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NOVEMBER, 1962

THE BRITANNIA AND CASTLE



THE JOURNAL OF THE
1ST EAST ANGLIAN REGIMENT
(ROYAL NORFOLK & SUFFOLK)

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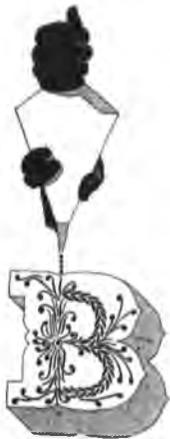
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“The Britannia and Castle”

JOURNAL OF THE 1st EAST ANGLIAN REGIMENT
(Royal Norfolk and Suffolk)



*All Editorial Contributions to be forwarded to The Editor,
The Britannia and Castle Journal,
Britannia Barracks, Norwich.*



The March Past of the New Colours



of 4th Bn. The Royal Norfolk Regiment

(The courtesy of the Eastern Counties Newspaper, Ltd.)

1st EAST ANGLIAN REGIMENT

(Royal Norfolk & Suffolk) [9 and 12]



Britannia superimposed upon the Castle and Key.
The Castle and Key superscribed "Gibraltar, 1779-83" and with the motto "Montis Insignia Calpe" underneath.

Dettingen — Minden — Belleisle — Havannah — Martinique, 1794 — Seringapatam — India — Rolicca — Vimiera — Corunna — Busaco — Salamanca — Vittoria — St. Sebastian — Nive — Peninsula — Cabool, 1842 — Moodkee — Ferozeshah — Sobraon — South Africa, 1851-3 — Sevastopol — New Zealand — Afghanistan, 1878-80 — Kabul, 1879 — Paardeberg — South Africa, 1899-1902.

The Great War — 42 Battalions — Mons — Le Cateau — Retreat from Mons — Marne, 1914 — Aisne, 1914 — La Bassee, 1914 — Givenchy, 1914 — Ypres, 1914, '15, '17, '18 — Neuve Chapelle — Gravenstafel — St. Julien — Frezenberg — Bellewaarde — Aubers, 1915 — Hooge, 1915 — Loos — Somme, 1916, '18 — Albert, 1916, '18 — Bazentin — Delville Wood — Pozieres — Guillemont — Flers Courcellette — Morval — Thiepval — Le Transloy — Ancre Heights — Ancre, 1916, '18 — Arras, 1917, '18 — Vimy, 1917 — Scarpe, 1917, '18 — Arleux — Oppy — Pilckem — Langemarck, 1917 — Menin Road — Polygon Wood — Broodseinde — Poelcappelle — Passchendaele — Cambrai, 1917, '18 — St. Quentin — Bapaume, 1918 — Lys — Estaires — Messines, 1918 — Hazebrouck — Bailleul — Kemmel — Bethune — Scherpenberg — Amiens — Hindenburg Line — Epehy — Canal du Nord — St. Quentin Canal — Bearevoir — Courtrai — Selle — Valenciennes — Sambre — France and Flanders, 1914-18 — Italy, 1917-18 — Struma — Doiran, 1918 — Macedonia, 1915-18 — Suvla — Landing at Suvla — Scimitar Hill — Gallipoli, 1915 — Egypt, 1915-17 — Gaza — El Mughar — Nebi Samwil — Jerusalem — Jaffa — Tel'Asur — Megiddo — Sharon — Palestine, 1917-18 — Shaiba — Kut al Amara, 1915, '17 — Ctesiphon — Defence of Kut al Amara — Mesopotamia, 1914-18.

The Second World War — Defence of Escaut — St. Omer — La Bassee — Dunkirk, 1940 — St. Valery-en-Caux — Normandy Landing — Odon — Caen — Le Perier Ridge — Brieux Bridgehead — Falaise — Venrai — Rhineland — Hochwald — Lingen — Brinkum — N.W. Europe, 1940, '44-'45 — Johore — Muar — Batu Pahat — Singapore Island — Malaya, 1942 — North Arakan — Imphal — Kohima — Aradura — Mandalay — Burma, 1943-45.

Korea, 1951-52.

Agents — Messrs. Glyn, Mills and Co. (Holt's Branch), Kirkland House, Whitehall, London, S.W.1.

Regimental Headquarters:— Britannia Barracks, Norwich.

Regimental Journal:— "The Britannia and Castle," Britannia Barracks, Norwich.

Regimental Association:— The 1st East Anglian Regiment Past and Present Association, Britannia Barracks, Norwich.

Uniform — Blue Piping — Yellow
Facing Colour — Yellow

Regular Battalion: 1st—Felixstowe

Territorial Battalions:

4th Bn. The Royal Norfolk Regiment — Norwich
The Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment — Ipswich

Allied Regiment of New Zealand Military Forces:
The Auckland Regiment (Countess of Ranfurly's Own)

Colonel-in-Chief:—H.R.H. The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, C.I., G.C.V.O., Col.-in-Chief 15th/19th H., R.H.F., Q.A.R.A.N.C., Princess Louise Fusiliers (Machine Gun), Women's Royal Australian Army Corps and Royal Canadian Infantry Corps (Militia).

Colonel:— Goodwin, R. E., Major-General, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., 11th September, 1962

LOCATION LIST OF OFFICERS

(Compiled from official records and information available on 30th September, 1962)

(a) REGULAR ARMY

Lieut.-Colonels

Brinkley, W. H., p.s.c. Deputy O./c Records, Exeter.

Brown, C. R. M.,
D.S.O., p.s.c., f.s.c.
(US) Held Strength, Depot East Anglian Brigade.

Fraser, D. U., M.B.E.,
p.s.c.(a), (Emp. List
(I)) Q (M) II War Office.

Dewar, K. M. J.,
O.B.E., p.s.c., (Emp.
List (I)) H.Q., Rheindahlen Garrison, B.A.O.R.

Campbell, A. F., M.C.,
p.s.c. Sen. Army Instr. (Col.) J.S.S.C. (Designate).

Harvey, H. C., p.s.c.,
(Emp. List (I)) A.A.G., H.Q., Northern Command.

Burton, R. S. M.,
p.s.c., p.t.s.c., (Emp.
List (I)) Ministry of Supply, Woolwich.

Robertson, A. J., p.s.c. 4th Bn., The Royal Norfolk Regiment (T.A.).

Majors

Greef, A. O., M.C. Clothing & Equipment Establishment,
Farnborough.

Farrelly, T. P., T.D. G.L.O., R.A.F. Station, Waterbeach.

Calder, W. J., p.s.c. U.K.S.L.S. (A.E.), Pretoria

Dean, P. S. W. (T/
Colonel), s.q. Military Attache, Tokyo.

Lummis, E. T., p.s.c. G.S.O.2, War Office.

Ingle, F. D., M.B.E.,
p.s.c. G.S.O.2, Staff College, Camberley.

Forrest, P. B., M.C. Regular Commissions Board, Westbury.

Petit, J. M., M.B.E.,
p.s.c. (T/Lt.-Col.) G.S.O.1, Joint Welfare Staff,
Min. of Defence.

Dye, J. B., M.C., p.s.c. 1st Battalion (C.O. 1st Bn. Designate).

Athill, A. H. Held Strength, Depot East Anglian Brigade.

Williams, R. M.,
M.C., p.s.c. D.A.A.G., 48 Div/West Midland District.

Turnbull, A. W. J.,
M.C., s.q. G.S.O.2, War Office.

Creasey, T. M., p.s.c. 1st Battalion.

Howgego, G. C., p.s.c.,
j.s.c. H Q 1 (BR) Corps, B.A.O.R

Power, E. W. A., p.s.c. 1st Battalion.

Haycraft, I. A., p.t.s.c. 1st Battalion

Morgan, E. H.,
M.B.E., M.C. 1st Battalion.

Fairholme, W. D. G. Language Course, Durham University.

Thain, P. Singapore Military Forces.

Lywood, K. C. G. School of Infantry, Warminster.

Mason, F. E. I.,
A.M.I.W.S. Army Work Study Group.

Styles, T. H. East Anglian Brigade Depot.

Gillmore, A. H. V.,
M.C., p.s.c. 1st Battalion.

Starling, J. G., M.C.,
p.s.c. Attd. Parachute Regiment.

Fmsden, B. H. C.,
p.s.c. H.Q., 148 Infantry Brigade (T.A.)

Palmer, L. A., p.l. Army Air Corps Centre, Middle Wallop

Deller, W. C., p.s.c. U.S. Cmd. & Gen. Staff School, Kamrs

Fitzgerald, J. D. A. 1st Battalion.

Pullen, H. N. D., p.l. 1st West India Regiment.

Fleming, F. R., p.s.c. D.A.A.G., East Anglian Brigade.

Cobbold, A. G. B. Adjutant, J.W.S. Malaya.

Captains

Godfrey, F. A., M.C. Sarawak Rangers, Malaya.

Holman, R. M., p.s.c.
(n) H.Q., Royal Nigerian Army.

Horrex, A. B., M.C. Mil. Academy Trg. School, Accra, Ghana.

Gunton, M. K. D. 1st Battalion.

Hopper, P. D. L. Held Strength, Depot East Anglian Brigade.

Hall-Tipping, J. G.S.O.3, War Office.

MacDonald, J. P. 1st Battalion.

Catchpole, A. K. 11th King's African Rifles.

Jones, J. G., M.B.E. Staff Captain, H.Q., Middle East Command

Murphy, B. M. Held Strength, Depot East Anglian Brigade.

Dean, T. D. G.S.O.3, H.Q., 4th Division.

Beck, S. G. H.Q., B.A.O.R. (PR).

Heath, J. R. Royal Mil. College of Science, Shrivensham

Mills, B. H. G. Sultan of Muscat Armed Forces.

Smith, T. D., p.l. H.Q., Southern Command.

Churchill, J. D., M.C. 1st Battalion.

Ford, P. C. 1st Battalion

Frere, J. A. K. W. Army Apprentices School, Chepstow.

Henderson, M. L. 4th Bn. The Royal Norfolk Regiment (T.A.).

Wilson, R. G. Suffolk & Cambridgeshire Regiment (T.A.).

Thorne, D. C. Held Strength, Depot East Anglian Brigade.

Raven, P. G. 1st Battalion.

Trollope, C. J. N. 1st Battalion.

Clarke, D. L. 1st Battalion.

Thorne, M. E. Held Strength, Depot East Anglian Brigade.

Trevethick, R. L. 1st Battalion.

Reynell, N. Held Strength, Depot East Anglian Brigade

Morris, J. Y. 1st Battalion

Gowing, R. D. King's African Rifles, Nairobi.

Morton, P. W. 1st Battalion.

Barnes, C. M. J. Royal Sierra Leone Mil. Forces.

Peat, W. J. B. 1st Battalion.

Lewis, N. J. 1st Battalion.

Lieutenants

Rowell, S. A. J. ... Royal Sierra Leone Mil. Forces.
 Bailly, D. R. ... Held Strength, Depot East Anglian Brigade
 Jefferson, J. W. ... H.Q. Northag.
 Russ, P. K. R. ... 1st Battalion.
 Horrex, H. R. ... 1st Battalion.
 Conder, E. H. ... Degree Course, R.M.C.S., Shrivenham.
 Mather, C. A. S. ... Gen. Tradesmen Regt., Rhyl.
 Abbott, R. J. ... 1st Battalion.
 Turner Cain, M. G. ... 1st Battalion.
 Reeve, W. H. ... East Anglian Brigade Depot.

2nd Lieutenants

Varley, J. A. ... 1st Battalion.
 Malim A. C. ... East Anglian Brigade Depot.
 Keep, J. H. ... 1st Battalion.
 Thomson, R. H. ... Held Strength, East Anglian Brigade Depot.

Quartermasters

Case, H. S. R., M.B.E.
 (Staff Q.M.), Lt.-Col.
 (Emp. List (2)) ... School of Infantry, Warminster.
 Joanny, A., M.B.E.
 (Major) ... East Anglian Brigade Depot.
 Albrow, F. J. (Major) Army Federation of Malaya.
 Jaaper, G. S. (Major) G.H.Q., Farelf.
 Warren, T. C. (Capt.) Suffolk & Cambridgeshire Regiment (T.A.).
 Howard, C. E. (Capt.) 1st Battalion.
 Chatting, T. W. (Capt.) 4th Bn. The Royal Norfolk Regiment (T.A.).
 Norman, H. H. (Capt.) 1st Battalion.
 McColl, N. (Capt.) ... Sp. Weapons Wing, Netheravon.

(b) REGULAR ARMY—SHORT SERVICE OFFICERS**Captains**

Seekings, P. C. ... O.C. Leave Camp, Cyprus.

Lieutenants

Stone, P. P. D. ... 1st Battalion.
 Gamberoni, D. C. P. King's African Rifles.
 Mackay, J. W. ... 1st Battalion.
 Prosser, B. ... Sarawak Rangers.

2nd Lieutenants

Hawkins, W. J. ... 1st Battalion.

(c) EXTENDED SERVICE OFFICERS**Majors**

Titmarsh, H. H., T.D.
 (Emp. List (3)) ... D.A.D. Lands, B.A.O.R.
 Buckingham, D. G. ... Admn. Officer, G.H.Q. Farelf.
 Powell, K. W. ... Staff Captain, Cyprus.

(d) REGULAR ARMY—NATIONAL SERVICE OFFICERS**2nd Lieutenants**

Wright, P. N. ... 3rd East Anglian Regiment.

FORMER REGIMENTAL OFFICERS STILL ON THE ACTIVE LIST**REGULAR OFFICERS****Major-Generals**

Goodwin, R. E., C.B.,
 C.B.E., D.S.O., p.s.c. ... G.O.C., East Africa Command.
 Butler, M. A. H.,
 C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.,
 i.d.c., p.s.c., p.s.c.(a) ... Commander, 2nd Division.
 Freeland, I. H., D.S.O.,
 i.d.c., p.s.c. ... G.O.C., East Anglian District

Brigadiers

Turner Cain, G. R.,
 D.S.O., A.D.C.,
 j.s.s.c., p.s.c. ... B.G.S., H.Q., B.A.O.R.
 Prickett, A. J. C.,
 j.s.s.c., p.s.c. ... B.G.S., H.Q., Middle East Command.

Colonels

Allen, R. M., C.B.E.,
 j.s.s.c., p.s.c. (T/
 Brig.) ... D.D.O.S., H.Q., Southern Command.
 Smith, W. C., O.B.E.,
 j.s.s.c., p.s.c. ... Col.G.S. (Ops.), G.H.Q., Farelf.
 Hallett, J. N. R.,
 M.B.E., j.s.s.c., p.s.c. ... Ministry of Defence.

Lieut.-Colonels

Ferrier, W. P. ... A.P.M., London District.
 Shuttleworth, W. P. A. H.Q. 1 (BR.) Corps.
 Thursby, P. D. F.,
 j.s.s.c., p.s.c. ... 1st Bn. Parachute Regiment.

Majors

Ward, J. A. W. ... R.A.P.C.
 Eberhardie, C. E.,
 M.B.E., M.C., p.s.c.
 (Bt. Lt.-Col.) ... G.S.O.2, Staff College, Camberley.

Captains

Kelly, J. N., M.C. ... 7th Gurkha Rifles.
 Oddie, W. R. A. ... Parachute Regiment.
 Blackmore, A. W. (T/
 Major) ... R A S.C.
 North, J. G. M. ... 1 Royal Leicesters.

Lieutenants

Coates, K. ... Parachute Regiment.

Officers are requested to notify the Editor of any changes of location or of any error in this list.

Farewell Message

BY

BRIGADIER R. H. MAXWELL, C.B.

On relinquishment of my appointment as Colonel of the Regiment, I wish the best of good fortune to all ranks, Past and Present.

The five years of my Colonelcy have seen drastic changes, firstly the amalgamation of the two Regular Regiments, and then that of two Territorial Battalions.

The present high state of efficiency and morale bear witness to the fine spirit in which everyone faced up to the events.

You can look forward to the future with confidence, and may it bring Happy Soldiering to you all.

R. H. MAXWELL,
Colonel,
The 1st East Anglian Regiment.

11th September, 1962.

MAJOR-GENERAL R. E. GOODWIN C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.

Her Majesty the Queen has approved the appointment of Major-General Richard Elton Goodwin as the new Colonel of the Regiment with effect from 11th September, 1962.

General Goodwin was commissioned into the Suffolk Regiment from Sandhurst in August, 1928. He was adjutant of the 2nd Battalion from 1935-1938, and commanded the 1st Battalion during the Normandy landing on D Day. He was wounded on D plus 6 but, later, returned to command the Battalion in Holland and Germany until the end of the war.

Since the war, he has, amongst other appointments, commanded the 6th Infantry Brigade in B.A.O.R. and North Midland District and 49th Division in England.

He is at present G.O.C. East Africa Command.

We offer General Goodwin our heartiest congratulations on his appointment, knowing full well that the interests of the Regiment are in very safe keeping in his hands.

During the time that General Goodwin is out of the United Kingdom, Major-General I. H. Freeland, D.S.O. will be acting as Deputy Colonel of the Regiment.

* * *

Correspondence on matters pertaining to regimental affairs for both General Goodwin and General Freeland should be addressed to:—

Regimental Headquarters,
1st East Anglian Regiment,
Britannia Barracks,
NORWICH.
NOR 67 A.

BRIGADIER R. H. MAXWELL, C.B.

Brigadier Maxwell relinquished the appointment of Colonel of the Regiment on 11th September, 1962.

Appointed Colonel of the Suffolk Regiment on 10th June, 1957, he became Colonel of the 1st East Anglian Regiment on amalgamation on 29th August, 1959. Thus, during his tenure of appointment, he has been fully concerned with the amalgamation of the Royal Norfolk and Suffolk Regiments. In company with Brigadier Wilkinson, then Colonel, The Royal Norfolk Regiment, he was responsible for the planning of the amalgamation of the affairs of both regiments and, since the event took place, he, together with the Associate Colonel, Brigadier Barclay, has guided the new regiment along the road to success.

It is a tribute to his advice and inspiration that the regimental funds are now well organised; the Journal is a live and going concern and the traditions of the 1st East Anglian Regiment, embodying those of both the former regiments, are well and truly established.

No sooner had he completed the amalgamation of the Royal Norfolk and Suffolk Regiments than Brigadier Maxwell had to deal with yet another amalgamation. This time, that of the 4th Bn. The Suffolk Regiment (T.A.) and the 1st Bn. The Cambridgeshire Regiment (T.A.). Again he had to face the heavy additional work involved and it is to a large extent due to his tact and wisdom that The Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment (T.A.) is such a happy and efficient unit.

His policy, which might be described as that of a traditionalist with a forward look, has paid handsome dividends.

Few people realise nowadays how much work is involved in being a Colonel of a Regiment. Correspondence flows in from all directions, much of it



Major-General R. E. Goodwin, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.
Appointed Colonel, 1st East Anglian Regiment, 11th September, 1962

concerned with personal affairs of urgent importance to individuals and all requiring to be answered by the Colonel of the Regiment. In Brigadier Maxwell's case, most of this had to be done at night after a long day's work as Vice Chairman of the Royal Tournament. Furthermore, many regimental functions take place in June and July. This, on a number of occasions, has involved him in a journey through the night from London to East Anglia after an evening performance of the Tournament.

He has never spared himself and, as those who have tried walking beside him will know, he is a fast mover.

No former Colonel can have had such an arduous time and can have been more successful.

Brigadier Maxwell can look back on his tenure as Colonel of the Regiment with satisfaction and he has earned the gratitude of all ranks for his work on behalf of the Regiment.

BRIGADIER F. P. BARCLAY, D.S.O., M.C., D.L.

Brigadier Barclay has now ceased to be Associate Colonel of the Regiment, an appointment which was created for the first three years of amalgamation, and which lapsed on 29th August, 1962.

His unbounded energy and interest, combined with his knowledge of Norfolk and Norfolk affairs, has been of the greatest value to the Colonel of the Regiment and to the Regiment as a whole.

Brigadier Barclay is continuing as Honorary Colonel of the 4th Bn. The Royal Norfolk Regiment (T.A.), and will thus be retaining close touch with Regimental affairs.

EDITORIAL

We congratulate the 4th Battalion, The Royal Norfolk Regiment (T.A.) on their very fine parade on 8th July. A full report appears elsewhere in the Journal.

The ceremony took place on one of the rare fine days of the summer and was a most outstanding success. We, at Regimental Headquarters, share the same barracks as 4th Royal Norfolk and were in a position to appreciate the problems involved in organising and carrying out a parade of this nature by a battalion of the Territorial Army. The result was one which reflected the greatest credit on all ranks of the battalion.

We welcome home the 1st Battalion and trust that their stay at Felixstowe will be more permanent than was that at Harwich.

It is of interest to note that it is 205 years since a regular battalion of the Regiment was last stationed in Felixstowe. The 1st Battalion of the XIIth Foot was in Landguard Fort in 1757.

For the record, the last time a regular battalion of the Regiment had its permanent duty station in Norfolk or Suffolk was in 1782-3 when the IXth Foot was in Norwich.

To those of our readers who were serving with either 2nd Norfolk or 1st Suffolk in 1919, we would say that we have regarded their stay in Thetford in that year as a temporary staging visit only.

Once again, we have run a regimental sweepstake and we are most grateful to all those who sold tickets for it. In all, some 14,000 tickets were sold, and, although the results were not quite so good as last year, nevertheless we have been able to credit a substantial sum to the Past and Present Association.

Perhaps the most pleasing thing about the sweepstake is the number of contacts that have been renewed with former members of the regiment. It has given us at Regimental Headquarters great pleasure and encouragement to receive so many letters from old friends. The detailed results of the sweepstake are given elsewhere in this issue.

There has, recently, been some discussion about the use of the old numbers as a means of referring to the Regiment on occasions. The official title of the Regiment is the 1st East Anglian Regiment (Royal Norfolk and Suffolk) [9 and 12]. The numerical titles, therefore, which were in use until the Cardwell reforms, and then became secondary titles, are now tertiary ones. As such, their use will be infrequent. If, however, they are used, they must be used together as the 1st East Anglian Regiment is neither the IXth Foot nor the XIIth Foot, but an amalgamation of the two.

Finally, may we wish all our readers a very Happy Christmas and a most prosperous and successful year in 1963.

REGIMENTAL NEWS

REGIMENTAL TIES

Stocks of the second Regimental Tie are available at R.H.Q. The material is Terylene, and the pattern is dark blue with alternate IX and XII superimposed by a crown in gold. The price is 13/6 plus postage.

THE ROYAL NORFOLK REGIMENT OFFICERS DINNER CLUB

The annual dinner was held at the Naval and Military Club on Friday, 1st June with Brigadier F. P. Barclay presiding. Other officers present were—

Lt.-Col. F. C. Atkinson, Captain S. G. Beck, Lt. P. E. G. Bartlett, Major H. M. Burton, Col. J. F. Carroll, Major H. T. Crane, Lt.-Col. A. B. Cubitt, Major B. E. Dillon, Lt.-Col. F. E. D. Drake-Briscoe, Major T. P. Farrelly, Major R. A. Ferrier, Lt.-Col. W. D. Flower, Lt.-Col. A. B. Floyd, Maj.-Gen. I. H. Freeland, Col. R. P. Freeman-Taylor, Major A. L. Gordon, Major C. B. Grant, Captain B. J. M. Gunton, Major R. Hamond, Captain F. E. Herring, Major S. S. F. Hornor, Major M. F. R. Lightfoot, Brigadier H. Long, Major A. P. McArthur, Lt.-Col. E. W. Montgomerie, Lt.-Col. H. M. Wilson, Major P. W. Raywood, Lt.-Col. A. J. Robertson, Major T. H. Styles, Captain J. B. Salter, Captain D. C. Thorne, Captain M. E. Thorne, Captain J. Hall-Tipping, Captain N. J. Tuck, Major A. W. J. Turnbull, Lt.-Col. E. le Hunte-Ward, Col. J. F. Wilkins, Brig. C. J. Wilkinson, Col. G. H. Winter.

There were 48 officers and their wives at the Tea Party which also took place on the same day.

THE SUFFOLK REGIMENTAL CHAPEL—MEMORIAL CHAIRS

Memorial Chairs are available for presentation to the Suffolk Regimental Chapel, St. Mary's Church, Bury St. Edmunds, in memory of a deceased member of the Regiment.

The cost of a chair is £14, excluding a brass plate suitably inscribed, the cost of which is about £2.

Application should be made to the Hon. Secretary, Regimental Chapel, Blenheim Camp, Bury St. Edmunds.

THE ROYAL SOLDIERS DAUGHTERS' SCHOOL

This school, which is at Hampstead, London, N.W. 3, exists to provide an education for daughters of soldiers. Girls are normally admitted between the ages of 5 and 10.

The Regiment is a subscriber to the School and further details can be obtained from Regimental Headquarters.

PERSONALITIES

Major-General I. H. Freeland has been selected to relieve Major-General R. E. Goodwin as G.O.C. East Africa Command. The change over takes place in the spring of 1963.

Lieut.-Colonel J. B. Dye took over command of the 1st Battalion in October from Colonel A. F. Campbell, who has gone to an appointment at the Joint Services Staff College with the temporary rank of Colonel.

Major E. W. A. Power goes to the War Office (S.D.5) in January, 1963.

On completion of language and intelligence courses Major W. D. G. Fairholme will be posted to H.Q. Middle East Land Forces in Aden. He expects to move next January.

Major A. R. Curtis has retired and gone to live in Australia. He will be joining his eldest son who emigrated some years ago.

Major Allan Blackmore, now serving in the Royal Army Service Corps in Malaya writes to say that he would welcome news of his friends who served with him in the 1st Battalions of the Royal Norfolk and Suffolk Regiments. Major Blackmore's address is

31 Coy. Gurkha A.S.C.,
NEE SOON,
c/o G.P.O. SINGAPORE.

We learned a few days ago of No. 2608 Pte. T. Halls who joined the Norfolk Regiment on 27th June, 1887. He is now aged 92 years and, as befits a man who has served both in the Norfolk and Suffolk Regiments, he lives at Brandon on the border of the two counties.

Tom Halls went on active service with the 1st Bn. in 1892 and was awarded the bar "Chin Hills, 1892" to his Indian General Service Medal. In the South African War he served, first with his Regiment, and later with the South African Constabulary.

Recalled to the Colours in 1914 Halls was posted to the Suffolk Regiment and finally discharged on medical grounds in 1918 at 48 years of age.

He lives alone, resolutely declining all offers of a comfortable home elsewhere. He smokes a pipe and enjoys an occasional tot of rum. The Past and Present Association has seen to it that he can continue to indulge in this manner.

EXTRACTS FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE

29th May, 1962

Territorial Army.

Suffolk & Camb.

Lt. W. H. Keatley is granted the acting rank of Captain, 1st March, 1962.

12th June, 1962

Regular Army.

2nd Lt. M. G. Turner Cain to be Lt., 16th June, 1962.

2nd Lt. W. H. Reeve to be Lt., 16th June, 1962.

Short Service Commission.

2nd Lt. B. Prosser to be Lt., 14th June, 1962.

10th July, 1962

Annual Brevets

Maj. C. E. Eberhardie, M.B.E., M.C., Para Regiment, to be Brevet Lt.-Col., 1st July, 1962.

Regular Army.

Capt. F. R. Fleming to be Major, 14th July, 1962, with precedence in the E. Anglian Bde. next above R. L. Jackson, 3rd E. Anglian.

Capt. A. G. B. Cobbold to be Maj., 14th July, 1962, with precedence in the E. Anglian Bde., next below R. L. Jackson, 3rd E. Anglian.

24th July, 1962

Regular Army.

Lt. C. M. J. Barnes to be Capt., 27th July, 1962.

27th July, 1962

Regular Army.

Lt.-Col. J. N. R. Hallett, M.B.E., from 1 E. Anglian (Emp. List 1) to be Col., 4th June, 1962 with seniority 13th March, 1961, and with precedence next above I. H. Edwards, M.B.E.

Territorial Army.

Suffolk & Camb.

Maj. L. S. L. Brown, I.D. (Unatt'd List) having exceeded the age limit retires, 1st August, 1962, retaining the rank of Maj.

3rd August, 1962

Regular Army.

Lt. W. J. B. Peat to be Capt., 27th July, 1962, and with precedence next below C. M. J. Barnes.

31st August, 1962

Territorial Army.

Suffolk & Camb.

Robert George Shaw Wylie to be 2nd Lt. (on probation) 1st Aug. 1962.

4th September, 1962

Regular Army.

Lt. N. J. Lewis to be Capt., 8th Sept., 1962.

7th September, 1962

Regular Army.

Maj.-Gen. Richard Elton Goodwin, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O. is appointed Colonel, 1st East Anglian Regt. (Royal Norfolk & Suffolk) 11th September, 1962, in succession to Brig. Richard Hobson Maxwell, C.B., tenure expired.

14th September, 1962

Territorial Army.

Suffolk & Camb.

Capt. H. D. Sutor to be Maj. 1st Aug. 1962.

18th September, 1962

Regular Army.

Short Service Commission.

Major (Q.M.) A. R. Curtis relinquishes his commission on completion of service, 19th Sept., 1962, and is granted the hon. rank of Maj. (Q.M.).

Territorial Army.

Suffolk & Camb.

Lt. (Acting Capt.) W. H. Keatley to be Capt., 22nd Sept., 1962, with seniority 1st Mar. 1962.

21st September, 1962

Regular Army.

Short Service Commission.

Officer Cadet William James Hawkins from Mons Officer Cadet School to be 2nd Lt., 28th July, 1962.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Births.

EMSDEN.—On 14th June at Nottingham to Julia, wife of Major B. H. C. Emsden, a daughter, Annabel Julia Claire.

HERRING.—On 18th September at Bournemouth to Auriol, wife of Captain F. E. Herring, a son, Christopher John Murray.

Marriages.

CREAGH-HOOLE.—On 1st September, 1962 at Johannesburg, South Africa, Captain G. P. V. Creagh to Heather, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hoole of Krugersdorp, Transvaal.

Deaths.

ALLEN.—On 2nd June as a result of a motor car accident in Kenya, Lieut.-Colonel Geoffrey Morris Allen, M.B.E., late The Royal Norfolk Regiment, aged 54 years.

POTTERILL.—On 2nd June at his home in Mit-cham, Surrey, Sgt. George William Potterill, late The Norfolk Regiment, aged 69 years.

BOWERS.—On 12th June, at his home in Walpole-St.-Peter, Ex 6523 Harry Bowers, aged 78 years, late The Suffolk Regiment.

HALL.—On 1st July in London, Captain John H. Hall, M.C., late The Norfolk Regiment.

CATCHPOLE.—On 20th July, in hospital, Arthur Herbert, Lieut.-Colonel, 8th Suffolk, of Red House, St. Mary's Square, Newmarket.

GOODGE.—On 30th July, Ex 18399, Herbert Goodge, aged 82 years, late The Suffolk Regiment.

PARKER.—On 6th August, suddenly at his home, 494 Norwich Road, Ipswich, Captain George Stanley Parker, aged 65 years, late The Suffolk Regiment.

HILL.—On 15th August at The Chalet, Bere Alston, Jack, late Lieut.-Colonel, The Suffolk Regiment.

WIGGINTON.—On 18th August, suddenly at his home, The Ecke, Pakenham, Bury St. Edmunds, Major Harold Edward Wedderburn Wigginton, M.B.E., aged 41 years, late 1st East Anglian Regiment.

PLUME.—On 19th August at West Suffolk General Hospital, ex Pte. David Plume, late The Suffolk Regiment.

CROSFIELD.—On 22nd August at 37 Highgate West Hill, London, Colonel George Rowlandson Crosfield, late The Suffolk Regiment.

OBITUARY

Lieut.-Colonel G. M. Allen, M.B.E.

"Gubby" Allen was commissioned to the Royal Norfolk Regiment from Sandhurst in 1928 and joined the 2nd Bn. at Aldershot. After a period as Signalling Officer he went to Tanganyika to serve with the King's African Rifles. He rejoined the 2nd Bn. before the outbreak of war in 1939 and was in command of "B" Coy. during the fighting in Belgium and France in May of 1940, where he was wounded and evacuated. He was with the 7th Bn. during the fighting in Normandy in 1944 and again wounded, this time severely. He graduated at the Staff College.

After the war he was posted to Burma and commanded the Chin Rifles before moving to Kenya to command the Training Centre at Nakuru in 1950, in which year he was promoted to the rank of Lieut.-Colonel.

When he retired in 1952 he became Secretary of the Royal Agricultural Society of Kenya and played a great part in its development. For his work for the Society he was awarded the M.B.E. in 1960. One who knew him well writes "He was never harassed, never off-hand, always unruffled, charming and courteous. He had a great gift of dealing with people of all sorts and kinds and enlisting their aid and support. Perhaps it was in the field of human relations that he scored his greatest success in a life of service to his Country and his fellows."

At the funeral, which took place with full military honours, Lt.-Col. Eric Prattley represented the Royal Norfolk Regiment. Major Andrew Athill also attended and laid a wreath in the name of the 1st East Anglian Regiment.

To Mrs. Allen and her family we offer our sincere condolences in her great loss.

Lieut.-Colonel J. H. Hill, The Suffolk Regiment, died suddenly at Plymouth on 15th August, aged 71.

"Jackie" Hill's service to his Regiment was unique. His father, a native of Bury St. Edmunds, died while serving with the Suffolk Regiment in India. Hill himself joined as a boy in 1906, rose to become Quartermaster of both the 1st and 2nd Battalions and, following an attachment to the Indian Army, retired in 1948 as a Lieut.-Colonel Quartermaster after 42 years' service.

A keen sportsman and a crack shot, he was Sergeant-Major Instructor of Musketry of the 2nd Battalion at a time when the Regiment was outstandingly



successful in the Army Rifle Association and other competitions. His tours abroad included that with the Shanghai Defence Force, when he was commissioned as Quartermaster to the 2nd Battalion in 1928.

Full of energy and always cheerful, whatever the difficulties, he was a live inspiration to all ranks and a splendid person with whom to serve.

Settling down at Bere Alston, in Devon, he was a staunch member of the Plymouth Branch of the Regimental Association and for many years its President.

His passing removes from our numbers one of the most charming and respected characters of The Suffolk Regiment, and the many letters received by his widow testify to the high esteem in which he was held by all ranks.

Captain G. S. Parker died suddenly on 6th August at the age of 65.

George Parker joined the Suffolk Regiment in August, 1914. After war service in France and Flanders he went to India with the 1st Battalion in 1919, seeing active service in Malabar. After service with both regular battalions of the Regiment he retired in 1938 on completion of a tour as R.Q.M.S. of the 2nd Bn. in India.

He was recalled from the Special Reserve in 1939, was commissioned and served with the Home Guard from July, 1940 to September, 1945, attaining the rank of Captain.

He was a most conscientious soldier, an outstanding disciplinarian, and a loyal member of the Regiment. A staunch supporter of the O.C.A., he was, at the time of his death, President of the Ipswich Branch of the Suffolk Section of the Past and Present Association.

He leaves a widow and two daughters to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.



Major H. E. W. Wigginton died suddenly on 18th August, 1962. Harold Wigginton was serving in the Supplementary Reserve of The Suffolk Regiment on the outbreak of war in 1939, and was subsequently granted a regular commission into the Regiment. To his great disappointment, he was too young to go to France with the battalion. He was later posted to the 11th Bn Lancashire Fusiliers and was taken prisoner while serving with them in North Africa. All who knew Wiggie will appreciate what a thorn in the flesh he was to his German captors.

After the war, he served with 1st Battalion, The Suffolk Regiment, the Regimental Depot, the School of Army Administration, the School of Infantry and the Federation Regiment, Malayan Military Forces. He was awarded the M.B.E. for his service with the latter.

He retired in 1961 after a period of service with the 1st East Anglian Regiment in Berlin.

His boundless energy and constant sense of fun will long be remembered by all his many friends, and his sudden death at the early age of 41 is a great shock to us all.



1st BATTALION

BATTALION REVIEW

On the 28th March the Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. A. F. Campbell, M.C., took over as Commander, British Guiana Garrison. The troops which he then had under command consisted of H.Q. Company, A and B Companies of the Regiment, "A" Company of the Royal Hampshire Regiment, and certain men of the Arms and Services who had been left behind in British Guiana to support the Battalion. On the 12th May we were lucky enough to receive fifty private soldiers from the 3rd East Anglian Regiment to enable us to build up a third company of our own. They took up position at the Air Base at Atkinson Field, twenty-seven miles from Georgetown, and, under Major Morgan formed the basis of "C" Company. They have quickly settled down under our own Officers and N.C.O.'s. On the 15th June "A" Company of the Royal Hampshire Regiment returned to U.K. They had been in British Guiana for two years; their knowledge of the country and their pleasant and efficient ways helped the Regiment a great deal while they were serving under us and we were sorry to see them go.

The Battalion was then left as follows :—

H.Q., "A" and "B" Companies in Georgetown, with a platoon detachment on Rose Hall Sugar Estate near New Amsterdam, a small town on the west bank of the Berbice River. "C" Company, with a strong administrative element under the Quartermaster, at Atkinson Field.

By the beginning of May the intense patrolling which the Battalion had so far undertaken, both of the country and of the towns, drew to an end. By this time officers and soldiers all knew both town and country intimately, and the internal situation was such that there was no longer need to show soldiers in the villages and the towns as a preventative measure against trouble. Instead, the Battalion turned to a more normal life of training, sport and administration, with a first main aim in view to produce a Queen's Birthday Parade by the 2nd of June.

On this date the parade was held on the British Guiana Police Parade Ground at Eve Leary Barracks. It was held at 9 a.m. and both Regimental Colours were trooped. Taking part in the parade were two guards from the Regiment, a guard and a mounted squadron from the British Guiana Police Force, and a guard from the British Guiana Volunteer Force. The salute was taken by His Excellency the Governor, Sir Ralph Grey, and the music was provided by a combination of our Corps of Drums and the band of the British Guiana Police Force. It was a colourful parade, held in the most glorious weather and watched by a very large crowd.

Even while practising for this parade, and indeed right through to the end of August, all companies put in training spells in the most magnificent training country. At Takama—fourteen hours' sailing up the Berbice River and approachable overland only by a ten hour drive across a sand-track through the bush—is a camp built by the British Guiana Volunteer Force which was put at the Regiment's disposal. Round this camp are rolling savannah, jungle country, and a large river—a perfect area for all forms of infantry training. Companies went there for periods of three weeks and, although they had their troubles, mainly caused by the tremendous volume of rain that fell and the incessant attention of a myriad of flies, most men enjoyed their time in Takama and the companies certainly benefitted.

At the same time platoons were sent all over the country and into neighbouring Surinam on adventure training expeditions. These included "pork-knocking"—i.e. prospecting for diamonds and gold on the upper reaches of the large rivers — hunting the manatee, trekking across the hinterland, and river exploration.

Readers may wonder why later on in these notes there is little reference to Battalion games. Games have been played almost entirely on a company basis because we have been living in company groups, and only very occasionally has a battalion team been collected together to play against some local side. However, in this near perfect climate, soldiers have had plenty of sport.

Social life, particularly in Georgetown, has flourished. It took members of the Battalion a very short time to get their feet under the table and enjoy the incredible hospitality offered them by the people of this country. Down at Atkinson Field "C" Company have particularly enjoyed the hospitality of the American Army Survey Unit which is stationed there with them.

These activities have occasionally been interrupted by the need to deploy a platoon or patrol here and there as a precaution against threatened labour or political unrest. Fortunately these threats have in every case come to nothing.

The main problem facing the Battalion has been one of housing. The local Government is flat broke and were unable to house us as we should be housed. "A" Company were lucky in obtaining the Mariners' Club, a pleasant place almost on the coast on the outskirts of Georgetown, but the other companies have not been so lucky. The problem was solved in late June, soon after money became available as a result of our coming under H.Q. Eastern Command for administration. The Battalion is now quite comfortably housed and we are handing over some very decent billets to our successors here, the Coldstream Guards.

Minden Day was celebrated by parading the Minden Roses in a flag march through Georgetown, during which the salute was taken by His Excellency the Governor. The march was immediately followed by a church service held in Christchurch in Georgetown and conducted by the Rev. T. R. Jennings, our Battalion padre. The soldiers were given the rest of the day off, a special lunch, and all the extra amenities normally provided on Minden Day.

On the 25th July it became possible for us to allow soldiers on leave. A difficulty arose as to where to send them since it was financially impossible to send them outside the country. The problem was solved for us by the kindness of Sandbach Parker, a local firm who run a number of sugar estates. On one of these, Leonora, they put a delightful house at our disposal in a beautiful setting. We have sent a platoon away a week at a time to this place, where they have spent their time swimming in the estate's swimming pool, trekking through the country on mules, fishing, alligator shooting, and on expeditions up the local rivers.

At this time we have now virtually completed our planning for the move home to England. The Advance Party leaves on the 15th September and the remainder of the Battalion between the 1st and the 13th October; No doubt, being an air move, the exact dates will fluctuate. The main memories which the Battalion will carry back from British Guiana are, first and foremost, the wonderful friendship which the people of the country—all people from the poorest to the richest—have extended to the soldiers, and the marvellous hospitality which they have given us. Even throughout the three months of the rainy season the climate has been near perfect, the average temperature being around 85° and the humidity not unbearably high. We have seen a great deal of a most exciting hinterland, into which few communications run, which is all covered in jungle and passed through by magnificent rivers. We have many of us been disappointed that there has not been more excitement in the military sense, but we can be satisfied that by our very presence we have kept these normally happy and friendly people at peace with each other, the task we were sent here to do.

OFFICERS' MESS

Since the arrival of some of the silver, the purchase of local Purple Heart table tops, and the move from the cramped conditions of the Y.M.C.A., the Officers' mess has taken on a brighter and more gracious air. We have now been able to return the hospitality given us by local firms, clubs, and friends.

Two cocktail parties were held in the Police Officers' Mess where the Corp of Drums newly tutored Steel Drum Band gave their premier performance most successfully. Curry lunches on Sunday were well attended by officers and their friends, while the rush to the Mess after the Queen's Birthday Parade seriously taxed the capacity of the two refrigerators and the stock of champagne glasses.

The main domestic problem during our stay in British Guiana has been the lack of suitable officer's accommodation. "B" Company officers have remained on the top floor of the Georgetown Club. "A" Company were billeted in a police married quarter whence they later moved to the comparative luxury of a Bookers Company House, while H.Q. Company officers have put up with the dismal conditions of a Government House in Carmichael Street.

From Carmichael Street there have been temporary escapes to private homes and flats vacated by their owners on overseas leave. The most successful of these evasions was Peter Raven's and Brian Murphy's caretakership of Bookers Managing Director's air-conditioned house. When "A" Company 1 Royal Hampshire Regiment left Atkinson Airfield, Ernie Morgan and his "C" Company officers with Vic Norman left us to set up a monastic mess at the "Base."

Bruce Gofton-Salmond left the P.M.C.'s chair in April after having put in a lot of hard work in organising the Mess under trying conditions. Later he vacated the Paymaster's chair, and the noise of the battalion control set, to return to U.K. prior to joining the cavalry. Bruce is sadly missed after having been our Regimental Paymaster for over five years. In his place we welcome Cyril Coates who, although not taking over as P.M.C., is nobly managing the Mess accounts. We are glad to learn that he will be staying with us until March before retiring to Australia.

Other changes have been many. We said farewell to Mike Lunn, David Smith, Paddy Ford, Chris Mather, Brian Murphy, Pat Hopper and Trevor Trevethick, all of whom we hope to see in U.K. We have welcomed back Mike Gunton, Pat Macdonald, John Varley and John Morriss. Of the B.G. increment we said goodbye to Alan Davidson, who returns to civilian medicine, and Mike Simms-Reeve who will undoubtedly soon be preparing to fly out elsewhere as Staff Officer R. Signals when the next overseas emergency occurs. We welcomed to the Mess John Stedham, the D.A.Q.M.G., Bob Jennings the Padre, Brendan O'Duffy the M.O. and Alex Mineef the M.T.O.

We were very glad to see Betty Campbell who came out for a short time and gave us the latest news from the families at Harwich. Doubtless she took back to Harwich her and our impressions of British Guiana.

One should also include repeated welcome and farewell notes for the subalterns who seemed to spend the shortest time possible in the Mess between their wanderings from Atkinson, New Amsterdam, Leonora, Takama and adventure training.

Lastly we lost to the Garrison Mess, Hong Kong, Sgt. Butcher who patiently and zealously did so much to make the Mess run smoothly in the first few difficult weeks; and we welcome back on yet another return journey the familiar face of Sgt. Place.

SERGEANTS' MESS

Having filed a copy of the last notes for easy reference on return to U.K., we find ourselves still being "mad dogs and Englishmen out in the mid-day sun."

The end of April saw us firmly in our new Mess and settling down to a more routine Mess life, a real pointer in this direction was that on the 30th April we held our first rehearsal for the coming Queen's Birthday Parade.

May arrived, and with it the rainy season, which in this part of the world is taken seriously, but fortunately it did not curtail our activities too much. On 7th May a strong representation from the Mess helped the Battalion Shooting Team to win a triangular shoot against the B.G. Police and H.M.S. Ulster. Congratulations due here to S/Sgt. 'Tiffy' Ridout with a score of 101 and the R.S.M. with 89, a noble effort of Police No. 4's straight out of grease

proof paper. A whisper in the ear here not to forget Sgt. Bullock's alligator shoot, what happened is not quite accurately described but is mentioned anyway.

The first 16 days of June are all rather vague and blurred in the memory of your scribe.

On the 2nd June before a very large audience we (for the last time again) trooped our old colours with H.E. The Governor representing H.M. The Queen; doubtless this parade will be mentioned elsewhere so on to the social. Having decided that at a push we could entertain one hundred people in the Mess the bloke at the top of the stairs gave up counting after handing out the 149th glass of sherry and joined in the party. I am assured a very good time was had by all who came.

One week later came the announcement of the Battalion's return home in October and on the same day a visit to the Mess by H.E. The Governor and the Hon. Mr. Rai, the Minister of Home Affairs.

The 15th June saw the departure of 1st Battalion Royal Hampshires from British Guiana so wasting no time our Atkinson Mess held its opening night on the 16th. I flatly refuse at this stage to give this party its British Guiana name, it requires explaining first. It was our first but will not be our last.

Another visitor during this period was the Chief of Staff who several of us had met before. He seemed quite impressed by what he saw.

At last a fairly quiet spell arrived and I think on the whole was welcome but all too soon came Minden Day, and with it a march round town, a church service, a ceremonial guard mounting, drinks in the Officers' Mess, then quick lets get changed and get to another of those things at the Mariners' Club very ably laid on by C.S.M. Mick Fowler. Once again we don't know where they all come from, don't know where most of them went but in between times everyone in their most immaculate B.G. type dress tried hard to wear down the Steel Band with some of the variations of the Twist being so complicated as to be nearly impossible. (How's the slipped discs, men?).

Our next event was the arrival of R.S.M. Hazelwood to take over the reins from R.S.M. Raynor who left to take over the 4th Royal Norfolk Battalion (T.A.). I know I speak for all members who have served with us since amalgamation day when I say "Thanks Sir for everything." I think we all realised on 29th August, 1959 that things would either run smoothly or not at all, and most of the credit for us being able to say "Well it worked" must go to R.S.M. and Mrs. Raynor to who we would wish all we wish ourselves in the future.

Let's see on the In/Out side what's happened. Goodbye to C/Sgt. Vaughan (War Office), C.S.M. Tony Downes (Suffolk/Camb. T.A.), D/M Tom Hitchen (Depot), shortly to Sgt. Pete Thompson (S.A.S.C.) and temporarily to Sgts. James, Jones, Bullock, Shanks who having got home didn't have enough justification to get back.

We welcome back although we haven't seen them yet C.S.M. Len Drew, C/Sgt. Dutchy Holland and Sgt. Tom Kelly.

Well we seem to be up to date again, one or two things remain unanswered at the moment. "Who's on what flight?" "Who said that Sgt. Major was lost?" "What happened to my clean shirt?"

We'll probably find the answers when we all get together in Felixstowe so until then we'll say it won't be long now. See you.

HEADQUARTER COMPANY

Coy. Comd.: Major A. H. V. Gillmore, M.C.
2/I.C.: Lt. P. K. R. Ross.
C.S.M.: W.O.II S. F. Parker.
C.Q.M.S.: C/Sgt. E. J. Sennett.

British Guiana. Here we are hailing from the land of rain and shine! At the present moment we of the most worked H.Q. in the Battalion are feverishly packing to retire to the United Kingdom after nine months of hard work and rum drinking.

Sergeant Major Parker is being driven grey haired dictating to L/Cpl. Cook (who has already worn out one typewriter and has had to borrow a long carriage one from the Battalion Orderly Room) countless Returns and Nominal Rolls as asked for by the U.P.M., Adjutant and O.R.Q.M.S. It is assumed that these Rolls will enable the Battalion Orderly Room to estimate finally how many men there are in the Battalion.

C/Sgt. Sennett with his willing workers have been doing wonders with kit bags and boxes, whilst Pte. Dixon (Arms Storeman), in between packing magazines, has been seen entertaining the local beauty queen outside the compound.

Cpl. Wilson our able P.T.I. (Physical Training Instructor!) after doing a 12 hour guard has been heard to declare "I'm shattered" and forthwith lies on his bed. But, alas, the telephone rings and the C.S.M. can be heard through the building calling "Cpl. Wilson, telephone."

We have another P.T.I. namely Cpl. Rose, who is now idling his time doing Post N.C.O. and claims it is the hardest job in the Battalion. Although this may not be so, we all appreciate him bringing our mail to us no matter what time of the day or night it comes in. Thank you, Pat.

The Company 2/I.C., Lt. Ross, who is also the Civil Labour Officer has been in great demand from all departments to employ civilians to do their work for them, with preference given to a tea-maker for the Battalion Orderly Room!

The Company Orderly Sergeant, Cpl. Watts, has had to take time off from the reading of "Lolita" in order to assist with the Company Office work, which is piling up. After duty hours Cpl. Watts becomes the Company Canteen Manager, serving in the Canteen in order to gain the maximum profit for the Company Fund?

We wish to congratulate the Company football team on its fine record in B.G., where they've played 10 games, won 9 and drawn 1, scoring a total of 40 goals with 7 scored against them, with the aid of their trainer and chief spectator, Cpl. Casey of the Regimental Police.

SIGNAL PLATOON

The very word Caribbean conjures in the mind ideas of golden sands, swaying palms and everything that is wonderful in life.

From the platoon cage below Battalion Headquarters one looks out upon a sun kissed landscape—black mud on the beach as far as the eye can see. A few beat up old paw-paw trees with Cpl. Boon's washing suspended and swaying gently to the rhythmic tap of the morse key.

A little further away down a stone-age type road are the living quarters: tents—tents from which the platoon has to send out fighting patrols nightly to beat off the mosquitos and goats that also claim

ownership. Usually we have won but occasionally Thursday comes along and we know the odds are against us and we have to take refuge with the friendly natives of Kitty or Charlotte Street.

A hundred miles across raging torrent and steaming jungle can be heard the desperate grunting of a creature in distress. Sounds like a struggling manatee captured by a Viking expedition but on closer investigation a sweating heaving figure can be made out on a sort of broken down bicycle with no wheels or handle bars. This is your introduction to Peck and his pedal generator. He claims to be the most experienced and knowledgeable pedal generator operator in South America—only trouble is when he has finished pedalling he is too exhausted to operate.



Life in British Guiana
Cpls. Boon, Thomas and Casey fishing at the Leonora leave centre

There is at Kwakwani evidence of the overwhelming might and wealth of United States industry. There hundreds of black, shining bodies toil ceaselessly under the sun. Mammoth machinery gouges bauxite from the earth and ocean going ships transport it to civilisation. All this has been safely guarded during these perilous months by the Viking garrison troops, namely two regimental signallers who have stood to their posts and manned their sets against all odds.

Everyone has been out in the jungle at one stage or another, except the R.S.O. and Cpl. Ratcliff who have confined their efforts to a vicious struggle against all that nature could throw at them in the Bamboo Gardens. They maintain that if you have been there and got out unscathed, taken a walk down Robb Street at midnight and visited the Zoo on a Sunday afternoon, you have done British Guiana.

Looking back at British Guiana more realistically it has been a terrific boost for the trained and semi-trained signallers. We have probably, without realising it, gained a wealth of experience and can look back with a certain amount of pride at the communications we have established and maintained. We have worked over very considerable distances

and over very varying types of country and often under very difficult conditions but we have never failed.

We were delighted to hear that Mrs. Durrant and Mrs. Bidwell have successfully given birth to sons whilst we have been away. We also congratulate Wilkins on his marriage to Miss Bridget Delth and hope that her stay in England is everything she wishes it to be.

In closing may we remind all regimental signallers past and present that we shall be having another get together on the first Saturday in January 1963. Details will come out by letter at a later date.

QUARTERMASTER'S STAFF

On arrival of the Q.M.'s Staff in B.G. they were split up into two groups. One at Atkinson Field and the other in Georgetown. C/Sgt. Griffin and Cpl. Cannon were holding the fort at Atkinson Field whilst Capt. Norman ably assisted by R.Q.M.S. Bates and a few of the staff were operating from Georgetown.

Things sorted themselves out after a C.Q.M.S.'s Conference and R.Q.M.S. Bates moved to Atkinson Field with two learner clerks namely Cpl. Russell on loan from the M.I.O. and Cpl. Jacobs who became redundant as Post N.C.O. when Cpl. J. surprised us by his arrival. This left Capt. Norman, L/Cpl. Jellis, L/Cpl. Hassell, L.Cpl. Clarke, Ptes. Stone, Thompson, Clitheroe, Raper and Berresford still in Georgetown.

After a few false starts the remainder of the staff in Georgetown followed the "workers" down to Atkinson Field.

Pte. Berresford has since departed to the delights of civvy street where, according to the Soldiers' Ten Commandments, "He shall spend the rest of his days wearing civilian clothing and walking amongst strangers."

We offer our congratulations to L/Cpl. Clarke and L/Cpl. Jellis on their recent promotions. Doubly so for L/Cpl. Jellis on his intended marriage in November.

Although the weather is getting on our nerves we are sticking to it, man.

Cpl. Jacobs is the only one of us that can swim like a hippopotamus down the P.W.D. Swimming Pool.

Cpl. Russell is using more coconut oil than the locals to get a sun-tan and is beginning to give this up as a bad job and is going home a white man so that there is no confusion on the subject of the Immigration Bill.

The Q.M. and the R.Q.M.S. have sprouted a few grey hairs as a result of the various form of accounting and knowledge held by their three clerks. Many times they nearly had to suffer the wrath of "Wotan." But after several re-writes the frustrating moments passed! As it is written in Commandment No. 7, "Thou shalt not beg, borrow, or steal thy neighbours' kit but, shall sign it out, mate! sign it out!"

L/Cpl. Clarke is now N.C.O. i/c Pioneer Shop. He now sports a mug gaily decorated with red paint, reading "I'm in charge," plus various other comments which we decline to mention.

Pte. Stone, Thompson, Clitheroe and Raper have a real whip-cracker for a boss but aren't unduly worried as two will soon depart for civvy street, a sad loss! Many signs now hang at Atkinson Field as a result of Thompson's work in signwriting and



Corps of Drums of the 1st Battalion, British Guiana, 1962

painting, whilst Clitheroe is a dab hand with the varnishing. At a recent Sergeants' Mess Social several members failed to leave their seats when the music started.

There have been many amusing incidents in British Guiana but now preparations are in full swing for the return home and the boys are planning for the future and a safe return to their homelands. To cut a long story short Roll On Blighty. What a welcome sight to see London Airport again and the white faces of Cpls. Fletcher, Coulson, Heale and dear old Henry the G 10 man. No doubt many remarks will be passed on places seen and places to be seen! One never knows what the future may bring but there will always be memories of British Guiana.

M.T. PLATOON

M.T.O. : Capt. H. H. Norman.
 M.T.W.O. : W.O. II Pratt.
 M.T. Sergeant : Sgt. Bates.
 M.T. Stores : Sgt. Bryant.

The M.T. greet our many readers again with the news that once more we are preparing for a move and, as is normal before such a move, we are just like the proverbial Wooslam bird—going round in ever decreasing circles. The only difference being that this time we all hope to disappear to England on the first aircraft we can get hold of.

It is indeed a change to see at long last, army drivers driving army vehicles. No longer do we see the broken down B.G. type (Gungy) civilian wagons

garaged on our parks. Now that replacements have arrived out here we have at long last handed back to the civilians the trucks they so kindly lent us when we first arrived.

Our drivers seem to have their own subtle way of pointing out to the civilian population that they don't really want to be out here. (Our accident rate is probably the highest ever). Nevertheless one of our members has tied the knot that only compares with the hangman's. Yes, young Ramm has tied the matrimonial knot and the best of luck in the future to Pte. and Mrs. Ramm, may they continue the family tradition of providing the Regiment with many more little Ramms (ex-C/Sgt. Jack take note!).

Congratulations to M.T. members who have stepped another rung up the ladder towards the Field Marshal's baton. Sgt. Ferrier, who on promotion is now due to join the Depot and Cpl. Gardiner who is now in sole command of the detachment down in Georgetown (none of the others would take the job on). L/Cpl. Cox, who at the moment is off the road having a top overhaul on his feet, has been putting in some sterling work as Details N.C.O., and has already achieved that details clerks shrug of the shoulders and a semi apologetic "Sorry—ain't not no how got anything."

Up at Atkinson Field, the M.T.W.O., W.O. II Pratt, has been taking a leaf from Mr. Marples' book and has been placing signs all over the place restricting speeds, parking, making streets one way and even putting up a taxi rank sign. We wonder when the parking meters are going to appear. The M.T. Sergeant, Sgt. Bates keeps on mumbling something

about "advance party me days to do" and keeps packing and unpacking. This usually is on the insistence of the M.T.W.O. who shares a bunk with him and Uncle Josie's kit seems to be dwindling. "Come on boy I'm sure that is my best pair of boots you've just packed."

We would like to offer our condolences to the civilian population of Felixstowe on the moving to that fine town of our M.T. Section. We can only offer the following advice, no, not "Keep death off the Road," just keep off the road completely. Having now got our drivers trained to the B.G. way of driving, hand on the horn and keep your eyes closed, it will take some time to re-adjust the dear boys. Any complaints should be forwarded to Dr. Cheddi Jagan who started all this in the first place.

You will no doubt remember our M.T.O. Capt. Norman, and will be pleased to know that on odd occasions he still takes an interest in the M.T. in spite of being tied down with Q.M. work. This interest is of course usually confined to "Come on then where's the tea details clerk?" Nevertheless we all work together hand in glove and we all benefit from his friendly words of advice from time to time. Where would we be without him? Clink I suppose.

The M.T. at Atkinson have made several trips to the Lakes. This is a local beauty spot consisting of a couple of palm trees and a deep puddle in which they delight in swimming. Pte. Smith and dear old Haggis Hughes also insist on taking their vehicles with them, after all it's only seven foot deep! Perhaps they are only taking advice from the example set them by the M.T. Sergeant who drove over a bridge which, when he was half way over, disappeared. Cpl. Gladwell, who was with him at the time, is still pleading that the twelve miles that they had to walk to get assistance should be counted as his P.E. test for the next ten years.

The R.E.M.E. are still going strong and are doing a first class job keeping the wheels turning. In fact last week, after being off the road for several months, they even put the recovery vehicle back on the road. In fairness to Sgt. Mac Evans and L/Cpl. Gore they did give up a week end to do it. Mind you it was raining that week end.

The Commanding Officer was very pleased to take over his new staff car which arrived from Jamaica. The following day we took it into the local garage for a panel beating job. We are very proud to have you live up to the true traditions of the M.T., Sir.

As we leave the sunny shores of Guiana and our plane sinks slowly in the East, we bid a glad farewell to you and our next travel talk will, we hope, be from the good old damp and cold shores of Blighty.

BATTALION ORDERLY ROOM

Chief Clerk : O.R.Q.M.S. R. Hewitt. B.E.M.
O.R.C. : Sgt. D. O. James.

Since our last notes were written life has proceeded in the Orderly Room in its usual calm manner, broken only by the departure of L/Cpl. Barrett to civilian life and marriage. Our new additions are Ptes. Peck, Day and Phillips from the rifle companies. It is also noted that someone has at last recognised Pte. (Tapey) Warwick's talents and have given him a stripe to moan about.

15th June, 1962 will long be remembered as THE day. Our new O.R.Q.M.S. arrived like a hurricane. "I'm not going to change anything" he said and

then proceeded to go to town on us all, shaking us out of the quiet, peaceful rut we had sunk into after the first two or three hectic months in British Guiana. No longer Juicee bottles lying about half-drunk, no more tea-breaks, no more lying on our beds while duty clerk. Sgt. James escaped the worst of the upheaval by returning to U.K. to work with the Rear Party which had lost L/Cpl. Legood to the Brigade Depot, the ultimate fate of all efficient clerks it seems. However after we had tamed our Pompadour Chief Clerk down a little and after he had exhausted all his stories starting with "When I was in Malaya" things slowly quietened down again.

Capt. Hopper left us in August to return to U.K. and then on to Singapore after leave. The location of his posting we have been assured has got nothing to do with the Chief Clerk's stories. In his place we welcome Capt. Morriss from Nigeria.

During August, much to our delight, Mrs. Chalmers joined the staff complete with her electric typewriter. The speed with which the letters are now produced has to be seen to be believed.

As these notes are written we are once again surrounded by the nominal rolls, Part II Orders, railway warrants and other bits of "bumph" that go to make up a battalion move. Everyone has his bit of advice to offer and the Orderly Room has its share of "I've done it all before" types.

INTELLIGENCE SECTION

Captain J. P. Macdonald.
Sergeant T. F. W. Gay.

This intrep is, we hope, the last one to be completed in this "delightful tropical resort," and—be it at last admitted — the first not bearing some mysterious security classification. Since reporting in the last issue, this vast intelligence organisation has undergone a tremendous upheaval. Captain B. M. Murphy has returned to the U.K. to take up yet another mysterious appointment, complete with his hoard of B.G. gold, jars of pepper sauce and colic pills. The large Department Stores, particularly Bookers, have surely noted with alarm the sudden dramatic drop in their takings due to the absence of their best customer.

Sgt. High, after much valuable service, has moved to the fighting department and was last heard of proceeding down some obscure river in a canoe, basking in the shade of a luxuriant and prolific moustache. Yes, he has grown it again and if he keeps going on at this rate he will soon be asked to pay for his Identity Cards photographs! Sgt. High's place has been taken by Sgt. Gay, fresh from head-shrinking at the Intelligence Centre. He was however, totally unprepared to withstand prolonged attacks from the marabunta wasps, who have strangely perverted fascination for the naked light bulb in the Intelligence Office.

L/Cpl. Bentick, the longest serving member of the Section, continues his nefarious after-dark activities, persuading, cajoling and romantising with the hundreds of pretty young potential Mata Haris of Georgetown. He displays remarkable prowess in this unorthodox method of gathering information.

The mastermind of this very secret and exclusive arm, Captain Macdonald, airs his cool, calculating brain in the, as yet, unairconditioned office at the top of the stairs, despite the strain of dealing with steamed up spectacles, cold tea and hot soft drinks. Here at his finger-tips lie the keys to success or

failure; the P.R.I. Account, the Battalion Club Account, the Daily Chronicle and many other important documents.

Carefully concealed in his "pending" tray reposes a sinister black telephone, the number of which is craftily inserted in the Georgetown Telephone Directory under the name of Wee Tin Po's Drug Store, or some such. This probably explains the I.O.'s occasional apoplectic outbursts when he is requested by some innocent native for an estimate for removing teeth. They are seldom amused when we tell them we would be delighted to remove all their teeth for nothing.

Perhaps the predominating feature of this holy of holies is the highly coloured, economy size map of British Guiana which flashes upon the eyes of bewildered visitors. It sparkles with countless pins of every hue and description, the designation of some unknown even to the Stationery Office, and is resplendent with delicate etchings and drawings to emphasise or explain certain points. Standing in its frame with a dignity all its own it is visited like some Old Master and is improved and added to by every passing artist, like the walls of a Public Convenience. Fortunately the Adjutant was dissuaded from making horrid little sketches of guardsmen all over it during the visit of the Coldstream C.O.

We have not been solely concerned with Intelligence matters, of course and have, at one time or another, in response to the well known exigencies of the service, launched out into moneylending, wedding and other photographic work, public relations and accounting, just to name a few. Nevertheless, we have still had a moment to pass the time of day with Captain Clarke who visits us frequently for words of comfort and encouragement.

Needless to say, we have had a more or less enjoyable time in B.G. but are now looking forward to the more sophisticated (we hope) attractions of Felixstowe. Our wives/sweethearts are doubtless going to be only too eager to learn the intricacies of the "jump up."

We have recently achieved an even higher state of popularity with the posting on the Battle Board of a Town Plan of Felixstowe. This will shortly have as many incident pins in it as our trusty scarred plan of Georgetown, which is, in any case used more for briefing visitors on where to find better bars than for I.S.

The time is almost upon us when, to use the nautical language of SNOW1, we shall be transferring our Broad Pennant back to East Anglia—with sighs of relief all round. As one Very Very Senior Corporal put it "The trouble with this Station is that the drink is too damned cheap."

ACORN MINOR.

"A" COMPANY

Company Commander	Major E. W. A. Power
2 I.C.	Captain P. G. Raven
C.S.M.	W.O. H M. S. Fowler
C.Q.M.S.	C/Sgt. I. Marjoram
No. 1 Pl.	2/Lt. J. A. Varley Sgt. R. Pope
No. 2 Pl.	Lt. M. G. Turner-Cain Sgt. M. H. High
No. 3 Pl.	Lt. R. J. Abbott Sgt. J. Beckett

They always say, whoever "they" are, that it is dangerous to forecast: normally one would agree

(who for instance would have forecast our posting to B.G.?) but this time "they" would be wrong as I can say that 99% of the Company will be extremely glad to see England—and I don't know who the 1% is who wants to stay.

However, let us not be too "snivelling" (as Major Athill would have said). To come to B.G. in the manner and speed which we did was an achievement—it has proved to us all, from Company to War Office level, what can be done and the snags that will occur—we have learnt a lot.

We have got to know each other better; you don't really discover the weak links in the platoon until you've been on the march all night and it's p--ing down with rain and you have got to build your basha.

And of course there have been the funny moments; when the Sgt. Major spent 24 hours in a bog; when the Company Commander cut the telephone wires, etc., etc.

So that even now, as you read this in the snow in Felixstowe you'll all be saying "It was all so much better in B.G.!" I doubt it!

Although published in July the notes in the last issue of the Journal were written in May, so these will include the period May—September. A lot has happened in that time and only rarely has the Company all been together.

The Queen's Birthday Parade was the first big event. It is normally held in British Guiana in April but this year it was postponed until June. "A" Company provided the bulk of No. 1 Guard—the other guards being No. 2 (1 E. Anglian), No. 3 (British Guiana Volunteer Force) and No. 4 (the Police). On the day all went extremely well, despite fears that the dressing might waver. The Company Commander was not on parade but had the unusual experience of giving a "live" commentary on Radio Demerara. The rest of the day was a holiday.

By June we had been in the country three and a half months and the tension had eased noticeably; the Commanding Officer therefore decided that it was time to reduce our "Alert" measures and to do some normal training outside Georgetown. O.C. "A" Company was therefore ordered to take the Company on a 14 day march. We set off on 6th June, returning to Georgetown on the 20th, in which time we covered about 120 miles of swamp, jungle, sand and bush. Sometimes working at night and sleeping by day the Company Commander exercised us in all conceivable platoon drills—ambushes, patrols, night attacks, day attacks, defence, the lot. We spent a memorable three days at an Amerindian village, St. Cuthberts, memorable for the mud—all the vehicles getting bogged—and the rate of rise in the river, on the banks of which we were camped. We had hoped to ambush a "C" Company platoon who were coming up river but they turned up after we left.

Private Cross was bitten by a snake and Sgt. Watson with great presence of mind slashed it, sucked the poison out and applied a tourniquet in the approved manner.

But probably the highlight of the march was when the Company Commander announced that we were to be relieved by the Coldstream Guards in October. At last we knew something and were able to go forward with a renewed sense of purpose.

At the end of this fortnight we really felt we had done something—some of us had surprised ourselves.



Queen's Birthday Parade, Georgetown, 1962.

"A" Company (Captain D. L. Clarke)

For those who had never done any training except at the Depot it was an eye opener and the aged discovered they could still take it: we all went back to Georgetown much refreshed, and how different the rest of the Battalion looked! The ending of the exercise was a sad moment as 1 Platoon left us, only temporarily as it turned out, and were attached to "C" Company in Atkinson Field. They have now returned, but unfortunately left Sgt. Watson behind.

John Watson joined the Company on amalgamation and throughout his service with us he has been a tower of strength. Men in the Company will best remember him for his enthusiastic leadership of the football team, and always, whenever his platoon was given a disagreeable job, it was a cheerful "Come on lads," and away he'd go. We like to think that he'll always come and see us when he can.

Back out of the bush we came fresh and raring to go. So we won the Swimming Sports and the Tug-of-War. We were then sent forward to pull against the Police, supposedly never beaten, in the local Cavalcade of Sport; and pull them we did by two straight pulls and no-one was more surprised than we were.

At last the good things of life began to roll in—or rather, sail in—ships came laden with beds and

sheets. No more sleeping on the floor on a mattress. A new cookhouse was completed and the Mariners Club was finally requisitioned so that now we could feel that we owned our own home.

The food improved, the guards and duties became less, the rains still went on: "days to do" charts appeared!

But we still had one big jaunt as a company to come—Tacama.

Tacama is the Volunteer Force summer camp; it lies up the Bartica River in savannah land and is a wonderful training ground for a short while. You can reach the camp by road over a very broken up track, or by water, going by sea and then up the Berbice River — we used a combination of both. However, when there, our only means of resupply was by air and that by courtesy of Messrs. Bookers!

"Tamaca" and "flies" will be synonymous for most of us for the rest of our lives and Mr. Murphy's spraying from the air didn't help much.

For the first time we had unlimited space for firing our weapons—no range restrictions and quite a lot of training ammunition: all facilities were used to the full, culminating in a glorious bushfire, with the C.O. watching and the Colour Sergeant rubbing his hands with glee!

The training theme was platoon tactics and by the end of the three weeks period we felt we could do a platoon attack in our sleep! But we had our moments of fun particularly on Minden Day, which the officers and sergeants celebrated twice if not three times. We had a good lunch and all the usual silly games—but who chose a tree with a marabunta nest in for the tree felling competition? Captain Raven's new style cricket match was a great success with a free bottle of beer every time you took a wicket, caught a catch or hit a six — the umpires didn't do badly either!

Everything comes to an end though and our stay at Tacama ended with a bang—the inter platoon battle test. This was a tough 24 hour test examining the platoons in practically everything and was very hotly fought out, with 2 Platoon just getting their noses in front. The umpires were the Colonel, Company Commander, R.S.M. and Sgt. Mixer; Mr. Hudson of the Wisbech Gazette watched the exercise throughout. Capt. Raven unfortunately had left us by then as he slipped a disc and was evacuated by air the day before the exercise.

And so back to Georgetown.

And now as I write this we are thinking in terms of how much boxes weigh and next of kin addresses, but we are keeping ourselves occupied.

3 Platoon have just returned from spending an extremely interesting and enjoyable week with the Dutch Army in Surinam. 2 Platoon unfortunately failed to catch a manatee when they went out to the Abary River. Sgt. High is somewhere up the Pomeroy Riven and we hope he knows he is on the advance party!

1 Platoon, now back with us, are enjoying ten days leave at Leonora estate—3 and then 2 Platoons will follow them for a week each before we leave British Guiana.

We are going to hold a Company Dance on the 14th as our farewell to British Guiana and then get ready to give the Coldstream Guards a real royal welcome.

It would be very wrong to close these notes without saying how much we all appreciate and admire the way in which the families left behind have carried on without husbands to carry the coals and so on. It would also be wrong not to praise L/Cpl. Goodall and his staff for the way in which they have unfailingly and uncomplainingly produced meals, and not always with very good rations.

Never has a Company changed around so much and the Company Commander and Company Sergeant Major are about the only ones who have kept the same job—I wish I'd heard Mrs. Fowler and Mrs. Marjorams comments on their husbands moustaches—perhaps I shall.

And because there have been so many changes, may I say farewell to all those who've gone and welcome to all who have joined.

We've built lots of bridges, why not ask us to build one from Felixstowe to Harwich?

Good heavens! 12 o'clock—time for a couple of Carlsberg, then some lunch—a lie in the sun, a game of cricket and a swim—

Not a bad life really!

“ B ” COMPANY

Company Commander Major I. A. Haycraft
 Company 2/I.C. Captain M. K. D. Gunton
 C.S.M. W.O. H. R. Evans, M.M.
 C.Q.M.S. C/Sgt. Nichols

First, we must say goodbye to Captain D. T. Smith who left us for the U.K. to go on a Company Commanders Course at Warminster and welcome in his place Captain M. K. D. Gunton. In addition we have at long last managed to get rid of L/Cpl. Stocker palming him off to 5 Platoon.

L/Cpl. Dixon is now our Company Clerk and is valiantly trying to cope with innumerable nominal rolls required by all the sundry, not to mention the increasing number of returns required by the Orderly Room! Life became slightly more civilised when we moved from Queens College to 21 Brickdam, at least we have beds now. Even the Q.M. started to issue the rations or most of them.



Life in British Guiana

Ptes. Jarvis and Gorbould take an early morning wash

C.S.M. Ron Evans was fortunate in finding one of his close relatives out here, and goes regularly to Aunties. Fortunately Uncle isn't there. Life revolves on its usual turgid plane and at the time of writing great preparations are being made for our return, and a flicker of animation can be seen on one or two faces. Even Cpl. Wilson has been seen to smile. The Company recreational activities at the Flambeau Y.M.C.A. have been carefully supervised by the Company 2/I.C.; the old time dancing being particularly appreciated. We look forward to similar activities in Felixstowe.

5 PLATOON

Lt. P. P. D. Stone.
Sgt. J. Jeffery.

We have been in British Guiana so long now it's hard to cast one's mind back to where our last lot of notes finished off. If I remember rightly we were all looking forward to a week at that luxurious training camp Bury St. Ulu built so kindly for us by Support Platoon.

Shortly before our departure, a loud click was heard from the direction of the Georgetown Club which proved to be Lt. Keep slipping a disc; he says he did it plugging in an iron! Even so we kept him amused in hospital with requests like "Let's Twist Again" and "Where have all the flowers gone."

As a result of this accident Lt. Stone joined us for our week at the Lakes; poetic justice as he had helped to build the place! The week went very well with section training during the day and impromptu concerts around the fire at night. Why doesn't someone put L/Cpl. Stocker on television? Well in some kind of box anyway?



Life in British Guiana

No. 5 Platoon about to set off on Adventure Training

On returning to Georgetown we found Mr. Keep still in a horizontal position, so we set off under Sgt. Jeffery to Kangamarang for ten days "Adventure Training," looking for gold and diamonds. To say it rained is an understatement, the river rose sixty feet during our first night. During the week "Pork Knocking," as gold seeking in this area is known, became more and more "knock," and less and less "pork," as our stable diet became pigs tails lightly boiled, and the weather got worse and worse. Eventually we were flown out early, after several days staring at the sky for an aircraft. On our arrival we were treated with great respect having become Yellow Fever suspects.

Mr. Keep by now having been reduced to the rank of Assistant Adjutant, Lt. Stone took over as platoon commander. We were not on the Queen's Birthday Parade, but some of our smarter members managed to get themselves accepted to swell the ranks.

The remainder of the time was spent training, standing by (around) and route marching in preparation for the Company training in July. Our

evenings were spent in getting to know the locals, and improving our Guianese accents.

The balmy days of June skipped by with cries of "loose me, loose me, man," and "I tell you man de cuffs dey come hard" etc., etc., floating by on the still evening air of 21 Brickdam.

We were delighted when the Company, instead of marching to the Lakes training area, went to the interior for three weeks training. The journey by rail, and the good ship "Pomeroon" was an epic adventure shared with a herd of goats, and half the local population of the Berbice River.

Takama Camp itself buzzed with delight at our arrival. Flies, you've never seen anything like it!

Our cow-shed was kept very comfortable mainly due to L/Cpl. Taylor digging it over every day. Training went very well, and in the Platoon Battle Tests we thought we were well in hand, but the Recce Platoon beat us by one point; well done. We should have never given them their Very pistol back!

The evenings usually started with a struggle between Cpl. Sainsbury, L/Cpl. Taylor, Moss and Mr. Stone to get the lighting plant going. Many an evening was spent in the gloom of a single torch beam as more and more chewing gum was applied to the various leaks the engine kept developing.

In the sporting world we surprised Support Platoon by beating them in the soccer competition, and are cricket champions at the moment. L/Cpl. Taylor can throw the hammer in the right direction, Sgt. Jeffery can't!

After three weeks at Takama, Georgetown was a very welcome change, but before long we were out again slightly reduced in numbers due to the large numbers required by the Education Officer. This time our destination was the Abary River in search of a manatee, a rather rare mammal. The trip was a great success, and a full account of it appears in this edition.

"Well we are on the advance party Jack" is the cry, and indeed we are. Some of us will miss British Guiana, others can't wait to get away. Taking everything that has happened to us, B.G. could have been a lot worse than it has been, and for most of us it has been a very interesting seven months, and something we will look back on for a long time.

6 PLATOON (RECONNAISSANCE PLATOON)

Captain P. W. Morton.
Sergeant M. Curson.

After the initial excitement of our move to British Guiana and the early days, life has become more settled and routine. Even the fascination of Brickdam is beginning to wear off. Nevertheless the platoon still continues to move hither and thither around the Colony, and there is usually something new of interest to be found. Mr. Mackay left us for "C" Company in May, and after a short period of time was replaced by Captain Morton. The main event of the past few months has been a three week period of field training on the savannah near Takama, a small settlement a hundred or so miles up the Berbice River in the south of the Colony.

Prior to this, rather restricted training was carried out in the Georgetown area with occasional outings to the jungle near Atkinson. During one of these last excursions a number of vacancies were nearly created in the platoon when Cpl. Brunning assaulted an ambush position laid by Cpl. Biggs on the far

side of a swamp. Pte. King was totally submersed in the slime and L/Cpl. Plant was seen going down fast to the accompaniment of sinister bubbling noises before being hauled out by the platoon commander. He must have thought that this was really too much because a few weeks later he left us for the comparative safety of the Depot.

We also had to do a number of road patrols between Georgetown and Rosignol on the Berbice. The only vehicle which could be mustered was a rather alarming looking Bedford tipper on hire from the local Public Works Department. Comparisons between the platoon on board this quaint machine and the Keystone Cops would not have been out of place.

The Company moved to Takama on the 2nd July. The journey, by train to Rosignol and thence by the good ship "Pomeroon" took nearly 30 hours and we did not in fact disembark until the early hours of 4th July when we had to march through a tropical downpour to the camp which lay on the plains about 5 or 6 miles from Takama. It took a good two days to settle in during which time it became clear that the Robinson Crusoe outlook was necessary. The machete became the mainstay of our existence and, apart from L/Cpl. Hemstead, who seemed bent on removing his fingers one by one, we all became fairly skilled with it.

The local population—several million sandflies—proved very friendly and would often drop in for meals—"extra meat ration" as some cynic not very originally put it. We also became fairly inured to the daily soaking. Black clouds would appear from the east, find the Recce Patrol, shed their load and then move on. The tendency not to wear clothes became very marked.

However on the whole the experience proved a valuable, and in retrospect at any rate, an enjoyable one. We started off our stay by helping to rebuild the Camp Range. When we arrived it seemed possessed of every hazard outlined in the pamphlet with one or two new ones added as well. The main task was to strengthen the parapet in the front of the stop butts which initially could hardly have withstood a shot from a pea shooter. Two days work with pick and shovel produced a considerable earthwork and a number of our whiter brethren began to take on a distinctly dusky hue.

Throughout our stay we were engaged with the other two platoons in an Inter Platoon Competition. We won stage one, the football, quite easily; and then on the second Wednesday, took the Company Rifle Meeting by a fraction from 5 Platoon. Field training proper started in the second half of week two and we soon became familiar with the vast areas surrounding the camp. Not having to worry overmuch about danger areas and safety arcs, the field firing for once bore some relation to reality.

One night the platoon was sent off on a three leg night compass march through the jungle. Lt. Stone of 5 Platoon, hinted darkly at unavoidable disaster, but giving the appearance of light heartedness at any rate, everyone set off in small groups. The reappearance of the first group was scheduled for 21.30. but as by 22.45 no one had appeared on the edge of the jungle where the platoon commander and sergeant were waiting, things appeared to be getting out of hand. However, just as desperate plans to search the jungle were being made, singing of a ribald nature was heard from the depths of the jungle and, in a few minutes a body of men, not dissimilar to

Snow White's Seven Dwarfs but in fact the Reconnaissance Platoon, 1st East Anglian Regiment, emerged. Back at the billet rum was consumed in quantity while tales of the night's goings-on reached new levels of fantasy.

The following Sunday an athletics meeting was held. Although we only managed to come second, some creditable performances were given, notably by Sergeant Curson with the hammer and L/Cpl. Hemstead and Pte. King in the track events. That afternoon a cricket match against 5 Platoon produced an exciting if totally unskilled display. Ptes. Collins and Houghton upheld the batting (they were the only ones not to get ducks) but unfortunately failed to equal 5 Platoon's astounding total of 36.

Inevitably we spent one day on a digging exercise and a number of interesting holes were constructed in the clay-laden sand. L/Cpl. Colgan would have surprised defence experts with the shape and size (and depth!) of his "ole," but then individuality was never lacking in Recce Platoon. That night we patrolled, and were patrolled against by 5 Platoon. Cpl. Brunning disappeared into the dusk with our patrol and from snatches of conversation heard beforehand it seemed that certain personal feuds were about to be settled. On our position all remained quiet until about 2000 when the enemy snatch party, revealed by Very light, came in and captured, brave fellows, Pte. King. A brief rattle of Bren fire from the enemy position indicated that our own patrol had reached its objective and it soon reappeared, panting somewhat, with a prisoner.

The main event of our last week in Takama was the Inter Platoon Battle Tests. We were taken out mid afternoon on the final Wednesday to the jungle edge where we debussed from the 3 tonner. We then carefully tracked into the jungle and started to establish a platoon base which had to be completed by nightfall. An hour before last light the platoon commander led a recce patrol, on information received, to a known "bandit" camp—in fact that of Support Platoon. It obtained the required information and returned after last light, nearly becoming lost in the thick jungle around our own base. However, after much crashing around, and some choice remarks about the jungle in general from the platoon commander, it eventually extricated itself near Cpl. Brunning's section. After an "O" group the platoon settled down for the night which, apart from the ravages of certain winged denizens of the jungle and the uncompromising floors of the bashas, passed comfortably enough. We were up an hour before first light and after a tramp through the dew sodden grass of the savannah, we arrived at the "bandit" camp. Sgt. Curson took the stops out around the wood where it was situated and at 0540 a spirited attack was put in. The only enemy found was the C.S.M. who, after one or two terse comments on our efforts, disappeared into the hinterland. We then reorganised and became non-tactical. Pte. Frazer found that he had left the Very pistol behind and so, after a chat with Sgt. Curson, was sent to parley with 5 Platoon who by then were occupying our old position. Surprisingly he was able to retrieve it. Later on in the morning we were taken to a start point for an advance to contact exercise. By then we were hot, sticky and a little tired so for once we were not sorry when the daily deluge emptied itself upon us. We were deployed across a track and ordered to advance up its axis. There were two "incidents" each culminating in a platoon attack

both of which went in with surprising gusto. On the final one Sgt. Curson had at last an opportunity to use the 2 inch mortar which he did very effectively, smoking off the assaulting sections from the objective. Next, after a brief pause, we marched back to the range in 4½ minutes under the time limit. We shot a simple fire and movement practice and then, as the final phase of the test, we were subjected to an inspection to determine whether anything had been lost during the exercise. Our net losses: one half of a field dressing! Everyone then piled on to the 3 tonner to be driven back to camp, lunch and a well earned rest. In the evening the results were announced by the Company Commander and to our relief we found that we had won by a narrow margin over 5 Platoon. It also meant that we had won the Inter Platoon Competition outright, a satisfying ending to three weeks hard training.

The day before we left Takama we had to lengthen the airstrip by another 300 yards. Cpl. Biggs and his section indulged in a little pyromania to remove the grass and then set to with pick and shovel to remove the bumps assisted (some said hindered) by the platoon commander in a Champ towing a log behind it.

On Sunday, 22nd July we embarked on the M.V. "Lukanani" and chugged off up river to the open sea and Georgetown which we reached in a fine drizzle at 3-30 a.m. on Monday morning. We disembarked at 6 a.m. and, after breakfast with Headquarter Company at the Legionnaires Club, arrived back at home, sweet home—Brickdam.

We were lucky to be selected as the first platoon to go to the newly established leave camp at the Leonora Sugar Estate. So having put our house in order at Brickdam, on 25th July we were off again across the Demerara by ferry to Vreed-en-hoop and thence by Police truck north-west along the coast road to Leonora. Here conditions were in marked contrast to Takama. Everyone was allowed to do virtually what they liked and the facilities of the Leonora Club were kindly put at our disposal by the Field Manager, George Kemlo. Many decided that a week in bed would be no bad idea, but less lethargic members were seen sporting themselves in the swimming pool while others were seen on mules, riding—or being taken for a ride—in and around the estate itself. Others, of an even more sporting nature made forays into Georgetown to renew old acquaintances. On Sunday the local cinema generator caught fire and apparently would have been totally destroyed had not the ubiquitous Recce Platoon come to its aid.

This Olympian existence lasted seven days. We returned for Minden Day and the march through the town and then, inevitably, found themselves "back in the old routine."

This in fact did not last long because on 9th August the platoon was moved to Atkinson for a week to take over the duties normally carried out by "C" Company who had, in their turn, gone to Takama. On our return, on 15th August, we had but one day in Georgetown before being sent to New Amsterdam, "for the duration" so to speak.

The platoon has remained fairly stable since the last issue of the Journal, but we have had to say goodbye to L/Cpl. Plant, as mentioned before, and Ptes. Thompson and Dennis, the latter the last of the National Servicemen whom we wish the very best of good fortune in the wilds of "civvy street." Pte. Burley has gone to 5 Platoon, but from the

Depot we welcome Ptes. Houghton and Spicer while from Support Platoon comes Pte. Spencer.

In New Amsterdam we shall try to do as much pure Recce Platoon training as possible and, who knows, by the next issue of the Regimental Journal, when we may conceivably be back in England, we might even have one of those A.P.C. things everyone is talking about!

8 PLATOON (SUPPORT)

Lieutenant H. R. Horrex.
Sergeant K. Allright.

Having built the fine township of "Kampong Bury St. Ulu" we actually had to live and train in and around it, this being something we had not bargained for! Nevertheless all went well and we had a pleasant weeks training up at the "Lakes." An incidental part of our training was that it took exactly seven days to get used to sleeping on split bamboo which made up our beds in the Atap "bashes."

Whilst at the "Lakes" Support Platoon carried out a series of different types of ambush in the jungle country. Sgt. Allright disappeared in the Land Rover taking with him a Bren gun and two filled mags: a "foot" ambush was laid and on the appearance of the leading scout a full magazine was fired off (pointing away of course)! The effect produced rendered the leading scout into such a state that it was thought he was a certain candidate for Thorpe. He appears now to be able to drink his beer from a moving glass: is this so L/Cpl. Causton?

Congratulations to Sgt. Fred Harris who was made a Colour Sergeant whilst at the "Lakes" camp (one wears the crown above the chevrons, not on your head, Bomber!). On leaving the "Lakes" and returning to Georgetown Lt. Stone left us and returned to England to attend the regular Commissions Board: we congratulate him on passing.

Lt. Horrex back from a Support Platoon Commander's Course became Platoon Commander. In May rehearsals started for the Queen's Birthday Parade, but the platoon having only attended a few rehearsals received sudden orders to move to New Amsterdam where we spent a pleasant active four days living on Rose Hall Sugar Estate.

On return to Georgetown we got down to drill in a business like fashion. After many weeks of "sweating it out" on the local sports ground, the great day arrived: after many different orders regarding the style of headdress to be worn, No. 1 dress hat won the toss. The day was perfect, cool and with a friendly breeze. The parade was very good everyone being cool (!!!), calm and collected, the only "troops" to keel over being locals. A rousing three cheers was given with relief as the headdress was removed, the brim having cut into the forehead. The mounted police gave an excellent gallop past and impressed all.

During rehearsals for the Queen's Birthday Parade, the Company moved from Queen's College to 21 Brickdam. It took a lot of sweat and hard work to clean up the place. The local Public Works Department were not particularly tidy. About twenty tons of paper were shifted: it looked like the amendments room in the War Office pamphlets section, but the place proved well worth cleaning and we now live in some degree of comfort, at least compared to Queen's College!

On 7th July, 1962 we moved to Atkinson Field and set up a canvas camp beside an unused perimeter track. Whitsun weekend went by, being the first three days we spent there. Once again we were suddenly moved off to New Amsterdam to stay on Rose Hall Estate. Our time there was spent in I.S. and training on our support weapons. We were proud to welcome and be inspected by Major-General Peel-Yates, Chief of Staff, Eastern Command during our stay there. We would like to thank the manager and all his staff for a very pleasant three weeks stay on the estate.

Back in Georgetown for two days, we then entrained for Rosignol en route for Takama. We had a riotous trip on the steamer "Pomeroon" it going full speed into the river bank during the night. Whilst getting the 3 tonner off the boat on to a very doubtful jetty, Captain Gunton was chased by the vehicle as it took a running jump at the jetty. The camp proved very pleasant; our living quarters rather like cow sheds, without the comfort! The three weeks we spent there were quite pleasant except for the hundreds of flies. There were flies everywhere, not good wholesome, staunch common house flies, but teeny weeny irritating uncatchable, persistent horrible little !-? !?- !?- Congratulations to Recce Platoon for winning the Battle test. Whilst at Takama we were given the task of rebuilding a bridge over quite a swift flowing river. The bridge rebuilt, we tested it by driving a 3 tonner over it, and journeyed on to cut a tree that had fallen across the track a few miles up track. It was here where we met the Second in Command, who having left camp to return to Georgetown, found himself after some hours travelling in completely the wrong direction! We were able to reassure him and put him on the right track. Many snakes were seen, some in our living quarters, and much slashing of cutlasses was the order of the day.

Our next excursion was adventure training to Kaiteer Falls, a must in British Guiana, but we unfortunately did not make it due to lack of funds. Instead we hunted with Amerindians and learnt how to use their canoes and some jungle craft. The next event is leave at Leonora and then our move to home.

" C " COMPANY

C.O. Major E. H. Morgan, M.B.E., M.C.
C.S.M. Sgt. Shorter

" C " Company has been far more fortunate than the other companies in the Battalion, having been formed at a time when things were beginning to become settled and when better accommodation was being made available. A start was made on the 7th May when a number of officers and N.C.O.'s formed up at the airfield of Atkinson and made preparations for the new company. Initially Captain Morton arrived to fill the post of 2 i/c and had only just succeeded in getting the books made out when he left and was replaced by Captain MacDonald, a very new boy from U.K. C.S.M. Downes was the first in the company office along with Pte. Whiteman as clerk. Both left the following month for the U.K., C.S.M. Downes for the T.A., Whiteman for a rest, after finding the typewriter more than he could stand. Sgt. Shorter came in to fill the post vacated by C.S.M. Downes and Pte. Fowler to take on the duties of clerk. C/Sgt. Harris arrived from " B "

Company to try his hand with the company stores, a task he has found more to than just counting picks and shovels. One Pte. Hipkin filled the post of storeman but has recently retired hurt to the M.R.S. where he attempts to fill in the job of batman to the doctor, one Major O'Duffy.

On the 14th of May we had the pleasure of welcoming to B.G. the main body of the company in the form of 50 members of the 3rd East Anglian Regiment. Once they had been detailed off to platoons and sections we soon got down to training and getting used to the country. Like any new organisation we had our problems and difficulties, but with tact and goodwill on both sides these were soon resolved and the company became operational on the 25th May. This date had no sooner past than the alarm sounded and a practice turn out was ordered; needless to say it was at a most unreasonable hour of the morning. Still we made it and although not quite as fast or slick as the other platoons, carried out our drills to the satisfaction of the Commanding Officer.

On the 15th of June we said goodbye to " A " Company of the Royal Hampshire Regiment, with whom we had been living. From now on we were the owners of Atkinson Camp, along with members from H.Q. Company and the B.G. increment. We had our own Officers' Mess, Sergeants' Mess, and N.A.A.F.I. on our doorstep, a first class training area, a range of sorts, and a field that passed for a football cum hockey cum drill cum everything else pitch, on which we exercised our limbs; being sand it was impossible to mark it out and so we never suffer the confusion of too many lines; there just aren't any. We share Atkinson itself with a photographic squadron of the U.S.A.F. and to date we have lived happily alongside each other. International relations have only been breached on about two occasions and one of these was merely the efforts of two enthusiastic corporals attempting to prove that it does not pay to make bets with members of the Company. Cpls. Wadlow and Mallitt demonstrated to the Americans how easy it was to recover for the other ranks their base ball trophy without awaking the guardians, the officers. Their reward was a raspberry from the O.C.

Unlike the other companies " C " Company has lived very well and in a certain element of comfort. Pte. Drain the company arms storeman has doubled up on his day time duties by running the company cinema, an effort that is appreciated by all who live at Atkinson. Being some 28 miles from Georgetown, the only centre with anything approaching civilisation, we have to find other ways of entertaining ourselves, and the cinema is only one of these. A further hazard designed to discourage men from going into town is a place called Diamonder Fruity Ville, so named for the filthy smell that permanently surrounds the place. Pte. Doherty, who at one time had the job as " C " Company Commander's driver, became so skilful at passing this spot that one was able to do it in one breath, and so avoid asphyxia.

During July we gained yet another 2 i/c, this time Captain Trevethick arrived to see what he could do with the Company accounts, whilst Captain MacDonald went down to Georgetown to read the daily newspaper at the morning conferences. Like all the others he too has departed for some new job leaving the Company Commander to fiddle on his own.

In the sporting field we have done very little other than to be able to say that our platoon are unbeaten on the football field and that we are the only military unit for some time to beat the B.G. Police Force, the acknowledged leaders of the local teams. We are now looking forward to a return match with the Police if only to confirm that the last effort was not a fluke.

Like all the other companies we are looking forward to the day when we bid farewell to this country and leave the Coldstreamers with the task of keeping the peace, the only sad point being the break up of "C" Company once more by the departure of our friends and comrades back to their own battalion the 1st Battalion the 3rd East Anglian Regiment. Perhaps we may have the pleasure of serving together again in the not too distant future.

9 PLATOON

Lt. MacKay.
Sgt. Stevens.

Like the remainder of the Company 9 Platoon was formed from the draft of men that arrived from the 1st Battalion The 3rd East Anglian Regiment. The N.C.O.s however are men drawn from other companies of the Battalion and include Cpls. Wadlow, Blackburn and Mallitt and L/Cpl. Hall. We now have two new members of the N.C.O. rank in the form of L/Cpls. Hurley and Cathrae, who came with the draft and have been promoted out here in B.G.

We quickly, if painfully, settled down to a routine of 6 a.m. road runs and I.S. training and within a fortnight had reached a standard of proficiency such that we were called out for the first time. Although not quite so slick as the other members of the battalion we nevertheless demonstrated that we were ready to deal with any emergency.

Our first adventure in B.G., apart from infrequent trips to Georgetown, came in June when, as part of the battalion adventure training policy, the platoon set off for the Kaieteur falls. The plan was to reach the falls—the world's highest at 741 feet—by timber barge, ferry, lorry and finally by marching. As the trip was made during the rainy season we did not succeed in marching the final stage owing to the very deep river floods. However this last stage was made memorable as the platoon and stores were crowded into a Ballahoo—a flat bottomed boat driven by an outboard motor—captained by an old negro appropriately named "Shadow." On more than one occasion the Potaro river flooded over the gunwales as Pte. Powell, a non swimmer, can nervously testify. All of us felt Livingstonian standing beneath the falls, arms folded and rifles, matchets and shot guns at our sides. Beckley, Robinson and Matsell recorded these scenes with more success than Cpl. Wadlow, who had forgotten to wind on his film. He atoned for his lapse by proving to be well versed in jungle lore and snake spotting, fresh as he was from a stay with the North West Amerindians.

We became experts at the crossing of creeks after a wet initiation involving Sgt. Stevens and Cpl. Blackburn. Stevens had gingerly made his way over a 50 foot broad creek using a sunken log, he tied a rope round a tree whilst Cpl. Blackburn held on to the other end; on testing the rope for slack however about 20 feet of it came away in his hands and to the cheers of the remainder of the platoon Blackburn had to swim for the bank.

A night spent with the "Pork Knockers"—local diamond prospectors, at Waratuk was most instructive and entertaining. We allowed them to light fires for us in a downpour after which they proceeded to bake bread, which was bravely eaten by L/Cpl. Cathrae and McDonald, as they listened wide eyed to the tales of \$50,000 diamonds. The whole was an exciting adventure and one that will be recalled for some time to come.

We now returned for a spell at Atkinson during which time we carried out a spot of training and confirmed ourselves as the best soccer playing platoon, in which L/Cpl. Hurley, Ptes. Chambers, Chapman and Mansfield were the stars. Next we went on a short detachment to Rose Hall Estate, near New Amsterdam, where we carried out patrols and gathered intelligence for the planners. This proved a very popular detachment owing to the hospitality of the estate families and the patrolling which allowed the sections to spend a day at a time travelling around the Courentyne and observing Premier Dr. Jagan's Indian supporters at first hand.

On one such patrol, thinking he was doing the right thing, a local threw fruit to three section, who were travelling in a three tonner. The native landed a beauty with an orange on L/Cpl. Hall's nose. Needless to say Hall was the only one who did not appreciate the accuracy of the shot. Apart from a disastrous last game of football, in which we lost 7-1 to a New Amsterdam selected eleven, we won all our matches convincingly. The majority of these games were played on the ground of the local mental hospital, an institution in which we believe our platoon commander had an interest, normally on the inmates bath night. Pte. Kearns who had proved his skill on the Potaro River as an angler, reaffirmed his superiority by extracting Piraii and cat fish from a near by "Back Dam" with a bent pin and a piece of compo cheese. Pte. MacDonald, the platoon signaller, became so good at working the radio that before we left to return to Atkinson he was out pointing the member from the signal platoon by receiving and sending morse at higher speeds.

After another brief spell at Atkinson, we moved on again, this time to Takama in the savannah country. This time it was for a spell of company training. Despite the flies which danced attendance throughout the day round one's face and body, the camp and the training proved enjoyable and we certainly became much fitter. We lost the inter platoon battle tests to 10 Platoon, mainly because of our bad shooting, but as someone said, "at least we're second" and 10 Platoon magnificently shared the victor's spoils of beer and rum with us. This had a strange effect on Morton and Snoxell who thought they were back at sea once again.

At the time of these notes we are preparing to leave B.G. and the platoon's life revolves around arguments on the scale of kit allowances, doing everyone's fatigues so that the camp will be as tidy as the Coldstreams' former home—Windsor Castle—and playing games.

In sport we have had a successful tour with L/Cpl. Cathrae, Chapman and Hutchinson turning out to be first class swimmers whilst the majority of the platoon are above average at football, basket ball and cricket. All in all this particular marriage of 1st and 3rd Anglian has proved a happy and successful one, and it will be with regret on both sides that we will part company on our return to the U.K. by

the return of the 3rd East Anglians to their own Battalion in Northern Ireland.

10 PLATOON

2/Lt. Keep.
Sgt. Watson.

We, like the rest of the Company, are on the whole, a 3rd East Anglian platoon, having been formed from the draft sent over by that Regiment. Our N.C.O.s were drawn from the rest of the Battalion and comprise Cpls. Lillie, Sparrow and Waters, with L/Cpls. Thorogate and Spauls, L/Cpl. Tuite being the newest member having been promoted in the last few weeks.

Once our initial bout of training was over we went on excursion up the Mahaica River as part of the Battalion adventure training. During this trip we spent a period at St. Cuthberts getting to know the Amerindians and learning how to manoeuvre the local river boats. At night we went out crocodile hunting with torch and S.L.R. and it was during these trips that we heard the so called Bush Indians calling to one another, at least that is what our guides said. The object of our expeditions was to locate the head of the river which was situated in the dense jungle some hundred miles from the sea, but unfortunately we ran into virtually impenetrable swamp and finally had to return having run out of time. After this we returned for a short spell at Atkinson and then on to detachment at Rose Hall, where we took over from 9 Platoon. Our stay at Rose Hall was very interesting and entertaining although nothing of outstanding interest took place. It was just before our move to New Amsterdam that we lost our Platoon Sergeant, Sgt. Pope, who moved to 1 Platoon to help Lt. Varley, and Sgt. Watson joined the platoon. A short time later we had a change of platoon commanders, Lt. Malim leaving us for the U.K. and Lt. Keep coming in to take over the reins of command.

The living accommodation at Rose Hall was very comfortable and our stay there made a pleasant change from the base. Fishing in the canals soon became popular as a pastime and the improvisation in the making of fishing gear would have horrified the expert angler. Cpl. Thorogate became a permanent feature on the landscape as he slowly roasted himself in the sun. He seems to have had too much sun for on one occasion we managed to get him turned out in full riot order before he even woke up.

The sugar estates around New Amsterdam boast anything up to 300 mile of canals, in which live a large number of alligators which provide a great deal of sport especially for those interested in hunting by night. Armed with a rifle and a powerful torch small parties would go out at night to make a bag, and on one occasion Sgt. Watson decided to improve on the excitement by going in after one that had been shot by Pte. Bond. Not long after he entered the water there was movement in the direction of the supposedly dead animal, and we all agreed afterwards that we have never seen Watson move quite so fast for a very long time.

Operation "Drink Up," an exercise designed to practice watermanship on the canals was a great success, except that the boats were very often over loaded. On one occasion Pte. Higham and his crew, which comprised of Ptes. Oat, Sheldrake and New-

stead, found themselves in the water as their boat sank, leaving them to swim for it. Higham also distinguished himself by running flat out into a very dark canal on being surprised ashore whilst searching for the objective, a crate of beer.

Whilst on detachment Pte. Blakey was appointed chef and he certainly saw that we fed very well.

On return from New Amsterdam we had a week in which to get ourselves ready for the next trip which was to be to Takama in the Rupurnuni district. During this week members of the platoon combined with the rest of the Company at football, and took on the local police force, this being no mean achievement as the police had twice previously beaten the Battalion team. With Pte. Gilham playing a very sound game in goal, L/Cpl. Tuite at left back and Sgt. Watson, Newstead and French filling other places in the team, the Police soon found that they had more than they bargained for and in the first ten minutes we were two goals up. The final score being a win by 4 goals to nil.

We sailed for Takama along with the rest of the Company on the 11th August, arriving at our destination at about 0200 hours the following morning, having travelled up the Berbice for about 100 miles. The Takama training area is in many respects not unlike Salisbury Plain in the U.K. and is ideal for carrying out European type warfare. The training was designed to go through all the stages of platoon training building up to a two day battle test, in which the platoon was tested in jungle warfare and conventional European warfare. The training was made realistic by the frequent use of live ammunition.

The first week's training was spent in section work. At one stage Cpl. Sparrow found that his section had been wiped out and so took on the enemy single handed. For this he was awarded the Takama medal for gallantry. He promptly lost this on the first platoon attack when he very nearly made the platoon commander's rear look like a pepper pot with his Sterling.

The battle tests were held over our last two days at Takama. In pouring rain we very soon constructed a jungle base, which was promptly given away by our lack of skill at making smokeless fires. During the night a patrol went out to locate the enemy and the following morning a dawn attack was put in using the information gained. After a very hasty meal two more platoon attacks were put in on enemy positions manned by members of Company H.Q. It was during the second of these attacks that Higham, the 2 inch mortarman, scored an almost direct hit with a smoke bomb, and so obscured the vision of L/Cpl. Copeman and his assistant, Pte. Hancock, who were the enemy. The final stages were a 4½ mile speed march over track and sand, this we did in 66 minutes, and a fire and movement practice on the range. We won the battle tests mainly by virtue of our superior shooting.

Altogether the two weeks spent at Takama were most enjoyable. We won the fishing contest by an enormous piraii and one small catfish, the only two fish caught. We won the cricket by one run although we must confess to having used fourteen batsmen getting them. The football was a draw and the least said about this game the better.

HUNT FOR A MERMAID

By Lt. P. P. D. Stone

Why anyone living in Georgetown, British Guiana, should want to go looking for a mermaid is hard to imagine, for although the city is lacking in many facilities, there is an abundance of pretty and eligible girls.

The "mermaid" if you have not already guessed was that rare and strange mammal the "manatee," more commonly known to the locals as a "river cow" or "sea cow." They are found in steadily decreasing numbers in the rivers of British Guiana, where they spend the day dozing in deep muddy waters of the main stream, venturing into the shallow creeks and tributaries at night to graze on the weed along the banks.

Similar in appearance to a large seal, with a less defined head and tail, they grow to weigh as much as fifteen hundred pounds. They are completely harmless in that they don't attack or bite, but when netted care has to be taken to avoid a large leathery tail.

The 1st East Anglian Regiment came to B.G. at great speed when the political trouble broke out in the colony. Since then opportunities have arisen for Platoons to venture into the interior on adventure training. Lt. P. P. D. Stone of 5 Platoon "B" Company having read David Attenborough's book, "Zoo Quest to Guiana," in which the intrepid Television explorer had great difficulty in obtaining a manatee, decided that the idea had definite possibilities. Later, in conversation with a member of the Drainage and Irrigation Department, it was discovered that the animals had a very high value as they were used in the extensive canal and drainage system to keep lock gates, and waterways clear of weed. Indeed experts from the Kariba Dam in Africa had recently visited the country to inquire into this method of weed control.

Plans were made to try and capture a manatee, and sell it to the Drainage and Irrigation Department. A launch was hired from one of the local rice farmers, and one of the foremost manatee hunters obtained as a guide. Known as Boop to everyone, he proved to be invaluable, and became very much one of the Platoon. He decided that the

most likely river to hunt in was the Abary, a small river sixty miles east of Georgetown.

We set off on Sunday, 5th August to be met by a very downcast "Boop."

Due to heavy rains the river had risen considerably, and was in flood. It was now too late to turn back, so we continued upstream hoping the level of the water would fall in a few days. Our troubles were not over though: the net Boop was to collect from a friend turned out to be rotten. This meant he had to return home to collect a new one, so we continued without him having arranged to meet him in three days.

Our first base was an old rest house fifty miles up river, situated where cultivation ceased, and the jungle started to overhang the banks. The old house was full of marabunta and tarantulas. The marabunta is a large hornet with a painful sting: luckily, if left alone, it avoids making any contact with those below. The tarantulas, however, were a considerable nuisance due to their habit of making nests in clothing. We had several near misses, and as their bite is capable of killing a dog they could have been unpleasant.

Regardless of marabunta and tarantula we made ourselves comfortable.

The level of the water appeared to be rising, and what small chance we did have of catching the animal seemed to be slipping away as the small creeks became deeper and deeper.

During Boop's absence, we amused ourselves fishing and alligator hunting. Using wire traces and the guts from smaller fish large numbers of pirana or cannibal fish were caught. These fish which hunt in shoals of several thousand can tear a human to pieces in a few minutes. When one studies their jaws and rows of razor sharp teeth it becomes obvious how they do it. They quickly discourage swimming except in large numbers or with plenty of splashing. Alligator hunting from a small boat at night with the aid of a torch was quickly perfected by L/Cpl. Rose who caught a seven foot alligator at his first try. One waits until two red eyes are glaring in the beam of light at five to ten yards range, then shoot between them. The water rages as the alligator struggles in its death throes, and if one is lucky it is possible to grab the animal before it sinks to the bottom where it remains for twenty four hours before rising to the surface bloated and stinking.

On Boop's arrival in his boat with its ancient outboard motor, plans were made to search the remaining shallow creeks for signs of grazing by the animals.

Our flotilla now consisted of the launch, a rowing boat, canoe, and Boop's boat. With the smaller vessels tied behind the launch, we set off to start our search.

The natural streams and inlets were far too deep. The only possibility we found was a very long creek whose mouth had been partly filled in by a bulldozer to raise the water level in stretches where it passed through a ranch. Closer inspection showed that the animals had been using the creek, but it was so large that it was doubtful whether the animals bothered to come out during the day.

Two plans of action were agreed on. The first was to assume the manatee were not leaving the creek, and hunt them by day. The second, if we had no luck by day, to assume that they were leaving



Hunt for a Mermaid

Pulling the manatee to a pool in which it was kept until it was time to return



Hunt for a Mermaid.

Ptes. Kirby, Mitchell, Cpl. Crane, Ptes. Peck and Hitching. L/Cpl. Griggs, "The Mermaid" and Sgt. Jeffery

the creek, and hunt them during the early hours of the morning.

Without further ado the net, or as it was known by the fisherman, "sein" was taken out and put in position across the mouth of the creek. Very simply the sein consists of two guiding arms leading to a long sock or bag. When in position, it forms the letter Y, the arms being the top of the letter and the sock the bottom. Around the neck of the sock is a noose the end of which goes on to the bank. This is to draw the bag shut behind the animal and thus confine it. The arms are staked out in the water, the top being kept afloat by corks, and the bottom trod into the mud.

Once the net was set, six of us positioned ourselves where we could watch the cork floats. The remainder embarked in our smaller boats, and paddled off up the creek for about a mile. They then turned around and started to beat the water with their paddles, and shout, in order to try and frighten any manatee down the creek and into the net.

Down at the net we could hear the shouting and splashing and were watching the corks for any movement. After four hours beating and splashing it became obvious that our luck was out, and we would have to try again early next morning in the hope that they would return to the creek at night to graze.

That evening as we sat in the insect ridden old house, our chance of success seemed very low. However at least we had found a creek that showed some promise, and were learning more and more about the animal each day.

Rising at two in the morning we hastily checked the net and noose and clambered into the launch. There was no moon, and we crept up the river following the dull reflection of the trees in the water. All of us were huddled under blankets trying to keep the mosquitoes from our own bare arms and ankles. Hana the driver of the launch managed to somehow find the entrance to the creek, and quietly tied up down stream.

We placed the net in position with the water lapping around our chests, and the soft mud oozing between our toes, and thoughts of pirana and alligators foremost in our minds. Boop seemed to have

no fears, and spent ten minutes checking the stakes and treading in the net.

First light was at five twenty and was greeted by the croaks and squawks of a colony of egrets, waking up to a new day. These were followed by the howling and roaring of a family of baboons stretching their lungs and waking the rest of the animal world.

As the sun slowly crept above the horizon the cork floats on the surface became more and more visible from the launch where we sat.

Suddenly the corks dipped below the surface, and the end stakes twitched. Boop was out of the launch like a shot, and wading and swimming towards the bank. We all followed him slipping and sliding in the mud. It must be one, it must be one, was the thought running through my head. Boop had reached the bank and was pulling the noose rope, as he pulled it tight turmoil broke out in the narrow entrance of the creek. Mud and water, people slipping and cursing, the net heaving and straining, and a great shape arched out of the water and crashed back into it.

It became obvious very quickly that the huge manatee that we had netted was winning the battle. We had not prepared for this kind of struggle, and instead of letting the animal have some slack, and tire itself out fighting the net, we tried to pull it out while still fresh. Boop's cries for more slack went unheeded in the general turmoil until too late. With the last thrust of its huge tail the animal broke through the end of the bag, and was away.

Without stopping to worry about our loss, the net was quickly mended and placed back into position.

A beating party was sent out and the remainder of us positioned ourselves nearer to the net, to wait.

This time we were prepared. Boop saw a manatee surfacing for air a hundred yards away, and we watched the swirls of its tail in the water as it came closer and closer to the net. The corks bobbed, and the noose was pulled tight. After the initial frantic struggle we managed to release the stakes, and let the animal have its head. It tired quickly, and we eased it round to the bank, and rolled it up on to dry land. Only then did we relax, and with shouts of joy, and much hand shaking congratulated ourselves on our success. The problem of getting the animal back to base camp at the rest house was solved by Boop's ingenious mind. He tied a strong rope around the animal's tail, and on the other end attached a large cork float. We released the animal and watched the float bob off down the river in the direction of camp. By following along behind, and splashing the water our manatee was headed towards its new temporary home. Once near enough to the camp we grabbed the float, and carefully guided the animal towards the small pool we had fenced off.

During the remainder of our time we were lucky enough to catch another larger manatee in the same creek, which joined our first one in the pool. We fed them each evening with weed collected from the river banks which they used to eat in vast quantities.

When the time came to go we loaded them after a considerable struggle into Boop's hoat, and covered them with damp sacks which we kept wet during the five hour journey back to the road.

Then due to a mix up we had to load them with ourselves into an army lorry for the journey to Georgetown. Luckily we met the P.W.D. representative on the road who showed us the drainage canals in the village of Cane Grove that were to be the responsibility of our manatee.

Surrounded by a crowd of enthusiastic villagers we unloaded them from the truck, and like two tubby torpedoes launched them into the weed covered canal, where after a few seconds they disappeared, thankful no doubt to be away from the Army, and left in peace.

ADVENTURE TRAINING

Suriname

On August 17th, twenty men of 3 Platoon "A" Company under Lt. R. J. Abbott left Georgetown by train, destination Suriname (Dutch Guiana). We were met by the Recce Platoon's three tonner at New Amsterdam and taken to Skeldon Estate, where we stayed the night in their very comfortable guest house. The following morning we left Springlands in a launch, which only just took our equipment, and arrived at Nickerie in Suriname at 1430 hours. There we were met by Lt. Kieson of the Dutch Army and some of his men.

Having transferred our kit to their launch the Frederick Hendrick, we left Nickerie at 1515 hours for Paramaribo, twenty-four hours away. They gave us an excellent meal and free beer on board in the evening. The launch was equipped with bunks and mosquito nets and was very comfortable. Our overnight route took us down the Nickerie River into the Wayambo River, then north up the Coppename River and we finally reached Coppename Point on Sunday 19th August; here we boarded a bus to Paramaribo. The driver of the bus never went less than seventy five kilometres per hour on a good sand road and we passed through many Indonesian villages.

We arrived at Paramaribo at 1500 hours and were allotted a very comfortable barrack room in the Dutch K.P.B. Barracks. In the evening there was some very good entertainment for the Dutch soldiers, to which we were invited. The show started with the Dutch Military Band playing a very professional performance of American Patrol. This was followed by three local singing and instrumental groups and the evening ended with a German film.

On Monday morning the men went by bus to see a large saw mill in Paramaribo followed by a visit to the Museum and then the Parbo brewery, a subsidiary of Amstel Beer; the Platoon broke all drinking records and returned to camp for a chicken lunch. During these visits Lt. Abbott, escorted by Colonel Vorren met the Prime Minister, the Governor and the British Consul. In the afternoon we drew up jungle boots, American hammocks and a set of green uniform. L/Cpl. Durrant contacted Georgetown on the Dutch RT 77 set.

On Tuesday 21st August the Platoon went by bus to Zandery, the main airport, where we transferred into trucks, drove to a bivouac area where two companies were doing field training. Major Lapre and Captain De Vreis welcomed us and we watched a platoon attack, supported by machine guns and mortars. We then moved into their jungle camp and were given a lecture on the Dutch Army in Suriname and were shown edible jungle foods and twelve poisonous snakes (safely encased in jars!) In the evening the band played Suriname music to the troops and the "Savannah Boys," a Dutch Army group, sang and played their guitars. Once again we were all given a free litre bottle of beer.

We made an early start the next morning, having attended the Company Muster Parade, and marched

through the jungle on a compass bearing to Matta carrying our large packs and hammocks. During the trek, which took four hours, we nearly lost Private Prewer who fell from a log crossing a deep stream and was completely submerged for a second. The Dutch Marines had done the same trek earlier this year and we beat their time by an hour which was very satisfactory.

Matta itself is an Amerindian village and on arrival we were met by the chief who officially welcomed us. The Amerindians challenged us to football and in a very amusing game we were beaten 3-0, the whole village turning out to watch the game.

In the evening the Chief invited us to a party at which five canoes of casery wine had to be drunk! The casery, which is made from the cassava root, had a very sour taste but was quite pleasant after a few bowls, so much so that during the evening several of the platoon left the party in a hurry looking very pale! The Amerindians gave a dancing demonstration accompanied by drum music, and the girls continued to serve casery in large quantities. Throughout the party all the children were present, some being fed, others being carried around the dance floor by the mothers. Private Prewer very nobly danced with the oldest woman in the village who was eighty-five.

When we left the following morning the party was still in full swing, and we headed for Affobakka, 100 kilometres south of Zandery, where the large Affobakka Dam is being built by Suralco. The dam is on the Suriname River and will be completed by 1965 and the electricity from it will be used in making aluminium, the remainder being sent to Paramaribo for domestic use.

On Friday 24th August we left Paramaribo for the last time and headed for Santigrón, a bush negro village. At Uitikijk (pronounced Itegeg) we boarded corjaals (large canoes with an outboard motor) and travelled, line abreast, up river at 20 m.p.h., a most impressive sight. The Dutch use these canoes for patrols to the Brazilian border. At Santigrón we were shown round the village but were not allowed to take pictures until the Chief had given permission. He did this after we had given away enough beer and sweets. The negroes, mostly dressed in loin-cloths, were very eager to make us pay for the photographs and some of the women ran away when they saw a camera. The village choir sang an unrecognisable verse of the Suriname National Anthem and a song called "Me Love You." In return we had to put on a show so we marched out of the village to the boats followed by hundreds of yelling children.

From Santigrón we started our trip back to Nickerie. Travelling back through the night we reached Wageningen on Saturday morning. Wageningen is a large rice development scheme started in 1951 in the jungle, which now has 20,000 acres under cultivation; the scheme is a joint Dutch, Suriname project and employs 2,700 people, fifty of whom come from Holland. We were shown round the rice fields and water pumping plant and then sat down to a delicious rice meal and beer. After Wageningen we pressed on to Nickerie, getting there at 1800 hours. Here the Dutch had laid on a cinema show after which we were ready for bed. Lieut. Van Der Linden, the detachment commander at Nickerie, had organised a fishing trip for Sunday at a place called Biggi Pond, which entailed an hour's trip by canoe

through swamp. We managed to catch twelve fish, Sgt. Beckett winning the prize for first catch. The local Indians then showed us how they fish and after a long and laborious process, caught nothing! On our return to Nickerie we went to the Bikini Club, had a swim and played volley ball.

On Monday 27th August the platoon left Nickerie at 0945 hours after a thoroughly enjoyable and successful stay. Throughout our stay everyone had gone out of their way to be friendly and helpful and we were looked after extremely well. About 1,200 soldiers serve in Suriname, mostly national servicemen who do a one year tour. During their year they carry out extensive jungle and long range patrolling and a certain amount of European warfare.

They have extremely good accommodation and food and it seems to be a popular station.

Suriname has a population of 246,000 consisting of Europeans, Creoles, Hindustani, Indonesian and Chinese. Dutch and English are the main languages. The country is semi-independent but relies on Holland for its defence and finance. It is very similar to British Guiana and has nearly the same exports.

We arrived back in Georgetown on the 28th August.

REAR PARTY—HARWICH & FELIXSTOWE

After a certain amount of difficult reorganisation the rear party settled down to a reasonable routine. However the impending move to Felixstowe hovered like a black cloud. As the weeks slipped by more and more visits across the ferry were made to spy out the land. Then at last one of the hangers was released to us by the R.A.F. Regiment and we started to move stores across.

A simple ceremony, the R.A.F. standard came down, Britannia and Castle went up. Anglia Television's camera whirred, the Officers and Senior ranks of both sides retired to the Sergeants' Mess, and the barracks were ours.

Then the work started, and although the move is officially complete, the Q.M., Capt. Howard, still spends half his time in Dovercourt and working parties go over the water daily to bring back racking and wardrobes.

The barracks seem to be spacious and well appointed. The main barracks are centrally heated. Each rifle company has an enormous hanger, almost large enough to hold a battalion parade in. We have a rifle range which we control, and on which there is a certain amount of rough shooting. The bachelors certainly seem never to have had it so good. But only 35 families are so far living in Felixstowe. The Q.M. and Mr. Stewart are busily touting round the estate agents looking for hirings. 90 or so married men will have to commute by water every day.

The Band

The Band at the time of writing these notes are on a well earned leave. Mr. Holben tells me that he has never known such a successful season, musically and financially. At carnivals and tattoos the Band have done much to enhance Regimental prestige in East Anglia.

Personalities

Major T. H. Styles has left for the Depot to be succeeded by Major J. D. A. FitzGerald who has joined us from Mauritius via Castlemartin. Capt. S. G. Beck has gone to do Public Relations in B.A.O.R. With Capt. P. C. Ford taking over from

him, we have at last a married man looking after the grass widows.

Capt. W. Peat has joined the rear party from the Trucial Oman. He sits in the Adjutant's Office and acts as Lord High Everything Else. He and 2/Lt. W. Hawkins who came from Mons in August are busy setting up the Officers' Mess. Capt. N. Lewis has returned from a Signals Course with Sgts. Bullock and Shanks. Lt. Lunn unfortunately is now out of the Army.

W.O. H Denny has been an extremely patient and understanding C.S.M., and we wish him every success as R.S.M. of 1/2 E. Anglian.

Sgt. Ferrier has left for the Depot, leaving Cpls. Gotts and Shuttleworth with a handful of drivers to drive a full complement of vehicles. Sgt. Jones has left for Wales; D. Major Hitchen has swapped jobs at the Depot with D. Major Moyses. R.Q.M.S. Drew has joined the rear party from the Suffolk and Cambridgeshires. Sgt. Kelly has set up and is running an extremely pleasant W.O.'s and Sergeants' Mess.

Visits

Major General I. H. Freeland as our Divisional Commander and future Deputy Colonel has visited and kept a fatherly eye on us in both Dovercourt and Felixstowe. Brigadier Maxwell appeared to say goodbye on 7th September. H.M.S. Miner III on a visit to Felixstowe appears to have entertained most of the rear party on board.

Major Fitzgerald, 2/Lt. Hawkins, W.O. I Holben and C.S.M. Denny visited H.M.S. Lowestoft at Lowestoft. They were held on board by gales and stayed rather longer than they had anticipated.

JOTTINGS FROM JAPAN

From Colonel P. S. W. Dean

A while ago I received a bleat from George "Hopping Meadows" that some impressions of this land of bobbing and weaving might help him fill up some space in our Regimental Journal. Although I am late in putting pen to paper, I am ever reminded of George when the cry is heard resounding through the Carlton Brown compound "they are in." To those who are not in the trade, this means that Wall's pork sausages have cleared the Customs and are now in the Embassy shop—cheers and bangers again!

For those who have never been to Japan some geographical statistics may be of interest.

Japan consists of four main islands—Hokkaido, Honshu, Shikoku and Kyushu and numerous minor islands. The Kurile Islands to the north of Hokkaido are occupied by the U.S.S.R., and the Ryukyu Islands to the south of Kyushu are under U.S.A. military administration. If comparisons be made with the British Isles, the area of Honshu is a little larger than that of England, Scotland and Wales combined, Hokkaido is somewhat smaller than Scotland, Kyushu a little larger than one half of Scotland and Shikoku a little smaller than Wales. Owing to the mountainous nature of the country a comparatively limited area is available for agriculture and industry. With a population of over ninety-four million, of which ten million are in Tokyo, roads,

railways and shops are crowded like a permanent Bank Holiday, and summer sale time. The climate is about the same as that of the central and southern parts of Europe.

The Emperor, who is now sixty-one, is no longer a semi-divine all-powerful figure but is now defined as a symbol of popular sovereignty. The Emperor's hobby is the study of crabs and microscopic crustaceans on which subject he is reputed to be an authority.

On my arrival in Tokyo, I was amazed at the number of new buildings, cars, T.V. aerials and the atmosphere of teeming industry everywhere. As far as the big cities are concerned Western dress is predominant, which to my mind is a pity, as Japanese national dress is far more colourful. Food in the cities and towns is no longer confined to rice and those "chamber of horrors" that go with it; most Western foods are on sale and eaten by a large number of the city and town folk. The language, customs and religion make Japanese very hard to understand and get to know. Compared to Western ways their approach to a matter and their thoughts on the same, in most cases, are utterly different, and usually back to front. The language is essentially vague and ambiguous and even the Japanese themselves find difficulty in understanding each other. Customs and manners conform to a set pattern and have changed little. "Face" counts for a lot and outward form and manners are considered virtues. Politeness can be over powering and bowing very catching, but the former is mechanical and has little to do with personal feelings. This is not to say that demonstrations of unselfish kindness are not genuine or infrequent.

No one has yet been able to define clearly the two main religions, Zen Buddhism and Shinto. Briefly, Zen Buddhism seeks salvation by meditation and a divine emptiness, which entails a lot of squatting for long periods in solitary confinement. Shinto is the worship of ancestors and nature and there are about two thousand shrines which are supported by voluntary contributions.

The scenery is quite beautiful but, due to poor road conditions, is sometimes hard to appreciate when one is covered in dust or prevented from further progress by a land slide. Rail transport is excellent, the only drawback being that to get a seat one must usually book ahead.

For those of the ex-uninvited guest club, including in particular ex members of the Fen Tigers, Norfolk and Suffolk T.A., my look out for lost property, has drawn a blank, however, only the other day I espied near a certain creek an old and worn golf bag. The faded letters looked suspiciously like BUNK—! but could not decipher the rest. The Japanese public were told nothing of our experiences and the subject is almost a closed book. I have heard it mentioned once when the conversation was soon switched to Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The Americans, who had more casualties than we, seem to have forgotten the bitterness of the Pacific War rather more readily, possibly because so many of them have had a chance to live in the country during and after the occupation.

Recreational facilities are quite varied, riding is

unfortunately limited, mountaineering, ski-ing, fishing, some shooting, golf and tennis, to mention a few, many of which can be played all the year round. Some peculiarly Japanese sports can also be partaken in at certain times of the year. One is fishing with cormorants, which is usually done at night and the other is duck netting. The latter is an intriguing way of catching wild duck, which has become a sort of Imperial Household sport in which members of foreign embassies are invited to take part. One is issued with a large sized butterfly net, organised into two teams of five and allotted positions along both sides of a somewhat narrow but quite deep drain. One end of the drain leads to a pond on which there are unsuspecting wild duck. These ducks are enticed through a wicket gate leading into the drain by live decoys. When three or more are in the drain the gate is closed and the battle commences. The aim of the exercise is to catch the ducks before they have a chance of rising out of net range. As can be imagined, number five netter, at the farthest end of the line from the gate is rarely successful and normally sees only a fly past of very startled ducks. One rather keen number one netter of our party saved the lives of all our intended victims by making such a powerful swipe that he and his net followed through into the drain. Indoor sports are numerous, including Onzens, Turkish baths, public baths, massage, bars and cabarets. It is sometimes difficult to discern any difference, as the role of hostess is predominant in all. First introduction to an Onzen can be quite enlightening. If one can imagine Charing Cross station in the rush hour, with large pools of water of various sizes in place of railway tracks, and the unnerving experience of entering the place in one's birthday suit armed only with a minute towel. One plunges into the nearest boiling pool to cover one's dignity, only to find oneself cheek by cheek with some aged grandmother or bright young thing. Enjoyment of one's wallowing is marred only by the thought of planning one's strategic withdrawal without loss of towel.

At the time of writing, the weather in Tokyo is very humid and it is perhaps fortunate that we are not over burdened with ex-Regimental silver, which soon tarnishes. According to Japanese legend, earthquakes are caused by a large catfish which sleeps under the Japanese main island of Honshu. We had quite a shaker last year which accelerated the birth of two pigeons in my office, both of which are doing sterling service as messenger runners.

The defence of Japan in the event of aggression, is provided by a joint Security Treaty with the U.S.A. Under the post war constitution, Japan is prohibited the possession of aggressive land, sea or air forces. All armed forces in Japan are consequently termed "Self Defence Forces." Total strength of the force is slightly less than a quarter of a million men in all three services, of which some 170,000 are in the Ground S.D.F. The S.D.F. does not yet have a proper status in Japanese society, with the result that recruiting is a real problem. The present day Japanese soldier wears a different uniform but has the same soldierly qualities of his predecessors.

There is much respect for Britain and great admiration for our Armed Services, which is fostered by our Language Officer attachments.

Presentation of new Colours to 4th Bn. The Royal Norfolk Regiment (T.A.)



The Colonel-in-Chief inspecting the parade

(By courtesy of East Anglian Daily Times)



4th BATTALION THE ROYAL NORFOLK REGIMENT (T.A.)

BATTALION REVIEW

With our colour presentation parade and annual camp to report in the same issue, some idea can be gained of the hard work of the last few months. Annual camp however came at the right time and with the whole Battalion together for two weeks allowed for some very useful parade preparations.

Capt. D. C. Thorne has just departed for Staff College and his place has been taken by Capt. M. L. Henderson. At almost the same time, we are saying goodbye to R.S.M. Boxall who leaves the Army and who will be living in Norwich. His place is filled by R.S.M. Raynor.

PRESENTATION OF NEW COLOURS

On July 8th, 1962 Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, Colonel in Chief of the 1st East Anglian Regiment, presented New Colours to the 4th Battalion on parade at Britannia Barracks, Norwich. This unique day was the culmination of just under a year's work of preparation. In August 1961 the initial plan was hatched over some of the Honorary Colonel's excellent port at Little Dunham, and from then on details began to be fixed. All was not easy—we tried to get S.L.R.'s, none were forthcoming. We wanted No. 1 Dress, first it was possible, then impossible, then possible if we paid, but by then no hats were available! What about stands for spectators—how many could we seat, and far more difficult to decide, who would sit where?—the list of guests to be invited swelled and swelled, the number of seats remained the same! The dress for spectators was another interesting problem—should it be morning coat or lounge suit, and should the Mayors wear full regalia? Again, it had to be decided which way the Princess would drive to the Barracks, how long she would stay, where she would have lunch — and most important of all — could she definitely come? These were a few of the problems which had to be tackled as the day for the Parade drew on.

In February we held our first rehearsal in driving wind, sleet and snow. From then until the day of the Parade we had 12 days actual training for rehearsal that is, of course, if a man turned up on

every drill occasion! In this time some of the soldiers had to be taught from scratch how to march, halt, turn, and carry out arms drill, for they started as raw recruits without any form of training. Everyone really put a terrific effort into producing a good standard for the day, and when the time came, their efforts were amply rewarded.

As time drew near, the Barracks began to be transformed to a fitting state for the day. Two years of dirt and lack of maintenance while the Barracks had stood empty, had to be put right. The Officers' Mess was transformed, special carpets were laid, chairs recovered, a retiring room for the Princess was prepared, and the Royal luncheon was planned. Outside, in the Barracks, stands were erected by the fine efforts of 251 Field Park Squadron R.E. (T.A.), also a magnificent dais. The Brigade Depot very kindly loaned us a working party who scoured and painted the Barracks, and contractors produced a host of signs and notices in different colours to ensure that no one got lost on the day.

As time went on, the Press became active, advertising the event, and at the dress rehearsal over 1,000 spectators (all we could get in) were able to see the parade. Meanwhile, the final touches were made to all the arrangements and here a word of thanks must

be given to the City of Norwich, who were magnificent in their readiness to assist in all ways towards the parade; among other things, advice on all kinds of tricky problems was given and chairs were loaned, for the dais. Flowers were provided by Parks and Gardens, and the city sweepers swept the square.

July 8th was a fine warm day. We were pleased and relieved, whilst wives and girl friends were delighted.

The scene was set. Around the square on two sides were the tiered stands, with, in the centre, the Royal dais, decorated with flowers and bunting, and behind it the three flagpoles. On the cricket ground was a horseshoe of marquees ready for the tea. The Officers' Mess was decorated and ready to receive the Princess on her arrival.

At 12-40, the Royal cars drove into the Barracks, having left from Horsham St. Faith's, where Princess Margaret had landed and had been met by the Lord Lieutenant for Norfolk, Brigadier Maxwell and Brigadier Barclay.

The Princess had drinks before luncheon with all the Officers and their wives and then sat down with selected officers to a meal splendidly prepared by Major Freddie Graham and the mess staff under Mr. Hubbard and Sgt. Page. Meanwhile, a steady flow



The Inspection

(By courtesy of East Anglian Daily Times)



The old Colours are marched off for the last time

(By courtesy of the Eastern Counties Newspapers, Ltd.)

of guests were arriving to take their seats for the Parade, and by 2-30 nearly all the 1,100 had arrived. By now the parade was formed up. At 2-43 it marched on looking very smart, the Band and Drums leading with the Drums in scarlet, the rest of the parade in No. 1 Dress with buff equipment and blue berets. The parade state for the day was :

In command of the Parade

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL A. J. ROBERTSON

Adjutant :

CAPTAIN D. C. THORNE

Regimental Sergeant Major :

W.O. I P. E. BOXALL

New Colours :

Queen's Colour

Lieut. M. C. Cadge
C/Sgt. R. Brown

Regimental Colour

Lieut. E. B. Warrington
W.O. II Barr Sgt. M. Eke

No. 1 Guard
Major R. Boulton, T. D.
Captain A. J. Sinton
Captain F. A. Powell

No. 3 Guard
Major C. B. Grant, M.C.
Lieut. H. Gledhill

No. 2 Guard
Captain J. B. Salter
2/Lieut. P. F. Gedge

No. 4 Guard
Major E. R. Cousins
Lieut. P. E. G. Bartlett

Old Colours :

Queen's Colour Regimental Colour
Lieut. P. J. Darley 2/Lieut. P. J. Clark
C/Sgt. J. Watson W.O. II Banthorpe Sgt. A. Smith

Acting Bandmaster :
SERGEANT C. BAKER

Drum Major :
DRUM-MAJOR R. WILSON

Chaplains on Parade :

Conducting the Service :

The Rev. A. V. KINGSTON, O.B.E., Q.H.C.,

Assistant Chaplain General, Eastern Command.

In attendance :

The Rev. W. BLATHWAYT, C.F.

At 2-55 the Army Commander General Sir Rhoderick McLeod, K.C.B., C.B.E., arrived and was greeted with a General Salute.

At 3 o'clock the Princess drove on to the parade ground, heralded by a fanfare from the Trumpeters of the 1st Battalion The 1st East Anglian Regiment. On arriving at the dais, she was introduced to the Army Commander, the Assistant Chaplain General Eastern Command, the Rev. A. V. Kingston, O.B.E., Q.H.C., and the G.O.C. 54 (EA) Division Major General I. H. Freeland, D.S.O. The parade proper then began with the Royal Salute. The various stages of the parade and the music played are given below, but it can be said with fairness that this was a brilliant parade. The highlights were many, but particularly moving were the marching off of the Old Colours to Auld Lang Syne, with the music slowly

fading to nothing as the Colours disappeared from view; the consecration of the New Colours, and the advance in Review Order. The march past in quick time was commented on most favourably by many, and when three cheers for the Princess were given after the last Royal Salute, the noise must surely have been heard far beyond Norwich.

THE ORDER OF CEREMONY

1. The Battalion marched on Parade and formed up in Review Order.
2. The General Officer Commanding-in-Chief Eastern Command, General Sir Roderick McLeod, K.C.B., C.B.E., arrived and was received with a General Salute.
3. Her Royal Highness arrived and was received with a Royal Salute.
4. Her Royal Highness inspected the Parade.
5. The Escort received the Old Colours.
6. The Old Colours were trooped.
7. The Old Colours were marched off, to be lodged in the Officers' Mess.
8. The Drums were piled.
9. The New Colours were brought forward, uncased and placed on the Drums.



Lieut. E. B. Warrington receiving the Regimental Colour from the Colonel-in-Chief

(By courtesy of the Eastern Counties Newspapers, Ltd.)



The Colonel-in-Chief addressing the Battalion

(By courtesy of the Eastern Counties Newspapers, Ltd.)

10. The New Colours were consecrated by the Assistant Chaplain-General.
11. Two Field Officers handed the Colours to Her Royal Highness who presented them to the Officers of the Colour Party.
12. Her Royal Highness made her address.
13. The Commanding Officer replied.
14. The Drums were unplied.
15. The Colours slow marched into the centre of the line of Guards, who received them with a General Salute.
16. The Battalion marched past in quick time.
17. The Battalion advanced in Review Order and gave a Royal Salute.
18. The Battalion gave three cheers for Her Royal Highness.
19. Her Royal Highness left the parade ground to talk to The Old Comrades.
20. The Battalion marched off parade.
21. Tea on the cricket ground.

THE PROGRAMME OF MUSIC

- “ Sons of the Brave ”
 General Salute.
 The National Anthem.
 Pageantry.
 “ The Colours.”
 “ The British Grenadiers ”—The National Anthem.
 Pageantry.
 “ Auld Lang Syne.”
 The National Anthem.
 “ Rule Britannia.”
 “ The British Grenadiers ”—The National Anthem.
 “ Rule Britannia.”



The March Past

(By courtesy of East Anglian Daily Times)



The Band and Drums

(By courtesy of the Eastern Counties Newspapers, Ltd.)



**Presentation of new Colours to 4th Bn. The Royal Norfolk Regiment (T.A.)
The Colonel-in-Chief meets former members of the Regiment**

(By courtesy of East Anglian Daily Times)

After presenting the new Colours Her Royal Highness made an address to the parade, saying :

"It gives me great pleasure to be present on this occasion as, for many years, my family has been closely connected with the County of Norfolk and the Royal Norfolk Regiment.

It was my great grandfather, King Edward VII. who, in 1909, presented the colours which have just been marched off parade for the last time.

Today, as Colonel-in-Chief of the 1st East Anglian Regiment, I am happy to continue this association by presenting these new colours on behalf of the Queen.

In 1914, when the call for volunteers to fight overseas was made your Battalion came forward to a man. Very soon you were fighting on the beaches of Gallipoli and later at Gaza, where, despite severe losses in officers and men, you acquitted yourselves with considerable distinction.

In the last war, together with your colleagues of the 5th and 6th Territorial Battalions of the

Regiment, you fought against great odds in Malaya and Singapore before being compelled to spend three and a half years as prisoners-of-war.

Today, as the only Battalion of the Royal Norfolk Regiment in existence, you have an added responsibility because these new colours bear upon them not only those battle honours which you have won by your own courage and tenacity, but also many more which have been earned by your Regiment in all parts of the world during your 277 years' existence.

I entrust these colours to your keeping, confident that you will guard them well and maintain the high tradition and famous name of the Royal Norfolk Regiment."

The Commanding Officer replied :

"Your Royal Highness. On behalf of all Ranks of the 4th Battalion The Royal Norfolk Regiment may I say how extremely honoured and proud we are that you should have presented new Colours to us today, on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen. Your close association



Chelsea Pensioners were among the spectators

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with the Regiment is a source of very great pride to us.

I can assure Your Royal Highness that this Battalion and the men now serving with it, besides keeping safe these new Colours, will uphold the tradition of the Regiment as they have done in the past, and will at all times determine to maintain the high standard of duty to our Queen and Country as set by those earlier members of the Regiment."

At the end of the parade, after the Battalion marched off the square, Her Royal Highness inspected the ranks of The Old Comrades, speaking to many of the 200 drawn up most proudly for her. The Princess then left the parade ground to sit with first the Officers and then the Sergeants for colour photographs to commemorate the day. As Her Royal Highness approached the C.O. before taking her seat she said "I really must congratulate you on an excellent parade. It was quite brilliant." This and other remarks both written and said to us by spectators on that day have made us believe we really did do something that was, perhaps, outstanding.

Tea followed on the cricket ground, before which the Princess met many civic dignitaries including the Chairman and Secretary of the Norfolk T.A. Association, who had helped us so much in getting ready for the day. At tea, the Princess sat in the Officers' Mess marquee, "Buckingham Palace," and stayed talking for half an hour or more before moving out to walk round the ring of marquees to her car. During her walk round she was introduced to selected members of the Battalion and their wives. On arriving at her car, Her Royal Highness took leave of the Commanding Officer, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Norwich and other civic dignitaries before entering her car and slowly driving across the cricket ground and up the ramp towards the barrack gates.

So Her Royal Highness departed from the barracks at 5-20 p.m., having set the seal on a great day for the Battalion by her gracious and charming presence. Guests now gradually began to depart, some to the various Messes to drink the health of the New Colours, others home, but each with the memory of an unforgettable and stirring day to remember.

OFFICERS' MESS

This year saw the Mess established in what could probably be described as the most comfortable surroundings yet, when the Battalion moved to the A.A.T.A. at Sennybridge, near Brecon in South Wales, for our annual camp. Although rather thin on the ground this enabled us to make the best of the facilities, which comprised for once the convenience of having sleeping accommodation, ante room and dining room under the same roof. Mind you the normal military hazards of hatted camps still applied, basins and baths were without means of keeping the water in and once plugs were extracted from some deeply hidden stores the baths, although amply supplied with hot water, usually flooded into the dining room.

Sgt. Barfield, in charge of the kitchen, also had his troubles, as the very good Calor gas stoves in the camp were only fitted into the Mess during the first week of our stay, and he had the unique experience of cooking on a stove which disappeared

through a window during the middle of a morning, and was forced to test his skill on a petrol cooker for the rest of the day. However this upheaval made not the slightest difference to the excellent food which came from the kitchen and many members of the Mess were unaware of the disturbances, simply wondering where the smell of petrol came from.

The middle weekend saw the first rain of the camp and also saw Officers off on various recreations. Bruce Warrington accompanied the party to the Beacons, while Hugh Gledhill led his gallant canoeists some miles along the Brecon Canal. Another party, led by that hardened campaigner, Reg Cousins, decided that once more they must test their strength against nature, although this year a little more thought was given, and an easy and short walk was taken up Cader Idris in Snowdonia. Our Quartermaster, however, decided that a battle against the fish was sufficient challenge for the weekend, and even this the fish won.

On our guest night we were honoured with the presence of Brigadier F. P. Barclay, D.S.O., M.C., D.L., Colonel H. R. Hugo, O.B.E., and Colonel D. S. L. Dicker, O.B.E., T.D., representing the Brigade Commander.

The Mess Staff took every opportunity to plan and organise themselves for the great honour in store on July 8th, and the next two months were spent in much hard work. However, with a lot of elbow grease, much extra help, including the Colonel who was seen many times in his shirt sleeves, and Mrs. Robertson, and the skill of Mrs. Drury with her flowers, the Mess was transformed and ready for the great occasion.

The great day dawned sunny and fair and this was as it continued in all respects. The officers and their wives were presented to Princess Margaret in the ante-room and then, over a pre-lunch drink, had the opportunity to talk to Her Royal Highness before departing, the Company Commanders to share with our Colonel-in-Chief the excellence of Major Graham's food and wine. The remainder of the party partook of a cold buffet in Cameron Block, the decor for which many thanks to Mrs. David Thorne and Mrs. Goldsmith, in a more relaxed atmosphere. After the parade tea was served on the cricket field, and after Her Royal Highness had left, the new colours were toasted in the mess with champagne. This glorious day finished with an almost full mess and their wives dining at The Lansdowne Hotel.

SERGEANTS' MESS

Since our last notes we have had a very heavy programme, including Annual Camp and the Presentation of new Colours by Her Royal Highness Princess Margaret.

Annual Camp this year was held at Sennybridge, South Wales; the camp was very comfortable as it is one of the few hatted camps that are available for T.A. Annual Training. The Mess was quite nice but hardly large enough to accommodate the almost 100% attendance of members at camp this year. However, a very enjoyable time was had by all. Apart from the Mess, other amenities available were a cinema with a different show each night, a T.V. room and Sennybridge village only a few steps outside the camp gate.

The highlight of Mess social activity was the Annual Dinner which was held on Wednesday 16th

May. The five course dinner was excellent and made all the more enjoyable by the lay out and decoration of the table to which many thanks go to the Dinner Committee and the Messing Committee consisting of C.S.M. Cox, C.S.M. Jordan, Sgts. Hutson, Savage and Leggett. Our thanks also to C.S.M. Groom and Sgt. Barfield and their cooks for preparing such an enjoyable meal, and thanks also to Sgt. Page who organised the waiters and ran the serving so well. We thank C.S.M. Doughty who organised some very original after dinner entertainment, some of which was most energetic after such a sumptuous meal. All members will remember the occasion for many years to come. Other Mess functions were the usual exchange visits of officers and sergeants to the respective Messes and, as usual, each trying to provide more liquid refreshment than the other. Our caterer, Fred Long, catered for nearly all tastes behind the bar and even managed to have a drink of sorts available on the last night at camp.

On our return to Norwich, the work of preparing for the parade started. The usual fatigue party of R.S.M. and P.S.I.s, jackets off and sleeves rolled up, started to erect the stands for the spectators and mark out the square for the parade. Sgt. Jones, who eventually got some help from the Depot, was i/c O.R.s Stand and it says much for his ability that it did not collapse under the weight of 400 spectators.

Rehearsals for the parade went off extremely well, once the form of the parade had been grasped, and all ranks put every ounce of effort into it. The great day arrived. Those members not on parade acted as ushers and had the unenviable job of trying to make order out of the swarm of guests invited to the parade.

The parade went off without a hitch, mainly due to the confident and clearly given orders of the Commanding Officer and Guard Commanders. C.S.M. Cox nearly had heart failure when the Standard would not unfurl on the first pull of the rope and the microphone wire got tangled. Her Royal Highness Princess Margaret spoke very highly of the turnout and bearing of the parade and afterwards many complimentary remarks were heard from high ranking officers and civic dignitaries. The Mess photograph that was taken with Her Royal Highness was in colour and will be a treasured memento of the occasion to all members.

The tea held on the cricket field after the parade was a very colourful and enjoyable affair and several of the Mess members and their wives were presented to Her Royal Highness.

C.S.M. Cox, after eighteen long years of undetected crime, was presented with the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal whilst at camp by Major General Freeland, G.O.C. 54 Division. Well done Knocker, it was well deserved!

Our congratulations go to C.S.M. and Mrs. Doughty on the birth of a son on the 30th April and congratulations also to C/Sgt. and Mrs. Amis on the birth of a daughter.

In closing these notes, we wish to welcome back to U.K. all ranks of the 1st Battalion 1 East Anglian Regiment on their return from British Guiana and trust that the next time that they are warned for overseas they will be able to pack more than a toothbrush and be able to have the company of their families. By the time these notes are published we will have welcomed R.S.M. Raynor to our happy band and said a fond farewell to R.S.M. Boxall and

we take this opportunity of wishing him all the best in civvy life.

HEADQUARTER COMPANY

Without a doubt this has been the most eventful quarter in the Battalion's history since we were reformed in 1947. H.Q. Company were in the thick of it.

Firstly there were the preparations for camp and almost before we realised the advance party had departed. En route the R.Q.M.S. and Cpl. Dawson collected those elusive No. 1 Dress uniforms that have had us all in a slight tizzy. We had been told so many times that we would have them for the parade, and then that they were not available, that we had begun to doubt their existence.

When the advance party arrived at Sennybridge Camp, there was a strong Welsh mist descending, not a good omen to start off with. We have been lucky with the weather at annual camp for so many years, that we have come to regard it as our prerogative. Alas we were to be brought to earth with a resounding thump on this occasion. The camp however had many compensating factors. For one, it was hotted and for another there were lashings of hot water for baths and ablutions. The cookhouses, too, were first class with all the latest Calor gas stoves etc.

On arrival at Sennybridge Station, the main party, after a somewhat monotonous journey, were met by guides and conducted to their respective areas in the dark. The operation went very smoothly and everybody had settled in and eaten an excellent meal within an hour of de-training.

Next day saw the start of preliminary training and organising. After that it was off to the hills. These did not take much finding as we were surrounded by them. Our newest members were drafted to recruit company for their training, where they thought that they would be in clover as the C.S.M. was C.S.M. Banthorpe and the chief instructor was C.S.M. Doughty, both H.Q. men. They were soon to be disillusioned. On their first morning in the wilderness, they were persuaded at 0600 hours to strip to the waist for a wash and shave in a mountain stream. Pte. Jeal coughed and said "Oh, not really?" and Pte. Rowe said "— — —" but all dipped in under the encouraging eye of C.S.M. Doughty. Other sadistic tortures included a tug of war across a stream which resulted in the losers getting rather wet.

Quite a bit of time at camp was taken up in practice parades for the presentation of new colours, and at these everybody worked with a will. In fact, the spade work for all the drill on the day was done on these parades. Fitting of No. 1 Dress had to be done during this time too. C/Sgt. Sam Turner supervised this with his best Burton manner. "Them trousers 'll be all right, boy, Jest you brace them up a bit." Despite a limited selection everybody was kitted out reasonably well. Cpl. Bloomfield did remark that his collar was obviously designed for a horse, and a few that their trousers cut them under the arms, but we regard these remarks as purely facetious.

This was perhaps the busiest camp we have had, and despite the poor weather one of the most satisfactory.

On our return to home stations we were given one week-end off, and then plunged again into rehearsals and preparations for the big day. Much had to be

done, and here we must give all credit to the permanent staff both military and civilian employed, without whose work little could have been accomplished. At the rehearsals and practices, the final polish was being applied and weak points corrected. No. 1 Dress with buff equipment was issued and buff was the order of the day. Gradually there emerged from all the confusion No. 4 Guard, very spick and definitely most span. Ptes. Hansell and Millins were remembering to step off with their left feet, we had the strongest guard in the Battalion, we had the handsomest men too, and we considered that we were the smartest men on parade. We were all set and ready to go. Eventually the big day came and the parade was on. The most significant parade perhaps that most of us will ever be called on to do. We will not attempt to describe it here, as it has been fully served elsewhere in these notes. Suffice it to say that the Colonel-in-Chief was radiant, and that No. 4 Guard was decidedly the best on parade. That is, in our opinion.

Now that it is all over and that the tempo of life at Britannia has slowed down, things just do not seem the same. The spectators stands and the dais are gone, and all that is left to remind us of it all are a few rapidly fading white lines and marks on the square. Soon they will be gone too. Still as L/Cpl. Hunt says "It would not do to have a parade like that every year. There would never be anything else done."

We suppose he is right.

"A" COMPANY

All our recent T.A. activities have been dominated by the Colour Presentation Parade. We were singularly fortunate in "A" Company for we were chosen, jointly with "B" Company, to be the No. 1 Guard and Escort to the Colour. C.S.M. R. Pillar was the Battalion Right Marker and Lt. E. B. Warrington carried the new Regimental Colour. The Company prizes for turn-out were won by Cpl. F. Vass and Ptes. Lockett and Amis H. Wives and families had an excellent view of the parade and they enjoyed the day to the full.

Now that 17 years have passed since the war ended, we naturally have very few old campaigners to make the nights swing but we are working up a good stock of "I was there" tales of ceremonial parades. The Coronation and the Queen's visit to Norwich, the Freedom of Lowestoft, the T.A. Jubilee Parade and now the glory of the Colour Presentation will be discussed in the canteen for many a drill night to come.

We offer our congratulations to L/Cpl. E. Ablitt on his promotion and we welcome Pte. Howell, the son of a veteran Norfolk soldier. Our recruiting is being done on a long-term "do-it-yourself" basis; in the last few weeks L/Cpl. Ablitt and Ptes. R. Seamam, H. Amis and G. Saunders have all become the proud fathers of sons. Well done! Keep it up!

It is difficult to give a Company report on camp this year for we were scattered amongst the Training, Specialist, Cadre and H.Q. Companies. Suffice it to say that we enjoyed ourselves in Wales.

Late in July, before breaking up for the August recess, the Company held a successful mobile week-end exercise in the North Suffolk area. After instruction and practice of wood clearing at Fritton outside Yarmouth, the Company moved to Beccles Drill Hall, where they spent the night. In spite of

several thick heads due to sampling the local brew, an early start was made the following morning to Ellough Aerodrome, where a number of section attacks were launched. Needless to say, these were all successful! Following a brief break to recover their wind, the Company then set off on a map reading march, and finally ended up at Pakefield Range where they did full justice to an excellent meal cooked by C/Sgt. Amis.

"B" COMPANY

Company Com. : Capt. A. J. Sinton.
Platoon Com. : 2/Lt. P. J. Clark.
C.S.M. : W.O. H. A. Jordan.
C/Sgt. : C.Q.M.S. J. Watson.
P.S.I. : Sgt. D. M. Martin.

Much has happened since we last produced these notes, the main event which was of course the Presentation of Colours by H.R.H. Princess Margaret is fully covered elsewhere in the Journal, and it only remains for us to say that we were proud to be selected to produce half of No. 1 Guard.

Having said this it is only fair to remark that most of us are glad that the shouting and the tumult has died down and we can now revert to the more everyday activities of a T.A. Unit—Shooting and Infantry Training to mention the two most important.

The Infantry Training side was well covered at Sennybridge Camp and shooting has started on the open range after the August summer break.

Camp was generally voted to be a success, the accommodation was hatted and comfortable, the food was good and well cooked, water was plentiful and always hot, in fact a model of what a training camp should be. The training areas were good though rather remote.

Out of camp activities were many and varied, and our thanks are due to the Battalion Recce party who borrowed an aeroplane and managed to spend a couple of days laying things on in the early part of the year. As a result there was hiking and mountain climbing for some, whilst Ptes. Bussey and Warner were introduced to the mysteries of canoeing under the able instruction of Lieut. Hugh Gledhill. In addition many of the less adventurous members had an enjoyable weekend in Swansea.

There have been the normal comings and goings, and it is with great regret that we say goodbye to Capt. Sinton who return to London; at the same time Mr. Williamson, for many years our loyal and hardworking caretaker, has retired to a well earned rest. We welcome in his place L/Cpl. Mapletoft and wish him a pleasant stay in Providence Street.

There are two other points of interest on which we would like to report. Firstly the current drive on gaining membership for the Regimental Association. All our old readers know the excellent work this Association does and a good deal of effort was made to interest the younger ones whilst at camp, as a result of which we gained eight new members. This is good but not nearly enough. It is our aim that every soldier should want to be a member of his Association.

And secondly T.A.E.R. or "Ever Readies." This scheme is now going well and to date we have five members and six more in the Pipe Line.

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"C" COMPANY

O.C. : Major P. W. Raywood.
2I/C : Capt. J. B. Salter.
C.S.M. : C.S.M. P. Hewett.
C.Q.M.S. : C/Sgt. E. Elliott.
P.S.I. : C.S.M. A. Cox and Sgt. S. Jones.

The November issue of the Britannia and Castle notes usually contains only reports of Annual Camp, but this year we have a Royal date to report, a full description of the Presentation of New Colours written by the Adjutant, will be found in this issue. July 8th will not easily be forgotten by those on parade, if only for the reason that it is unlikely that they will ever be on such a parade again. The Old Colours were presented in 1909.

"C" Company provided No. 2 Guard for the parade as we came second by two points in the Inter Company Drill Competition. The keenness shown by all ranks during rehearsal parades was most encouraging, proof of this was shown on the last drill night before the parade, when there was a 100% attendance for the final Company rehearsal, and one sergeant was due to drive a lorry to the north that night.

The Adjutant judged the Company Turn Out Competition on July 8th, and the following won prizes given by the Officers and Sergeants of the Company : Ptes. Haynes, Grant, W. Budrey and L/Cpl. Roberts. Sgt. and Mrs. Nolloth and Pte. Budrey had the honour of being presented to H.R.H. after the parade. In conclusion it is fair to say that considering that at least half of the men on parade had never taken part in a parade of this nature before and some before rehearsals had never "Sloped or Presented" let alone an "Advance in Review Order" in their lives, the standard obtained was good. Credit goes to the N.C.O.s who trained the Company to that standard, especially our P.S.I.s C.S.M. Cox and Sgt. Jones. We are now waiting to see the film of the parade and see what mistakes we made.

For the first time in the history of the Battalion the Annual Camp was not held in England, but at Sennybridge in South Wales. Rumour has it that next year we shall have a home posting, in fact too near home, Stanford P.T.A. The hatted camp at Sennybridge had a very good N.A.A.F.I. and constant hot water, items that should be available at all T.A. camps. The narrow roads of South Wales were good practice for our agricultural drivers and the hills good for all! The Mortar Platoon trained under Capt. Clarke and C.S.M. Cox did some very worthwhile training. The areas allotted were not as ideal as we would have liked but some very useful lessons were learnt, especially Pte. Grant W. who will not duck his head over the base plate in a wet mortar pit. As usual camp was not long enough and there was not time to do all the things that we wanted to do. However, we can now say that the Mortar Platoon is a more confident platoon than when it went to camp.

Sgts. Rider and Eke were on the large staff training the recruits, Cpl. Vincent was feeding the sergeants, Pte. Stannard gained his B Classification in the O.R.s cook house and Cpl. Bowhill had the popular job of post corporal. It was always difficult to find where members of the Company spent their evening as it was generally some unpronounceable village or was that an excuse for seeing one of the London shows imported to Sennybridge for the camping

season? During camp Sgt. Nolloth organised a first class social evening in H.Q. Company Office, the supply of stories did not dry up all night. Pte. Kindlesides, Cpl. Pye, W.O. II Cox and others saw to that. Mr. Roberts very kindly ran the bar but no money was involved due to the generosity of Company funds and the sergeants. No mention of this party was made on the B.O.S. report the following day!

The following have become "Ever Readies": Sgts. Nolloth and Eke, Ptes. Budrey, Haynes and the Grant Brothers J. and W.; they will be drawing £150 next July for being we are told, a necessary stand by, good luck to them and we hope they will be here next July to draw the lolly.

Congratulations to C.S.M. Cox on the award of his Long Service and Good Conduct Medal. This was presented to him at camp by Major General Freeland, G.O.C. 54 Division. Congratulations also to the only T.A. man in Thetford, Sgt. Leggett, on the award of the T.A. Efficiency Medal.

Sgt. Eke has now joined other members of the Company who live in Pople Street, Wymondham; how easy it would be if all the Company lived near the Drill Hall.

When these notes are published, Capt. D. C. Thorne our Adjutant for the last two years will have left. During his tour in the Adjutant's chair, the Battalion has had many successes in 161 Brigade Competitions and the Presentation of New Colours Parade. He has also left the Bachelor's Club and passed his entrance exam to the Staff College, played a little cricket in the summer!, and provided an answer to the odd question that Company Commanders and others have passed to him. To Capt. and Mrs. Thorne we wish the best of luck and hope they have enjoyed their stay with the Battalion.

Recruiting within the Company has been very good and we wish to welcome Ptes. Bokenham, Minns, Yallop, Batten, Cooper, Fox, Hudson, Stimpson, Thacker and Webster into the Company and trust that they will stay with us for many years to come.

Finally we wish all ranks a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

"D" COMPANY

The financial side of the Company, the special sphere of Capt. Smith, has suffered a sad blow since our last issue. The trouble has been the canoes which a gallant band of shipwrights have been constructing in the Subaltern's Office. It is possible that the eviction of the Subalterns from the office of the Company Commander has a lot to do with the making of the canoes. The bleak and tidy nature of their new surroundings may have been so foreign to their natures that they were filled with a burning desire to make a mess. Whatever the cause it was only a matter of weeks before the place was knee deep in shavings, plans, nails and timber and the total despair of the caretaker. After a few more weeks hardly a square inch of the walls or floor of the room could be touched without one being conscious of the presence of glue, fibre glass resin and varnish.

The helpful suggestions which were made by the non-seafaring members of the Company during the period of construction would fill a larger, and less respectable, publication than this. The ideas put forward made one thing clear: that everybody knows that alcohol is employed in launchings. We

will spare the blushes of certain parties by neglecting to mention either their names or the reasons given as to why they should be the first to sail in the canoes. Yet despite the suggestions the boats were ready for camp. We admit that most of the luxury details normally associated with ocean travel had to be left out in the midnight-oil-burning-rush at the end. The words of the Company Commander to the leader of the shipbuilders, who was weak as a result of his exertions, did little to revive him. He admitted that he never thought that the canoes would be completed. The discouraged builder took comfort in the thought that at least he would not have to sail in the wretched things during the preliminary trials. For the record it should be noted that while at camp persons from other companies were allowed to use our precious toys. A lazy weekend was spent paddling for some thirty six hours. Since casualties were few it has been decided that it will be safe to allow members of "D" Company to use them. We extend our heartfelt thanks to those men of other companies who had such faith in our abilities that they were willing to risk their lives in the canoes that we built.

Two of the highlights of camp seem to have been the rapid departure of "D" Company for the hills almost as soon as they arrived and the aquatic ability of one high ranking personage during an across the river tug-o-war. Of course the Company was visited by the general. We will probably never know whether he enjoyed his brief look but he certainly left us in no doubt about what he thought of us. We take consolation from the words which the Duke of Wellington used to describe the men who later won the Battle of Waterloo, "The scum of the earth: recruited for drink!" Despite what other companies may think we know that we are not as bad as that.

We have been instructed not to mention the Presentation of the Colours since this is to be reported elsewhere. In case the writer of the report failed to notice it we will limit ourselves to the assertion that we were without doubt the smartest guard on parade.

So far the demolition of the old building in Dereham has not begun. We expect that the contractors are waiting for the coldest part of the winter. A man did visit us to lay the lino in the new building last week. Sgt. Adams had some difficulty in explaining to him that it has not been started yet. We find it a relief to know that somewhere somebody is thinking about our new home. If the work begins soon our next report may have to be written in a hostelry or wherever we are stationed during the rebuilding.

BAND

After much practising and polishing, at 1443 hours on 8th July 1962 the Band led the 4th Battalion on parade for the Presentation of New Colours by H.R.H. The Princess Margaret. With the sun shining, the Band in their blues and the drums in scarlet, they presented a picture well worth seeing, particularly with Drum Major Wilson leading in his own inimitable manner. Band Sgt. Baker did a first class job in conducting the Band in place of the Bandmaster who was unavoidably absent.

The playing, the marching and the counter-marching were of the highest order, but undoubtedly their greatest moment came when they played "Auld Lang Syne" as the Old Colours were marched off parade for the last time, the music fading as the Colours disappeared into the background. Surely these moments will be remembered not only by every man on parade but also by the many spectators.

This was the high-light of the last three months. But during this time the Band has also carried out several other engagements. These have included two church parades for the Cadets at Stanford P.T.A., and a Band engagement at Oulton Broad. Coming soon will be a further engagement at Oulton Broad—and then the Band will be practising hard for the Divisional Band Competition which they fully intend to win, having come a close second last year.

NORFOLK ARMY CADET FORCE

It has been a busy time for the Norfolk A.C.F. with the Annual Inspections just completed. Our numbers remain around 850.

Our Annual Camp was at Leek in Staffordshire. This is an excellent hatted camp with first class training facilities but alas dreadful weather severely hampered training. 24 Cadets under Captain Sigston undertook a one week Mountain Training Course in lieu of camp at the Kyndwr Scwd Mountain Training School nearby. The course culminated in a 24 hour exercise covering 26 miles with a steep climb of 2,000 feet at the very end. A great deal was learnt and it is hoped that the party of trained hill climbers will provide a nucleus on which to build future expeditions.

A new detachment has been started at Wymondham College and at the time of going to press 70 cadets have been enrolled.

Gaywood Park School Detachment will be reopening this term but we have had to close Stalham and Swaffham because of shortage of adults in the area.

Captain Dickinson, the County Sports Officer, is to be warmly congratulated on his efforts with the County Athletic Team who finished 4th in the National Championships, only $\frac{1}{2}$ point out of 3rd place.

1st EAST ANGLIAN REGIMENT PAST AND PRESENT ASSOCIATION

If you have served, or are still serving, in either the 1st East Anglian, Royal Norfolk or Suffolk Regiments and are not already a member of your Regimental Association, you should join the 1st East Anglian Regiment Past and Present Association.

Write to the Secretary for full particulars at:—

Regimental Headquarters,
1st East Anglian Regiment,
Britannia Barracks,
NORWICH, Norfolk.
NOR. 67A.



THE SUFFOLK AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE REGIMENT (T.A.)

REGIMENTAL REVIEW

Camp this year saw the successful finish of our civil defence year. The Battalion proceeded to Millom on the 16th of June for a two week course run by the Army School of Civil Defence.

Millom is a first class civil defence school and must have the best training ground of its kind in the country, it having many acres of devastated town. It is more the pity that it is moving to Devizes, where it is understood the training area will be about half the size.

A separate course is run for the officers, the warrant officers and sergeants, and the rank and file. The officers do a more technical course whilst the warrant officers and sergeants do an instructors course and all 17 who attended qualified. Special mention should be made of W.O. II Randall and Sergeant Brown who both obtained an "A" grading. The rank and file train in their infantry sections and most of the course is practical rescue and first aid. Not only was it very useful and interesting training for all but as the section commanders were on their own for the fourteen days it proved to be very useful leadership training.

The course ended with two Battalion exercises, one a light rescue exercise and one a signal and deployment exercise, both of which were very interesting and went off without a hitch.

Camp for 1963 will be at the Stanford Practical Training Area at Thetford from the 11th — 25th May. This will be a Brigade camp.

The Regiment entered two teams for the Brigade Motor Cycle Trials. These came first and second out of four teams.

In the Divisional Trials we came fifth out of eleven teams and Pte. Cross finished fourth overall.

We are glad to see the 1st Battalion 1st East Anglian Regiment are returning to Felixstowe and look forward to seeing them amongst us again.

Personalities

We welcome to the Regiment 2/Lieut. Wylie who has recently been commissioned and is now looking after the Haverhill Detachment.

We also welcome 2/Lieut. Robbie, Royal Engineers who is on attachment to us.

Congratulations to W.O. II S. E. Randall, Sgt. D. A. Southgate and Sgt. G. W. Soames on their recent promotion.

Pte. Cross has been selected for the Command team for the Army Motor Cycle Trials.

Congratulations to Pte. Thwaites (now L/Cpl.) who commanded the only section at camp without an N.C.O. and finished the course with the best overall section.

We are very sorry to lose Sgt. Lawson (Orderly Room Clerk). He was also employed as a civilian clerk in the Orderly Room. Sgt. Lawson has given a great deal of service to the Regiment. During the amalgamation period and during the absence of the Chief Clerk in hospital he was always willing to give up much of his own time to keep things going. A great deal of the credit for our recent "Outstanding" grading from the documents teams must go to him. We are very sorry to know that Sgt. and Mrs. Lawson are to leave us but hope we shall see plenty of them in the future.

Sgt. Wyartt now assumes the appointment of Orderly Room Clerk.

W.O. II Drew has now left to return to the 1st Battalion 1st East Anglian Regiment as R.Q.M.S. He has been a T.A. Permanent Staff Instructor for three years and the Regiment has a great deal to thank him for. We wish C.S.M. and Mrs. Drew all good fortune in the future.

W.O. II Drew has been replaced by W.O. II Downes to whom and Mrs. Downes we extend a welcome.

SERGEANTS' MESS

Time seems to have flown since we last went to press. This is largely due to annual camp and the summer break. There is a great deal to be said for the summer break in which the T.A. indulges, it gives all a chance to take their holidays, get on with jobs long overdue and in general take rest from military matters. It has one disadvantage though, the Orderly Room still seems quite capable of churning out paper even when there is supposedly no one there. Amongst the pile lying on the writer's desk there was a reminder that these notes were due.

On Sunday May 6th we held our Annual Mess meeting at Newmarket. This was followed by a most excellent lunch organised by C.S.M. Smith and C/Sgt. Gillett of "B" Company. We were very pleased to welcome as our guests, the Commanding Officer, 2 I/C Training Officer, Adjutant, Q.M. and all Company Commanders. After the lunch we all had the opportunity of chatting with the C.O. and officers over the usual glass of ale, which after all is the best way of saying hello or making a point. Many problems were ironed out and those who had travelled many miles to attend this function felt that it had been well worth while.

By far the most important event of this quarter was the annual camp which this year was held at the Army School of Civil Defence, Millom, Cumberland. This was a departure from our normal camp running strictly on the lines of infantry field-work, in that the whole of the training time was given over to the Army's secondary role as aid to the Civil Defence Corps, both in theory and practice. The camp was very well equipped for its purpose, and much was learnt about first aid, knots and lashings, scaffolds, smoke-filled tunnels, etc. A great variety of new types of knots and lashings were performed, which I am sure had the instructors in a constant source of amazement. Smoke tunnels and obstacle courses caused much weight reduction.

Most of our members were on the instructors' course and our permanent staff, including the R.S.M. were all instructing. The standard set was very high and the instructors were first class. We gave a very good account of ourselves and I think I can say without any fear of contradiction that the



"A" Company, The Suffolk & Cambridgeshire Regiment

Back Row, L. to R.
 Pte. Enefer, Cpl. Minett, L/Cpl. Burroughs, Pte. Walton, Cpl. Matthews, Boy Scowen, Pte. Adams, Boy Ogden, Pte. White,
 L/Cpls. Bensley and Callaby
 3rd Row, L. to R.
 Ptes. Salmon, Fresher, Howlett, Daynes and Tweed, Cpl. Woodbridge, Ptes. Bass, Woodbridge, Waterfield, Copeman and Phoenix
 2nd Row, L. to R.
 Cpl. Agger, Ptes. Anderson and Wills, Boy Woodbridge, Ptes. Watts and Smith, L/Cpls. Bowman and Hammond, L/Cpl. Duke,
 Ptes. Holman, Brammer and Howlett, Cpl. Rance
 Front Row, L. to R.
 Sgt. Feary, C/Sgt. Emmerson, C.S.M. Chapman, Lieut. Checkley, Capt. Baggaley, Major Baldry, Lieut. Emra, W.O. H Townley,
 Drum Major Doughty, Sgt. Randall and Sgt. Titmarsh

course results were some of the best the school had seen for some time. This of course reflects great credit on all our permanent staff instructors who put in a lot of hard work on Civil Defence training.

Course gradings were very high, in fact we had two "A's," ten "B's" and five "C's." This was an excellent result, in particular that of Sgt. Brown who obtained top marks with Sgt. Randall a good second. The full course results will no doubt be covered elsewhere. I am sure we are all agreed that we learnt a lot, and there is no doubt we all enjoyed the course, despite some earlier misgivings.

Camp had its other highlights not to mention nightly jaunts into the local at Haverigg and nearby villages and locals. The weekend was spent in various ways; some ventured as far as Blackpool and had a good time but came back much poorer in pocket, whilst most members toured the Lake District. Two of our members, Ron Daines "The Bosun" and Bomber Harris took a party to Coniston Water and with bivouacing, canoeing and climbing, this proved a great success.

Personalities

We have had at last to bid a reluctant farewell to our late Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Col. P. D. Storie-Pugh. The Mess has a great deal to thank the C.O. for and we wish him and Mrs. Storie-Pugh the best of good fortune for the future.

After a three year tour we also bid farewell to R.S.M. E. Hazlewood. We were extremely lucky in having "Ted" as our R.S.M. and the Battalion were more than lucky to have him to help organise and instruct it.

Looking back over the past three years we feel that the Sergeants' Mess have put up a very good show, but without his assistance it would have been quite a different picture. He has been responsible for making it a good Mess and I would say a Mess fit for the job. We thank him for his loyalty and support. It was a job well done. The Mess wish him and Mrs. Hazlewood good luck and good fortune for the future.

In his place we heartily welcome R.S.M. Charlesworth whom I understand is not new to the ways

of the T.A. We all hope that he and Mrs. Charlesworth will have a very pleasant tour with us.

We welcome yet another permanent staff instructor to "D" Company, the third in a year. W.O. II T. Downes from the 1st East Anglian Regiment. We hope his stay will be a happy one.

Congratulations to Sgt. Robertson, A.C.C. on being awarded the T.A. Efficiency Medal. Who knows we may even get a change of diet now.

HEADQUARTER COMPANY

We were well represented in the Brigade Motor Cycle Trials and would like to congratulate Pte. Harwood on winning this event at the first time of entering.

As usual we had to dash to camp without our Company Commander and Sergeant Major but things seemed to go just as well. Most of the Company carried out Civil Defence Training for which they received an excellent report. Sgt. Pollen qualified "B" on the Instructor's Course.

The Signal Platoon ran a Cadre and finished up in an exercise with the C.D. Rescue Teams. The permanent staff were most impressed by the standard reached by our Signallers.

We enjoyed a successful outing to Blackpool despite losing Cpl. Columbus, L/Cpl. Provins and two young soldiers whom they doubtless led astray. We hear that the railway authorities are still trying to collect the cost of single fares from Blackpool to Millom so we hope that this party will pay up and help reduce the British Railway's huge deficit.

The Recce Platoon demonstration in Christchurch Park was well received. There were some doubts, however, whether our ammunition would last right through Captain Bradford's commentary but all went well or almost all, since Pte. Rush became a real casualty. This was not included in the script.

After completing one week in the Unit Pay Office S/Sgt. Keeble, R.A.P.C. had to go into the North Lonsdale Hospital at Barrow-in-Furness for the removal of his appendix. He returned in time to join us for the return journey home.

Attendances since camp have not reached our average of 75% but it appears that annual holidays and harvesting are mainly responsible.

We were very pleased to see the return of J. O'Keefe whose civilian job has kept him from our midst.

Sgt. Jay and Cpl. Johnson both went and gave assistance to the Cadet Force at the annual camp.

Thanks to the efforts of the detachment plumber and his mates water has been laid on to the Drill Hall.

For the Stowmarket Carnival we managed to put on a Platoon Attack Demonstration which acted as a dress rehearsal for the Battalion display at the Ipswich Tattoo. Thanks to the support of Sgt. Garrod and his explosives a touch of realism was apparent, but we have some qualms should he be asked to simulate an atomic explosion on a future occasion.

"A" COMPANY

Company Commander: Major D. Baldry
2 I/C: Capt. J. Baggaley.
C.S.M.: C.S.M. Randall.
C/Sgt.: C/Sgt. Emmerson.
P.S.I.: W.O. II Townley.

Since our last notes we have had our Annual

Camp at Millom, Cumberland. This consisted of Civil Defence Training, but we still found time to have a Company photograph taken and run our Annual Drill Competition. The standard of drill was high and after a close competition it was won by the Corps of Drums Squad under Cpl. Woodbridge.

Since camp we have had our Course results. To C.S.M. Randall with an "A," Sgt. Feary and Sgt. Titmarsh a "B" and L/Cpl. Callaby a possible, congratulations. We now have our own column in the Wisbech Standard under the heading of T.A. Jottings in which we are able to have a story published every week.

Recruiting is still slowly improving. 20 this year up to now.

Our clubs are open for a social evening every Friday at March and Wisbech T.A. Centres. All members and ex-members of the Brigade Group are cordially invited.

Congratulations to Sgt. Randall on his promotion to C.S.M.

Well done "Jungle."

No. 1 Platoon

Lt. Checkley.
Sgt. Titmarsh.

The Company in general, and No. 1 Platoon in particular acquitted itself well during the usual but interesting training at camp.

L/Cpl. Callaby landed a "possible" in Rescue and First Aid. In third place in the instructors' exam was Sgt. Titmarsh. Our recruits did well and Pte. Waterfield was particularly noticeable for his willing help and good spirit. This is a good sign in the platoon and augurs well for the future. Although the weather was disappointing, a party did climb Black Combe, the hump in the ground that seemed always to be shrouded in dark heavy rain clouds. Among the party were Ptes. Holman and Copeland, Boy Ogdan, Cpl. Duke and that devil for punishment, Sgt. Titmarsh.

Recruiting has continued along the right lines since camp, and a cadre of 18 recruits now trains under the watchful eye of Cpl. Rance. We shall be training in the near future for the Battalion patrol competition and we feel we have the right blend of experience and spirit to carry it off.

Finally, there is now one "Clock alarm, platoon commander for the waking of" surplus to requirements.

Corps of Drums

Drum Major: R. Doughty.
Cpl. C. Woodbridge.

After two weeks practice at camp with our colleagues in the Band, the standard of the Corps is slowly improving. Our "young hands" are "coming on" and we have now started to accept outside engagements.

At the moment we are busily practising for the March Trades Fair, where we have three engagements. In September the Company are holding their Annual Rifle Meeting and the Corps of Drums have been asked to entertain families and guests with half an hour flute marches.

We won the Company Drill Competition, the Corps drill squad under Cpl. Woodbridge put on a

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Civil Defence Training at Millom.

The Rescue Squad goes into action. I/Cpl. Rolfe, Cpl. Jones, Cpl. Snare and Pte. Bridge

wonderful show. We are now 21 strong and congratulate our new members on being selected for the Corps.

We send kind regards to the 1st Battalion Drums and hope we shall soon be able to hear their famous steel band.

No. 3 Platoon

Platoon Commander : Lt. Emra.

Platoon Sergeant : Sgt. Feary.

Although many did not relish the idea of a Civil Defence Camp, No. 3 Platoon, as usual, rose to the occasion. Everyone played his full part and in particular Sgt. Randall who came in second in the Instructors' Squad out of the whole Battalion, and Sgt. Feary who obtained 100% in First Aid. This was a really good effort. Cpl. Aggar's team came third in the team competition and lived up to expectations.

One of the highlights of camp was the "A" Company Drill Competition. It was a pity that the parade ground was so slippery, otherwise the platoon might have repeated their success of early June when Cpl. Matthews' squad did so well. However, it was

certainly entertaining to watch, especially Cpl. Agger's gymnastics when he attempted a really smart halt, falling hard on his rear end.

After many years of loyal service to the Company and the Platoon, C.S.M. Jack Chapman has resigned, and he takes with him the affection and best wishes of all at March.

Congratulations to C.S.M. "Jungle" Randall who is again wearing his crown which he had ready polished in his pocket ever since he left the Suffolk Regiment.

Sgt. Feary will be even busier now that he is Platoon Sergeant in addition to being in charge of the bar.

A hearty welcome is extended to all the new recruits.

"B" COMPANY

Company Com. : Major J. R. L. Brashaw.

21/C : Capt. W. H. Keatley.

Platoon Com. : Lt. J. Clements, Cambridge.

Lt. M. D. R. Knight, Newmarket
2/Lt. C. Taylor, Ely.

Since the last issue the main activity of the

Company has been concerned with camp which was spent at the Army School of Civil Defence at Millom in Cumberland. Looking back, all members of the Company agreed that the fortnight's training was well worth while and proved a fitting climax to several months of intensive preparation in a new sphere of activity. Despite the poor weather at Millom, the Company managed to distinguish themselves both on and off the training area. The tug-of-war team was unlucky to be beaten in the final by the Liverpool Scottish, having convincingly defeated the Honourable Artillery Company and the Bedfs. and Herts. teams. The coach trip organised by "B" Company to Blackpool for the week-end turned out to be a great success, with practically half the Battalion wanting to reserve seats on the two coaches. A good time was had by all, the only moan being the expense of the entertainments!

On the academic side, the Commandant of the School of Civil Defence congratulated the Regiment on its excellent results, the marks obtained in the exams at the end of camp were among the best ever obtained by a T.A. Unit. Sgt. P. Brown came top of the Sergeants' and Warrant Officers' cadre with a grade "A" rating—achieved by only a few each year at Millom—Sgt. D. Burch was placed third with a "B" grading. In the first-aid and rescue practical L/Cpl. B. Rolfe obtained maximum marks and Cpls. K. Snare and J. Herriven of the Newmarket Platoon obtained 85%. "B" Company also won the rescue section practical competition, led by Cpl. Latchford of Cambridge Platoon. These achievements, and others, at camp reflect great credit upon the P.S.I. Sgt. R. Garwood and the instructors of the C.D. H.Q. at Cambridge, who gave the men of the Company their basic pre-camp training during the winter evenings.

The chief social event of the period was the Dinner and Dance held at Newmarket which was attended by some ninety members of the Company, their wives and guests—amongst whom were some of the instructors from the Cambridge Civil Defence Headquarters. It was at this dinner that the Company said farewell to Capt. and Mrs. P. Leach and C.S.M. and Mrs. R. Smith; they were presented by Capt. W. H. Keatley with a silver fruit dish and silver cream jug. After the dinner Jack Munns and his trio provided suitable music, a popular feature of the evening being the Twist competition—won by Pte. J. Harris.

Another enjoyable social event was the Company shoot, held this year in fine weather at Barton Range. It was well attended by the men of the Company together with their wives and families, as well as by visitors from the Newmarket British Legion, and Ely and Newmarket Rifle Clubs, and several old comrades. The champion all-round shot of the Company was Cpl. D. Latchford of Cambridge and the best recruit was Pte. P. Faulkes of Newmarket. The rifle event was won by Sgt. P. Beaumont with P.S.I. Sgt. R. Garwood second. The Sten competition was won by Pte. P. Faulkes with Pte. E. Smith of Newmarket second. The L.M.G. event went to Cpl. D. Latchford with Pte. B. Cross a close second. The highlight of the afternoon's events was the falling plate competition in which the T.A. Platoon teams disgraced themselves by not even getting into the semi-finals, the Newmarket British Legion winning the final against Ely Rifle Club.

Another popular event was the Ladies' 22 shoot which was won by Mrs. Latchford with Mrs. Knight second. The numerous prizes were presented by Mrs. Wells—the wife of the Commanding Officer. One prize which caused amusement was a wooden spoon for the rifeman whose score "showed the most room for improvement"—presented to Pte. Thompson.

All training is now being concentrated on the forthcoming Battalion competition. Lt. J. Clements and Sgt. D. Burch have been up at all hours of the night on Kelling Heath practising their patrols in the art of night combat, including unarmed combat! The week-end spent at Kelling Heath on the Norfolk coast was one of the best spent on outdoor practical training, during the patrol rehearsal the Commanding Officer and Adjutant paid a surprise visit, even surprising an "ambush" laid by Sgt. Taylor. Pte. B. Holder was seen to disappear down a deep hole only to be saved by his rifle becoming wedged at the brim of the cavern.

Finally congratulations to the Company Commander Major "Bob" Brashaw and his wife on the birth of their son, also to Lt. "Mike" Knight and his wife on the birth of their son (both potential recruits). Congratulations to Pte. "Jock" Irvine on his promotion to Officers' Mess Corporal.

"C" COMPANY

In the last issue of the Gazette we reported the death of an old member of the Company. This time we have to report the death, under tragic circumstances, of a very young member of the Company—23883624 Pte. J. Waterfield, who died in hospital on the 20th August from injuries received when he fell from his motor-cycle two days previously. Jimmy Waterfield, who was eighteen, joined the Company only last October and was one of those quiet lads who loved the T.A. and was popular with all ranks. We offer our deepest sympathy to his family to whom his death was such a tragic shock. The Company was represented at the memorial service by C.S.M. Smith, Cpl. Pye, Cpl. Humpries, Pte. Chandler G., Pte. Brinded J. and Pte. Emmerson J.

Annual camp this year at Millom found the Company at almost full strength for the whole period and, as usual, was the strongest rifle Company on parade. Many caustic remarks are passed about the attendance at weekend training by the Company but at Annual Camp we can always be relied upon to be at almost full strength for the whole period. The Company Commander was unfortunately unable to attend camp this year due to an increase in the family choosing the camp period to enter this world. (Is this why the dates for next year's camp have already been announced?) His place was ably filled by Lieut. C. J. Wright whom we welcome back to the Company. During the middle weekend of camp the Company organised its usual outing and this year 49 members packed into one coach and went off to Blackpool for two days. Unfortunately the weather wasn't too kind to us with rain on the Saturday evening and gale force winds on Sunday but, in spite of this and the high prices that prevailed, most members managed to enjoy themselves. The highlight of camp this year must surely have been the presentation of the T.A. medal to Sgt. Roberts (A.C.C.). This was a presentation worth coming many miles to see. For three days prior to the parade the cookhouse suffered whilst the cooks

went to town on Bob. They showed him how to fasten a belt round his portly waist, encase his poor old feet in issued boots (believed borrowed for the occasion) and put his anklets on the correct ankles. They marched him up and down the barrack room for endless hours saluting Pte. Charlie Keeley who acted as C.O. The final result was a credit to the A.C.C. and is recorded in the Company cine film library for posterity.

During camp the C.S.M. did acting R.S.M. and appears to have spent most of his time putting the Orderly Room in order, the O.R.Q.M.S. in particular! His efforts have since borne fruit as it is noticed they have been able to dispense with the services of that maid of all work, Sgt. Lawson. It is also believed that George had to have an extra week's leave to recover on his return from camp.

Since camp training has been at a standstill due to the many annual holidays. However, we have managed to organise our teams for the Inter Company competitions due to take place at Stanford P.T.A. at the end of September and these have been putting in some quiet practice on the commons surrounding Leiston—to the discomfort of the many courting couples who also use the commons to practice camouflage and concealment. At Woodbridge Sgt. Les Brook has organised a full team to represent the Battalion in First Aid.

We welcome three more recruits at Leiston, Ptes. Butler, Bailey and Leverett and one at Woodbridge, Pte. Cattermole who joined as soon as he had completed his reserve obligations with the Regular Army. We have lost Pte. Childs to the Regular Army and we understand that we are shortly to lose Pte. Chandler to the same source. Our best wishes go with both of them.

Our new T.A. Centre continues to grow apace. Already the steel roof girders have been put into place and we expect the roof to be on within the next month. We hold hopes of being in occupation by Christmas or shortly after. It is certainly a magnificent building.

We congratulate L/Cpl. Cornish and Pte. Jones on their being accepted for the "Ever Readies" and both are looking forward to receiving their cheques for £150. We hear that both are now expecting an increase in the family. Surely a recruiting gimmick here somewhere.

We also hear that we shall shortly be losing Cpl. Bill Humpries who is moving to Norwich where we understand that he will apply to join the R. Norfolk. We can offer only one small piece of advice if they accept him—please ensure that all your No. 4 rifles are concentrated in one T.A. Centre because Bill likes to try the lot.

And finally a new craze. Our illustrious C/Sgt. Lenny Spall is collecting used car tax forms. They must be expensive items as we understand the last one he put on display cost him £13. The police said it was a rare item.

9 Platoon

News for this episode is mainly of camp which we feel was a most satisfactory one and quite a change from Infantry Training. It seems that we made a good name for ourselves as rescue sections, our Platoon Sergeant obtaining a "B" certificate and all the sections passing their tests with very good recommendations.

One thing conspicuous by its absence was the sight of our C.S.M. being lowered from the heights of the training sites. Was it because he has not got full confidence of his men?

We would like to ask the C.Q.M.S. how he escaped getting bedsores for we are quite sure the medical profession would like to know the secret.

Spud Murphy was seen to be strutting around with two stripes on his arms. Congratulations Spud on your (dry) promotion. May all your troubles be little Corporals.

What a splendid show our Cook Sergeant put up on the presentation parade at camp on the occasion of his receiving his T.A. medal awarded for twelve years service without anyone being killed in action eating Army food prepared by Sgt. Roberts.

The Platoon sends its congratulations to the Company Commander and Mrs. Kemp on the latest addition to their family which was an event big enough to allow him to miss camp.

12 Platoon (Woodbridge)

Camp is over for another year and news already with us of the venue of next year's camp. No tiring train journey next year. Camp at Millom went very well and we all agree that the training will stand us in good stead even in civvy life and hope that we do not have to put it into practice in the real thing.

We wish our Platoon Commander, Lieut. Castell, a speedy recovery and hope to see more of him in the future. We are wondering what really did happen to him in London.

Yet another boxer in the platoon. Congratulations to Pte. Cattermole on winning the Eastern Area British Railways title by a knockout in the first round. Also congratulations to Pte. Price in going so far in the finals of the T.A. Boxing Championships.

The Platoon is now busy training a First Aid Team to represent the Battalion in the Brigade competitions in October and hope to retain the cup we won last year.

"D" COMPANY

It should be easy to look back at the annual camp and write a vivid and exciting account of it, but judging by the stories of certain members at the bar, it seems that your correspondent missed most of the highlights. He did not see the look of horror on Bert Richardson's face as he crawled out of the smoke tunnel. He did not see Micky Adams and Billy Baxter having their daily medicine of Milk in the canteen. Neither, alas, did he see the smashing bit of stuff in Millom; ask young Peter Clarke. A more detailed account of camp will be recorded later.

Prior to camp much of our time was taken up training for the Gadd Trophy and canoe building. We managed to build 4 canoes under our "Bosun" Sgt. R. Daines. The Press gave us a very good write up when we tried the canoes out at Oulton Broad. Our aim is to cross the channel but we have a long way to go before we can attempt that. However we have made great strides in our canoe section and I am sure it is here to stay.

The results of the "Gadd Trophy" were somewhat disappointing. Our attendance was poor and the result was that our teams were short and consequently suffered in points total; special mention must go to L/Cpl. Burgess and his section who got top marks in the section attack, also to all teams to get such

There's always something new

at . . .

Joshua Taylor

CITY CENTRE CAMBRIDGE

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high marks in "First Aid," the best in the Battalion. We dropped on weapon training and map reading but all round, with the numbers available, we gave a good account of ourselves. Who was the "soldier" who turned up at the "Gadd Trophy" weekend with "Baby Doll" Pyjamas (pink) ??? Ask K.B.

By far the most important event of the quarter was the annual camp, held this year at the Army Civil Defence School, Cumberland from 16th June to 30th June. The object of this camp was to train members in the technique of rescue from damaged buildings so that in the event of a nuclear attack on Great Britain the Territorial Army would be trained and ready to assist the Civil Defence Corps in the rescue and evacuation of the public in the damaged area. The school which has been in operation for seven years was fully equipped for this type of training, including a large area of damaged buildings—referred to in the press as "The Million Pound Monstrosity."

Four officers and 76 rank and file attended and the camp was a great success, the main reason for this was an interesting detailed programme of training and a well administered camp run by the Civil Defence School. The instructors were first class and nobody on the course could fail to benefit from it in some measure. The Company came through its training with flying colours, the Regiment came out top of four Regiments, a very creditable achievement. The Company played a great part in bringing this success about. We had the best section in the Regiment winning the C.O.'s prize of £3. This section was led by none other than Pte. K. Thwaites who, incidentally was rated as one of the best men on the course, for his outstanding achievement Pte. K. Thwaites was promoted to L/Cpl. forthwith. Well done L/Cpl. Thwaites, it was a job well done. The winning section contained no less than 7 men from this Company out of a total of nine. All this success in Civil Defence reflects a great deal on our old friend C.S.M. Bill Jones whose winter training paid such handsome dividends. Camp had its other highlights and the weekend was spent in various ways, by far the most successful was the weekend camp at "Coniston Waters" a delightful spot at the foot of some interesting hills, it was to many of the Company a great change from their rather flat and featureless homeland. Our "Bosun" Sgt. R. Daines and Sgt. "Bomber" Harris organised this weekend camp and what with canoeing, hill climbing and camping out they had a very successful weekend.

A coach trip was arranged by "B" Company to go to Blackpool. Some of our livelier lads were well to the fore on this and according to all accounts a good time was had by all. Other members of the Company made their way to the Lake District which was just a few miles away and were rewarded with some marvellous scenery.

The second week of camp saw an influx of 32 additional members who had come for one week only. They very soon adapted themselves to camp routine and enjoyed their short stay.

Since returning from camp we have carried out training at most weekends under the expert guidance of Lieutenants Catchpole and Coates. On August the 18th/19th we carried out a very successful Company Rifle Meeting at Pakefield Range. On Saturday, after an afternoon's shooting, a coach party was arranged for the members and families to be taken to Yarmouth to see "The Harry Secombe Show."

This proved to be a very enjoyable evening out. On Sunday we completed the Rifle Meeting under perfect conditions, for it turned out to be a wonderful day. Many of the families turned up and what with novelty races for the children and shooting for the wives we all had a very enjoyable day. The meeting closed with the presentation of the prizes, very kindly undertaken by Mrs. Coates. The results of the meeting were as follows:—

Individual

John Lawrie Trophy—1st C/Sgt. P. Bland
2nd W.O. H T. Downes (P.S.I.)
3rd Sgt. G. Reynolds.

Champion Officer/Sgt.—C/Sgt P. Bland.

Champion Cpl.—L/Cpl. Thwaites.

Champion Private—Pte. P. Cutter.

Champion Young Soldier—L/Cpl. Burgess.

Volongis L.M.G. Pairs—1st Sgt. Golder
L/Cpl. Burgess
2nd L/Cpl. Thwaites
Pte. Crisp J. R.

China Cup—1st Mortar Platoon

All Rounder Trophy—1st A/Tank Platoon
2nd Mortar Platoon

Pool Bull—Winner Sgt. R. Daines

Army Cadet Invitation Shoot—
1st L/Bdr. Reid
2nd Cadet Collins
3rd Sgt. Miller

On Thursday 23rd August the Company entered a Viking Ship in the Lowestoft Carnival. The members who took part are congratulated on their magnificent efforts. They secured a "Highly Commended."

The Company are now busy at weekends training up for the forthcoming Brigade Competitions which are being held at Stanford P.T.A. on 6/7th October.

Once again we welcome yet another P.S.I. to the Company, W.O. H T. Downes from the 1st East Anglian Regiment. We hope he and Mrs. Downes will have a pleasant tour with us.

To sum up Delta Company goes from strength to strength, the dull monotony of life does not exist for us. Canoeing, adventure training, recreation are ours. Why not join us?

CAMBRIDGESHIRE A.C.F. CAMP AT BRECON

For those who dwell in a flat county and do not normally get their feet much above sea-level, the chance of camping in Wales is something to be made the most of. Accordingly, the camp programme for Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely A.C.F. Brigade was designed to present a tough physical challenge to all ranks and an administrative challenge to Officers, S.I.s and Cadet N.C.O.s.

Preparation began at Easter with an advanced leadership course of 10 days, when selected Cadets were trained on Brecon Beacons and in the Black Mountains as "mountain guides" in readiness for the July camp. Fortunately, this course took place in extremely trying weather conditions, and the selected "guides" were therefore accustomed to working in low cloud and were entirely competent.

The programme was given an "operational setting" to ensure interest and enthusiasm, and the

Brigade was required to hunt an old enemy, the Chinese General *Wun Long Sin* and a bunch of paratroops who had misguidedly attempted to liberate the oppressed Welsh and convert their chapels into pagodas. In June, each Platoon had its copy of the General Narrative, Intelligence Summary, Mission and equipment and ration scales.

An A.C.F. annual camp is very short, and no time can be wasted in "settling in." Each of the Cambridgeshire A.C.F. Battalions was therefore required to have its basic organisation completed prior to camp and to be prepared to move out at 24 hours' notice after de-training, shedding its untrained personnel who would remain in camp for special training in Recruit Platoons.

The troop train pulled in to Brecon late on the evening of Saturday 28th July. On the Sunday, each Battalion received its transport and allocated each Platoon its truck, equipment, dry rations, POL and water, fitted webbing and prepared for action. Early on Monday, 4th Battalion left camp to cross the Beacons by three routes, climbing some 2500 feet and covering 9 miles, while the Platoon trucks and the Battalion H.Q. transport went round by road to establish the first night bivouac camps. East section carried rifles and light battle order, and one section of each Platoon was roped to traverse the foot wide sheep-track round the cliffs of The Cribyn Peak. There was low cloud, driving rain and a high wind above the 2000 foot level and the Cadet "mountain guides" had their work cut out and had to rely on their compasses. Visibility grew worse and was down to about 20 yards, so that some sections took 6 hours to cross the mountain range. All, however, came down safely, soaked to the skin, flaked out but extremely proud of themselves.

All Platoons then moved into bivouac areas for the night and cooked their evening meal. They were very pleasantly surprised to receive a visit from the Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire and Major-General J. R. C. Hamilton, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O. who had come down to see how they had measured up to this challenge. On the following day, 4th Battalion cleared its camps and moved over to Cwm Gwdi where it had the task of launching a company attack up a valley to about 1500 feet to dislodge enemy posts and clear the heights. In the meanwhile, 3rd Battalion set out to carry through a similar climb over the Beacons eventually occupying the bivouac areas vacated that morning by 4th Battalion. On the completion of the Cwm Gwdi mission 4th Battalion moved to second night bivouac camps in the Tal-y-Bont area.

On the Wednesday, 4th Battalion returned to camp, partly by march route and partly in Brigade pool transport, while 3rd Battalion moved across country to carry out the Cwm Gwdi exercise, on the completion of which they too moved to the Tal-y-Bont bivouac sites for the night. On the Thursday afternoon, the mission completed, the Brigade was lifted in to Barry for recreation.

For the whole of the first four days of camp the D.S., Guide and Enemy Group lived out on the mountain in a convenient bivouac camp near the 1000 foot level. This Group was led by two attached T.A. officers and was composed of Brecon-trained Cadets and other T.A. officers and other ranks. Part of their job was to test out the security measures of the Platoon bivouac camps, and this they did by descending from champs at all hours and creating

havoc. Their job was enlightened by the creation of a Brigade H.Q. Fighting Group which set out to hunt the hunters.

The A.F.C. Brigadier A. E. Harding, O.B.E., M.C., E.R.D. came down to judge the inter Battalion Drill Competition and present the annual awards and prizes. The 1st East Anglian Regiment's Field Training Shield was awarded to 4th (C.) Bn. The Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment by a narrow margin.

By a strange inversion, we had a C.C.F. Unit — Wanstead High School—under us for administration in camp. The marriage was a happy one—they took their proper share of Brigade duties and fatigues and were content to abide by our Standing Orders. They were full of enthusiasm about our Messes and the way in which they were welcomed and looked after. We, on our part, made new friends and broadened our outlook. That was worthwhile.

Before marching back to the troop train, each Battalion did a bit of square-bashing. It was illuminating to see how a sense of achievement had made them all intensely smart and proud.

Five ex-Cadets from Junior Leaders Units and Apprentice Schools attended the camp. This, as always, proved to be a great success.



THE 1st EAST ANGLIAN REGIMENT (Royal Norfolk and Suffolk) PAST AND PRESENT ASSOCIATION

The St. Leger Sweepstake, 1962

Donations and sales of tickets for the second of our annual sweepstakes brought in over £355. The draw was made at Regimental Headquarters by Mr. Bertie Bartram and his wife. Mr. Bartram has occupied one of the Royal Norfolk Regiment's Memorial Cottages at Norwich for over 40 years.

The principal prize winners were :—

- 1st—Mr. A. W. Bishop, 218 Heigham Street, Norwich, £25.
- 2nd—Mr. G. Nicholls, Hall Road, Martham, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, £10.
- 3rd—Mr. L. Lummas, 10 Long Thurlow, Badwell Ash, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, £5.
- 14 others who drew horses each received £1.

After deducting the prize money, £54, and expenses for postage and printing amounting to £33/0/9 the sum of £268 is available to assist in the benevolent work of the Past and Present Association.

NORFOLK SECTION

President : Brig. F. P. Barclay, D.S.O., M.C., D.L.
Secretary : Major W. G. Cripps.

Headquarters :

Britannia Barracks, Norwich, Norfolk. NOR 67A.

Dates to Remember, 1963—

Jan. 4th : Regimental Ball at Norwich.

June 9th : London Branch will place a wreath on the Cenotaph in Whitehall.

July 13th : Provisional date for the Summer Reunion at Norwich. This is subject to cancellation should the presentation of New Colours to the 1st Battalion take place during the summer of 1963.

Sept. 28th : Reunion Dinner at Norwich.

Oct. 12th : Memorial Service to Nurse Edith Cavell at Life's Green, Norwich Cathedral.

Oct. 25th : King's Lynn Branch Dinner.

Nov. 8th : London Branch will plant poppies in the Field of Remembrance.

Nov. 11th : Remembrance Service at the Regimental Memorial Cottages, Norwich.

Legacy

The late Major-General H. P. M. Berney-Ficklin, Colonel of the Regiment 1946—47, and who died in February 1961, bequeathed a legacy of £100 to the Regimental Association.

Presentation of Colours to 4th Battalion

The Royal Norfolk Regiment

Although full and very well deserved cover has already been given to this important event we should appear ungrateful if we did not record our sincere thanks to the Commanding Officer and all ranks of the 4th Battalion for so generously allotting us 200 tickets for this ceremony. Of course, we would have liked many more tickets, but we are satisfied that in all the circumstances we had much more than a fair proportion.

Invitations to attend were extended to all our Branches and to the Old Comrades Associations affiliated to the Royal Norfolk Regiment and, needless to say, all were accepted. Our Chelsea Pensioners tenants of the Regimental Memorial Cottages and a number of those who were on parade when the old Colours were presented to 4th Battalion Norfolk Regiment in 1909 were also invited.

After the imposing ceremony was over H.R.H. Princess Margaret walked down the ranks of former members of the Regiment and spoke to a large number of them who were introduced by Major W. G. Cripps. All of those present were honoured by Her Royal Highness's great interest and gracious kindness in spending so much time among them during what must have been a very long and busy day.

The Regimental Association 40th Anniversary

The last Saturday in September is given over every year to a Reunion Dinner in Britannia Barracks. This year's function had a special significance since it marked the 40th Anniversary of the formation of the Regimental Association. Founded by the late General Sir Peter Strickland, the Association set out to foster esprit de corps and the spirit of comradeship among former members and to see that those in need, their widows and children, were provided with necessary assistance when required.

The attendance of more than 300 at this year's dinner, which included a number of "founder" members, is ample proof, if this be needed, that the spirit of comradeship is strongly established. The support of our members for the many regimental activities shows that there has been no cooling off in esprit de corps.

The response to the recent appeal for the Regimental Chapel Fund and the support given to the sweepstakes in aid of the Benevolent Fund are striking examples of the desire of former members to make it known that their help is something which can be relied upon. In the matter of relieving distress the Association has a proud record of having dealt with an average of about 200 cases each year. It is estimated that something approaching £25,000 has been disbursed in assisting those in need since the Association was formed. It is not claimed that adequate help has been given in every case—funds do not permit of this—but sympathetic consideration has been accorded to every genuine application.

We feel we are entitled to claim for the Regimental Association that it has carried out the tasks given to it forty years ago. This has not been achieved by successive secretaries and committees alone but by the combined efforts and support of all members. Long may this continue and the Association flourish.

Regimental Association Benevolent Fund

The care of former members of the Regiment, their widows and children, who are in need of help has again received a good deal of attention during the past year and a half. 187 grants were made out of 254 applications received. The total amount paid out in grants and loans amounted to £1,145. Repayment of loans amounted to £90 and at the close of the period only £4 remained unpaid out of all loans made.

A grant of £300 from the Army Benevolent Fund and £143, our share of the profits of the Regimental Sweepstake helped considerably. We are deeply indebted to Major J. G. Steward for a generous donation of £30 received through the Trustees of the Greene Trust.

The accounts of the Benevolent Fund for 18 months ended 30th June, 1962 are published below :

	£	s.	d.
Expenditure			
To Grants and Loans	1145	7	10
Administration Expenses:—			
Proportion of Secretarial Expenses	1	3	0
Printing and Stationery	18	19	2
Postage and Telephone	25	11	9
Sundries	21	7	8
Share—Transfer Expenses	5	4	4
		71	15 11
			<hr/>
Total	£1217	3	9

	£	s.	d.
Income			
By Interest and Dividends:—			
5% Defence Bonds	15	15	7
5% Norwich Corporation	9	3	9
5½% ditto	1	12	2
5½% ditto	1	15	2
3½% Treasury Stock	49	4	11
3½% Funding Stock	52	10	0
4½% Brit. Electy. Stock	53	2	6
Combined Charitable Fund	437	10	11
		620	15 0

Grants :—

Army Benevolent Fund ...	300	0	0
1st East Anglian Regiment Sweepstake ...	143	6	2
			443 6 2
Donation—Greene Settlement Trust ...		30	0 0
3½% War Stock—1st Battalion ...		22	7 0
Refund Income Tax ...		9	15 6
Refund Loans ...		90	0 0
Excess of Expenditure over Income ...		1	0 1
			Total £1217 3 9

Accumulated Funds

Balance brought forward ...	£237	7	7
Excess of Expenditure over Income ...		1	0 1
Balance carried forward ...	£236	7	6

The accounts were audited by Messrs. Harper-Smith and Moore of Norwich.

Regimental Museum

Lt.-Col. A. L. Hadow has presented to the Museum a number of most interesting mementoes of his service in Tibet during 1903 when he was in command of the Maxim Gun Detachment of the 1st Battalion. This collection is housed in a newly made showcase and makes a notable addition to the Museum.

Overloon War Cemetery

C.S.M. A. Jordan now with the King's Lynn Company of the 4th Battalion recently visited this cemetery and tells us that the graves were wonderfully well kept and red roses were everywhere to be seen. C.S.M. Jordan was informed that the local Dutch schoolchildren take part in tending the graves.

Members of the Regiment buried in this cemetery are :—

Major A. G. Ellis, Cpl. Reynolds, L. J. L., Pte. Ormand H., L/Cpl. Drake A., Pte. Tull R. A. E., Pte. Mann G., Pte. Hensby J. T., Pte. Cromack P. G., Pte. Kenyon C., Pte. Johnson E. (14669135), C.S.M. Brown L. W., L/Cpl. Moore C. L. D., Pte. Cleary J., Pte. Halls A. W., Pte. Wilkinson R., Pte. Anger B. C., Pte. Hort E. C., Pte. Crofton W. W., Pte. Somerford W. G., Cpl. Parkinson F. C., L/Cpl. Stork W. C., Pte. Grundy G., Pte. Seymour K., Pte. Gorbell H., Pte. Jordan A. L., Pte. Vaughan T. A., Pte. Gower E. G., Pte. Johnson E. (5771243).

LONDON BRANCH

From the Secretary, Mr. S. A. Tuck

All too soon the dark evenings have come upon us and we have time to reflect on our summer outings and reunions.

The Royal Albert Hall was the scene of the Burma Reunion, where the entertainment was again first class but everyone sincerely missed Vera Lynn. Our box was once more overflowing with ex-2nd Battalion Burma-ites, namely J. Cussack, B. E. Deering, A. Kibble, B. Macrae, Capt. H. McLean, J. Tremlin, H. Cornforth, J. Scotcher, H. Arkhill, Capt. M. J. Frances, and S. A. Tuck. Later we were joined by G. Hall, W. Street, A. Richard, W. Essex,

J. Tyrrel, B. Coates, J. Lamb and T. Whitehead. It was heartening to see so many old faces again.

Owing to business I was unable to be present at the Cenotaph Parade in June, Mr. G. Burns has written an account of the parade. The number of members attending was so very small that it has caused an uproar in the London branch. May I remind readers that this parade in London is for the Association as a whole and not just a London Branch responsibility. Suggestions of how an increase in attendance can be made would be welcomed.

I do sincerely hope that all of you will do your very best to support the Association in the coming year.

Cenotaph Parade

Members of the Regiment, past and present, together with their ladies, assembled at Horse Guards Parade on Sunday 3rd June to represent the Regimental Association at this annual ceremony to commemorate those of our comrades who fell during two World Wars and in Korea. As is usual on this occasion, we were overshadowed by the parade of the Southern Irish Regiments, who muster around about 200 and have a pipe band. However, although we were small in numbers—a total of 29 members turned up—we made our little splash quite effectively. Mr. W. Street once more took on the job of parade marshal. The parade was inspected by Brig. F. P. Barclay, D.S.O., M.C., before moving off. We then marched through the Horse Guards Arch into Whitehall and on to the Cenotaph. The banner was again carried by Mr. J. Shackles. The wreath was carried by Messrs. A. Potter and A. Lazell, and was placed on the Cenotaph by Lt.-Col. E. W. Montgomerie, M.C., on behalf of the Regimental Association.

After the usual few minutes silence we marched back to Horse Guards Avenue and dismissed to a room over a local hostelry where members and their ladies heard a few words from Brig. Barclay. Unfortunately the Brigadier, who had travelled up from Norfolk for the ceremony, was suffering from a rather severe cold and could not say very much. He did, however, manage to say how pleased he was to be with us again and, although the numbers in attendance were small, he thanked us for our support. He also stressed the importance of this function and pointed out that it was imperative that we should keep it "alive." He thought we should all do our utmost to persuade any other members we knew to come along next year.

The officers of the London Branch, who work very hard to put this parade on for the Regimental Association were very disappointed at the lack of support. The least the members can do to show their appreciation of the efforts of the London Branch officers is to give their support and help make the parade a success. It is after all, only one day in a year and the whole thing is over in less than an hour. Are we asking too much of members? One hour in a year in which to pay homage to those of our comrades who gave their lives that we might continue to enjoy the ideals and freedom they fought and died for. Think it over members and keep a date for the second Sunday in June of 1963.

Founders' Day, Royal Hospital Chelsea

From Captain S. J. Cozens

This day is still kept up by the Chelsea Pensioners in commemoration of the anniversary of King

Charles II's restoration to the throne, when he entered London in triumph on the 29th May 1660.

The anniversary of this historic occasion, popularly known as Oak Apple Day, was observed as a national festival but has faded out long since except at the Royal Hospital where it has been kept up uninterruptedly since its opening in 1692.

On this occasion the King's statue is decorated with oak leaves in memory of his escape after the Battle of Worcester when he hid from his pursuers in an oak tree.

Each year the Royal Norfolk Regiment Association gets a few tickets for members to attend. Although I have been a member of the association since starting the London Branch in 1922 this is the first opportunity I was really free and so I secured 2 tickets for myself and son.

The day was a very sunny one and because of that and also because Her Royal Majesty the Queen was inspecting the Pensioners and taking the salute at the March Past, there was a tremendous crowd present. The square was packed with visitors who also occupied every window in the long wards which overlook the Parade Ground. There must have been 5,000—6,000 visitors.

The In-Pensioners were formed up at 10-30 a.m. by companies on three sides of the Figure Court (Square). Those who could march were in two ranks and those who could not sat in chairs behind their respective Companies. After inspection by their Captains of Invalids they were stood at ease.

At 11 a.m. Her Majesty arrived and was greeted with the National Anthem and a Royal Salute. Inspection of the ranks followed, Her Majesty inspected all the Companies in turn including those sitting behind who were not capable of marching.

After the inspection the In-Pensioners marched past by Companies to the tune "Boys of the Old Brigade" and reformed opposite the saluting point.

Her Majesty then addressed the Parade commenting on their smart turn out and how pleased she was to be present on this occasion. The Governor responded—saying how pleased all ranks were to see the Queen. He went on to say that it was 17 years ago since Her Majesty did the last inspection, when she was Princess Elizabeth. The Governor also thanked all those who had so splendidly responded with donations this year, completing his speech by thanking most sincerely the splendid work done voluntarily by the nurses and staff of the Red Cross Society. He then called for three cheers for King Charles II their pious Founder followed by three cheers for Her Majesty the Queen. The National Anthem was then played and the parade dismissed.

I had hoped to meet the five Royal Norfolk inmates at present residing at the hospital, unfortunately I only ran into T. Lawrence who said he would pass on my best wishes to the others.

I think it is a wonderful place for old soldiers. They have everything on the spot, good home, good food, every kind of recreation and very good attention when they are sick.

At present there are 406 in-pensioners, the oldest 97 and the youngest 61. Average age 77. They include survivors of practically all the campaigns from Egypt 1882 to World Wars 1 and 2. 369 were

engaged in World War 1 and 107 in World War 2. Medals galore, the D.S.O., Military Cross, British Empire Medal, Distinguished Conduct Medal, Military Medal, Meritorious Service Medal and 243 Long Service and Good Conduct Medals.

I would like to close by saying that I think it is a wonderful show and well worth a visit.

SUFFOLK SECTION

Beyond The Gates

Since the last issue of the Journal the ranks of old timers has been sadly depleted, as will be noted elsewhere.

Among the many who have passed over were Colonel Jackie Hill and Captain George Parker, both so well known to all ranks of the Regiment, also David Plume who was groundsman at the Depot for many years, and later caretaker at the Co-op Hall. The greatest shock was the death of Major Wigginton at such an early age.

As Adjutant at the Depot he became a well known figure on his early morning rides up the Newmarket Road.

Having been transferred to other fields it is difficult to keep track of visitors these days, however I did meet ex-C.S.M. "Salty" Smith on his way out to "civvy street," I understand he has a bungalow in the country and a good job so our congratulations on having completed an unblemished service of undetected crime.

Strange to say the next visitor the same day was his co-pilot "Josu" Pratt, on his way to join the 1st Battalion abroad; we hope to see him on his return.

Major Deller called in, in his usual hurry, also ex-C.S.M. Copeman, who spoke of meeting Major Alec Greef recently.

A knock at my door one Saturday morning produced strange results. The caller was ex-L/Cpl. Cossey of Blackdown days. He was looking for ex-C.Q.M.S. "Tommy Nunn," who unfortunately passed away last year; naturally we recognised each other even after so many years and over a cup of tea ran over the events of the last twenty years. Bob is now storekeeper to one of the P. & O. boats plying to and from Singapore.

Through the medium of the Journal we were able to put him in contact with Harry Glibbery and ex-R.S.M. Fossey who had not met for many years.

To swell the ranks of old timers comes ex-W.O. II Harry Ward, Royal Norfolks. Harry never served in the Suffolk Regiment, but he will be known to all the old Mess of Aliki Camp in Greece, where he introduced so many of us to the "W.O.'s and Joes" Club in Athens.

Harry has joined the Q.M.'s Staff at the Brigade Depot and apparently gives it the boost it needed.

From India comes the news that ex-L/Cpl. Noy won a cup in the all India Police Rifle Meeting. open to ex-W.O.s and Sergeants.

Also from America that Jack Allen received his Journal complete with one book of St. Leger Draw Tickets, and sold them.

An apology is due to Donald Dawes who was mentioned in the July number of the Britannia and

Castle as F. Dawes. There can be no excuse for such a mistake after more than 50 years connection with the Regiment. We are very sorry!

I hope the photograph forwarded with London Branch notes is good enough for reproduction as it includes some very well known characters.

Minden Day came and went this year with very little to mark the occasion. I noticed one or two wearing roses in their headdress. One's mind goes back to the old days when Minden Day was a day of celebration where ever Suffolk soldiers were serving.

Time and space being short I must conclude by wishing ex-Suffolks everywhere the best of wishes, and lets have some news.

REUNION 1962

The reunion this year was held in Blenheim Camp after much discussion and alteration of venue.

After a wet start, the day was fine and sunny.

The Church Service at 11 a.m., which was well attended, was conducted by Canon R. C. R. Godfrey, M.A., and in the unavoidable absence of Brigadier R. H. Maxwell, the lesson was read by Brigadier E. H. W. Backhouse.

The Band of 1st East Anglian Regiment played for the service.

Although numbers attending this year appeared smaller than in other years, everyone enjoyed themselves and voted the day a success.

Two Chelsea Pensioners attended, C/Sgt. Smith and Cpl. Kemp, and thanks are due to the members of the Depot Mess who offered to put them up for the weekend also to Mr. Clarke of the Orderly Room Staff who met them at the railway station and conducted them to the Mess.

After the Church Service, the usual groups congregated and managed to be just on time when the bar, managed as usual by ex-Sgt. Mary Gilbert, opened.

It wasn't long before the usual "do you remember" yarns got going and at lunch time it was a job to get certain individuals to partake.



London Branch of the Suffolk Section

L. to R. : Messrs. Ellerby, Moulding and Gilbert, Mrs. Flynn, Messrs. Webb, Cooper, Haddow and Mumble. Seated : Mr. Yarham

The Yarham Gang wanted to have lunch and tea together.

Among several newcomers this year was ex-Band Sergeant Jim Upson, who had come up from St. Austell.

The catering was in the hands of Messrs. Roff of Cambridge and the two meals were very much enjoyed.

It is very sad to know that three Old Comrades who attended the reunion have since passed away.

Although we know that next year's reunion will not be held in Gibraltar Barracks we can only hope that it will be as successful as this year.

LONDON BRANCH

The summer weather that so many of us have long awaited has not yet arrived but the time to forward Gazette News has—so here goes.

I must of course begin with the visit of Ipswich Branch on 26th May. It was a great success and very well attended. All members of the Ipswich Branch were in great form. I don't suppose that the form of the members of the London Branch can be overlooked either. Anyway "Shoey" and Sammy are always on form and never need any persuading to partake of a large or small amount of tonsil lubricant.

It appears that at this get together throats were very dry and therefore needed a large amount of the said lubricant; I am very pleased to say that the supply of lubricant was more than sufficient and, I'm sure, greatly enjoyed by all.

It was indeed a pleasure to see once again, on our own ground, the smiling faces of old Friends like "Taffy" Williams, "Barney" Wyartt, Jack Barber and, I most regretfully have to say, that of the late George Parker.

Here I would like to take the opportunity of expressing the sincere regrets of all members of the London Branch at the news of the sad and very unexpected deaths of Lt.-Col. Jackie Hill and Capt. George Parker.

It was indeed a great shock to all of us and I am sure to all who knew them. Both of them were well known characters of the Regiment; well liked, most popular and well respected. I was talking to both of them at the Annual Reunion on 29th July and could hardly believe the so very sad news.

While our meetings go on they will never be forgotten.

I would like to offer the condolences of this Branch to all relatives and sincere good wishes for the future.

The Annual Reunion at Bury St. Edmunds was not I'm afraid very well attended. I must say I thoroughly enjoyed it and so did Bill Barrett.

I think the person who enjoyed it most was Mrs. Flynn who told me that she wouldn't have missed it for all the tea in China, what happy and nostalgic memories it brought back to her! Let us assure you Mrs. Flynn that the happy look in your eyes and on your face was a pleasure to behold. You looked about 25 years old and I bet you felt as young too! Anyway I'm looking forward to another visit in 1963, when you'll be 26!

Another memory of 29th July that stands out in my mind was standing in the garden of Major and

Mrs. Stan Chandler. It was after a light shower and the smell of the damp earth mingled with that of the flowers was something I think I'll always remember. What a contrast as I glance out of the window whilst writing this news in North Yonder! Anyway Stan congratulations on your beautiful garden and I might add that I have great admiration for your efforts; but believe me the effect was certainly worth (to me anyway) all your efforts.

Mrs. Flynn, Bill Barrett and myself would like to take this opportunity of thanking Mrs. Chandler for her wonderful hospitality. Also there was never a dull moment in the company of her and her sister Maud. Our very kind regards and best wishes are offered to all three of you.

We appreciated your visit to our Branch on 15th September and only hoped you enjoyed it. Short and sweet.

Judging by the huge smile on the face of Bob Robinson I would say that he enjoyed himself immensely at the Annual Reunion. It must have brought back many happy memories to his wife Joan (Drew). I'm sure I don't have to tell you how welcome you are at our meetings.

It was very pleasing to see "Busty" Tyler and his charming wife at our meeting on 1st September.

"Busty" hasn't altered at all; he provided us all with a good laugh with his dry brand of humour and "You meet some funny people around here." Anyway "Busty" keep attending our meetings as you certainly are a tonic and exceedingly good company.

I think a number of our members forgot about this meeting but our old stalwarts Jack Cadman, "Pony" Moore and Albert Chapman hadn't forgotten, and by the looks of things to come Mrs. Flynn is all out for the L.S. and G.C. Medal.

Conspicuous by his absence at this meeting was "Shoey" Yarham, but I have no doubt that he never went short of the old tonsil lubricant. Bill North of course is "Old Faithful" and was well to the fore. Bert Lavender and Bill Goodson spent a quiet couple of hours with us and said that next time they hope to be accompanied by "Dolly" Hubbard. The more the merrier.

In conclusion, Burra Salaams to all of you from all of us and if "Happy" Haylook gets shipwrecked again (like he did off Gozo) he can apply to Sammy Shields for financial help as Sammy is collecting all the lolly owed to Shabodeen by various "McEwen" Bashers that I wot of—you heard "Slogger" Leach, "Shady" Burrows, "Mary" Gilbert, "Gimmey" Thorpe, Bob Pallant, etc.

Again Burra Salaams and best wishes to all. H.H.

IPSWICH BRANCH

Since writing the last news, attendances at our meetings have somewhat improved, may be because of better weather, but nevertheless there is still plenty of room in our meeting room for several more! George Mallett a "Trimulgherry Signaller" now serving as C/Sgt. with the T.A. (Suffolk & Cambridgeshire) decided to come with our party to London and also attended the following meeting. That was a good start and now that T.A. and A.C.F. Camps are over we should be pleased to see his face again!—and encourage a few more of his pals (ex-members of the Regiment) to come along too.

The visit to the London Branch was a great success and we eventually arrived at their meeting place with 27 on board the bus. We were greeted by the Secretary (Mr. Harry Haddow) and after introductions (a few here and there were necessary) we were soon at home with the "filthy stuff" and sandwiches! It was grand to see the lads on their own ground and hear the chatter etc. of such notables as Shoey Yarham, Speakman, Pony and Jack, Sammy Shields, Peter Langran Busty, Francis Smith, Pop Weston, Merry Gilbert, "Young Pike" as Jack Tolley would say, and others possibly not quite so well known but whom we were glad to meet. Brigadier Russell, known to quite a few of us was there for a chat. In spite of the fact that the ladies shivered at Bill North's slow motion "Bingo" they enjoyed themselves with antics from Sammy and were really "warmed up" by the time of departure. It was a grand evening and we all enjoyed it and would like to pay our many thanks to those responsible for arranging the meeting under the guidance of their Secretary. Extra Salaams for the lads behind the bar—Well done, London.

An example of comradeship in the service was evidenced by an incident that happened during May. Our meeting on 15th May was blessed with a stranger to those present who, when made known, was ex-Pte. R. Barton (No. 5822239) late of "C" Company, 1st Battalion. Barton lives at Orpington, Kent and decided to come to Ipswich to locate an old pal—ex-Pte. G. Porley. After looking at the directory in the public library he decided to go along to Wherstead Road where some one of that name lived. It turned out to be his pal whom he had not seen for 34 years and had not heard of him for 14 years—that was at a Reunion at Bury St. Edmunds, in 1948. Whilst walking around the town he came across Chesty Barber who told him of the O.C.A. meeting to be held that evening, so he came along. Naturally we were very pleased to see him—an ex-member of the Regiment.

Those of our members who made their own way to the Reunion on 29th July voiced the opinion that although it was grand to see Old Comrades once again the atmosphere was not quite the same as when the Reunion was held in Gibraltar Barracks. One suggested that it was more of a segregation than a Reunion as the Other Ranks were on one side of the Square, the Sergeants on another and the Officers on the far side. If one wished to converse with a friend of another ex-rank one had to walk across the Square to contact him—not quite the "get together" feeling. In the circumstances it is realised that nothing much better could be arranged. Change of environment make a lot of difference to such functions as these Reunions — one wonders what some of the "Old Boys" will have to say when the Reunion is held in the new barracks!

We very much regret to end these notes with the report of the passing on of our President—Captain George Parker—who died at his home on Monday, 6th August. George and his party were at our meeting on the previous Friday. He was his usual gay self, trying to win at "House" and it was a shock to hear that he had passed on so suddenly. George was the Secretary of the Branch from 1949 to 1955. He was elected President in 1961. His pleasant manner will be sadly missed at our meetings. Cremation took place at Ipswich on 9th August and

the following represented the Branch—Major Williams, Messrs. Barnes, Barber, Brame, Barratt, Given, Frost and Wyartt. Ex-Sgt. Harry Bragg, D.C.M., was represented by his daughter, Mrs. Wells. Also present were ex-Captain Phillips and ex-Cpl. Tabert from Cambridge and ex-C.S.M.s Cook and Lynch. Our sympathy goes to Mrs. Parker and the two daughters, well known within the Regiment.

In the local paper recently, an obituary notice was published concerning ex-Cpl. R. Kemp who died suddenly in the Royal Hospital, Chelsea on 27th August. Ex-Cpl. Kemp was a member of our Branch prior to going to the Royal Hospital in 1952.

WISBECH BRANCH

We deeply regret to report the deaths of two of our members.

Our Branch President, ex-6523 Harry Bowers passed peacefully away at his home on the 12th June, 1962. He was 78 years of age.

Harry joined the Suffolk Regiment in 1903 and served with the 2nd Battalion throughout the first World War. He was a staunch member of the Old Comrades Association and rarely missed a Reunion or a Branch Meeting. He had been President of the Wisbech Branch since 1957, during which time he gave us every support. Harry will be sadly missed by us all.

His funeral at Walpole St. Peter was attended by Branch representatives Capt. W. F. Whiting, Mr. and Mrs. R. Hopkins, Mr. E. Coote, Mr. H. Lough-ton and Mr. A. Pritchard.

On 30th July, 1962 at the home of his daughter at March ex-18399 Herbert Goodge passed away after a short illness. He was 82 years of age. He joined The Suffolk Regiment in February 1915 and served throughout the first World War.

His funeral took place at St. Peter's Church, Upwell on the 2nd August, 1962. Herbert had been a member of the Wisbech Branch since 1948 and will be sadly missed. It was regretted that the sad news of his death did not reach us in time to get representatives at the funeral.

We take this opportunity of expressing our sincere condolences to the families of both of our Old Comrades.

MILDENHALL & DISTRICT BRANCH

Although our Branch has not been quite so active during the summer months, our weekly bingo sessions have been carried on and our Branch Benevolent Fund is benefitting from the proceeds.

From this fund we are able to give that "little extra" to members who have fallen upon hard times or who are suffering from ill health, and this additional help is always very gratefully received.

We are arranging our autumn and winter programme and on the 20th October we are holding a social evening, to which a number of other Branches are being invited.

In December we are organising a children's party and the Ladies' Committee are arranging a jumble sale, with additional attractions, to help raise the necessary funds.

In June our members enjoyed a very pleasant evening at Cambridge at the invitation of the members of that Branch, and we hope to renew many of the friendships made at our social in October.

V.C.P.

PLYMOUTH BRANCH

Our notes must necessarily open on a sad note with this edition as on the 15th August we heard of the sudden death of our Branch President, Lt.-Col. "Jackie" Hill. This was a great blow to all of us, we have lost a charming and loyal friend. (A fuller tribute appears elsewhere in this number).

Harry Edgeley and George Thurkettle are both very ill at their homes and have been visited by Committee members. They are both extremely cheerful and we wish them a speedy recovery to complete health.

We hear that Colonel J. L. Likeman is now at an Old Folks' Nursing Home in Ashburton, perhaps later we may be able to confirm this and give more news of his well-being.

The monthly meetings have been held regularly with the exception of the month of August when no meeting was held due to the holiday season. An enjoyable social evening was arranged in July and was well attended.

Although not a new arrival in the West Country, a new face has been seen recently in the form of ex-C.S.M. "Toddy" Weekes who now resides at Tudor Lodge, Yelverton. We hope to see more of him in the future.

Mrs. Reeson has not been terribly well in recent months, but we gather from Bill that she is slightly better now.

To those who knew the Plymouth of old, maybe a little news of the new Plymouth would be welcomed. The City Centre with its massive Council Offices' block, the new Royal Parade, Armada Way, George and Cornwall Street is now looking most impressive. The Tamar Bridge, a boon to the tourist visiting that foreign territory, Cornwall, has done much to alleviate the traffic problem within the city's main lines of communication. Seaton Barracks has been mainly demolished and now the site is in the hands of the contractors and the early signs of a modern barracks are visible. Plumer Barracks is doomed and is likely to be rebuilt in a few years time, but possibly not on the same site due to impending road improvements in the area.

The Sergeants' Mess for North Raglan Barracks, opened as a new Mess for the 1st Battalion The Suffolk Regiment in July 1939 has for many years been the Army Information Office. Raglan Barracks, badly shatted during the war and subsequently patched up for use by the T.A. and A.F. units, is to have a major reconstruction programme in the future. The Brickfields Sports Grounds, now much improved, are controlled by the Royal Navy as no major Army unit lives in the Devonport area these days. Battles are still fought between the R.N. and Army on these grounds however and are equally as keenly contested as in past years.

Roborough Airfield is now the scene of busy air traffic and is of value to service units in the Command when service aircraft are available.

Yelverton Golf Club flourishes and is worthy of visits from Dai Rees and his contemporaries.

Despite all changes, ex-residents of the barracks at Crownhill will rejoice to know that the little inn at Eggbuckland still exists and that the tiny village remains comparatively unspoiled.



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