DWR
	R. Huddart - A Company 3 DWR
	J. Hunt - B Company 3 DWR

D COMPANY YORKSHIRE (N&W) ARMY CADET FORCE

Annual Camp 1997

This year's Annual Camp was again held at Cultybraggan Camp, Scotland, for the third time in the last four years; we now know this part of Scotland exceptionally well. The camp was for senior cadets only, as the junior cadets had their Annual Camp in Strensall at Easter. Being a senior camp, we were able to treat the cadets in a more adult fashion and they all seemed to respond well to this. The camp was extremely successful and the cadets were obviously very happy in all that they were doing. It was obvious that all the training and hard work paid off at the end of camp when the Company did very well in the camp competitions, which gave us the following results: 1st in the March and Shoot, in the Assault and Shoot, and in the Orienteering. 3rd in the Drill Competition. The boys' Tug of War team was 2nd, as was the girls' Tug of War team, and the Volleyball team was also 2nd.

County Swimming Championships

In September, the Company hosted the County Swimming Championships at Dewsbury Sports Centre. Again our cadets did extremely well and, as a result, our female cadets were the County Champions, our senior male cadets were also County Champions and D Company was the overall winning company. This resulted in some of our cadets being selected to represent Yorkshire (N&W) Army Cadet Force in the North East Regional Championships which were held at Driffild.

Colts Canter

During September and October, 17 cadets from the Company practised for selection for places in one of the county's teams for 15 Brigade's Exercise Colts Canter, which took place at Wathgill Camp.

The county entered four teams and D Company cadets were spread amongst these teams. One of Yorkshire (N&W) Army Cadet Force's teams won the competition, and D Company cadets were part of the winning team.



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The Duke of Wellington's Regiment
(West Riding)*

H.M.S. IRON DUKE

AUTUMN DEPLOYMENT TO THE WEST INDIES AND THE U.S.A.

The last epistle from the seagoing Duke ended with the ship alongside in her home port of Portsmouth, at the end of July. Three weeks of leave were then taken before we sailed, in a sombre mood, on Monday 1 September following the death of Princess Diana the previous day.

The two weeks steaming across the 'pond' were devoted to an intensive weapons training package, which focused on the skills and procedures which would be required during our second visit to AUTECH (Atlantic Undersea Test and Evaluation Centre) this year. Having just steamed 3,720 miles, the ship arrived in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, for a short but interesting visit.

Too quickly at an end, it was just a day's sail to reach Andros Island in the Bahamas, home of AUTECH. AUTECH was set up during the sixties to further underwater research. HMS Iron Duke was there to work with the submarine HMS Triumph to continue development of anti-submarine tactics and to trial equipment. The range is situated in an area known as the 'Tongue of the Ocean' which has depths of over 2,000m within five miles of the shore. Andros Island is the largest of the Bahamas group, but it has the sparsest population, and AUTECH is the main employer, taking advantage of the otherwise deserted waters.

After two weeks conducting trials, the ship visited the port of Nassau, on the Bahamian island of New Providence, for a few days of standoff. A refreshed ship's company returned to the trials for a further three weeks, this time joining up with the carrier HMS Invincible and Fleet Support Vessel, RFA Fort Victoria.

Whilst in the Caribbean the ship was able to fulfil an important secondary function by lending support to the region's counter-drugs operations. The countries of South America are well documented as being the base for drug smugglers. The traffic heads north primarily destined for the United States, but a significant portion is destined for Europe. The myriad of islands within the Caribbean offers the smuggler a multitude of options. The US Coastguard is the primary organisation countering the sea-borne traffic, aided by the Royal Navy and other Commonwealth Defence Forces such as the Bahamas. The ship was able to contribute by using her sensors and helicopter to monitor air and sea lanes within the region.

After three weeks at sea and at the mid-point of the deployment the ship was in need of a period of dedicated maintenance. We headed north to Cape Fear and the port of Wilmington, North Carolina, arriving on 20 October. In these days of modern lean-manned ships we were able to take full advantage of contractors to conduct painting and deep cleaning, which freed up some of the sailors who were able to travel into the Smokey Mountains for a week-long expedition and allow others to explore other areas of the continental USA. Nothing distracts the Royal Navy from celebrating the Battle of Trafalgar and so, whilst the officers held a Trafalgar night dinner, the senior ratings

held a 'pickle night', both to toast the Immortal Memory. HMS Iron Duke then sailed for St Lucia to represent the UK during the island's Remembrance Day ceremonies. A full guard in full white uniform was paraded and we were only sorry not to have a few splashes of red with some Regimental bandmen which would have repeated the success of the visit earlier in the year by two from the 1st Battalion. The ship then sailed for an exercise area off Puerto Rico to meet the carrier, support vessel, submarine and HMS Liverpool, who had pulled herself away from Monsterrat. An intensive period of training was conducted, the highlight of which was the firing of the ship's harpoon missile system. This was the Royal Navy's only firing for the year and allowed much useful information to be gained on the weapon's performance parameters.

Following a visit to Baltimore, we finally arrived back in the UK on 12 December just in time to get the ship's company away on some well-deserved Christmas leave.

1997 had been quite a year. 248 days deployed away from the UK. 186 days at sea with 64 days alongside in 19 foreign ports, ranging from Cartagena in Colombia to Severomorsk in Russia. Thankfully 1998 has our operations centred around the UK coast, with only a quick foreign visit to Oporto planned in at this stage. As a result, the ship will have plenty of opportunities to further the affiliation with the 1st Battalion and we look forward to seeing some of the Duke of Boots onboard as we introduce them to their 'Sea Legs'.



H.M.S. Iron Duke conducting a close pass at high speed ahead of a range vessel during AUTECH trials off the Bahamas.

10th BATTALION THE BALUCH REGIMENT

We last reported on our allied regiment, 10th Battalion the Baluch Regiment, in issue 215, Spring 1991, and we are glad to be able to provide some up to date news of the Battalion.

"The Tanners" were stationed at Malakand Fort in North West Frontier Province in 1993, when they were called upon to serve as part of the United Nations force in Somalia. Readers will recall from issue 215 that the Regiment last served in Somalia in 1906-1909, its doctor earning a VC in 1909.

This time, the Battalion reached Mogadishu in April 1993 and became part of UNOSOM in early May. Based on the soccer stadium in south Mogadishu, it was responsible for escorting convoys and humanitarian relief workers to famine-stricken areas and for patrols to

provide local security and to deter the illegal passage of weaponry.

Early in June 1993, the Battalion's patrols were ambushed, troops being trapped in two different places, and the soccer stadium was encircled by Somali militants under General Aideed. During the day the Battalion lost one officer and twenty soldiers killed and one officer and forty eight soldiers wounded before the situation was stabilised. Two officers and six soldiers earned gallantry awards in the battle. Clearly the Battalion was called upon to pay a particularly high price when serving the cause of world peace.

The Battalion has now returned from United Nations' duties and is based in Sialkot Cantonment in Pakistan. We wish them well.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From: C. Ford
18 Grasscroft Avenue, Honley,
Huddersfield, HD7 2HY.
Tel 01484 662976

From: Mr G. H. Wragg
155 Long Lane, Attenborough, Beeston,
Notts, NG9 6BZ.
11 October 1997

The Editor
The 'Iron Duke'

I have for the past months, researched the Colours of the Regiment, and have come up with a few unanswered questions, I would be most pleased if any of your readers had any information on the following:

In 1939 the Colours of the 7th Battalion were lodged in St Mary's Church, Greenfield for the duration of the war.

Second Lieutenant E. J. B. Mowat carried the King's Colour

Second Lieutenant T. W. Buckley carried the Regimental Colour

Escort.

CSM W. R. Smith

CSM R. Lee

Sergeant ***** Who was the third man?

13 September 1952. The Regiment was granted the "Freedom of Huddersfield". Who carried the three sets of Colours? Who was in the escort to the Colours?

14 September 1952. The day after the parade in Huddersfield the Colours were lodged for safe keeping at the Depot, Halifax, whilst the 1st Battalion was away in Korea.

Who carried the three sets of Colours? Who was in the escort to the Colours?

How and who took the Colours to Gibraltar after Korea?

Who was in the escort to the Colours when the Honorary Colours were handed over to the Regimental Museum, 17 April 1971?

Can anyone verify the following: when the 2nd Battalion left India for Burma in 1942 the Colours and Battalion silver were buried under the barrack square at Robert's Barracks, Peshawar.

Yours sincerely,
Cyril Ford

Dear Sir,

Sittang Painting

It was with keen interest on opening The Iron Duke, Autumn '97, that I noted those present at the unveiling. It would seem that there must only be a small number of people who are still with us after the 55 years that have elapsed since the campaign of '42.

At the time the bridge was blown I was with Captain Simmonds and we had of course lost contact with the remainder of the Regiment.

I believe it was the next day when we got sight of the damaged bridge, albeit from the wrong side of it. We were lucky indeed to get the locals to take us across by boat, some distance upstream of the bridge. We were also thankful that, in the main, we had our Arms intact, including our LMG; I was No.2 on it with Corporal David Hope. I believe we made contact with the remainder of the Regiment some time later, I think somewhere near Pegu.

I did write some letters in an attempt to make contact with anyone who was in the later campaign of '44 and Brigadier Firth was kind enough to reply with some information on the recce that we made to Mokokchung. It all seems a very long time ago now, but some events are still very vivid in the mind.

Yours sincerely,
George H. Wragg
Ex-Corporal, 2nd Battalion

Earlier this year RHQ received the following letter:

From: Dr Robert D. Crocker
987 King's Road, Sydney, Nova Scotia,
Canada, B1S 1C5.
30 January 1997

Dear Sir,

I am wondering if you could direct me on where I may obtain the history of The Duke of Wellington's Regiment, The 33rd Regiment of Foot.

It was this same Regiment who built our small Garrison Chapel while stationed here in Sydney c1785 and I think it more than proper that our people know something of these brave men.

Any help that you can give me would eternally be appreciated.

Most respectfully,
Robert D. Crocker

From: The Royal British Legion Village,
Aylesford, Kent, ME20 7NX.

Sir,

The Chindits

The Royal British Legion is arranging the second tour to the Chindit area of operations, to take place in November 1998. The visit will include Myitkyina, Mogaung, White City, Hopin, Mandalay, Maymyo and the Rangoon Cemeteries.

A video featuring Brigadier Michael Calvert, and supported by original newsreel and photographs is also available from the Royal British Legion.

Since a number of your Association members served with the Chindits, I should be grateful if you could bring these details to their notice. A full brochure will be available in October of this year.

Yours faithfully,
Piers Storie-Pugh

Royal British Legion Pilgrimage Department

From: Mr Ron Morgan
25 Yewtree Grove, Ipswich, Suffolk.
18 August 1997

Dear Sir,

Below is an extract from a publication called Pennine Panorama, by Peter Wightman, which features people and places, past and present, in and around the central Pennines. It is an authentic record from Otley (Orley?) Parish Records which lists people buried in the churchyard and includes: "20-3-1787. Stephen Harrison of Waterside, pauper, a Chelsea Pensioner, formerly in the 33rd Regiment of Foot, aged 102 years, and buried with full military honours".

This does make one start thinking. I didn't realise the Chelsea Pensioners went back to the 1700s. Was Stephen Harrison an In-Pensioner, or did he live at Colne on a small pension under the supervision of the Chelsea Pensioners' organisation, if there was one then?

I am a little puzzled as to why he was classed as a pauper when he died. Why was he not buried in a pauper's grave? Thankfully (for him) someone cared enough for him to obtain a funeral with full Military Honours.

He was born in 1685; what a story he could have told!

Yours sincerely
Ron Morgan
(Late 2/6th Battalion)

We note that Stephen Harrison would have been 17 when the 33rd was raised.

From: Mr W. Norman
17 Bank Street, Jackson Bridge,
Huddersfield, HD7 7HE.
14 October 1997

Sir,

On the wall outside the Sergeants' Mess of the 1st Battalion there is a Dukes' Cap Badge, carved in oak,

which has a history that I think should not be allowed to pass into oblivion.

It was carved by Sydney Fox Swift who is a very artistic type of man. Not only was he a very competent carver of wood and stone he is also a poet - one of which has been shortlisted for an international poetry competition, and an artist, with some of his watercolours hung in the National Army Museum. Some of his cartoons can be found in the late 1930/40 Iron Dukes.

Syd was a Drummer in the 2nd battalion and he ended the war as a WOII with the 5th Dragoon Guards. He was twice wounded in World War 2 and is now at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. His health is not very good at present and he is 86 years old. He always was a very nice type of person and a good soldier.

I enclose an article and a photograph which tell the story (see page 123, Ed).

Yours sincerely,
Bill Norman

From: CST Lehmann
18 Figsbury Ridge, Winterbourne Gunner,
Salisbury, Wiltshire.
23 October 1997

Dear Sir,

I was fascinated to read the details of the 1930-31 1st Battalion Rugby Team and by John Stacpoole's letter in the next issue of The Iron Duke. I look forward to seeing the reply to his challenge that the Battalion Shooters should remind us of their success.

The letter prompted me to write, as I would like to pay tribute to the group of senior Dukes who have given me so much support in my own shooting efforts, both with service and target rifle. I fired in Army Target Rifle Club teams with Derrick Wood for many years and he was always prepared to give advice and support, as well as being an excellent wind coach. He was always interested in service shooting and visited me in Bulford to spend a couple of hours on the range with Alma Company shortly before he died. Sam Robertson keeps a weather eye on my progress and I regularly meet Bill Norman and Tommy Nowell on the ranges. We often meet for a pint after a shoot; a crucial element of any sport!

Success at rugby and shooting requires a combination of talent, hard training and a good coach, not to mention a little luck on the day. The 1st Battalion Rugby Team is putting these components together in a style which accords with the professional era. I hope that when I return to the Battalion, with promise of some stability and close proximity to ranges, we will have the opportunity to produce a creditable shooting team.

I have been fortunate in my own efforts as Captain of the Army Target Rifle Team and we have achieved a gradual development over several seasons. This year the team was second to the RAF by 13 points in the Inter Services Short Range Match, which showed a marked improvement over recent years. The team went on to win the Long Range Match by 7 points recording the first victory since 1976! Hot on this success, I had the honour of being Captain of a very talented Combined Services team, who recorded a convincing win over teams from all the home countries.

Yours sincerely,
Toby Lehmann

To the Editor

Comradeship

As a platoon sergeant in D Company 1st Battalion DWR on that 'hell on earth' place named Anzio, I will never forget those difficult months in the cold, damp 'Wadis' and how relieved we were when the Germans were pushed back to the other side of Rome.

On one occasion, when we were on three day break from the front-line, I was standing near a petrol dump when an enemy shell landed on it. As I put my hands in front of my eyes, my right hand got badly burned, so I went to the American Field Hospital on the beach-head where a doctor peeled off the burnt skin, dressed it and put my arm in a sling.

When I returned to my company I was told I would be LOB (left out of battle), so my platoon went back to the front line without me. A few hours after they had left, I met the CQMS who was taking rations to them, so I asked for a lift. When I arrived there my company

commander said, "What are you doing in the front line when you are LOB?" As I had taken my arm out of the sling so it did not look too conspicuous, he asked "How is the pain in your hand?" I'm sure he knew I was not telling the truth when I said it was a lot better, not saying that I had painkillers in my pocket.

Major Husskinson, not only a fine leader but also an understanding officer whom I considered it an honour to serve under, allowed me to take over my platoon. My platoon were glad I was back with them as, in action, we were like a family, always there to help each other when needed.

In six and a half years' war service, two of these with the 1st Battalion DWR at Anzio, Monte Cece and Palestine, I could not have wished for better comrades and I am sure that any one of them would do the same if LOB.

Comradeship comes from within.

Ex Sergeant D. E. G. Emery, DCM, BEM.

COMPETITION SHOOTING IN THE REGIMENT

The Army Rifle Association

The Army Rifle Association (ARA) was founded in 1893, and its Centenary Book in 1993 was dedicated to Derrick Wood, Chairman of the Army Target Rifle Club for many years. This is our own Major D. H. Wood who died in the centenary year. Target rifle shooting is a more exclusive and expensive form of shooting than service shooting, and it is beyond the scope of this article to go into it in any great detail.

Service rifle shooting is, of course, the main occupation of the ARA, but there seems to be no record of the Regiment or any member of the Regiment from 1893 until 1938, when a Sergeant Peacock shot for the army as a member of the Army Eight. This was a considerable achievement, because for many years the team was mainly composed of SASC instructors, REME armourers (post World War 2) and members of the rifle regiments. There was no ARA central competition at Bisley during World War 2 and it was not to reopen until 1947.

Post-War Shooting

In 1950 Major Bunbury took a team to Bisley from 1 DWR, when we came nowhere as a team, but Major Bunbury won the Army 100 Cup. The Army 100 Cup was one of four matches making up the Army Championship. In those days, 1,200 competitors took part in Stage 1, which was the Roupell and Whitehead matches added together. The top 300 then took part in Stage 2, which was the Roberts Cup, a very testing fire and movement match. The total scores from both stages were then added together and the top 100 went into Stage 3, which was the Army 100 Cup. This was another classic match of deliberate shooting at 600x, fire and movement down the range, followed by a rapid and then a snap shoot at 300x. All three stages were then added together, and the Queen's Medallist, or Army Champion, was the competitor with the highest total score. The ARA Jewels were awarded to the first three, Gold, Silver and Bronze. Their names and their

regiment or corps were then engraved on the large honour boards in the dining room of the ARA Officers' Mess; they are still there today.

Bisley

Two British infantry battalions ran the ARA central meeting at Bisley in those days, and 1 DWR was one of them in 1951. It took 250 men to run Century Range alone, and the Army Meeting, using four different weapons, lasted for two weeks. The army also helped run the National Rifle Association meeting which was the following two weeks. Army support was gradually reduced over the years, although 750 competitors were catered for for many years. However, by 1996 there were only 120 competitors on one weapon for one day, with no help from the Regular Army, but with a little assistance from the TA.

Under Bunbury, the training of the Bisley team was full time for young soldiers from the first week in January, until Bisley in the last week of June. The more experienced 'shots' joined in later, having kept their eye in with small bore shooting during the winter. A full platoon plus its officer was detailed as Butt Party for the whole six months' training. They proved to be invaluable as a learning aid, because, with experience, they could tell from the bullet strike in the bank exactly which shots missed and where they went. On the rundown target they numbered all the shot-holes in pencil for examination and recording in our score books. The job of the Oi/c Butts was very exacting. Bunbury would merely say "we are going to do the Whitehead practices 3 and 4 followed by the Roberts" and it all had to be perfect without any further instruction. In fact Butt Parties were popular with all except the officer, because the men became proud of their expertise, knew exactly what they were doing all the time, and were excused all other duties, and, above all, they were well away from the RSM! They also took bets on which target would win.

ETRs

When electronic target ranges came in, very little was learned by comparison, and it was necessary to have an observer capable of seeing the bullet with every firer, in order to learn and improve your shooting. Many units never understood this, firing hundreds of thousands of rounds and hardly improving at all, getting nowhere in the Major Unit Championship, which was called the 60th Cup, after the KRRC. The record for 1 DWR in the fifties and sixties in this main championship was excellent. Up to fifty teams would enter and our results were as follows:

1951 - 3rd	1952 - 2nd	1955 - 7th	1956 - 3rd
1958 - 9th	1959 - 4th	1960 - 7th	1961 - 6th
1962 - 4th	1965 - 6th	1966 - 8th	

In other words, we were in single figure placings for two decades. We did not compete during the years not listed due to foreign service, minor wars etc. However, the team took part in various SAA meetings all over the world, and swept the board in some, eg. Germany, Northern Ireland, Kenya and Korea.

Korea

Some of our Skill at Arms training was used in action in the Korean War, where we had a very active sniper section. Luckily for us, the enemy, with one exception, were very poor shots and nobody took much notice of them. The exception, who was rumoured to be a Russian, made our FOOs and MFCs keep their heads down and use "donkeys' ears" (periscopes), which considerably reduced the effectiveness of our artillery and mortars. It only needed two soldiers to be hit in the head at 1000x to produce considerable 'nerves' in the two forward companies. With artillery shells you get about one and a half seconds' warning and with mortars three quarters of a second, but with the bullet from a sniper you get no warning at all.

In Korea, our team selected, trained and led the British Commonwealth Division's shooting team against American divisions, who had semi-automatic rifles, and yet we beat most of them. The training was full of problems; having organised a squadron of tanks to create a range back to 600x and arranged sandbagged firing points with windmill targets made by the Royal Engineers, we arrived the first morning to discover the range had disappeared. All the sandbags had been emptied and stolen, along with all the windmill target frames. We had to do it all again and then put a 24-hour guard on it.

At home and in Germany we often produced district and divisional champion shots, but it is beyond the scope of this article to attempt to enumerate all of these.

The Army 100

The main aim of all service rifle competitions at Bisley was to get into the Army 100. Prior to 1957 there were money prizes, but in 1957 the Army 100 medal was awarded for the first time with a bar showing the year. For each subsequent year a date bar only was

awarded to be added to the medal ribbon. For this reason accurate records had to be kept. It is emphasised therefore that this list does not include members of the Army 100 before 1957. Dukes who have been in the Army 100 once:

Private Seymour - 1957	Private Brook - 1962
Private Tatchell - 1959	Private Maynard - 1966
Private Parker - 1961	L Corporal Smith - 1980
Col Sergeant Fenn - 1961	Sergeant Hepworth - 1980
Sergeant Holliday - 1962	Private Bates - 1984
Corporal Brown - 1986	Captain Lehmann - 1986

Dukes who have been in the Army 100 more than once, since 1957 only, with the number of bars to their medal and the date brackets:

Corporal Gott	- 3	62-66
CSM Norman	- 4	57-60
Major Cowell	- 6	57-66
Sergeant Blackshaw	- 6	58-65
Major Wood	- 7	57-64
Major Robertson	- 11	57-72

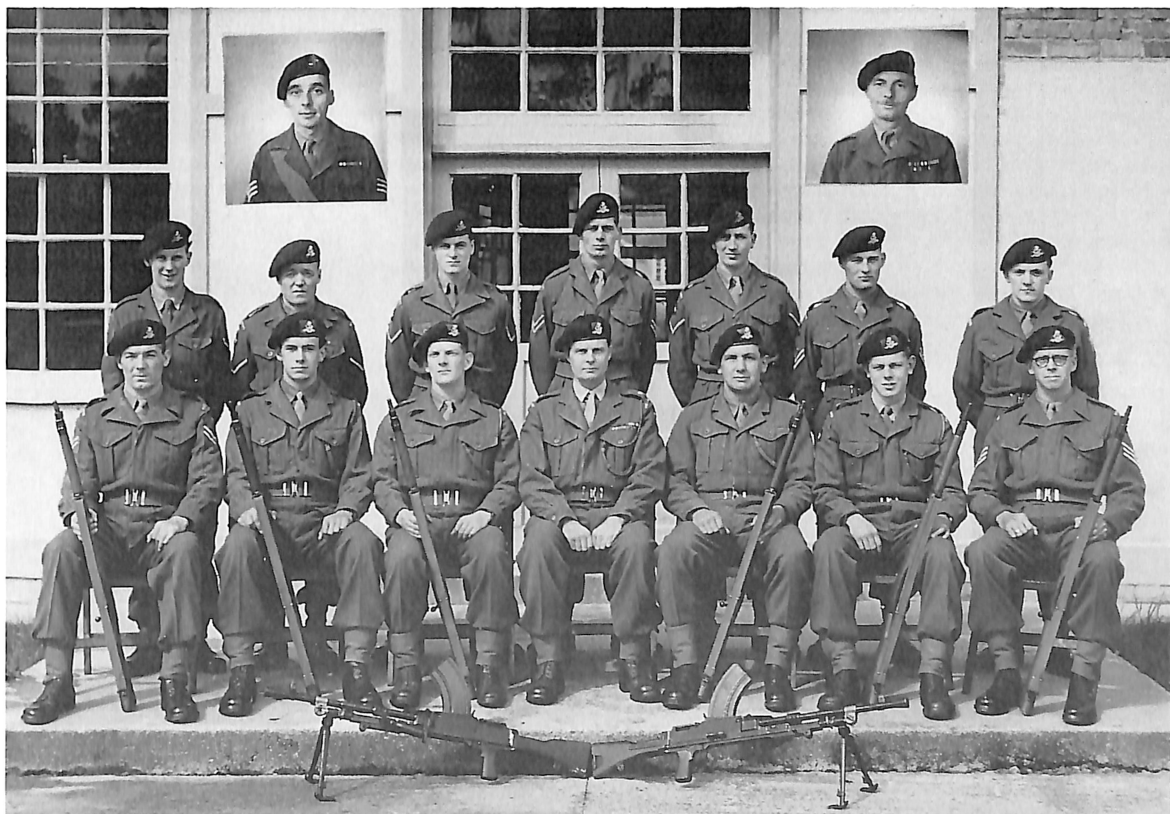
Four members of the Regiment have been in the Army VIII representing the British Army with the Service Rifle:

Sergeant Peacock - 1938	CSM Norman - 1956
Major Wood - 1961	Major Robertson - 1963
	1965, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972

In 1972 Major Robertson was Captain of the Army VIII. The immense prestige of this appointment is proved by the fact that there is a reserved car-parking space at Bisley for the Captain of the Army VIII!

Bunbury

Major F. R. St P. Bunbury DSO, the new 2i/c of 1 DWR at Strensall, did the groundwork for the original expertise which was then passed on. It is fair to say that he was a shooting fanatic. All potential team members had to know the details of every match, carry a shooting box, score book and notebook. Every shot had to be recorded, and poor shots declared immediately with the reason. We usually shot in pairs, with one watching for the swirl and strike and noting any mistakes made. With the LMG, for instance, the No.2 was responsible for a bad shoot, and not the actual firer. Bunbury was always trying out new ideas and experimenting. If it had been dry for a long time we would have to carry out stirrup pumps and buckets of water, because we had to learn to shoot 'wet' with a bolt action rifle. A few drops of rain on the ammunition increased the chamber pressure so much that you fired as much as 3ft high at 600x. Unfortunately, the first time this was tried out in practice with Bunbury himself, the young soldier operating the pump did not fully understand the reason for this extraordinary performance and doused the 2i/c instead of his ammunition!



The start of it all in 1951

Inserts: Norman and Stevens (REME). Standing: Wood, McKinley, Jackson, A. N. Other, Middleton, Bailes, Frisby. Seated: Davis, Perkis, Robertson, Bunbury, Cowell, A. N. Other, Newell.

Another problem was the butt plate slipping down the shoulder during a rapid shoot. Nothing could be done to the rifle, except blacking sights, so Bunbury decided that the answer, apart from a good right elbow hole, if you could find one, was to have a sticky battle dress shoulder. He experimented with various substances, and was pleased to find the answer was simply marmalade. The first day he showed us this, with great pride, was a lovely hot summer day. As we watched his demonstration carefully, it was soon apparent that all the wasps for miles around had been summoned to breakfast. It does not need too much imagination to picture the frantic scene that followed! After rapid shoots the butt markers used to put white spotting discs in every shot hole, and 300x away we gazed through our binoculars and noted each one down in our score books. One morning while we were doing this, Bunbury stood up, pulled down his battle dress blouse, stamped his boots, and told us to pay attention "Look at my target" he commanded, "Now look at yours, you see the difference, my target has a good group, all the shots together. That is because of muscles, I've got 'em, you haven't". Then looking at Robertson, who was boxing for the Army Officers' team at that time, he said "You have got some muscles Sam, but they are the wrong type". After that he was known as "Muscles" and we had to do extra pokey drill every morning.

Honours

The greatest accolade for any Bisley shot is to have his name and the name of his regiment/corps carved on the honour boards, three members of the Regiment have their names on these boards:

- 1956 CSM Norman winner of the Bronze Jewels for coming 3rd on the rifle.
- 1958 Captain Robertson winner of the Victory Cup and the Gold Medal for coming 1st on the SMG.
- 1961 Major Wood winner of the Silver Medal for coming 2nd on the SMG.
- 1970 Major Robertson winner of the Silver Jewels for coming 2nd on the rifle.
- 1972 Major Robertson for captaining the Army VIII.

It will be seen, therefore, that the Regiment never quite hit the jackpot of the Major Unit Championship, or the Queen's Medal, coming 2nd frequently in many competitions, including the Army 100 Cup and the Whitehead Cup, when Robertson tied for first place, but lost out in the tie shoots.

We did win the Worcester Cup in 1952 which was a LMG team shoot, and in 1956 Staff Sergeant Kingdon, who was our REME Armourer and part of our team, won the Queen's Medal.

Pistol

We had our successes in the pistol too. In 1974 Major A. Dennison won the Pistol Cup, and Major D. H. Wood was captain of the Whitehead Pistol team in 1962 and 1964. The Regiment was also well represented in the Army SMG team. Apart from Wood, Robertson, Cowell and Dennison, we also had three private soldiers in the team, Hoddinott, Parker and Tatchell. Two presidents of the ARA came from the Regiment, 1962/63 General Bray and 1989/90 General Huxtable.

Non-Central Competitions

Apart from the central competition at Bisley, 1 DWR did enter some non-central competitions, including the Company Cup, which we won twice, once with A Company (OC: Major Robertson) and once with B Company (OC: Major Wood).

Operational Deployment

In 1961, the ARA Central Meeting at Bisley had only just started when the team from the Royal Fusiliers, who were in our Brigade, suddenly left overnight. Rumour had it that they were on some very secret "Spearhead" operation. A week or so later General Harrington expressed a rather delighted surprise that the Dukes team, which included company commanders, was still at Bisley, although the Battalion had gone! He told us that the Royal Fusiliers were after us, and had not moved yet, but that we were to take no action as he was quite confident that the CO had it all under control. It was impossible to resist making a phone call however, and on contacting the Oi/c Rear Party we were told that the CO did not want to bother us as we had five members of the Battalion in the Army 100 the next day. We were to carry on and shoot in the Army 100 and then return to Colchester, unpack and repack to catch the last flight out on Sunday morning; which we did. This was a splendid example of a calm and confident Commanding Officer and it greatly impressed all who heard it, especially the shooting world. It was in fact the Kuwait emergency, which petered out when President Kasseem was shot by his army officers who were not keen to fight the British Army, many of them having been trained by us. It was all very similar to 1960 when the Southern Rhodesian Army officers said the same thing. Both times we flew out in two days, but spent six months getting back. In 1961 we were told to wait for a slow boat from China, which would pick us up in Mombasa at very little cost. In the end it wasn't quite so cheap, but that is another story.

The Team

Some people thought the "Bisley Bullets" were on a good thing; in fact it was extremely hard work, because at the end of a day running up and down the ranges in all weathers you had all your weapons to clean. It did not do our hearing much good either, it was not until 1960 that ear defenders were worn. The LMG especially was a very great deal of work, and not just to clean. If either of the gun team made the slightest mistake, or fumble, during any of the shoots or rundowns you came nowhere. It was very seldom that anyone got into the top twenty at Bisley. The LMG was important for team shoots, and the team was what

counted. The constant hope of the team was to find a non-shooting team captain, but this proved impossible. For many years Major J. D. P. Cowell was team captain, but he was also a very good and extremely steady and reliable shot, we could not afford to lose him from the team. There is no doubt however that it did not do his own shooting any good, and the rifle regiments had a distinct advantage over us in having such a rare bird as a non-shooting team captain. Someone who was keen enough and experienced enough to know the whole complicated business, but was not a good enough shot to be in the team. We tried a few officers, but without success.

There are two phrases that will never be forgotten, after the last round was fired: "Check, paste up, move back to 600x, don't forget the telephone", and: "It's in the book boy" this last from the Secretary of the ARA, Alec Bennett of the 60th, and it always was, as Robertson discovered to his cost when he had the top score in the "Coronation Cup" but did not appear in the prize list, because he had failed to read the rules properly and had therefore omitted to put in an additional claim card to get it "in the book".

The Present Day

Although this article refers, in the main, to old competitions, it is good to see the Regiment is continuing to make its mark in the target rifle world with Major C. S. T. Lehmann as the present Captain of the Army Target Rifle Team, and CSM Bill Norman, a very valued past member of the team, who is still shooting in the new F Class.

TA OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN 15(UK) PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS GROUP



The UK's only Military Psychological Operations (PSYOPS) Unit will become fully operational in late 1998 and is now recruiting well-motivated, lateral thinking personnel to fill a wide range of appointments within the TA element of a small Regular unit based at Chicksands in Bedfordshire. 15 (UK) PSYOPS Group requires personnel with expertise in one or more of the following areas:

- Desk-Top Publishing and Printing
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These appointments range from JNCO to Major level and offer considerable opportunities for involvement in future military operations worldwide in a worthwhile and uniquely challenging specialist field.

If you are interested in becoming a member of this exciting new organisation please write enclosing a CV to:-

The Administrative Officer,
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DISS,
DISC Chicksands,
SHEFFORD,
Bedfordshire. SG17 5PR
Tel. (01462) 752838
Fax. (01462) 752821

Closing date for applications is 1 February 1998

A DUKE ON HORSEBACK!

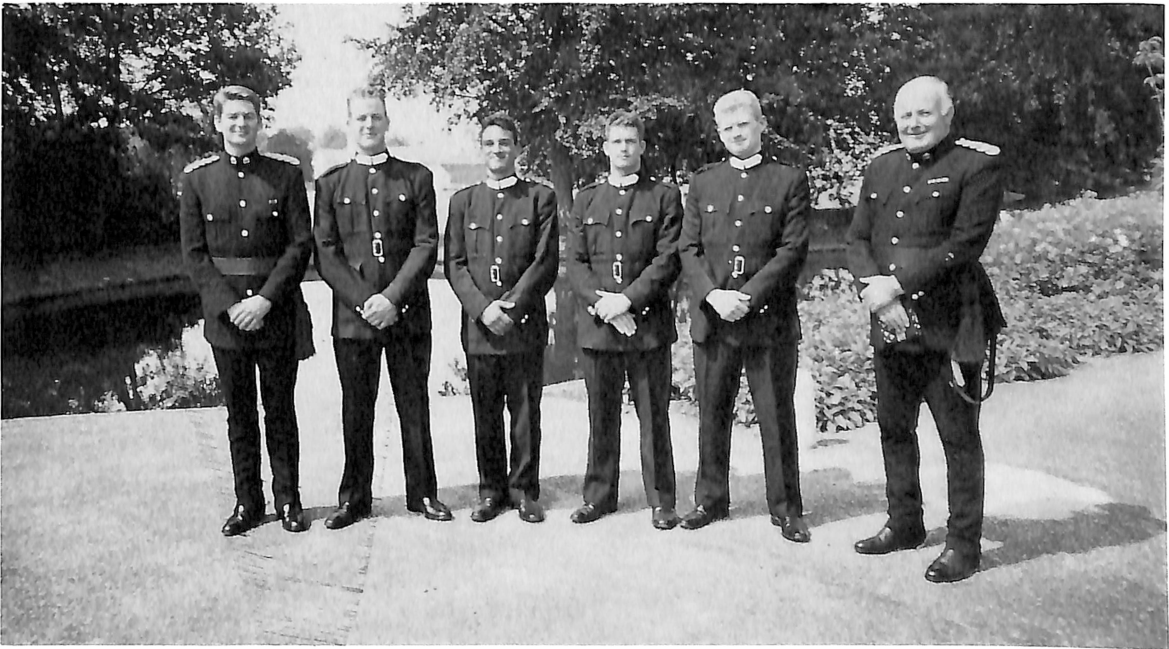
Sunday 8 September 1996 found me uneasily returning to the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, a place I had quite happily left behind on completion of my commissioning course with no intention of ever returning, unless for the occasional summer ball. Very little seemed to have changed and I was still frightened of the college sergeant majors, even though they no longer shouted at me.

My first few weeks were spent as Training Officer to the Short Courses Company, running a Territorial Army Commissioning Course and a Professionally Qualified Officers' Course. Apparently this was also supposed to be a period of preparation in which I could find the assorted new uniforms needed, get to know the workings of the Academy and, more importantly, learn to ride a horse. In what spare time I had I dashed off to the bootmakers and tailors and packed in a few riding lessons.

As my date for taking up the appointment of Adjutant Old College and commanding a parade on horseback came closer I became uneasy. Trotting around an indoor riding school was all very well, but I had not yet learnt to steer, stop or engage both forward and reverse gears using only one hand. Thursday 7 November was a tense day, dark stormy skies and strong winds blowing autumn leaves across Old College Square. This had the effect of spooking Habitat, my steed, and consequently scaring the living daylights out of me. Fortunately I remained mounted throughout the parade, but whether this was despite or because of the healthy swig of port which allowed me to climb aboard I know not.

I have been fortunate enough to command several parades since, including a freedom parade of Bracknell in front of spectacular crowds, and a Territorial Army Commissioning Parade, at which the salute was taken by the Chief of the General Staff, General Sir Roger Wheeler. I have only been thrown once, by Oliver, quite spectacularly landing in front of the cadets whose parade I was rehearsing. I hasten to add that Corporal of Horse Avison, who runs the Sandhurst stables, later admitted to me that Oliver is a nightmare of a horse and was only being used because all other army horses were busy on the Queen's Birthday Parade. Having managed to avoid pictorial evidence leaking north to Yorkshire or the 1st Battalion, I was finally pinned down by the Colonel of the Regiment in August 1997 on his visit to the parade of Commissioning Course 963, and, specifically Second Lieutenants Maude, Smith, Sutcliffe and Tetley. I was told in no uncertain terms it was time that pictures of 'a Duke on horseback' appeared in *The Iron Duke*. Knowing that Major Craig Preston or Colour Sergeant McCabe, both currently at the Academy, would quite happily send incriminating evidence I have had to provide the photographs that you see before you (see frontispiece).

Time at Sandhurst is obviously filled with things other than riding. As well as day to day Adjutant duties, fulfilling my roles as Rugby Club Hon Sec/Fixtures Sec and Regimental Representative for both the Dukes and the Green Howards are fairly time consuming. Several new Dukes' officers have been at Sandhurst during my tour, including those shown on



Dukes officers at the Sovereign's Parade on 8 August '97.

Left to right: Captain Douthwaite, Second Lieutenants Smith, Sutcliffe, Maude and Tetley, Colonel of the Regiment. There is no truth in the rumour that they were deployed like this in order to catch the horse which had slipped from under R. Douthwaite.

their commissioning day with the author and Colonel of the Regiment, and I am pleased to say there are more in the pipeline. Involvement with the rugby club has become fairly useful for regimental business, as rugby training is generally the best time to catch the potential Dukes' Officer Cadets. It is also light relief from some of the Household Division quirks that all who have been to Sandhurst will remember.

Although I remain at Sandhurst until August '98, my tenure as Old College Adjutant came to an end on 15 October '97 on my admission to hospital to have reconstructive knee surgery, so I'm relieved to say that for the majority of readers this issue is the first and last opportunity to see this particular 'Duke on horseback'.

Captain R. J. Douthwaite DWR
Adjutant, Old College, RMA Sandhurst

INDIA: 50th ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

In 1947 the 2nd Battalion was stationed in Nicholson Lines, New Delhi, so we were detailed to provide a Guard of Honour on 14 August at Viceregal Lodge in New Delhi for the departure of the last Viceroy of India, Lord Louis Mountbatten, and his family from the Palace. I, along with Captain Paul White of Ikley and Lieutenant John Dunning from Doncaster, were among the officers on parade. I think everyone on the parade felt very proud to be involved in such an historic occasion. Soon afterwards the Battalion moved to Kalyan, prior to returning to the UK to be amalgamated with the 1st Battalion.

Last year, 1996, Paul White asked how I felt about going back to India for the 50th Anniversary of Partition, in 1997. I said I would go if it could be arranged and suggested he contact the High Commissioner's Office in London, which he did. Eventually the High Commissioner's Office told us that they could not arrange a visit to Delhi, but invited the three of us to attend the official celebrations in London, which we accepted with pleasure.

The celebration or commemoration, was held at the Hilton Hotel, Park Lane and was a sumptuous affair. There must have been almost 2,000 people, almost entirely Hindus, gathered in the main ballroom which was decorated with beautiful flowers. The invitation said national dress or lounge suits. The majority of men wore lounge suits and a few traditional dress. The ladies, without exception, wore national costume and the sight of the beautiful silks and colours of the saris was magnificent, as was the fantastic gold jewellery. I would estimate that more than 80% of the guests were not even born in 1947, but all enjoyed themselves. I suspect the men were mainly businessmen and bankers or the like.

We were entertained by traditional dancers and welcomed by the High Commissioner, Dr L. M. Singhoi. Mr Peter Mandelson spoke in reply but tended, in my opinion, to make it party political, instead of speaking on behalf of Her Majesty's Government.

There was every kind of drink to be had except alcohol and a superb supper was provided by twelve of the best Asian restaurants in London, representing the different regions of India.

The lovely flower arrangements and "flower pictures" were flown in from Bombay.

It was a very enjoyable party and we three were proud to have been invited.

Major P. H. Haws TD
ex member of DWR

John Dunning Reflects: Our Visit to London

Our visit to London covered 340 miles and occupied around thirty hours. The journey in our minds took us back fifty years and 8,400 miles to our brief stays in India.

For the writer, the hours were full of discoveries, not least of which was that our minds will sometimes play us false. More importantly he was asking himself "What have we learned from the failures of our empire building?"

We all have become aware, largely as the result of extensive media coverage of the celebration of India's fifty years of independence, just how little we knew, at the time, of the political manipulations that took place all those years ago. We see things more clearly now, not only as the result of learning from the way our own lives developed, but also as the result of changes in public perception of the lives and needs of others in this world.

We were experiencing then, in India, the beginning of the end of the British Empire and it is clear that we had to leave the country quickly to avoid annihilation of the British in India. Was it right to leave the Hindus and Muslims to slaughter each other? Should we have stayed to try and prevent this atrocity? Who can now say what was right and what was wrong? In recent years we have become aware of the faults and failures of one nation's inability to understand that all nations have to rely on each other in order to exist. We have learnt of man's many inhumanities to other men elsewhere in the world.

So long as there are differences of opinion and religion there will always be conflict. The best we can do is to minimise the effects of such conflicts by keeping them in dialogue form.

As we left the hotel, we were approached by a group of young Sikhs handing out leaflets. These claimed that they too were now experiencing slaughter on a scale similar to that of eighty years ago at Amritsar. For this, however, the British were not, on this occasion, responsible.

8th Battalion (145 Regiment Royal Armoured Corps). In the wake of the 50th Officers' Reunion Dinner of 1994, the 3rd Reunion Lunch was held at the St Ermin's Hotel, London, on 25 October and twelve members attended.

9th Battalion (146 Regiment Royal Armoured Corps) The 9th Battalion held its 50th Reunion Lunch at the Golden Lion Hotel, Leeds, on Tuesday 7 October 1997. There were 21 seated for lunch, where it was unanimously agreed to continue the reunion so long as they were able. Captain Tom Moore presided. The Colonel of the Regiment proposed the Toast to the Regiment. Two poems, written during the war by the late Harry Brunskill, who was a regular attendee at earlier reunions, were read by Ken Sykes MBE. They will be reproduced in a future issue.

LONDON BRANCH DINNER 1998

The London Branch will be holding its dinner at the Park Court Hotel, Lancaster Gate on Saturday 18 April 1998. The Regimental Association will be sponsoring a coach from Yorkshire to London, departing Friday 17 April and returning Sunday 19 April. Accommodation will again be at the Victory Services Club. Details will be sent to Branch Secretaries and to other regular attendees as soon as they have been confirmed.

MOSSLEY BRANCH

The Mossley Branch held its annual church service with Mossley's twinned town of Hem in France on Sunday 20 April 1997. Our normal visitors from Hem are usually about 14-20 strong, but unfortunately we had the sad news of the death of Youlande Liargre.

We started with our normal church service at St Joseph's RC Church which was conducted by Father Power. Our honoured guest was the Lady Mayoress of Ashton.

After the service, coffee and biscuits were served before going to the Cenotaph to lay wreaths, with our local police in attendance. Lance Corporal Shaun Houghton and Private Ian Walters of the 1st Battalion (Drums Platoon) played the Last Post and Reveille. Our French visitors were very impressed with both buglers who were dressed in their scarlets and were a credit to the 1st Battalion. After the Cenotaph we all made our way back to the Mossley Social Club, before moving to the 'Church Inn' for our traditional meal.

After the meal, we sang "The Dukes are Coming up the Hill" and then the presentation took place by Mrs Sheila Senior JP, who has been involved with the twinning for the full 25 years. The men were presented with a silver-plated tankard and the ladies were presented with a silver-plated trinket box, all engraved.

Speeches were made by Mr Raoul Detre (Councillor of Hem) and Mr Geoff Earnshaw (Secretary, Mossley Branch)

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MEETING OF THE MANAGING TRUSTEES OF THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION FUND

The Trustees met at Halifax on Friday 19 September 1997. Present were: The Colonel of the Regiment; Major General D. E. Isles, CB, OBE, DL; Brigadier D. W. Shuttleworth, OBE; Brigadier E. J. W. Walker, OBE, DL; Colonel R. R. St. J. Barkshire, CBE, TD, JP, DL; Lieutenant Colonel S. C. Newton, MBE; Lieutenant Colonel A. H. S. Drake, MBE; Major K. M. McDonald, TD, BA, JP, DL; Major D. L. J. Harrap; Major R. Heron; Mr J. P. B. Golding. Lieutenant Colonel W. Robins, OBE, Mr M. S. Flaving and Mr A. C. Jowett were in attendance. General Sir Charles Huxtable, KCB, CBE, was unable to attend.

Photograph by courtesy of the Stalybridge News



Left to right: Mr G. Earnshaw, Lance Corporal S. Houghton, Lady Mayoress, Private I. Walters and Mr Jerome Dos Santos.

Opening remarks

The Colonel of the Regiment opened the meeting and welcomed all present. In his opening remarks the Colonel offered his congratulations to Brigadier Walker, OBE, on his appointment as a Deputy Lieutenant of Lincolnshire. He advised the meeting that the Regiment was in good order and, though recruiting was still hard work, with the 1st Battalion was well up to strength and the 3rd Battalion satisfactory. He also informed the meeting that Lieutenant Colonel Hall was on this year's Blue List for promotion to Colonel and Major Borwell on the Pink List for promotion to Lieutenant Colonel.

The Colonel reported that though the Regiment's Benevolent Funds were proving adequate, there was a growing need for more money not of a benevolent nature. He said the Army was providing less and less money to battalions and regiments to support a wide variety of necessary activities, while the NAAFI rebate to battalions was being eroded and other funding sources drying up. It was for this reason that he had at this meeting brought forward the Central Funds accounts so that decisions could be made properly by Trustees on the support being sought for the Regiment from Association Funds beyond its traditional primary purposes of benevolence, albeit within the fund's laid down objects. The Regiment now had to look at how it would raise the money to support the Regiment in its widest sense.

Chairman of the Finance Committee's Statement

Mr Golding took the meeting through his report. The Committee noted that there was only an excess of income over expenditure in the Branch Management Fund of £171 (after taking into account the grant to the fund of £900). The Committee thought that there was likely to be an increased need for support this year and early next year to cover the costs of the Hindoostan Weekend, the Halifax Regimental Service and the Korean War 45th Anniversary. The Committee suggested that Trustees should be asked to consider that the Branch Management Fund grant should be increased from £900 to £1,000 plus whatever was needed to cover the cost of these events. This was agreed.

The Colonel of the Regiment then asked Colonel Barkshire to update Trustees on the investment performance of the funds. In reviewing these Colonel Barkshire reported that the market value of the holding at year end 31 March was £440,092 compared with £392,152 the previous year. As at the day before the meeting (Thursday 18 September) the value was £525,000 approximately. The funds were invested with three fund managers, Cazenove, Schroders and Mercury. In a performance assessment of city fund managers over the past five years, Cazenove had achieved first place and Schroders and Mercury second equal.

Grants and Appeals

A review of annual donations and grants was made and payments agreed as follows:

Army Benevolent Fund	£4,000
SSAFA	£100
Royal British Legion	£250

ATR Glencorse	Up to £400 on request (CO 1 DWR said there may be a similar need to support the Army Foundation Course starting shortly in Harrogate)
Salvation Army Huddersfield	£50
Salvation Army Halifax	£50
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Iron Duke Free List (as approved by Colonel of the Regiment and Regimental Secretary)	
Assisted Holiday Scheme	Up to £500 on request
Regimental Chapel Halifax	£50
Regimental Chapel York	£50
RMAS Memorial Chapel	£20

Subsidies

Reunion Dinner	Up to £800
London Branch Dinner (cost of coach to be limited to £10 per head)	
CO 1 DWR Welfare Fund	Up to £600
CO 3 DWR Welfare Fund - CO 3 DWR asked to set out his needs, if any.	

The Trustees considered and made grants to the following additional appeals:

ACF Foundation	£50
BKVA Arboretum Appeal	£100
49th Division Arboretum Appeal	£100
SSAFA	£100

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION AGM AND DINNER

1. The AGM of the Regimental Association was held at the Stakis Hotel, Bradford, on Saturday 4 October 1997. The Colonel of the Regiment presided. He informed the meeting that we would have 322 members attending the dinner, up from 271 in 1996, and that, as usual, a large number would probably arrive later for drinks only. The Colonel announced the retirement of the current Vice President of the Association, Brigadier Dennis Shuttleworth and stated that he had offered the post to Brigadier Johnny Walker. He also announced that the new editor of the Iron Duke, following the death of Major Savory, is Brigadier John Greenway, already in post.

2. Copies of the 1996 Minutes were distributed and displayed before the meeting. It was agreed that these were a true record of that meeting.

3. (a) *Accounts for the year ending 31 March 1997*

Copies for the accounts for the FY 1996/97 were distributed for members to study before the start of the meeting. The accounts were produced by our auditors

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Regimental Chapel Halifax	£50
Regimental Chapel York	£50
RMAS Memorial Chapel	£20

Subsidies

Reunion Dinner	Up to £800
London Branch Dinner (cost of coach to be limited to £10 per head)	
CO 1 DWR Welfare Fund	Up to £600
CO 3 DWR Welfare Fund - CO 3 DWR asked to set out his needs, if any.	

The Trustees considered and made grants to the following additional appeals:

ACF Foundation	£50
BKVA Arboretum Appeal	£100
49th Division Arboretum Appeal	£100
SSAFA	£100

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION AGM AND DINNER

1. The AGM of the Regimental Association was held at the Stakis Hotel, Bradford, on Saturday 4 October 1997. The Colonel of the Regiment presided. He informed the meeting that we would have 322 members attending the dinner, up from 271 in 1996, and that, as usual, a large number would probably arrive later for drinks only. The Colonel announced the retirement of the current Vice President of the Association, Brigadier Dennis Shuttleworth and stated that he had offered the post to Brigadier Johnny Walker. He also announced that the new editor of the Iron Duke, following the death of Major Savory, is Brigadier John Greenway, already in post.

2. Copies of the 1996 Minutes were distributed and displayed before the meeting. It was agreed that these were a true record of that meeting.

3. (a) *Accounts for the year ending 31 March 1997*

Copies for the accounts for the FY 1996/97 were distributed for members to study before the start of the meeting. The accounts were produced by our auditors

and had been examined by both the Association's Finance Committee and Trustees.

Total income for the year was £63,401, against total expenditure of £48,597, giving an excess of income of £14,804.

The value of investments at 31 March 1997 was £292,889 at cost price (£440,042 at market value). The total worth of the fund including investments at cost price, cash at the bank and Regimental stock held at RHQ was £360,851 (£508,004 at market value).

Income continues to be mainly from "Serving Soldiers' Days Pay" scheme and from investment income. The General Secretary stated that, hopefully, in the not too distant future, our investment income would overtake our income from serving soldiers.

The General Secretary explained that the sum of £14,601 received from the ABF was assistance towards our welfare cases and that the sum of £5,000 was from Mrs Joan Bentley, the widow of the late Colonel Trevor Bentley, ex 4th Battalion.

Expenditure was again largely on personal welfare grants total £28,744. Trustees' grants for the year totalled £8,054. General expenses were higher this year mainly due to the purchase of new membership cards (£811), Regimental Service sheets (£887), a new batch of covers for the Iron Duke (£1,723) and increased RHQ expenditure due to the shrinking MOD budget.

(b) *Welfare Grants*

The Welfare Case Committee distributed financial assistance to 85 cases to the sum of £28,744, compared with 102 cases and £19,406 during the previous year. The General Secretary explained that the Case Committee responds solely to requests for assistance, usually through the main welfare organisations, SSAFA, TRBL etc, and that the increase in assistance paid out, despite fewer requests than the previous year, is simply because people appear to be asking for more and of course the effects of inflation.

The Welfare Committee asked for and received from the ABF a total of £14,601, which again was considerably more than the previous year (£6,964). The reason for this is partly explained in the paragraph above, but also because the ABF has encouraged regiments to make full use of ABF resources. Whether or not this ABF policy will continue in the future is unclear.

A breakdown of all cases (unnamed) assisted during the FY has been passed to the 1st Battalion for publication, so that our serving soldiers can see how their day's pay subscriptions are being used.

(c) *Financial Year 1997/98*

Since the production of the accounts as at 31 March 1997, a further £20,000 of the cash shown in the bank, has now been placed into investments.

(d) The General Secretary asked the meeting to accept that the accounts for the year ended 31 March 1997 had been properly presented and that the members present were satisfied that the use and management of the fund is in accordance with the Rules of the Regimental Association. The meeting was unanimously in favour.

4. It was explained to the meeting that the Bradford Branch of the Association has now ceased to hold its monthly meetings at the Slackside WMC Bradford, because of poor support and attendance. The Branch Committee and the few regular attenders requested that they be allowed to amalgamate with the Halifax Branch. This has been agreed and the now combined branch is titled the 'Halifax and Bradford Branch', which will combine to support regimental interests in both towns in the future.

5. The Colonel and Regimental Secretary outlined the following forthcoming events:

(a) *Korean War 45th Anniversary, Saturday 30 May 1998*

The Regimental Secretary stated that it had been suggested by various of our Korean Veterans that we should mark the 45th Anniversary with some form of recognition/celebration, rather than wait until the 50th Anniversary. It was felt that far more of our Korean Veterans will still be fit and able to enjoy the occasion, more perhaps than five years later. The date chosen is the nearest Saturday to the anniversary of the Battle for the Hook. The Regimental Secretary further explained that he had invited a number of DWR Korean Veterans to a meeting at RHQ the previous afternoon, to discuss the preferred format for the day. The general agreement being that there should be a short reception for the veterans, possibly in the Town Hall, Halifax, followed by a parade through the town with Band and Colours to a service in the Parish Church. Finishing with a social event at some convenient venue, possibly the Stakis Hotel, Bradford. The final arrangements and VIP invitations would be made by the Colonel and RHQ staff.

(b) *Regimental Calendar and date of Regimental Service*

The question of the 'bunching' of our Regimental Calendar of Events into October/November was discussed at last year's AGM. The mood was that it would be a good idea to separate the service and the reunion and that this should be looked at again this year. The Regimental Secretary stated that the general consensus from members suggests a preference to switch the Regimental Service to a date in the spring, leaving the reunion as it is at present in the autumn, but because of the Korean Anniversary in May 1998 and our booking at York Minster on 7 November 1998, he felt that the change could not happen until 1999. The Regimental Secretary suggested a date around St George's Day, 23 April (2nd Battalion Day) for the service to be held in 1999. The meeting supported this suggestion.

6. The Regimental Secretary explained to the meeting that the present 'Rules' of the Regimental Association were last updated some 12-14 years ago and that in his opinion another rewrite was required to include the many changes during that time. He also stated that he thought the present rules of membership and subscriptions were complicated and restrictive and as a result not adhered to. He felt that our rules should be uncomplicated and should encourage new members including associate members with a genuine interest in the Regiment, to join and play an active part Association, particularly at branch level. He sugg

that he and the General Secretary are tasked with producing some amended rules and these are put to the Executive Committee for initial approval prior to final confirmation at next year's AGM. This proposal was accepted by the meeting.

7. In view of item 6 above, rather than taking votes on new honorary and associate members, it was agreed that branch secretaries forward names of proposed new members to RHQ for approval by the Executive Committee, until the new rules are drafted.

8. The Colonel outlined the planning for the Regiment's Tercentenary and the Regimental Appeal for funds. He discussed both items jointly because there would inevitably be large costs involved in the Tercentenary celebrations. The Colonel informed the meeting that he had established two committees, under Brigadier Johnny Walker for the Tercentenary planning and Colonel John Barkshire, the Regiment's financial adviser, to establish the Regiment's financial requirements and advise on how best to accumulate the funds required. The Colonel also stated that Colonel Andrew Meek had volunteered to carry out a 'Tercentenary' project to help get the planning under way.

KEEPING IN TOUCH.....

The Colonel of the Regiment was delighted to receive a letter recently from Mrs Rosemary Burton, the widow of Major R. H. Burton. We feel that extracts from the letter will give pleasure to many readers and we publish them with Mrs Burton's kind permission:

"The first member of the 33rd whom I met was my very dear friend until he died, Hugh Fraser. He used to come to Ferozepore, where I was then with cousins - Charles Manners, who was their Brigadier. We had a great-uncle/niece relationship and I had a wonderful letter from him from Kuala Lumpur when I was in MI6 in the war, which was the only hope we had for some months of his survival, until he turned up in Formosa.

Bob and I met when he was on PT course in Kasauli, where I was staying when my father was stationed out there. Subsequently I met Bob again that autumn in Delhi, when they were the Viceroy's bodyguard. Of course then I met most of the gang! Douglas Jones-Stamp, a vague cousin, Barry Kavanagh, whom we introduced to my great friend Shelagh (who later became his wife), when Bob and I were not allowed to go alone together to the cinema in the evening!

There were some splendid parades there in Delhi, and I recall them being in starched KD and being driven standing up in the back of two-seaters to go on parade!

I was summoned home by my parents when the war started and Bob came subsequently and got "armoured" (2/3? 2/4? DWR RAC) and sent back; then 2/5 Dragoons in Kohima; instructed at Sandhurst; and then had the awful decision. He just felt his only "war" experience had been armoured rather than infantry; but Burma caught up with him and he was invalided out, after having a lung out. I'm so glad we got to that parade in Catterick, where we sat wrapped in red army blankets - I wished I could have seen it from the troops' side!

Incidentally, the villagers were very impressed by the representation, wreath etc at his funeral. David Miller was a good friend and I was touched that they sent me a notification of Tony Savory's death.

You had quite a gathering at the unveiling of the Sittang Bridge painting. I recall very well Jack Robinson - a special person.

I had hoped one of my grandsons would join the Regiment; he got as far as an interview or two and my daughter was very pleased to have a phone call from Major Harrap. But he had set his heart on his first choice, the Royal Marines, when he was four! But he was very impressed with the Dukes and I was glad that, at 20, he picked up what Bob and I loved so much, the family feeling of the Dukes."

**"Old Soldiers Never Die...."
They Just Become Engine Drivers!**



"Boiler water level - handbrake - reverser - cylinder cocks - regulator", these are the first safety checks which always have to be made when you first step on the footplate of a steam locomotive. Recently, ... (A) left above....., and (B) right above (in the 1st Battalion in the fifties) reported for a week's firing and driving course on the Bluebell Line in Sussex. The Editor is offering a small reward for anyone who correctly identifies A and / or B above before the answer is provided in our next edition.

Bryant Fell, who was a National Service subaltern in the 1st Battalion in Gibraltar in 1954/55, has written with fond recollections of sport and soldiering in those far off days. The onset of MS forced his retirement in

1988 and, as his mobility is limited, he would welcome visitors at any time at his home in Anglesey: Bryn Pabo, Carreglefn, Amlwch, Gwynedd, LL68 0PL.

Johnny Sargent with Tom Dickie and their wives, Sheila and Isobel, recently visited ex-CSM **Ray Batty** and his faithful dog, Pal, at their flat in Giggleswick. Ray suffers very badly with his chest and his eyesight is so poor that he has the greatest difficulty reading or watching television. Despite these problems there is nothing at all wrong with his spirit and his cheerfulness is something that has to be seen to be believed. He is completely housebound and should any of his former comrades be in that area a visit, or telephone call, would be more than welcome.

Bob Temple, "Young Bob", is an active member of the London Branch of the Regimental Association, despite never having served with the Dukes. However, we welcome him as a member, not only because he is the son of our Bob Temple, "Old Bob", a past Chairman of the Branch, but also because he became an Honorary Duke in Korea, where he was serving in the REME LAD of 1 RTR, which was providing armoured support to the 1st Battalion. His father had told him he was to look up his old friend Bill Norman; so Young Bob took a tank on a road test. Bill Norman, not wishing to let down his old friend, dressed up Young Bob as Sergeant and showed him the appropriate hospitality. Moral: If you want to get on socially, borrow a tank.

Private M. Tandey, VC, DCM, MM

The article on Private Tandey on page 31 of issue 230, Spring 1996, has led David Peckover of Bradford to send us an article from the Standard Car Review, which has also featured in the media recently, alleging that at Marcoing, on 28 September 1918, Tandey had spared a wounded German corporal's life. The article further alleges that the wounded corporal was Adolf Hitler, who served with the 16th Reserve Bavarian Infantry Regiment.

In response to enquiries, the Bavarian Archives in Munich have now reported: "The 16th Bavarian Reserve Infantry Regiment was transferred on 17 September 1918 from its disposition in the Favreuil - Bapaume sector of the North Somme on the France-Belgium border to the Wyschaete area in the sector Comines, Messines and Warneton. Hitler however did not move with his unit. He had home leave from 10-27 September 1918 and because of this it is probable that he was still on his way back to his regiment on 28 September."

Thus, whether Hitler was serving with it or not, his regiment was deployed some fifty miles north of Marcoing, where Tandey was fighting with our 5th Battalion and possibly spared the life of someone other than Hitler.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS/*NEW SUBSCRIBERS

Commanding Officer, 10th Battalion The Baluch Regiment, Sialkot Cantonment, Pakistan.

Mr R. G. Best, 37 Skelbrook Street, Earlsfield, London SW18 4EZ.

Mr W. Clarke BEM, 10 Grimsell Walk, Grenoside, Sheffield S6 1AQ.

Mr T. M. Conley, 60 Broad Street, Parkgate, Rotherham, South Yorkshire, S62 6EQ.

Mr R. F. Diacon, Wellington Cottage, Longbridge Deverill, Warminster, Wiltshire, BA12 7DR.

Mr P. T. Faulkner, 11 Beech Tree Drive, Shanklin, Isle of Wight, PO37 7DS.

Mr K. Fetch, 216 Martin Street, Uperthorpe, Sheffield, S6 3DW.

Colonel N. St. J. Hall, UK MILREP Staff, HQ NATO, Brussels, BFPO 49.

Mr D. L. J. Harrap, 5 Stanwell Avenue, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, HD2 2DY.

WOII P. Hutchinson, ASTC KIEL, BFPO 105.

Mr G. Knight, Box Cottage, Osbourne Maizey, Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 1RY.

Mr I. E. Metcalfe, 67 Christchurch Terrace, Currabine, 6028, Australia.

Captain J. A. d'E Miller, Rose Cottage, The Street, Lodsworth, Petworth, West Sussex, GU28 9DA.

Mr P. J. Morgan, PO Box 29, Northwood, Middlesex, HA6 3TA.

Mr A. O'Laughlin, Cwybr Fawr Country House, Rhyl Road, Ruddlaw, Denbighshire.

Major C. G. Fitzgerald, 241 London Road East, Batheaston, Bath, BA1 7RL.

Mr G. A. M. Purcell, 5 Eton Road, Linthorpe, Middlesborough, TS5 5ER.

Lieutenant Colonel D. I. Richardson MBE, 1A Northfields, Strensall, York, YO3 5XN.

Colonel D. M. Santa-Olalla DSO, MC, 1 Hampshire Cross, Tidworth, Hampshire, SP9 7SG.

Fr Alberic Stacpoole MC, Ampleforth Abbey, York, YO6 4EN.

Captain M. J. Wolff, Lochindorb, Stoke Sub Hamdon, Somerset, TA14 6UQ.

* Mr M. Giblin, 315 Hollyberry Trail, Willowdale, Ontario, M2H 2P5, Canada.

* Mr J. W. Paine, 53 Harold Road, Upper Norwood, London SE19 3SP.

* Mr D. Blood, 25A Dulwich Village, London SE19 3SP.

* Mr C. B. Sheratt, 10 Bradley Crescent, Rufforth, York, YO2 3QE.

Brigadier Ajaz Hussain Shah SI (M), Colonel 10 Baluch, c/o 10th Battalion, The Baluch Regiment, Sialkot Cantonment, Pakistan.

* Mr K. L. Sykes MBE, 74 Oakwood Avenue, Flanshaw Park, Wakefield, WF2 9JU.

Lieutenant P. J. Wilson DWR, ATR Glencorse, Glencorse Barracks, Penicuik, Midlothian, EH26 0NP.

* Mr T. Nowell MM, 77 Barnsley Road, Goldthorpe, South Yorkshire, S63 9AA.

* Mr A. Paley, "Kernow", 65 Fountayne Road, Hunmanby, Filey, North Yorkshire, YO14 0LU.

Lieutenant M. Robinson DWR, 3rd Battalion ITC, Vimy Barracks, Catterick Garrison, North Yorkshire, DL9 3PS.

Lieutenant G. R. Triplow DWR, ATR Glencorse, Glencorse Barracks, Penicuik, Midlothian, EH26 0NP.

Mr J. C. Nutter, 3 Palla Flat Cottages, Bigrigg, Egremont, Cumbria, CA22 2TX.

* Mr D. Mounsey, 5702 11th Street South, St Petersburg, Florida 33705, USA.

Major P. R. S. Bailey DWR, Box A38, BFPO 2.

* Mr K. Taylor, 2 Hillside Cottages, Newtown Road, Sandhurst, Berkshire, GU47 9EH.

* Mr G. Russell, 11 Glencriag Road, Glengormley, Northern Ireland, BT36 5WJ.

Lieutenant Colonel R. A. Tighe MBE, Wold Rise, Manor Barn Court, Millington, East Yorkshire, YO4 2TX.

* Mr R. Healey, 33 Moffat Close, Ovenden, Halifax, HX3 5TF.

Lieutenant A. S. Garner DWR, Kitchener Hall, RMCS, Cranfield University, Shrivenham, Swindon, SN6 8LA.

Mr S. Acklam, 4 Elm Grove, Shelf, Halifax, HX3 7QP.

* Mr G. Best, 2 Old Grange Drive, Carrickfergus, Co Antrim, BT38 7HG.

* Mr Bill Smart, Whitecroft House, 8 Cloister Crofts, Royal Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, CV32 6QQ.

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION ACCOUNTS

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION FUND

Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 1997

INCOME	1997		1996		EXPENDITURE	1997		1996	
	£	£	£	£		£	£	£	£
<u>Invested Income</u>					<u>Trustees Annual Grants & Subsidies</u>				
Income from Investments	16,172		14,256		Annual Trustees Grants	6,881		5,467	
CDF Interest	964	17,136	1,143	15,399	Standing Orders	120		120	
					Iron Duke Free List	78		66	
<u>Covenanted Subscriptions</u>					Subsidies	425		1,066	
Officers (Net)	722		718		Additional Trustees Grants	550	8,054	1,790	8,509
Income Tax Recovered	184	906	206	924					
					<u>Case Grants</u>				
Day's Pay Scheme	19,207		18,326		DWRA Case Grants	16,959		10,939	
Income Tax Recovered	6,031	25,238	6,044	24,370	ABF Case Grants	11,785		4,104	
					Spec Allow NHF	-		1,820	
<u>Grants & Donations</u>					ABF NH Grants	-		1,560	
Donation - E. Bentley	5,000		-		Officers' Association	-		983	
Army Benevolent Fund	14,601		6,964		ABF Grants in Hand	2,816	31,560	1,352	20,758
Sundry Donations	61	19,662	258	7,222					
					<u>Miscellaneous Grants</u>				
<u>Miscellaneous</u>					See Attached Schedule		1,528		3,050
Profit on Sale of Stock		273		375					
Profit on Sale of Histories		186		251	<u>General Expenses</u>				
					Membership Cards	811		-	
					Memorial Wreaths	-		155	
					Calendars	260		216	
					Record of Service Form	272		-	
					Service Sheets	887		-	
					Iron Duke Covers	1,723		-	
					Regimental Flags	362		-	
					Sundry	383	4,698	177	548
					<u>Administrative Expenses</u>				
					Trustees Fee (UST)	-		25	
					Finance & Trustees Expenses	280		465	
					General & Assistant Secretary Travel	1,316		436	
					Audit	458		458	
					Printing, Postage & Stationery	268		80	
					Insurance	435		386	
							2,757		1,850
							48,597		34,715
					Excess of Income over Expenditure		14,804		13,826
							63,401		48,541
<u>Miscellaneous Grants</u>									
Travel Subsidy		596		-					
Miscellaneous Sundry Grants		186		1,141					
Burton Memorial		-		257					
VE Day Payments		-		1,272					
Riddlesden War Memorial		-		50					
8 Infantry Brigade Appeal		-		25					
Floral Tributes		746		305					
							1,528		3,050

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 1997

ASSETS	1997		1996	
	Market	Cost	Market	Cost
	Value	£	Value	£
<u>Investments</u>	<u>440,042</u>	292,889	<u>392,152</u>	292,889
<u>Stock</u>				
Regimental Items		7,532		4,528
Histories		28,042		28,917
<u>Cash at Bank</u>				
Current Account		10,786		3,581
Charities Deposit Account		24,418		17,454
<u>Debtors</u>				
Wreaths		-		30
		363,667		347,399
<u>Creditors</u>				
ABF Grants	2,816		1,352	
Postage & Packing	-	2,816	-	1,352
		360,851		346,047
REPRESENTED BY				
CAPITAL ACCOUNT				
Balance Brought Forward	346,047		332,221	
Add: Excess of Income over Expenditure	<u>14,804</u>		<u>13,826</u>	
		360,851		346,047

Auditors' Report

We have audited the balance sheet and accounts and the Funds as set forth and have obtained all the information and explanations we have required.

In our opinion, such a balance sheet and accounts are properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the affairs of the Funds and are in accordance with the books and papers produced to us.

This . . . 30th day of May 1997.

K. W. Howarth & Co., Chartered Accountants, 36 Clare Road, Halifax, HX1 2HX.

Schedule of Investments (at cost)

	Cost	Market Value
	£	£
<u>Regimental Association Fund</u>		
249,850.93 CAF Invest Balanced Growth Fund Units	144,479	236,109
30,519.052 Charishare Income Shares	60,000	85,148
64,718.682 Schroder Charity Equity	88,410	118,785
	<u>292,889</u>	<u>440,042</u>

At 1 April 1996 the Cost of Investments was £292,889 (Market Value £392,152).

Below is a comparison of the Market Value per unit and percentage changes.

	Market Value per Unit		
	1997	1996	%
	£	£	
CAF Invest Balanced Growth Units	0.9450	0.8462	11.7
Charishare Income Shares	2.7900	2.4820	12.4
Schroder Charity Equity	1.8350	1.6220	13.1

R.H.Q. ACCOUNT (BRANCH MANAGEMENT FUND)
Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 1997

GENERAL FUND	1997	1996
<u>Income</u>	£	£
Waterloo Weekend Profit	106	-
Dinner and Raffle Profit	7	170
Regimental Association Fund	900	700
Donations	-	1
Sundry Income	20	-
	<u>1,033</u>	<u>871</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Postage	-	95
Branch Management Meeting Expenses	279	203
Regimental Service Subsidy	564	474
London Dinner Subsidy	19	-
Excess of Income over Expenditure	171	99
	<u>1,033</u>	<u>871</u>
REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION DINNER AND RAFFLE		
<u>Income</u>		
Dinner Tickets Sold	3,248	2,855
Raffle Tickets Sold	1,495	1,372
	<u>4,743</u>	<u>4,227</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Raffle Prizes and Costs	744	712
Band/Disco	85	80
Cost of Dinner	3,824	3,186
Extra Duty Pay	20	-
Printing, Advertising & Other Expenses	63	79
Transfer Profit to General Fund	7	170
	<u>4,743</u>	<u>4,227</u>
REGIMENTAL SERVICE		
<u>Income</u>		
Lunch Tickets Sold	946	959
Subsidy from General Fund	564	474
	<u>1,510</u>	<u>1,433</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Overprint of Tickets - R.A. Fund	-	56
Flowers	123	114
Room Hire	70	70
Coffee	437	264
Lunch	880	681
Buffet	-	248
	<u>1,510</u>	<u>1,433</u>
LONDON DINNER WEEKEND - 1996		
<u>Income</u>		
Tickets Sold	2,743	2,545
Subsidy (R.A.)	425	365
Subsidy General Fund	19	-
	<u>3,187</u>	<u>2,910</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
London Branch O.C.A. Dinner Tickets	627	542
Coach Hire	850	684
Victory Services Club Membership & Accommodation	1,710	1,684
	<u>3,187</u>	<u>2,910</u>

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 1997

WATERLOO WEEKEND	1997	1996
	£	£
Income		
Tickets Sold	3,762	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Expenditure		
Coach	1,334	-
Feeding Costs	1,832	-
Accommodation	490	-
General Fund	106	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	3,762	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Obituaries

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

Lieutenant Colonel C. Barnes, TD, JP.

Colin Barnes died on 2 August 1997 after a long illness. He was aged 71 years.

Colin was truly a man of many parts, a most respected Justice of the Peace, at one time Chairman of the Huddersfield Bench; a Territorial Officer of distinction; a tireless worker for the Royal British Legion and for the Huddersfield and District Army Veterans' Association and a great family man of undoubted integrity. He first joined the army in 1944; enlisted into the RASC, he served in France and Germany before the end of the war. In 1945 he was commissioned into the Regiment as a Territorial Officer and in 1946 he was attached to the Royal West African Frontier Force in Rangoon. After demobilisation in 1947, Colin served as a Dukes' Territorial Officer for many years, in the 7th, 5/7th and finally the West Riding Battalion. He commanded D Company of the West Riding Battalion, Mossley and Holmfirth and, in 1969, as the last Commanding Officer, he supervised the disbandment and reduction to a Cadre of the Battalion.

From all this military service he derived a compelling interest in the old soldier and his welfare. As Chairman of the British Legion (Huddersfield Branch) and the Huddersfield Army Veterans' Association he made it his business to ensure that the old soldier benefited from all the possible help that these two organisations could provide.

Colin's funeral took place in Huddersfield on 7 August and was attended by many of the Regiment and the British Legion, while the Huddersfield Veterans turned out in force. The Address was given by General Donald Isles on behalf of the Colonel of the Regiment.

Norah and Frances are most grateful for all the letters and messages which they received and regret that timing did not allow them to thank personally all the friends who came to church.

Major H. J. T. Sills, MC.

Mr H. J. T. Sills died on 11 August 1997, aged 91. He was taken ill on Sunday 10 August and died peacefully,

as he would have wished, early next day. With his death the Regiment has lost one of the greatest stalwarts of the 1st Battalion in the 1939-45 war.

Jim Sills and Brainy Benson were both pre-War sergeants in the HAC and were commissioned into the Dukes and posted to the 1st Battalion in France in the late autumn of 1939. Jim's many exploits as IO in the period from the invasion of Belgium to Dunkirk included reconnoitring the route for the Battalion's move forward from Brussels on 11 May 1940 which, thanks to his efforts, went very smoothly. On 27 May, outside Lille, he stopped a sapper officer demolishing a bridge on the Battalion's route to Hondschoote. On 30 May Jim took a small team across our defence line on a canal and rescued a wounded officer and eight wounded other ranks from a hospital in Hondschoote. He returned to England from Bray Dunes/Dunkirk on 3 June.

On the Battalion reforming in England Jim soon moved to second in command of B Company, before eventually commanding HQ Company. He appeared to be totally indestructible and survived North Africa, Anzio and the long slog up Italy with a calmness that was of immeasurable help to others.

During the Anzio campaign, amid all the casualties, he was variously HQ Company Commander, Adjutant, Second in Command and he had many other duties, all of which he undertook in his calm methodical way. He was awarded a Military Cross and was Mentioned in Despatches - a mediocre award for all that he did.

After the war Jim returned to the Stock Exchange and resumed his duties as a very sound, reliable and old fashioned Stockbroker.

When it was formed, he was one of the Honorary Secretaries of the 1943-45 Overseas Dining Club, of which he remained an enthusiastic supporter. He was a regular attender, including the 52nd Dinner in March 1997 at the age of 91.

His many friends have suffered an irreplaceable loss and the Regiment has lost a truly great character. Major Fred Huskisson, Captain John Wilson and Mr Herbert Beckett attended his funeral at Terling.

Major B. V. Thomlinson, TD.

There will be many people both in Yorkshire and East Sussex who will be saddened by the death of Ben Thomlinson. He must be one of the last pre-war officers of the 7th Battalion and certainly the last "established" company commander of the 7th Battalion.

Ben joined the Territorial Army as a trooper in the Yorkshire Hussars in 1934. It was normal procedure in those days for potential officers to do this. Gazetted Second Lieutenant in 1936, he recorded how privileged he felt to attend a Junior Officers' TA course at Sandhurst where one Major Jack Dalrymple DWR was instructing.

Ben commanded C Company from 1939-42 and Support Company from then until the end of the war. He landed in the first wave of 147 Infantry Brigade from HMT Cheshire on D+4 of the Normandy landings as OC Advance Party. He remained in action from then on.

He gave distinguished service to the people of Holland in the 7th Battalion area west of Arnhem evacuating them from 'no-man's land', for which he was awarded Knight 4th Class of the Militaire Willem Orde. In October 1945 he was Mentioned in Despatches and he also held the TD and 1st Clasp.

After the war he served on the Regimental Chapel Committee, York Minster, until his firm posted him south.

Ben was the kindest man and an exceptional company commander in action. He was a devoted member of the Regiment and a great Duke.

The funeral service took place at Old Heathfield, in Sussex, on 17 October 1997 and Lieutenant Colonel Hugh Le Messurier attended.

Captain D. M. Brooks, MC.

Captain Brooks died in Parkgate, South Wirral in September 1997, aged 73 years. He joined the 8th Battalion (145 Regiment RAC) from OCTU in 1943 and served with the Regiment in North Africa and Italy. He was awarded the MC in November 1944 following the Gothic Line battles. Michael was an outstanding Troop Commander and on the disbandment of 145 Regiment in 1944, he was attached to 51 RTR.

Michael Crook

Many who served in the 1st Battalion during the period 1959-61 will be saddened to learn of the death of Michael Crook, who was a National Service subaltern during that period. Mike died of cancer in Cheltenham on 16 September 1997 aged 61 years.

Mike joined the Battalion in Northern Ireland in August 1959, shortly before the successive moves to Brentwood and Colchester, and the rapid Spearhead deployment to Kenya in July 1960. In Kenya, in addition to his military and sporting activities, Mike took part in the climbing expeditions to Mounts Kenya and Kilimanjaro organised by David Pugh.

After National Service, Mike's business career was largely taken up with the import and marketing of industrial diamonds. Mike was a keen sportsman and he represented the Battalion at both cricket and rugby, playing full-back in the memorable victorious "farewell" match against Ulster at Ravenhill in

September 1959. Subsequently he played rugby for Blackheath and Cheltenham, and cricket for Colwyn Bay, his home town, and Birdlip, his local club in Gloucestershire. However, his sporting activities did not prevent him from developing an appreciation of good wine, a pleasure in which he was able to indulge until shortly before his death. The funeral took place at the Church of St Peter, Leckhampton, Cheltenham, on 23 September 1997.

Colour Sergeant Philip Clough

Philip Clough died suddenly in Market Drayton, Shropshire on 10 October 1997. He was aged 46 years.

Philip, who was known affectionately to his friends as 'Cloughie', served in the Regular Army for over 24 years. He joined the Green Howards in 1966 before transferring to the Dukes in 1976. He completed his regular service when the 1st Battalion was stationed in Tern Hill, Shropshire in 1991. He was a musician throughout his service. He served with the Dukes in Germany, a number of tours in Northern Ireland, Gibraltar, Belize, Kenya, Falkland Islands and he was deployed with the band on Operation Granby (the Gulf War) in 1991.

Like all Infantry bandmen, Cloughie's second trade was as a medic and it was in this capacity that his skills were tested towards the end of his service; in Northern Ireland, and in Belize, where his expertise saved the life of a comrade for which he subsequently received a GOC's Commendation; also in the West Midlands during the Ambulance Service dispute of winter 1989-90; and finally in the Gulf War in 1991 during which he was promoted to local WO2.

Cloughie was a very active man and always involved in the local community wherever he was serving at the time. He was a keen all round sportsman, particularly excelling at hockey and golf. He, together with his wife Janet, was very involved with the church and with the Scouting Movement.

After his discharge from the Regular Army in 1992 he joined the TA in the West Midlands, first with 224 Field Ambulance, RAMC, and subsequently 5th Battalion, the Light Infantry (V), where he was the Medical Section Colour Sergeant.

A service of thanksgiving followed by the funeral was held in Market Drayton on 23 October 1997. A very personal address was given by his friend and ex-Band Senior NCO Cornwell Barnes to a large Dukes and LI congregation. Many of his ex-Band comrades attended the funeral.

Philip was a highly respected Senior NCO who played a full part in Battalion life while he was serving and until his death was an active member of the Regimental Association.

Sergeant N. Booth.

Norman Booth, who was born in 1896, died on 9 August 1997, aged 101 years. At the time of his death he was the oldest known member of the Regiment.

Norman, who was one of ten children, lived in Golcar, Huddersfield, until 1912 when, at the age of 16, he decided to enlist into the Territorial Army, 7th Battalion, Milnsbridge Company. Two years later the

Battalion was mobilised and embarked for France and Flanders, where it remained until the end of the Great War. Norman, who was a member of the 'Horse/Transport' Platoon considered himself as very lucky, in his words: "All I got was a slight bit of gas in 1915". In 1918 Norman was demobbed, but soon re-enlisted into the Territorial Army where he was promoted to Sergeant and served until 1924.

After the Great War he and his brother set up a coal business in Golcar, which allowed him to continue working with horses, until his retirement in 1961. Norman never forgot his Army days, or neglected his duty, and during the Second World War he joined the Golcar Home Guard.

His funeral in Golcar was attended by many of his comrades from the Huddersfield Army Veterans' Association, itself 100 years old this year, the Royal British Legion, the Regimental Association and many civic dignitaries. Norman is buried at St John's Church, Golcar.

Mr W. Oldroyd

Bill Oldroyd died on 21 February 1997 aged 75 years. Many friends and members of the OCA attended the funeral.

He joined the 5th Battalion (373 Company) TA at a very early age in 1938 and was embodied and served with the Regiment until transferred in 1944 to the 1st Battalion, Royal Scots, seeing action in Burma and Malaysia.

He was Chairman and a very active supporter of the Huddersfield and Mirfield Branches of the 5th Battalion OCA for many years, as well as Chairman and President of the Royal British Legion, Mirfield, and noted organiser of local events and Poppy Day appeals.

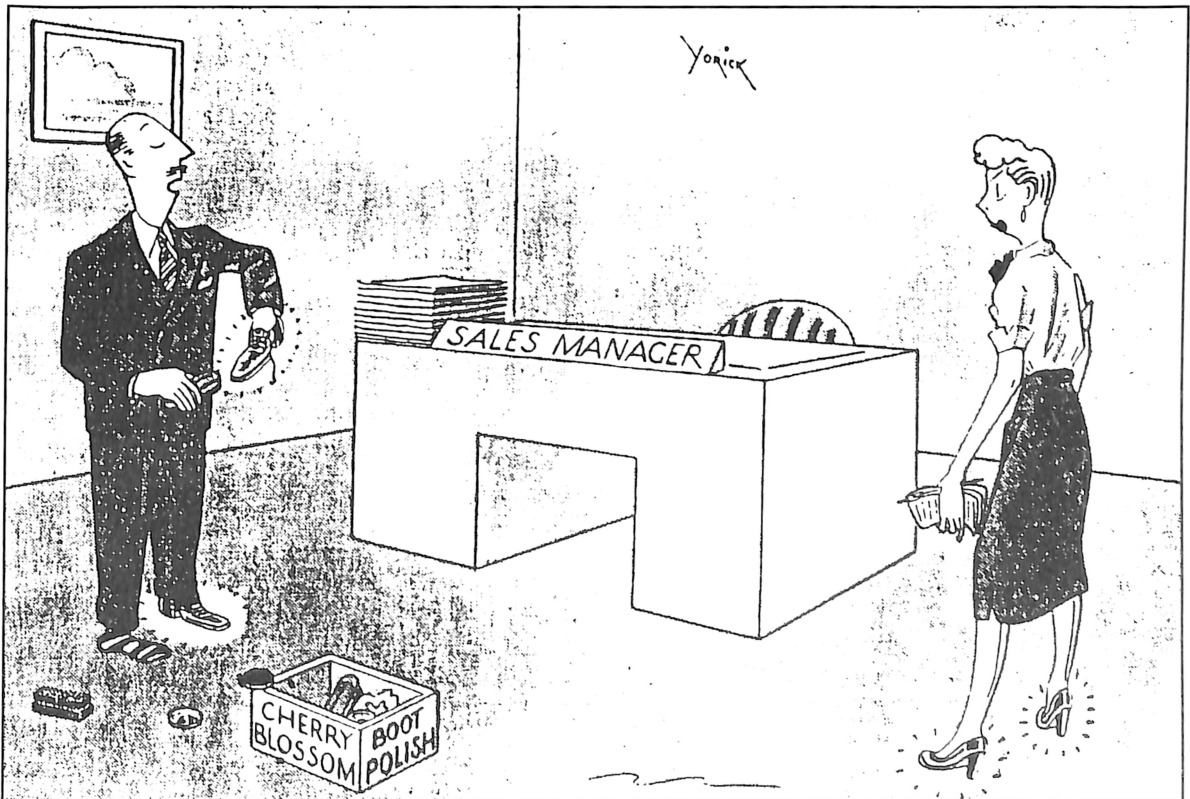
He was a devoted family man and greatly respected for his local good works.

Mr L. Sherwin.

Les Sherwin died in Dewsbury on 11 August 1997, aged 63 years. Les served with the 1st Battalion in Korea, and was a member of the Bradford Branch of the Regimental Association.

NOTICES

The Editor would be glad to hear from any budding cartoonists



"I always like to pay special attention to my shoes - there's so many people waiting to step into them"