



THE CASTLE



VOLUME 1
NUMBER 2
AUGUST, 1965

REGIMENTAL JOURNAL OF
THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT



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THE CASTLE

THE JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

VOL. 1. No. 2.

AUGUST, 1965

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- 1ST (NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK) BN. THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT
- 2ND (DUCHESS OF GLOUCESTER'S OWN LINCOLNSHIRE & NORTHAMPTONSHIRE) BN. THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT
- 3RD (16TH/44TH FOOT) BN. THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT
- 4TH (LEICESTERSHIRE) BN. THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

TERRITORIAL BATTALIONS

- 4TH BN. THE ROYAL NORFOLK REGIMENT (T.A.)
THE SUFFOLK AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE REGIMENT (T.A.)
- 4TH/6TH BN. THE ROYAL LINCOLNSHIRE REGIMENT (T.A.)
- 4TH/5TH BN. THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE REGIMENT (T.A.)
- 1ST BN. THE BEDFORDSHIRE AND HERTFORDSHIRE REGIMENT (T.A.)
- 4TH/5TH BN. THE ESSEX REGIMENT (T.A.)
- 4TH/5TH BN. THE ROYAL LEICESTERSHIRE REGIMENT (T.A.)

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- ALLIED REGIMENT OF NEW ZEALAND ARMY
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5th Battalion The Frontier Force Regiment
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EDITORIAL

We would like to thank those of our readers who have said kind things about the first issue of *The Castle*. Surprisingly, very few have put pen to paper, and although this may be a good sign, we would like now to invite constructive criticism from any quarter.

The form and presentation of *The Castle* has inevitably followed much the same lines as its four predecessors, and perhaps that is why we got away with it to some extent over the first issue! However, just as the Army organisation is changing, so also we feel might our Regimental Journal.

That all is not entirely well was brought home to the editorial staff quite recently. When enquiring if any copies of *The Castle* were left unsold, as there was a shortage in a particular unit, a young soldier volunteered that any barrack room waste paper basket might produce several copies, as there was little in *The Castle* that interested the younger generation.

Perhaps the older ones among us dislike change, but it is true, generally speaking, that the serving soldier does not buy the Journal—he will read his own unit's contribution and little else if he can get hold of a free copy, but will not buy one himself, and this is not because he has not got the money, but because he does not find it sufficiently interesting or entertaining.

This is not to say that the Journal is principally for serving soldiers; obviously, it must appeal to the whole cross section of the Regiment, both serving and retired, and unless it does so is not fulfilling its object.

A few regiments have already set about modernising their journals and the results have been surprising—serving soldiers have queued to buy their own copies, circulation has shot up, and in one case which came to notice the other day, the journal is used as a regular hand-out to potential recruits at county shows and recruiting drives, as nothing else is required to attract the potential recruit and give him an idea of his future service.

This transformation has been achieved by the interest of the younger generation being stimulated by competitions with prizes, cartoons, lucky number copies, and so on. However, Old Comrades and Cadets still make their contributions in much the same way as before. The result has been that everyone is catered for and the journal is self-supporting instead of being out of pocket, as is so often the case.

The Editors hope to publish the best letters by readers on making the journal more interesting in the December issue. Letters should be restricted to five hundred words and typed, if possible.

THE REGIMENTAL WEEK-END

The Regimental Week-End was undoubtedly attended by more people than last year, despite the fact that all Regular Battalions were abroad and, as such, can be considered a greater success than last year. However, as one correspondent has already said, saturation point must be reached some time but there is still room for even greater numbers next year.

OUR FRONT COVER

The cover of *The Castle* shows the crest of The Royal Anglian Regiment which is now worn as the cap badge, and the collar badges of the four Regular Battalions. It is regretted that the collar badge of the 4th (Leicestershire) Battalion has come out rather faintly. This will be altered next year when a reprint of the cover is done.

Honours and Awards

We offer our congratulations to the following members of the Regiment on their awards for gallantry and good service:

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS LIST

To be an Ordinary Member of the Military Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:

Major R. E. J. Gerrard-Wright, Royal Anglian Regiment.

AWARDS FOR GALLANTRY

The Queen has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the British Empire Medal for Gallantry (Military Division) to the under-mentioned, in recognition of gallant services in the Radfan area of Southern Arabia:

14747109 Sgt. Joseph William Jones,
1st Battalion, Royal Anglian Regiment.

Sgt. Jones is a rifle platoon sergeant in "B" Company of this Battalion. In the operations in the Wadi Rabwa, his platoon commander was wounded while leading part of his platoon to the objective. Sgt. Jones quickly organised the remainder and led them through sniping fire to join the forward troops. He took command of the platoon and during the re-organisation phase moved openly round the area encouraging his men, who were under fire for the first time. The success achieved by

his platoon in their first engagement was due largely to his excellent leadership.

Sgt. Jones continued to command 6 Platoon in subsequent operations in the Wadi Taym and Wadi Misrah for the next two months. The Platoon has done everything that was asked of it, and it has a high morale, largely owing to Sergeant Jones's conduct and example.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

The Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the publication of the name shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for Brave Conduct:

23765828 Corporal Ronald Charles Day,
1st Battalion Royal Anglian Regiment.

On the night of February 17/18, 1965, in the Crater Area of Aden, Corporal Day was in charge of a vehicle patrol which was blown up by a grenade, wounding all five members of the patrol. He completely disregarded his wounds, and by his personal example of fortitude and leadership of the highest order in deploying two of his lightly wounded comrades, restored a situation, which, but for his energetic action might have had serious consequences.

The above citations appeared in the *London Gazette* dated April 27, 1965.

MENTIONED IN DESPACHES

Lt. P. B. D. Long, 1st Battalion Royal Anglian Regiment.

L/Cpl. R. D. R. Watson, 1st Battalion Royal Anglian Regiment.

The above notice appeared in the *London Gazette* dated May 4, 1965.

Commander-in-Chief's commendation for good service in the Radfan area of Southern Arabia:

1st Battalion Royal Anglian Regiment	
Capt. D. L. Clarke	L/Cpl. S. Riches
Capt. H. R. Horrex	Pte. T. O'Brien
Sgt. J. T. Eastea	Pte. G. H. Tyers

EDITORIAL NOTES

Junior Army and Navy Club

The Royal Anglian Regiment Officers' Club has been accepted for Block Membership by the Junior Army and Navy Club, Horse

Guards Avenue, Whitehall, London, S.W.1. Serving and retired officers who belong to the Officers' Club and wish to join under this arrangement can do so on payment of 2 gns. per year (payable on joining, and thereafter on January 1). Application should be made to the Regimental Secretary, Blenheim Camp, Bury St. Edmunds, and not direct to the Secretary of the Junior Army and Navy Club.

REGIMENTAL RECRUITING

Since the last edition of *The Castle*, Army recruiting has been disappointing throughout the country. Regimental recruiting has also suffered, and we are now dropping behind the position held this time last year. By the end of June, 1964, the Regiment had enlisted 316 men. This year the figure is 296.

Essex, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire has been the most productive recruiting area, yielding 99 of the 296 enlisted up to the end of June. The 2nd Battalion area came next with 87. Norfolk and Suffolk produced 61 men; Leicestershire 49. Both the 1st and 4th Battalion areas, however, are confidently expected to improve later this year when, prior to moving to Germany and Malta, respectively, both Battalions will take block leave for several weeks. Twelve-hundred men on leave in our home towns and villages, with money in their pockets and a new, interesting posting to look forward to, will surely help to "sell" the Regiment. Time and again it is the contented soldier who has proved the best salesman, and to maintain a steady flow of new recruits of the right quality into the Regiment, we must take every opportunity we can to get our salesmen to the potential customers.

It is not widely realised that we are now largely a short-service Army, with a majority of six year men, most of whom do not take on for a further term. Our Regiment is no exception to this idea. It means that there is always a recruiting problem. The turnover is swift, and recruiting must be maintained at a steady level simply to break even. When recruiting fails to offset the flow out of time-expired men, Regimental strength can decrease quickly. Hence, the efforts continually made to improve our recruiting methods and organisation. In this respect one must point out that our Battalions produce in all 17 Special Recruiters (sergeants or above) from their own establishments, and this is a measure of the importance placed on recruiting.

In furtherance of the belief that the contented soldier is the best recruiter, all recruits

at the Depot are twice talked to by the Regimental Colonel, once at the start of their 10 weeks training, and again before they take embarkation leave. It is impressed upon them that recruiting for the Regiment is a family affair of helping one another, and the point is made that only strong Battalions are sent to do important, interesting work abroad. Similar talks are also given to parents and civic dignitaries and to anyone else who visits us and who is in a position to help recruiting.

Following the success of the small Regimental Recruiting Team (in Suffolk) this January, the Recruiting Tour starting on August 16,

by men of the 3rd Battalion, will concentrate on the villages of Essex, Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire, rather than the large towns. Two teams, each of an officer and six soldiers, will spend three days in each village, putting up at the local pub. Each team will be equipped with a caravan, a photographic display, and the latest Infantry weapons and radio sets.

The Regimental Recruiting Team has already participated in four summer shows: Northampton Army Week, The Essex Show, The Suffolk Tattoo, and the Rushden Show. Another dozen engagements fill the summer week-ends. The team will show their display vehicles to H.M. The Queen Mother in Watford on July 3.

Visit of our Colonel-in-Chief to the Suffolk County Show 2nd/3rd June 1965



The 4th Battalion Band at the Suffolk Show.

During the afternoons and evenings of the two-day Suffolk County Show at Ipswich, the Band of the 4th Battalion gave demonstrations of marching and counter-marching. Four bandsmen performed the tasks of drummers, as the Corps of Drums is at present in Aden. The demonstrations were very popular, and it was generally agreed that they were excellent.

The highlight of the afternoon demonstration on the second day was when our Colonel-in-

Chief, Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother, saw the 4th Battalion Band of our Regiment perform for the first time. Her Majesty appeared to be delighted by the performance.

As the Band marched out of the arena, Bandmaster Battye was presented to our Colonel-in-Chief, who inquired about the Battalion in Aden and the families at Watchet.



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Personalia

Major-General Sir Christopher Welby-Everard, K.B.E., C.B., and Lady Welby-Everard now reside at The Manor House, Sapperton, near Sleaford, Lincoln. Telephone Ingoldsby 273.

* * *

Lt.-Col. G. C. Wilson now resides at 8, Shannon Court, Kirtle Road, Chesham, Bucks. Telephone Chesham 3178.

* * *

Among recent visitors to R.H.Q. Lincoln were Mr. and Mrs. S. Shepherd-Folker and their daughter from South Africa, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. J. M. Barstow and Capt. D. J. Wilford from Cyprus.

* * *

Lt.-Col. Robin Medley and his family are now firmly settled in at Fort Monroe, U.S.A., and he is apparently spending much of his time teaching British Military History to the "Natives."

* * *

Recent visitors to Warley have included the Rev. P. P. S. Brownless, who was with 1st Bn. The Essex Regiment during the last war and is now living at Lambrook, Bracknell, Berkshire, who looked in with his wife and daughter in April; also ex-R.S.M. J. E. West, now employed in the British Embassy security staff. Mr. West, visiting U.K. with his wife, was a Regular Warrant Officer with The Essex Regiment.

* * *

It is with great regret we record the death of Colonel G. C. Winckley, O.B.E., M.C., who died at Camberley on May 4, 1965, and of Colonel N. B. Hart, O.B.E., T.D., D.L., who died at Peterborough on May 14, 1965, both formerly of the 10th Foot. To their families we extend sincere condolences.

* * *

Mr. F. J. Goodall, 37, Limbury Road, Luton, was a member of the Dunkirk Veterans' Association Pilgrimage which took place over the Whitsun week-end to commemorate the 25th anniversary. During the ceremonies held on Saturday, June 5, at the Allied Memorial, he laid a wreath in memory of all those of the 2nd Bn. The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment who fell during the evacuation.

* * *

Mr. F. A. Berry, who served with the 5th Bedfordshire Regiment in the First World War, writes from Australia to say that he has now

retired and has moved to 23, Alverna Crescent, Heathmont, Victoria, Australia. His house is in the foothills of the Dandemong Ranges and he finds plenty to do in his garden, which includes fish and lily ponds. He would be glad to welcome any member of the Regiment who should be passing through Melbourne.

* * *

Our Essex Regiment readers will be very sorry to learn of the death in April of Mrs. Patricia Sanguinetti. We extend our sympathy to Roger and his son, Peter.

* * *

All 16th/44th readers will wish to extend their congratulations to Major John Bacon, Second-in-Command of the 3rd Battalion in Berlin, on his qualification for entry to the first grade staff pool.

* * *

Major H. J. Letch has recently moved to 69a, St. John's Road, Boxmoor, Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire. He has held the appointment of Civil Defence Officer of Hemel Hempstead Borough for the past two years.

* * *

Colonel Ralph Harper, who commanded No. 9 Beach Group in the assault landings, made his customary trip to Normandy for the D-Day ceremonies on June 6. This year, however, he flew over from Montreal for a very short visit and was unable to stay in England to attend regimental functions. His friends will be glad to learn that he plans a longer trip next year and hopes to spend more time in England then.

* * *

Included in the Queen's Birthday Honours List, a C.B. for Colonel Arthur Noble, Honorary Colonel of 4th/5th Bn. The Essex Regiment (T.A.) and Chairman of the County of Essex T. and A.F.A. We extend our congratulations to Colonel Noble on the very well merited award.

* * *

The Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire, Major A. Whitbread, was a guest of the Officers of the 2nd Bedfordshire Battalion Home Guard at their twentieth annual reunion dinner, which was held at the Swan Hotel, Biggleswade, on May 13, 1965. On behalf of all those present he expressed the appreciation due to the Chairman, Lt.-Col. F. Vincent, O.B.E., for the continued success of this annual, and possibly unique, reunion.



Ex-Drum Major Ernie Bailey.
 [Photograph by courtesy of *The Colchester Express*]

Our photograph shows ex-Drum-Major Ernie Bailey, now in his eighty-seventh year. Mr. Bailey served for many years with the 44th and is now living near Colchester. He still works a full week as gardener and recently acted as relief postman for one month, completing a 20-mile delivery round each day.

His good health he attributes to "Beer, regular each day. Not excessive, mind you."

On the occasion of his recent marriage best wishes were sent to Mr. W. R. Brown, who until June was an In-Pensioner of The Royal Hospital, Chelsea. Mr. Brown enlisted into The Bedfordshire Regiment in January, 1901, being finally discharged from service in 1920 in the rank of Colour-Sergeant and is now 82.

Major Tom Lewsey, the artist, who served for many years with 1st/4th Essex, suffered a serious illness in April last and after a long period of convalescence he is now much recovered.

We wish him a speedy return to full health.

Our sympathy is extended to Colonel Mervyn Reynolds, the Regimental Secretary, who lost his wife, Mary, earlier this year after a very

long illness; and also to Lt.-Col. Don Garrard, late of 4th/5th Essex, whose wife died very suddenly in March.

Bad luck for Major Peter Philcox, who met with an accident and injured a tendon shortly after his arrival with 4th Battalion in Aden. Major Philcox is now "on the mend," albeit rather slowly and we wish him a speedy recovery.

Mr. W. White, a stalwart of 4th Battalion The Essex Regiment (T.A.) Comrades' Association, has been very ill for some months, but he is now recovering slowly. Mr. White was Hon. Treasurer of 4th Battalion Comrades' Association for over 30 years and his memories of Warley go back to the early 1900s.

An enquiry concerning replacement of lost medals was received from an ex-member of the Regiment now living in Canada. The accompanying photograph shows that these were successfully obtained. Mr. F. M. Ward, formerly No. 6271, Lance-Sergeant, 2nd Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment, who is now 83, is entitled to both medals issued for the South African War, each with two clasps. He lives at 56, Dover Street, Woodstock, Ontario, and belongs to Branch 55, Royal Canadian Legion, which has a membership of over 800.

In the first issue of *The Castle*, Major R. J. Vosser, M.B.E., reported that he had met Capt. W. T. Luff during a visit to New Zealand. He has now sent us this photograph of that happy reunion. We are very glad to learn that the troublesome eye, which necessitated Reggie Vosser's earlier return home, is responding well to treatment.

Capt. Michael Randall, who has been at Shrivenham on a technical staff course, was unfortunate enough to suffer a severe illness which caused him to be absent for several weeks towards the end of the course. He has, however, successfully negotiated the examination hurdles and is now well on the road to complete physical recovery.

Our congratulations to Mr. H. W. (Bert) Purser on the recent award to him of the Imperial Service Medal, in recognition of his 25 years' meritorious service in the Civil Service.

Mr. Purser will be well-known to very many old Essex Regiment members, having been Officers' Mess Sergeant for many years during his Service career. Since his discharge he has continued as civilian steward to the Officers' Mess and is still employed at Regimental

Headquarters, Warley, which has been his home for many years.

* * *

Colonel Harold Kemball, T.D., D.L., and Mrs. Kemball celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on April 23 and celebrated the occasion by giving a dinner at the Great Eastern Hotel, London. Present at the dinner were the Colonel's five children and their families, and his only surviving sister.

Colonel Kemball commanded 7th Essex at Gallipoli.

* * *

Capt. T. Agutter retired from the Territorial Army on December 31, 1964. He has taken up an appointment with the Huntingdon and Northamptonshire Army Cadet Force.

* * *

Capt. M. A. Aris will attend the 1966 Staff College course at the Pakistan Staff College.

* * *

Lt. P. J. Burton transferred to the Northamptonshire Regiment from the Royal Artillery. He is serving with 4/5 Northampton (T.A.).

* * *

Cpts. P. W. Edwards, B. N. Crumbie, D. G. Wells and D. Wilford will attend the 1966 Staff College course at the Camberley Staff College.

* * *

Congratulations to Major and Mrs. A. G. P. Evans-Evans on the birth of a son on March 13, 1965.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. David Fearnley, late The Northamptonshire Regiment, now live at 32, Pukaki Road, Mangere Heights, Auckland, New Zealand.

* * *

Congratulations to Major and Mrs. J. A. Garnett on the birth of a daughter on March 27, 1965.

* * *

Lt.-Col. P. F. A. Growse completed his tour as Station Staff Officer, Bielefeld, on June 4, 1965. He has now gone to live in Austria for a year and his address is Salzburg-Sollheim, Berg 31, Austria. He says that if any of his old friends are around those parts he very much hopes they look him up.

* * *

Congratulations to Lt. and Mrs. H. M. P. Halcrow on the birth of a daughter on May 29, 1965.

Capt. (Q.M.) E. P. Kelly, D.C.M., was promoted substantive Captain on February 24, 1965.

* * *

2/Lt. M. C. Kirton was commissioned with the Regiment on April 3, 1965, from Mons O.C.S. He is now serving with the 2nd Bn.

* * *

Major C. H. Macklam, M.B.E., retired on February 8, 1965. His address is now 360, Burton Road, Lincoln.

OUR ALLIED REGIMENT



On February 26, 1965, Lt.-Col. Walter S. Spencer, C.D., took over command of the Lincoln and Welland Regiment from Lt.-Col. L. E. Clarke, E.D., C.D., at St. Catharine's Ontario, Canada. Our picture shows Lt.-Col. Spencer receiving a sword from Lt.-Col. Clarke on the occasion of the hand-over. Lt.-Col. Clarke had been commanding the Regiment since 1960. Predecessor militia units of the Lincoln and Welland Regiment fought with General Sir Isaac Brock at the Battle of Queenston Heights in 1812.

Engagements

CAPT. I. W. JEFFERSON AND

MISS D. A. ROBERTSON-MACLEOD

The engagement is announced between Ingleby William, son of Brigadier and Mrs. J. Jefferson, of Gorse Hill, Wormley, Godalming, Surrey, and Daphne Alexandra, daughter of Colonel and Mrs. R. C. Roberston-Macleod, Westfield House, Winchburgh, West Lothian.

MCMURDO—MCKINLAY

On April 30, Cpl. J. McMurdo to Miss M. McKinlay, of Wimbledon.

ROWE—HURST

On February 15, Pte. A. Rowe to Miss S. Hurst.

MR. G. R. WILLIAMS AND MISS J. E. HOSE

The engagement is announced between Graeme Ross, second son of Mrs. K. A. Williams, of Marton, New Zealand, and Jane, younger daughter of Colonel H. C. R. Hose, D.S.O., and Mrs. Hose, of 36, Tongdean Road, Hove, Sussex.

Marriages

DODD—WENMAN.—On March 31, 1965, at Caxton Hall, London, S.W.1, Capt. W. T. Dodd, 3rd (16th/44th Foot) Bn. The Royal Anglian Regiment, to Miss Sheila Doreen Wenman.

FISHER-HOCH—HIBBERT.—On April 24, 1965, at St. Clement Danes Church, London, Major G. J. V. Fisher-Hoch to Miss Susan Patience Hibbert.

GOODCHILD—SMITH.—On March 20, 1965, at Bury St. Edmunds, Pte. P. Goodchild to Miss Anne Lesley Nora Smith.

HANCOCK—SAVAGE.—On April 10, 1965, in London, Major W. J. G. Hancock, 3rd (16th/44th Foot) Bn. The Royal Anglian Regiment to Miss Jenifer Mary Savage, daughter of Colonel J. F. D. Savage, of Felixstowe, Suffolk.

PARRY—YOUNGMAN.—On March 24, 1965, at Copdock, Suffolk, Pte. R. Parry to Miss Shirley Anne Youngman.

ROBINSON—BULLETT.—On May 15, 1965, at Bury St. Edmunds, Pte. M. Robinson to Miss Rosemary Ellen Bullett.

VINCENT—WOOD.—On January 23, 1965, at Norwich, Pte. D. Vincent to Miss Sandra Lesley Wood.

Births

BATES.—On February 6, 1965, at Warminster, to Lisa, wife of Capt. R. G. Bates, a daughter, Susan Krystyna.

BIGGS.—On March 30, 1965, at Steamer Point, Aden, to Sgt. and Mrs. Biggs, a son, Brian Robert.

CRABB.—On April 6, 1965, at Ipswich, to Pte. and Mrs. Crabb, a daughter, Louise Jane.

EYTON-JONES.—On August 20, 1964, at Brighton, to Jillian (née Hose) and John Eyton-Jones, a son, Paul Richard.

GAY.—On March 13, 1965, to Sgt. and Mrs. I. Gay, a daughter, Alison Sylvia Beryl.

HEGGS.—On June 20, 1965, at St. Francis Private Nursing Home, Leicester, to Mary, wife of Capt. J. C. D. Heggs, 4th (Leicestershire) Bn. The Royal Anglian Regiment, a son.

HERD.—On June 3, 1965, to L/Cpl. and Mrs. R. Herd, a daughter, Mandy.

LEWIS.—On March 16, 1965, at Shaiba House, Britannia Barracks, Norwich, to Capt. and Mrs. N. J. Lewis, a son, James William Edward.

MOSS.—On February 11, 1965, at Steamer Point, Aden, to Pte. and Mrs. F. Moss, a daughter, Dawn Ann.

PAGE.—On February 19, 1965, at Berlin Maternity Hospital, to Major and Mrs. W. D. Page, a daughter, Jacqueline Lois Belinda.

Obituaries

LT.-COL. W. M. CAMPBELL, D.S.O., M.C.

Lt.-Col. Campbell was commissioned into the Suffolk Regiment in 1901 in South Africa. He had emigrated to the Cape at the age of 17 and had joined Prince Alfred's Guards, Mounted Infantry, at the outbreak of the Boer War.

He was taken prisoner of war at the Battle of Le Cateau in August, 1914, while serving with 2nd Bn. The Suffolk Regiment.

In 1917, he made a spectacular escape from captivity, jumping from a train window while being transferred from one camp to another. He reached the Dutch frontier ten days later. He was awarded the M.C. for his courage and determination in making this escape.

In 1918 he served in Palestine commanding, first, 1/5th Norfolk and then 1/5th Suffolk,

both in 54th Division. He was awarded the D.S.O. for gallantry while in command of 5th Suffolk.

In February 1928, Colonel Campbell, after a number of appointments, which included the Adjutancy of 4th Suffolk, took command of 2nd Suffolk in Shanghai.

On completion of his tour of command, in 1932, he retired to Old Hunstanton, where he played an active part in local affairs.

One of his sons, Colonel A. F. Campbell, is now serving in the Far East.

COLONEL W. P. CUTLACK, C.B., T.D., D.L.

Colonel Cutlack had, since before the days of the Territorial Army, been a very prominent member of the Volunteer Forces in the Isle of Ely.

He had commanded and been Honorary Colonel of the Cambridgeshire Regiment, Chairman of the Cambridgeshire Territorial and Auxiliary Forces Association and during the last war he raised and commanded the Local Defence Volunteers, later the Home Guard in the Isle of Ely.

Up to the time of his death he had maintained a very close connection with his family brewing firm, now part of the Steward and Patteson organisation.

LT.-COL. H. W. DEAN

Lt.-Col. Dean was commissioned into the Suffolk Regiment in 1920 and served for most of his time in the 2nd Battalion.

During a tour of duty at the Regimental Depot he played football at centre-half for Bury and for Ipswich Town.

After a period as Adjutant of 4th Suffolk, he became Adjutant of the 2nd Battalion in 1939.

Later in the war, he was taken prisoner in the Western Desert while commanding a battalion of the D.C.L.I.

He escaped from captivity and got into Switzerland. After repatriation he returned to India to take command of the 2nd Battalion and was still in command when the battalion was amalgamated with the 1st Battalion after the declaration of Indian Independence.

Colonel Dean retired in 1949 and became governor of a Doctor Barnardo's Home in Essex.

He had recently retired from his appointment and moved to Hargrave in Suffolk.

One of his sons, Major T. D. Dean, is serving in the Royal Anglian Regiment.

MAJOR-GENERAL A. K. FERGUSON, C.M.G., C.B.E.

Major-General Ferguson was commissioned from the R.M.C. Sandhurst into the Royal Irish Regiment in October 1916. During the Great War he served in Egypt, France and Belgium and afterwards was an Instructor at the Small Arms School in India. On the disbandment of his Regiment he transferred to the Leicestershire Regiment in 1922 and served with the Regiment until 1931. From 1931 until 1937 he served on the Staff in the Far East and qualified as a first class interpreter in Japanese. He returned to the 1st Battalion of the Regiment in 1937 serving as Adjutant till 1940, during which period the Battalion was an active service on the Indian frontier.

After the outbreak of War he was posted in 1940 as G.S.O.2 to Malaya and in 1942 promoted Lieutenant-Colonel and upgraded to G.S.O.1. At the end of 1942 he was promoted Colonel and appointed Deputy Director of Military Intelligence India 1943/45 being promoted Brigadier in 1944. During 1945 he became Director of Military Intelligence India



Major-General A. K. Ferguson, C.M.G., C.B.E.

with the rank of Major-General and returned home in 1946.

"Fergie," as he was known to his friends in the Regiment, was a first class Adjutant on the Indian frontier: he was cheerful and competent, and popular with all ranks.

Having become one of the few officers in the Army to qualify as a Japanese Interpreter and to have studied the Japanese Army before the War, we naturally did not see him in the Regiment after the outbreak of the 1939 War, as he was employed on intelligence work. His knowledge of the Japanese mentality became invaluable and he was employed as military adviser to the U.K. mission to Japan from 1947 to 1952.

We was awarded the C.B.E. in 1946 and the C.M.G. in 1952.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his widow Nora and his two daughters.

H.S.P.,

LT.-COL. A. B. FLOYD, D.S.O., O.B.E.

Lt.-Col. Floyd was born at Holme Rectory, Downham Market, in 1888, educated at Wellington and commissioned into the Norfolk Regiment in 1908. He served with the 2nd Battalion at Gibraltar and in India before proceeding on active service to Mesopotamia in 1914. During this campaign he was awarded the D.S.O. and twice Mentioned in Despatches before being taken prisoner of war on the capitulation of Kut al Amara. After the war he reverted to the Reserve of Officers, but was back with his Regiment in 1939, and later commanded the 30th Battalion in North Africa and Italy and was awarded the O.B.E.

The seventeen years following the Second World War he was Chairman of the London Branch of the Regimental Association and his cheerful company and enthusiasm will be greatly missed by many who regularly attended its meetings.

In civilian life Colonel Floyd was a partner in a London firm of stockbrokers and became a member of the Stock Exchange Council. He lived at Brancaster on the North Norfolk coast for many years and was closely associated with Royal West Norfolk Golf Club, becoming its captain in 1946. It was on this golf course that he collapsed and died.

MAJOR C. J. I. F. HOPEGOOD

We regret to report the death in February 1965 of Major Charles John Ismy French Hopegood, at the age of 68. Major Hopegood was commissioned in The Essex Regiment in 1915

and served with them for 29 years.

He was a most efficient and popular Officer and distinguished himself during operations on the N.W. Frontier 1930-31 and in the Western Desert of Egypt 1935-36. He was always at his best when conditions were at their worst, and there was an element of danger.

After his retirement in 1944, he settled in the West Country where he indulged in a selective form of market gardening, but his health began to fail him some years ago and he suffered considerable pain and disability for some time prior to his death.

We extend our deepest sympathy to his widow.

LT.-COL. H. R. HOPKING, O.B.E.

Lt.-Col. Hopking was commissioned with the Suffolk Regiment in 1919 and was posted to the 2nd Battalion. He was Adjutant of the Battalion in Shanghai and was awarded the M.B.E. for his services.

After a tour of duty with the 1st Battalion in Blackdown, he became Staff Officer to the Trinidad Forces in 1935. He returned to England in 1940, having been awarded the O.B.E.

After serving with several training units in the U.K. he went to India and commanded 2nd Suffolk from 1943-44 in the Arakan and Burma.

He retired in 1950 and became Administrative Officer at the Regimental Depot in succession to Major F. V. C. Pereira. In this appointment he was responsible for the activities of the Old Comrades' Association, the Regimental Gazette, the Regimental Museum and was Treasurer of the War Memorial Homes and the Cottage Homes.

In recent years his health had deteriorated and he finally had to retire in January this year.

MAJOR R. P. KERSHAW, T.D.

'Jimma' Kershaw, as he was known to his regimental friends, was commissioned into the Norfolk Regiment in 1922, served with the 1st Battalion in the West Indies and resigned in 1926. He subsequently served as a Territorial Army Officer, first with the London Scottish and later with 5th Bn. The Royal Norfolk Regiment. When war came in 1939 he was transferred to the newly raised 7th (T.A.) Battalion and afterwards saw active service in North Africa and Italy with the 30th Battalion.

He was intensely keen on rifle shooting and had competed at Bisley on many occasions. He represented Norfolk in small-bore and full-bore competitions and became Chairman of the

Norfolk County Rifle Association in 1955, a position he held until his death.

At his funeral which took place at Mundesley, the Royal Norfolk Regiment was represented by Brigadier C. J. Wilkinson, D.S.O.

CPL. G. C. F. MOORE

George Moore enlisted into The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment in September 1919 and completed seven years Colour Service. He rejoined on the outbreak of the Second World War and served for a further period of six years, being discharged in the rank of Corporal.

On leaving the Army, he continued to take a keen interest in his old Regiment and took an active part in the affairs of Watford Branch, becoming their Assistant Honorary Treasurer and a Standard Bearer.

In recent years his health broke down but he did not allow this to interfere with his cheerful readiness to give a hand when needed. His death on April 2, 1965, at the age of 64, has meant the loss of a most loyal comrade and a well-loved friend of so many.

The funeral service at Watford on April 10 was attended by a large congregation which included the Secretary The 16th Foot Association and many representatives from Watford Branch.

LT.-COL. R. OTTER, M.C.

Robin Otter was educated at Charterhouse and joined his elder brother in the Norfolk Regiment on August 29, 1906, at the age of 18 years. He served in France and Belgium with the 1st Battalion and later commanded a Battalion of the Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment. He was wounded on three occasions, four times Mentioned in Despatches and was awarded the Military Cross and a brevet Majority.

After the war he was Adjutant at the Regimental Depot for three years and later joined the 2nd Battalion in Mesopotamia. He became Adjutant of the 4th Battalion in 1924 and rejoined the 2nd Battalion in 1926. He later served in India with the 1st Battalion before retiring in 1936 to live in Nottinghamshire where he held appointments of Public Relations Officer and Recruiting Officer and was appointed a J.P. and Deputy Lieutenant for Nottinghamshire in 1938. During the 1939/45 War he became a Defence Commander with the Royal Air Force and an Instructor to the Home Guard. He had been very ill for a long time and leaves a widow and four daughters to whom we offer our sincere condolences.

At the funeral the Royal Norfolk Regiment

was represented by Brigadier F. P. Barclay, Honorary Colonel of the 4th Battalion.

COLONEL G. C. WINKLEY, O.B.E., M.C.

Colonel George Winkley died at Camberley on May 4, 1965. He was first commissioned into The Lincolnshire Regiment in 1914 and served in the First World War in France, being decorated with the Military Cross and bar.

After the war he was seconded to the Indian Signals, transferring to The Royal Corps of Signals in 1924.

During the Second World War he served in the Middle East, India and North West Europe being appointed O.B.E. in 1945 for his services in the campaign in Europe. His last appointment was that of Chief Air Formation Signals Officer in South East Asia, an appointment he held from early 1945 until his retirement in April 1948.

Although most of his service was spent with The Royal Signals, George Winkley always retained a great affection for his old Regiment and was a regular attendant at the annual dinner of the officers of The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment.

A good golfer himself he was delighted and proud of the golfing successes of his son Jeremy who followed him into The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment and is now serving at the Regimental Depot at Bury St. Edmunds.

George was much liked and will be greatly missed by his many old friends. The sympathy of us all is extended to his wife, Marnie, Jeremy and his two daughters.

Brigadier Oulton and the officers of The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment were represented by Lt.-Col. D. B. Eliot at the funeral which was held at St. Peter's Church, Frimley, on May 8, 1965.
F.W.Y.

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REPTILE DISPOSAL SQUAD IN BRITISH GUIANA

BY LT. J. A. VARLEY, THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

Alligators are indigenous to South America. They are a form of crocodile, but only grow to about six feet in length. There is also a cross between an alligator and crocodile, known as a cayman. This grows to about thirty feet in length. The alligator is normally not over-aggressive, except when mating. It is only useful for its skin or its tail, which is eaten by hardened natives. The cayman is exactly the same, but its teeth are prized. After a cayman has been killed its head is cut off and buried. It is left to rot and later dug up and the teeth removed. They are sold for the equivalent of two pounds, and are highly treasured. It is said by the natives that when wearing a cayman tooth around the neck a snake will never attack you. We never saw a snake whilst with our guide who, although nearly naked, never went anywhere without his tooth. If bitten by a snake, a cayman tooth is scraped and the powder placed in the wound. The person bitten always appears to recover. As each Company had only one snake serum kit, a cayman tooth was a rather sound investment for those inclined. Unfortunately, an audit of Company accounts showing the purchase of cayman teeth looks a trifle odd. Black magic, who knows, but a cayman tooth is better than being slashed with a rusty razor blade when bitten by a snake. If the venom does not get you, blood poisoning from the blade will may.

Alligators live in still waters, and they are found mainly in the monsoon ditches which are about twenty feet in width. They nest in the sugar cane, which is normally overgrown and extremely thick. The cane fields are divided by monsoon ditches with dykes; sometimes the dykes are wide enough for a Land Rover. The Indians hate alligators, as when they cut the cane, or work along the dykes, they are often attacked. If bitten by one, that part part of the body is usually rendered "unserviceable," and to combat this the Indian has a stick. When the alligator charges the stick is held out, the principle is that the alligator attacks the stick. Whilst its jaws are fast on the stick, the Indian, or his friend, brings his machet down in one deft movement and dispatches the reptile, but this calls for precision and timing and seldom seems to work. We therefore decided that one should approach the problem with a little more science, substituting bullet for machet.

Within a rifle platoon there is enough of the right equipment to sally forth to do battle with the alligator. A reliable rifle is needed and the SLR has excellent stopping power. When shooting at about five feet, however, the bullet

tends to ricochet for long distances off the water and this has to be watched. The SMG is extremely handy in case of emergencies. The 9mm. round should be "dum-dummed" to make it more effective. A Land Rover with its hood off and equipped with a swivel lamp, is very useful, and if the dykes are broad enough, it enables the group to cover more ground whilst looking for the prey. A powerful hand torch is necessary for the actual shooting. Once the alligator has been shot it will sink, and a harpoon or grapple iron has to be used to save somebody actually going into the water after it. This is something that should be avoided at all costs, as it might not be dead, or there may be others at hand! Oddly enough, a machet is useful; alligators have a habit of suddenly coming back to life when they have been officially listed as dead. It causes extreme embarrassment to those in the rear of a Land Rover when the six-footer they are sitting on wags its tail! Mosquito repellent is essential, or a heavy pipe smoker can be a help. Sometimes it is difficult to tell which does the most damage, a mosquito or an alligator. Last, but not least, is a good supply of ammunition. A group of six people is ample and will fit snugly into a Land Rover with the odd alligator. This then, basically, is what is required for a good night's sport.

Alligators are impossible to shoot in the daytime. Being drab olive green on the top side, they cannot be distinguished from the natural weeds and growth in the ditches. This means that the only way of getting them is at night. There are two distinct ways of doing this. One is sporting, the other plain simple murder. Before one attempts to be sporting, it is as well to indulge in a little murder to get your eye in. I will endeavour to explain the perfect murder.

Inexperienced personnel should stay in the Land Rover at all times. Pick areas that the vehicle can negotiate. About two hours after dark you should arrive at your area. Always test fire your weapons. From now on it is simple, and you are virtually alligator-proof. Drive down the dyke slowly, with as little noise as possible. With the swivel lamp search the ditches left and right; sooner or later you will see what appears to be two red-hot coals burning in the water. When you see them there's your prey. All you will see will be the eyes, or one eye if it is oblique to you, reflecting the light. Drive as close as you can, keeping the beam fixed on those eyes. If they disappear under water they will turn up again nearby. Stop the Land Rover, get the light

to your right, bring up the SLR so you can get the sights on an eye, squeeze the trigger; the water will erupt, the alligator's jaws will open, it will fill with water, and down it goes. It will remain on the bottom for twenty-four hours and then float for forty-eight, smelling so badly as to overpower the strongest constitution. Now you are confident, it's like falling off a log, now's the time for "exercise trained soldier." It's time to put steel helmets on and try a more sporting method.

Alligators are dangerous and will attack you. It is up to you to utilise this to your own advantage. They have their own patches and they defend these and their nests to the death. This time you leave your Land Rover and take to the overgrown dykes on foot, with two people out in front, one with a weapon, the other with a torch, moving quietly. You will see the red-hot coals and this is where the procedure changes. Instead of shooting, get the alligator fighting mad so it will come at you. To do this you must perfect an alligator call. This is rather like a high-pitched growl which is lowered in intensity. Oddly enough, if you use this you will be answered. If it is a cow, it will be high-pitched, if a bull it will be lower and louder, the nearer they are, the

louder the response. Don't be content with one growl, get it really angry; when it answers it will be really mad; everything now happens quickly. For simplicity's sake we will slow it down. The alligator turns to face you, with a flick of its tail its speed builds up to about twenty knots. Its teeth will usually be gnashing. Keep it in the torch beam. It will hit the bank at speed and come straight for you. Wait for it to clear the bank; this should put it about five feet from you. Gently squeeze the trigger; the impact of the bullet will lift the alligator clear of the ground. Remember the rear end, the tail, it is just as powerful as the front end, and can do just as much damage. Wait for the nervous convulsions to die down, then make sure it is really dead, use the machet. This method saves using harpoons or grapples. A good night's sport nets about twenty alligators.

That's all there is to it. You will help the native workers, and be invited out by plantations to clear their dykes. After an evening's work, the rum is usually excellent. The big bonus for the platoon is not the rum but the excitement. Oddly enough the standard of weapon training improves overnight.

Mountaineering in Turkey

By CAPT. R. C. HASTIE, ROYAL ANGLIAN

In February of this year, Capt. Derek Wilford discovered, quite by chance, that the R.A.F. Mountain Rescue Team from Akrotiri was planning to spend a fortnight in the Taurus Mountains of Southern Turkey. He found out that they were twelve in number and were flying over in an R.A.F. Hastings . . . obviously there were going to be some empty seats, which a Royal Anglian Expedition would be delighted to fill. This was the origin of our expedition.

The Taurus Mountains lie about fifty miles from the south coast of Turkey. Their peaks rise to 13,000 feet and in many ways resemble the French Alps. They have been visited by very few climbers and are, in places, unexplored. As far as mountaineering is concerned, they are excellent. In the winter the snow is down to the 5,000 feet level and there is fine snow and ice climbing. In the summer all the snow melts, leaving steep and exciting rock faces which have probably never been climbed before. Some, like the north face of Esnewit, are thousands of feet from top to bottom and would provide very serious climbs.

The aim of our expedition was to introduce some soldiers to proper mountaineering, with the emphasis on snow and ice climbing. As Capt. Wilford and myself were the only two



W.O.11 McColgan abseiling from a rock pinnacle.



BASE CAMP

Some fine rock faces can be seen in the distance.

with any experience, we could not take a large party. We called for volunteers and got plenty. Some were the regular Sunday climbers that I mentioned in my last article, whilst others were new to the game. After a few "sorting-out" visits to our local Kyrenia Mountains, we selected a party of twelve, including ourselves. We then "went to town" on equipment and, with the aid of Army Adventure Training grants, got the expedition well kitted out.

On April 8 we were off. Although the village of Camardi, which was to be our starting point, is only about 150 miles from Cyprus, it was necessary to fly to Ankara airport and then to motor 200 miles south in a bus. Very few Turkish vehicles would pass any Ministry of Transport test, and our's was no exception. It was almost falling apart. However, it did get us to Camardi in the end, much to the surprise of all aboard.

Camardi amazes those who have never seen a Turkish village before. It is perfectly isolated, and we never found out how its existence could be justified, since the surrounding countryside is barren and there is no industry. There

is no doctor within 40 miles. Luckily, there is one man, Mehmet, who speaks English. Consequently, he automatically becomes the supplier for any climbing expedition. We wanted donkeys and rations, both of which he was very happy to provide. The following day, with the aid of eight donkeys and their handlers, we moved into the mountains, a distance of about ten miles. The valley which we used for a base camp is known as Ben's Valley, and runs near the main peak of the area, Demir Kazec. Our camp was at about 5,000 feet. Immediately on arrival we discovered that the R.A.F. met reports were wrong. The snow should have been down to 6,000 feet and the temperature at freezing point; the snow was as predicted, but the temperature was well above freezing. This was to change the entire character of the expedition. For snow to be "in condition" for mountaineering, it must be frozen. If it is melting and soft, it is liable to avalanche and the unfortunate mountaineer goes up to his waist with every step. We were soon to discover that no matter how early we started, or how high we went, the snow was always soft and both dangerous and exasperating to climb on. Consequently, our hopes of getting everyone to a summit were dashed; after a couple of hours trudging, one would be soaked through, exhausted, and surrounded by avalanches. The only thing to do was to take to the steep faces that abounded there and to content ourselves with the excellent rock climbing. While not being able to tackle the major faces, we found some exciting pinnacles just below the snow line which gave wonderful situations and first class climbing. Every day one party tackled the snow in the hope that it would improve, but the highest point reached, by Capt. Wilford and Pte. Overend, was only about 10,000 feet.



*Ptes. Gray, Wakefield, Hampton and Capt. Haste
at about 7,000 feet.*

(Continued on page 155)



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THE DEPOT

TRAINING COMPANY

Since the beginning of the year, a number of innovations have been carried out in the recruits' training programme. These have been the extension of the eighth week exercise, weekend activities at the start of training.

Exercise "Pullthrough," in Week 8, has now been extended to four nights spent out instead of two. The first two days and night are spent out at Barnham, doing dry training, and the remainder at Fingringhoe, as before. The first platoon to do the long exercise was Salerno Platoon, under Lt. Varley, and they certainly chose testing conditions in the first week of March. The first night out was recorded in another part of England as the coldest of the century, and this was probably true at Barnham also. There was a heavy fall of snow and even the kerosene froze in the jerricans. There were blizzards throughout the second day, but it was dry, powdery snow, and in spite of crawling in the stuff, the whole platoon seemed to enjoy themselves and were in high spirits.

Continuation training has been under dis-



*Training Company Camping.
Maitre d'hotel Leatherland and cook's mate Groom
prepare gunfire alfresco on the Norfolk Broads.*



*Training Company Camping and Luxury Cruise
on the Broads.*

*Lt. Wright, Lt. Varley, Pte. Kesley, Pte. Coleman,
Cpl. Groom and Pte. Cook prepare to cast off.*

cussion for some time and, as an experiment, one platoon is carrying out a sixteen-week programme, which will include continuation training. The "guinea-pigs" for this are Lt. Varley and Tobruk Platoon, with Sgt. Hazlewood as Platoon Sergeant. Cpls. Warrington, Taylor and Durant are doubling up as W.T. Instructors and Sections Commanders, having been semi-detached from the W.T. Wing. The object of this is to relieve battalions of the brunt of continuation training. Amongst other things, the recruit will fire the Trained Soldiers' Classification on both S.L.R. and L.M.G. and Stage 4 (Individual Battle Shot). Basic knowledge of 3.5in. rocket launcher, 2in. mortar, 36, 80, 83 and 94 grenades will be taught. Tactics will be taught up to section level. A total of four weeks will be spent out on various "dry" and "wet" exercises. The reaction from the recruits, so far, has been good, and the whole experiment should be most interesting and worthwhile, especially if it leads to a new outlook on this training.

At the beginning of the year we were having a certain amount of trouble with spent bullets



Mr. Fred Mulley, M.P., Minister for the Army, accompanied by the Commanding Officer, talking to recruits under training at Bury St. Edmunds, May 24, 1965. Soldiers left to right: Ptes. Plumb, Noble, Warwick, Sayer and Frost.

hopping over the 25m. range wall into a school sports field—to the consternation of the headmaster and the puzzlement of ourselves. After digging out and sifting the sand twice, without success, we called in the experts. Major E. Davis, R.E., the Range Technical Officer from Hythe arrived, took one measurement and said that the range was built to the wrong specification. So we were without the range for four weeks while Garrison Works dug everything out and shortened the range by about one metre. Blushes of embarrassment were noted among some officers who cleared the range two years ago.

During the last two months the P.T. Staff, under S.I. Stoves and Lt. Wright, have been building a confidence area in Gibraltar Barracks. A lot of credit must go to Cpl. Durrent, who has obtained kit from all over the place. Eight obstacles, including a Burma bridge, death slide and swings, have been built at differing heights of up to 35ft. among the trees. A non-public inauguration ceremony was held when the Commanding Officer went down the death slide. All the P.T. staff are now like monkeys, but "apelike" would be a better description for Lt. Wright!

Personal occurrences are too numerous to be listed fully, but one or two must be mentioned. We must congratulate Sgt. Wilson on his pro-

motion, and both Mrs. Wilson and he on the birth of a daughter, Julie, on April 28.

Sgts. Ball, Wright, Knowles and Hansley have all joined us, and Sgt. Leatherland, Sainsbury and Cpl. Bould are due for posting to battalions soon.

Congratulations also to Major Young on his new appointment, for which he leaves us shortly. However, if he is off to Borneo or such parts, he will have to get in a bit of practice at basha-building, as it was noted that on a visit to a camping platoon he took three hours to erect his bivvy!

RECRUITS' WEEK-END ACTIVITIES AT THE DEPOT

In order to get all members of a platoon working together as soon as possible, recruits are not now allowed to go home during the first week-end of their training. During these week-ends, platoon commanders organise various interest activities in which the whole platoon takes part. The most popular one, by far, is camping, of various kinds. This has proved so popular that most platoons continue week-end camping throughout their training on a voluntary basis.

The platoon commanders have nosed out a particularly good pub on the Norfolk Broads,

where the landlord kindly allows the camps to be set up in a field behind the pub, and he welcomes all soldiers with open arms and house. Lt. Wright and Gaza Platoon are now practically regulars, with their favourite spots by the bar. They have taken along recruits from other platoons, and Sgt. Everitt went along to vet the place from the Regimental Police angle. Sgt. Leatherland and Cpl. Groom looked after the administrative side of affairs, and the former is in the running for a master chefship.

Canoeing is a feature of these camps and is very popular, especially now that the Nuffield Trust has kindly donated four folding canoes. Ptes. Dixon and Shropshire prefer paddling with beer mugs, but Lt. Varley prefers doing it with an outboard motor, and when that packs up he is creekbound. So popular has the area proved that six recruits hired a cabin cruiser during their end-of-training leave for a cruise around the Broads but got no further down the river than the moorings at the pub. (It must be admitted that the landlord's daughter is not unattractive).

Other activities have been fun-fairing and fishing at Felixstowe (Tobruk Platoon), and watching motor racing at Snetterton. On March 20, Imphal Platoon, with Lt. Barrett, went to see a football match between Ipswich Town and Manchester City. Through the kindness of Mr. J. Cobbold, Chairman of Ipswich Town, the whole platoon was admitted free of charge, and enjoyed watching a good game of football.



Training Company Camping.

Ptes. Dixon, Trundle, Jones and Shropshire queue up to get their breakfast from Sgt. Leatherland and Pte. Haden.

Lt. Light, with ten of the under 17½-year-old platoon, spent two days down at West Mersea in the Army Sailing Association boats. Most of the first day was spent in trying to rig one boat, to no avail, but on the second day a Sprite and an Enterprise were got into the water. The morning was a bit disappointing as it was low water, which, at West Mersea, means a lot of mud and no water, and there was no wind. The tide and the wind rose together in the afternoon and everybody had a turn at the helm at one or other of the two boats. One or two of the more hardy characters did some swimming.

At the time of writing, the same platoon is canoeing down the River Lark from Bury St. Edmunds to the Ouse. The latest report to come in said that after completing four miles, the canoe carrying the blankets overturned. A separate report from the survivors is given below.

All in all the camping and other expeditions have been most successful. There is no doubt that they do have a good effect in welding to-

"H.Q." COMPANY

The relative inertia of the winter months has given away to the more furious activity which greets the arrival of the spring and summer. This is, after all, according to the recurring cycle of life, and Headquarter Company is no exception.

In the company office we are very sorry to say goodbye to C.S.M. Simmonds. He has been a bulwark of efficiency, good humour and integrity to the Company, Depot and Regiment, and will be much missed. He has served 22 years, and we wish him good fortune in his future life. We welcome in his place C.S.M. Drew.

L/Cpl. Booth has provided the continuity link in the office. We are grateful for Cpl. Tidman's help—he returns to the Drums after doing much valuable work in the office.

In the Orderly Room, Sgt. Jackson works very hard sifting the vast amount of paperwork inseparable from a Depot of this size.

The pay staff is terribly overworked; S/Sgt. Wood, with his amiable malapropisms and the largest "in" tray in the British Army, let no one forget this. Very well assisted by Mr. Keble, Mrs. Elmer and Cpl. Cannon, he has an unenviable task.

Sergeant Tucker is now the watchdog guardian of our precincts. From his guard-room he casts a jaundiced gaze at all who enter the dangerous (for motorists) gates.

S/Sgt. McKnight and his cook staff have to

face all the worst brunt of an ever-changing Depot strength. We were particularly pleased that L/Cpl. Turner was selected in April to go to Chequers to be one of the Prime Minister's cooks.

Guiding the destinies of all is Major Cobbold, who is shortly to leave the Depot and take on a staff job in Malaya. We wish him and his family good fortune.

With all four regular Battalions abroad, "H.Q." Company work is increased, not diminished. Battalion welfare and discipline cases often have to be dealt with at the headquarters here. However, we not only cope, but flourish, and the survival of our spirits and our administration is the abiding proof of this.

OFFICERS' MESS

As we go to press, extensive alterations are taking place in our Mess in preparation for the summer activities. However, these notes are designed to record the past, and the chief events of the past six months were the two cocktail parties, held on March 2 and 4. Despite snow and sub-zero temperatures, these were a great success; many of the local civil and military dignitaries attended.

An impromptu party and curry lunch took place on the week-end of Jeremy Winckley's wedding, as it provided a rare opportunity, when everybody was in the area over that week-end, and the numerous wedding guests from afar had not flown back to their winter resorts. Once again, snow did not deter anyone.

As usual, after the fortnightly passing-out parades, lunch is given to the inspecting officer, and wives are invited. Major-General Fyfe, Mr. Eldon Griffiths, M.P., Councillor E. G. Steel, J.P. (Mayor of Bury St. Edmunds), and Alderman H. G. Ives (Mayor of Cambridge) were among the inspecting officers. In April, Major-General Fyfe came to say goodbye in the Mess over a mid-morning sherry. Major-General Young, the Director of Infantry, visited the Mess for lunch during May.

A monthly dining-in night has been re-started, at which officers may invite guests under less formal arrangements than a full guest night, but with the same procedures and silver.

We were very sorry to say goodbye to Lt. Brian Harrington-Spier. His mimicry and bounce always enlivened the Mess. We welcome Lt. Terry English as his immediate replacement.

By the time these remarks are in print, the Mess will have had a face lift. A new porch is being built, and we have every confidence that this, together with a notice board indicating that this actually is the Mess, will enable us to present a nobler image to the outside world.

We are also carrying out an extensive improvement to the Ladies' Room Annex, and we hope that this will make the Mess more comfortable.

SERGEANTS' MESS

Since the last notes on Mess activities, the main eventful happenings have been the change of personnel. We have said goodbye to our old friends, W.O.II Simmonds and C/Sgt. Childs, who have now left to work(?) as civilians, and at the same time bid a farewell to such well-known members as W.O.I Gingell, W.O.II Ted Holden, and C/Sgt. Scott, who passed through on discharge.

However, we welcome new blood in the shape of our new R.S.M., W.O.I Cotter, who has joined us from the 4th/5th Essex and is now well in the saddle and is keeping everyone up to the mark. Other arrivals have been C.S.M. Drew, Sgts. Knowles, Wright and Ball, all of whom are now old Depotians.

Our social life has entered a new phase with a weekly games night, well patronised by the local police, who are no mean darts players. We also run monthly socials, which have been successful so far. A lack of modern dances is noted though.

Whit Sunday saw us holding a curry lunch, and once again we proved that the Mess has elastic walls.

By the time this issue appears we will have enjoyed the Regimental Week-end, and it is hoped we will have been able to entertain many old friends again.

JUNIOR SOLDIERS' WING

Once more *The Castle* is upon us. The Junior Soldiers' Wing rallies round with the result of the following notes.

Personalities change but the wing itself stays. This term the strength started with 105 boys, but already the number is down to 99. This decrease is only due to boys coming on to men's service.

Our aim is to turn boys into educated—academically and militarily—fit men; thus sending to our Battalions a useful end-product.

Last term our aim was well on the way to being achieved. The results of the education tests were most encouraging, and a very high percentage of passes in all three standards was attained.

The team spirit between Houses is most pronounced, but the spirit of the individual to get on and better himself is lacking. To rectify this, the Merit Award Scheme has been introduced. This comprises of six standards, divided into Red 1, 2 and 3 and Gold 1, 2 and 3. The standard held is denoted by wearing the appropriate number and colour bar on the sleeve.

Each standard carries certain privileges, these increase as the standard becomes more difficult.

At the moment only J/Cpl. Cutting and J/Bdsm. Strudwick have reached the Gold standard. J/Cpls. Boddy, Clarke and Armstrong are trying hard to leave the Reds behind.

This scheme adds colour to the uniforms. To this we have added the wearing of red lanyards. (The publicans have been informed!). J/Bdsm. Ansil was the first to wear one and was seen walking up the path, with a certain amount of swagger and with a pronounced occasional glance at his left shoulder!

Sport is well to the fore, and a good term's sports culminated in a three-event match against Home Counties Brigade Junior Soldiers' Company. The result was most gratifying, except the hockey. The Wing had a resounding victory in the cross-country race, winning by 23 points to 53; the football was won by 2 goals to 1; and the hockey we lost by 17 goals to nil. We would rather not talk about this result, but console ourselves with the fact that they were the runners-up in the Junior Championship—we dread to think what the winners were like.

The cricket XI are in a West Suffolk 20 Overs League Competition, with so far not much success. We tied with Wheltenham Y.C. and lost to Risby Y.C. by 20 runs. We still have a chance to get our revenge.

The shooting team had two matches against Chadacre Agricultural Institute, which were both lost; the first by 100 points and the second by 23. J/Dmr. Howell and J/Cpl. Aspell did well in both matches.

JUNIOR DRUMMERS

The Spring Term proved to be most successful for us in all spheres of activity within the Wing. Lincoln House, under the direction of Cpl. Dolby, are now the proud possessors of the Champion House Shield, which is awarded each term.

The eleven and seven-a-side football competitions were won by Essex House, spurred and cajoled to victory by Cpl. Thorne.

Suffolk House, supervised by Cpl. Phillips, won the Drill Competition, in face of keen opposition.

The Junior Drummers were well to the fore at the end of term prize-giving. Prize-winners, for the best junior soldier at a particular hobby included J/Dmr. Clarke (Ciné Club), J/Dmr. Leonard (woodwork), J/Dmr. Joyce (pottery), J/Dmr. Howe!! (.22 shooting), and J/Dmr. Chapman (chess). We almost, but not quite, swept the board!

Recently promoted to J/L/Cpl. are J/Drms. Arnold, Birkett, Dorkes, Clarke and Boddy.

Boddy was awarded the C.O.'s Bugle last term. Congratulations to all Houses and individuals mentioned for their achievements and team spirit.

We welcome to the department Cpl. Phillips from "H.Q." Company, and the 19 new boys who joined us at the start of this term.

Finally, we say goodbye to our tame Irishman, "Paddy" Stokes, who has left us for the hazards of civilian life. Other departures, to Training Company and their Battalions, are J/Cpls. Dent and Hilton, J/Dmrs. Smart Jones (56) and Newberry. To all of them we extend our best wishes for the future.

THE BAND

The pressure of work is still maintained, but the summer months somewhat increase the pressure. We still continue to play at the monthly church parades. It has been mentioned that the Band might like to play on the passing-out parade. This was a challenge accepted and about to be put into operation. Of course, it will give us experience and practice and will relieve some of the pressure on the Drummers.

We have had gratifying results from our theory classes, with fair percentages passing each examination. In fact last term we had three boys going to Colchester College of Further Education to study for their G.C.E. "O" Level in music.

J/Bdsm Makin, Bedding, Bailey and Riley have departed to the wild unknown life of their respective Bands. One never knows we may see them here again but under different circumstances. We hope so.

L/Cpl. Neale has joined the staff from the 2nd Battalion. Since his arrival his music has improved tremendously, although he does most of his 'individual' in the NAAFI. He now knows what a "Dot" does.

At last term's prize giving J/Cpl. Cutting was awarded the Best Musicians Cup. This is the third time he has won this cup. J/Bdsm Paulley was given the most improved musician award.

J/L/Cpl. Ford is congratulated on his recent promotion.

We welcome the following news boys:—Hill, Lines and Nolan.

JUNIOR PRIVATES

The Junior Privates Platoon have had a very active winter/spring term. A great deal of time being spent out of doors, much of it learning night work (military of course) and practicing patrolling drills and techniques.

This paid dividends later during an exercise against the Home Counties Junior Soldiers' Company. The Platoon were the escapers in an Escape and Evasion exercise. Six managed

to reach the final RV 24 hours late despite escaping in relatively open country.

Bedford House won the inter-House .22 shooting match and only just failed to carry off the Champion House Shield. They say they hope to make amends this term.

Much of this term was spent in training for the Ten Tors March, which is held at Whitsun down on Dartmoor.

Last term we were unable to do any firing on the ranges. This was not our fault. We have already started to rectify this and we expect to spend a lot of our time on the range. With the introduction of the Merit Award Scheme we hope and expect a great improvement in the marksmanship.

The platoon still supports the passing out platoons of Training Company on their parades.

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BATTALION REVIEW

The Battalion has been employed on IS duties in Aden with detachments up country for the whole period. In these duties we were joined by the 4th Battalion in March and the 1st Bn. The Royal Sussex Regiment in April. Despite their assistance the tasks seem just as numerous.

From mid-February to mid-March the Battalion was responsible for IS duties in Steamer Point, Maalla, Crater, Khormaksar and Sheik Othman. As "B" Company was at Mukeiras the burden fell largely on "A" and "C" Companies. Their tasks included manning the joint military and police headquarters, providing foot patrols, four pairs of mobile patrols and a platoon at immediate notice.

On February 17 a grenade was thrown at a mobile patrol in Crater. A civilian policeman was killed. Cpl. Day and Pte. Thompson of the Battalion, Cpl. Robinson of the Manchester Regiment TAER and Sig. Richardson of 15 Signal Regiment were wounded. Cpl. Day later received the Queen's Commendation for Gallantry for his actions after this incident.

Cpl. Robinson was one of a party of fifteen men of the TAER attached to the Battalion for training from February 14-26. During their stay they trained the hard way, i.e. doing the real thing in Aden and up country at Mukeiras. Cpl. Robinson was attached to "A" Company when he was wounded. All the TAER fitted into the Battalion well, and we hope they enjoyed their time with us.

Due to the pressure of operations on February 19 "B" Company were recalled from Mukeiras, having been there for less than three weeks of a six weeks tour. 12 Platoon, under Lt. E. Conder, which had been attached to "B" Company, were left behind to protect the camp.

On February 21 a grenade was thrown at a mobile patrol at Sheik Othman. Pte. Wicks of "A" Company was wounded in the leg.

Cordons and searches were carried out on February 23, March 4, 8 and 10. The first was of a very salubrious sweeper area in Crater and the others of shanty areas of Sheik Othman.

Other than some small amounts of ammunition nothing worthwhile was found.

On March 12, a Blindicide rocket was fired at the Sheik Othman Police Station. It hit the room occupied by the H.Q. of 7 Platoon "B" Company. Sgt. Smith and Pte Elba Porter were wounded. On March 14 a cordon and search was carried out by "B" Company of the dhobi lines used by the C.-in-C., G.O.C. and A.O.C. and the senior Staff Officers of Middle East Command. Unfortunately, and despite our hopes, nothing of interest was discovered. We hope that the dhobi was not delayed by the search.

"B" Company of the 4th Battalion came under command on March 16 to free "C" Company to go to Mukeiras on the 17th. Their stay was short as we handed over all IS duties to the 4th Battalion on March 21.

We then had a break from operations until March 31. On March 24 we were visited by the D.C.G.S., Lieut.-General Sir Geoffrey Baker, K.C.B., C.M.G., C.B.E., M.C.

On March 31 and April 1, Tactical H.Q., "A" and "B" Companies were deployed on curfew enforcement in Crater. On April 2 the Battalion was made responsible for IS in Crater, Khormaksar and Sheik Othman.

On April 3, "Operation Britannia" took place. This was a cordon and search of the village of Hiswa and was remarkable because the cordon troops were lifted in by helicopter.

On April 9 the Band came under fire. Whilst playing at a guest night at the Command H.Q. Mess a grenade was thrown during dinner. It is reported that there was only a slight pause in their playing.

"C" Company returned from Mukeiras on April 16 having had an uneventful stay. 4 Platoon was sent to Al Milah on the 19th to bolster the defences of the Sapper camp there.

To mark the Queen's Birthday, the Band and Drums Beat Retreat in Waterloo Barracks before a large audience. The Officers' and Sergeants' Messes entertained in their Messes after the ceremony.

As a result of NLF activities to mark the Queen's Birthday in which a police officer was wounded, a night curfew was imposed on Crater

from March 22 to 27. The Battalion enforced this curfew. Grenades were thrown at three of our foot patrols on March 23, 24 and 25, and except for Cpl. Dempsey who was slightly wounded in the arm there were no casualties.

On April 29, Major-General J. H. Cubbon paid his farewell visit to the Battalion. He spoke to all ranks of the Battalion, and complimented us on our period of service under his command. He said that in his opinion the Battalion possessed a knowledge of IS duties second to none.

"A" Company went to Mukeiras on April 30 for two weeks, where they spent their time completing their PE tests and in rifle and LMG classification.

The Battalion provided the farewell Guard of Honour for General Cubbon on May 12.

On the night of May 14/15 the Sapper Camp at Al Milah was attacked. 4 Platoon engaged the enemy with 81 mm. mortars with accuracy. It was later confirmed that one dissident was killed and two more wounded.

On May 20, "B" and "C" Companies carried out a cordon and search in Crater. One Mark 7 mine and three 36 grenades were discovered. Pte. Cunningham was the successful searcher.

Major-General J. E. F. Willoughby, C.B.E., the new G.O.C. M.E.L.F., visited the Battalion on May 24. He inspected the Recce Platoon and the IS Standby Platoon during his visit.

Two more cordons and searches were carried out on May 26 and June 4. Two Russian grenades were recovered by Pte. Warren of "C" Company on the latter search.

On May 28, "A" and "B" Companies, the Recce Platoon and Assault Pioneer Platoon were placed under command of the 4th Battalion for a search in the Steamer Point area. Two platoons, one from each of "A" and "C" Company's, also operated in the Maalla area with the 4th Battalion on June 3.

In our turn we had "B" Company 1 Royal Sussex and the Recce Platoon of the 4th Battalion under command in Crater on June 4.

The future promises to follow the same pattern until the end of July when we are due to go to the Radfan again. Our relief in Aden, the Prince of Wales's Own Regiment of Yorkshire, are arriving in mid-September, so we shall be kept busy. IS duties may not be the most glamorous task, but morale is high and the task worthwhile. We look forward to our return and to BAOR with anticipation.

OFFICERS' MESS

Due to IS operations Mess activities have been curtailed, and little entertainment has been possible.

On March 27 the bachelor officers threw an excellent party. The theme was James Bond

and the invitations with appropriate embellishments indicated that the party would start with vodka at eight. It seemed that all Fleming's characters were well represented and much originality of costume was shown. It may be significant that there were so many nurses, Pussy Galores and odd jobs about. A cabaret led by Mark Burnham, Richard Abbott, Brian Copping and David Voy was commended for its quality and originality. Surprisingly enough everyone seemed to get home without breaking curfew.

On April 21 the Band and Drums Beat Retreat to mark the Queen's Birthday. A cocktail party was held in the Mess afterwards. The guests were mainly from Headquarters Aden Brigade, the 4th Battalion, and the advance party of the Royal Sussex. It was a convivial affair marred only by the NLF marking the Queen's Birthday in a rather unpleasant way with the result that some guests had to leave earlier than was intended. An advanced element of Tactical H.Q. of the 4th Battalion appeared to be set up in the Mess Office.

On May 23 a curry lunch was held in the Mess. The newly arrived B.G.S., Brigadier W. G. S. Mills, was the principal guest, supported by officers of the 4th Battalion and the Royal Sussex. The Band played on the patio before lunch.

There have been the usual comings and goings. John Varley spent his leave with us in March, having indulged out by R.A.F. He appeared to enjoy himself socially, on IS duties and up country, and in a very important part in the Burnham cabaret. Willie Hawkins and Ian Pearce visited the R.C.B. at Westbury and have passed.

Ian Baillie, our padre, has left us for B.A.O.R.; John Childs and John Keep for tours with the Malaysian Police. Our best wishes go with them all.

The arrivals include Colin Simpson from the Depot, Dan Bailly and Brian Emsden who are returning to Regimental duty. Bert Stanley has taken over the duties of Vicar.

SERGEANTS' MESS

We have just received our first copy of the new Regimental Journal and would like to extend our congratulations to all concerned for a first class job.

Our social activities are still very much restricted due to the local situation and most Mess members, in keeping with the rest of the Battalion, seem to meet themselves coming off one duty or another. However, we manage to squeeze in a curry lunch or a barbecue once a month of a Sunday lunch time—which goes down well with all the "Mums" as it saves them slaving over a hot stove at temperatures averaging the 100 degrees mark. We have had



*Guard of Honour for Major-General J. H. Cubbon, C.B., C.B.E.
Left to right: Major Holman, the Commanding Officer and General Cubbon.*

one or two good Saturday lunch time "sessions," when the "Officers' Mess" has been invited—as a result there are one or two officers who have been convinced that they are not as "Strong" as they would have us believe.

Congratulations to Sgt. "Up Country" Jones on the award of his B.E.M. and by way of a reward he has been appointed Mess Caterer vice Sgt. Noble who has recently been posted to "B" Company. Our thanks to Sgt. Noble for all the sterling work he put in during his tour—to "Jonah" we say, "Good luck to you, Jack."

The following members have left us for what can only be described as "Greener Pastures": C.S.M. "Ted" Holden to the Brigade Depot for onward transmission to "Civvy Street," good luck with the golfing Ted; R.Q.M.S. "Len" Drew who will now be safely installed in his new job at the Brigade Depot; C/Sgt. "Mac" Sennett to the T.A. at Ipswich; C/Sgt. Griffin also to the T.A., and Sgts. Hansley and Cocksedge who have gone their various ways. Good luck to you all in your new jobs.

Two members who left us under less happier circumstances are Sgt. John Smith and Sgt.

Dennis Melvin. Sgt. Smith who suffered extensive injuries as the result of terrorist activity and Sgt. Melvin who was involved in a traffic accident. We sincerely hope that they are now well on the way to recovery and look forward to seeing them again very shortly.

Welcome back to R.Q.M.S., "Sid" Parker, C.S.M. "Bill" Townley, C/Sgt. "Bert" High and Sgt. "Dickie" Pope. To Sgts. Denny, Crook and Gaffer we extend our congratulations on their promotion into the Mess, and we hope that their stay will be a long and happy one.

We close these notes with the Battalion thinking about preparations for our next move, Mess members brushing up their German and polishing up "beer steins" of various shapes and sizes.

GUARD OF HONOUR ON THE DEPARTURE OF MAJOR-GENERAL J. H. CUBBON, C.B., C.B.E.

On Wednesday, May 12, a Guard of Honour was mounted for Major-General J. H. Cubbon, C.B., C.B.E., G.O.C. M.E.L.F., on his departure



Major-General Cubbon talking to the Band and Drums. Left to right: Bandmaster G. A. Holben, Drum Major G. Moyes.

from the Command. The Battalion, as the unit having served longest under his command, was selected for this task.

The Guard was commanded by Major R. M.

Holman, M.B.E., and consisted of 24 men from each of "B" and "C" Companies. The Regimental Colour was carried by 2/Lt. B. M. Copping and the escort consisted of C/Sgt. Taylor, Sgt. Finn and Sgt. Mixer. The Band and Drums, under Bandmaster G. A. Holben, played during the ceremony.

General Cubbon was received with a General Salute and then inspected the Guard and Band and Drums. On completion he complimented the Guard on its bearing, steadiness and turn-out. After a final General Salute, the General took farewell of his senior Staff Officers. As he left the parade for his car the Band played Auld Lang Syne.

VERTICAL ENVELOPMENT

APRIL 3, 1955

During the afternoon of April 3 a cordon and search was carried out of the southern part of the village of Hiswa, which lies between Aden and the Federal capital of Al Ittihad. As a variation of the normal method of movement and to achieve surprise the cordon troops were to be moved by the helicopters of the commando carrier H.M.S. *Albion*.

At 14.50 hours ten Wessex helicopters of 848 Squadron appeared in the air heading for the barrack square. On the square men of "B" Company and Tactical H.Q. were formed up in their sticks at the ten touch down points. Within three minutes of landing all men were emplaned. The only hitch being that the



Wessex helicopters of 848 Royal Naval Squadron on Waterloo Square.

Colonel found his seat occupied by a Marine Officer who had come to gain experience in helicopter operations. The first lesson he learnt was the elementary one of making certain he got in the right helicopter.

Whilst these preliminaries were taking place, the search and cage troops were driving towards Hiswa. They were timed to arrive within five minutes of the cordon being in position.

At 14.53 the helicopters took off and five minutes later were landing their troops. All methods of deplaning were used—touch down, jumping from about six feet and roping down. As soon as all troops had landed, nine of the helicopters returned to *Albion*. The remaining aircraft carried a cut off and observation party under 2/Lt. B. W. Copping. This aircraft remained in the air, circling the area.

The vehicle party arrived as planned. The cage party erected the cage and "A" Company started the search. The village is a typical Arab village of mud huts and huts made from packing cases. The whole area being of disorderly layout, full of nooks and crannies, open drains, refuse pits and with a decided smell of its own.

As a result the search took three hours; eighty-five persons screened—the result, one man being detained for not being able to identify himself adequately, and three 'gamblés' (local knives) found.

The aerial cut off party were used to chase and apprehend a suspect Land Rover. Their case was conducted by the helicopter flying at Land Rover level and landing ahead of the vehicle. Not every Arab fisherman has had the experience of being pursued and arrested by helicopter.

At the end of the operation the troops returned to barracks by road.

SAILORS BEWARE

At the beginning of May the "Small Boat Section" was formed, now known as the "SBS" (our apologies to another well-known organisation).

Our amphibious friends "45" Commando from Little Aden produced an inflatable "Gemini" assault craft powered by a potent forty horse power "Johnson" outboard engine. After two days of expert instruction in the art of staying afloat by "Sea" Capt. Hugh Horrex, a trained crew was ready to start operations in earnest. A crew consists of a mechanic and coxswain to operate the engine, two gunmen on watch, a radio operator and of course the fearless skipper.

Many lessons were learned on the maiden night voyage which proved to be more hazardous than expected in a heavy monsoon swell. On the next trip, all equipment was carefully tied in and kept dry with that multi-



SBS AND GEMINI

Figure head Pte. Wayman. Left: Pte. Cox, Pte. Sergeant, Pte. Miaszek. Right: Capt. Horrex, Pte. Berry.

purpose invention, the plastic bag. On this occasion, acting on information provided by Special Branch, we hoped to intercept arms being smuggled into Crater. Several fishing boats were searched to no avail. Since then, with increased skill and experience, more ambitious operations have been undertaken, one included the arrest of a large fishing vessel which was escorted alongside a Royal Naval Minesweeper and searched. The Navy were pleasantly surprised to see the "pongos" venturing so far from the shore under their own steam. On other occasions difficult landings were affected on the rocky coast and ambushes laid.

These operations appear to have been successful as it is reported that the smuggling of arms has been reduced and that the Commanding Officer regularly has fish for breakfast.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

1st (NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK)
BATTALION

October 15: Officers' Dinner Club Buffet Luncheon at the Naval and Military Club.

Officers' Dinner Club Dinner at the Army and Navy Club.

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4th BATTALION

THE ROYAL NORFOLK REGIMENT (TA)

BATTALION REVIEW

The first major event during this period was the Brigade Signal Exercise "Spring Filip" on March 27/28. The exercise, held in Colchester, relied on good communications and this time the ever-fluctuating carbon granule was on our side, the radios worked over quite useful distances and the exercise went well.

Following this was another Brigade exercise, "Dawn Mist II," on April 3/4. This was undoubtedly the highlight of the period, troops taking part were drawn from nearly all units in Norfolk and Suffolk, forming the 4 Royal Norfolk/S.C. Composite Battalion Group.

Battalion personnel were drawn from H.Q., "A" and "D" Companies. The exercise, which was an amphibious/airborne exercise, consisted of a move by LST in H.M.S. *Rampart* from Ipswich docks to the south bank of the River Stour where an amphibious assault landing took place at Wrabness. The assault landing was a new venture for most (especially at that time of the year!) and with a co-operative Navy, an energetic Beachmaster (R.S.M. Fowler) and a

certain amount of help from the R.E.M.E. L.A.D. the landing was completed.

The capture of the rebel broadcaster in Colchester was soon completed and the mission was then accomplished. Everyone returned home satisfied, richer for the experience and a little damp in places!

Other activities of the Battalion have included completion of the support weapons at TAER Cadres, an assault course competition and live firing weekends at Stanford PTA.

The Battalion has now opened a new TAC in Thetford and recruiting is going well. Very soon we will be able to form a useful platoon from those joined, many of whom were members of the T.A. in London Regiments.

The shortage of suitable officer candidates for subaltern officers still remains and we would welcome ex-junior officers or suitable officer material to join the Regiment. At present we have four Officer Cadets training for a commission in the Regiment.

Twenty-nine members of the TAER flew to Germany to attend a field training camp with 1 Royal Warwickshire Fusiliers from May 8-22.

THE SUFFOLK AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE REGIMENT (TA)

BATTALION HEADQUARTERS

At the time of writing for the first issue of *The Castle* notes, the Battalion was due to play in the quarter-final of the All-England T.A. Challenge Cup at football. Since then the Battalion team reached the finals and was defeated by the 4/6th Battalion the Royal Berkshire Regiment at the Huntley and Palmers Sports Stadium, Reading. 4/6th Royal Berkshire (T.A.) 4, S.C. (T.A.) nil. Despite the result the game was very closely contested up to the final whistle.

Annual Camp at the Army Home Defence Centre, Devizes, was enjoyed by all those who attended in spite of the changeable weather. The highlight of the camp was provided by an exercise held in the second week, which required the Battalion to dig survival shelters underground and remain in these for a period of some 12 hours. With few exceptions the exercise was enjoyed by all those taking part.

Some thirty-two members of the Battalion, mainly from the Recce and Signal Platoons,

under the leadership of Colonel C. C. Wells, T.D., and Major J. D. Churchill, M.C., carried out a very successful adventure training exercise. Leaving Devizes by road at the end of the second week of Camp and proceeding to the Isle of Skye and returning to Felixstowe after approximately one week. Those taking part practised map reading, communications, convoy control, etc., during the journeys. Approximately three days were spent on the island itself engaging in rock climbing and signal training exercises.

It is with regret that the Battalion say Au Revoir to Lt.-Col. C. C. Wells, T.D., on completion of his tour as Commanding Officer. Lt.-Col. C. C. Wells joined the T.A. in 1939 and the Battalion sends its best wishes to him on his retirement. At the same time we welcome Lt.-Col. G. C. Howgego, who assumes command from August 1, 1965.

"B" COMPANY

This has been a busy and eventful period for the Company. As readers will know from our

last notes, Major Bob Brashaw left us last September to become Second-in-Command, but we did not have an opportunity to say an official farewell until the Company Dinner Dance in February. On this very successful occasion (thanks again to Sgt. and Mrs. Taylor) we presented him with an inscribed coaster as a memento. Sgt. and Mrs. Dick Pope also called in en route to Aden, and as a token of thanks for all the good work he has done in the last two years we presented him with an inscribed clock. The Pope's will always be welcome any time they call, and we were very sorry to see them go.

At Cambridge, the Mortar Platoon under Lt. Derek Latchford has been training hard and achieved good results in the field-firing at Camp. The keenness of the platoon has attracted a lot of new recruits, and the Canteen is now one of the livelier places in the city on Monday and Wednesday nights. Welcome back to Ptes. Harrison and Bridge after their tours with the Royal Signals and Royal Engineers.

At Newmarket, we welcome back Lt. Chris Taylor from the Ely Platoon, who has taken over the reins from Sgt. Doug Burch. The best Newmarket traditions of tough and unusual training are being rapidly developed, and the platoon has never been in finer fettle. In April the platoon organised themselves for Exercise "Water Gypsy"—and even if the "normal channels" were not used very much, the weekend was an unqualified success! Much happened on that dark Saturday night that would make strong men tremble, but a lot was learned at Streham Ferry, a lot was drunk, and a lot got wet! And everyone wants to do it again!

Camp at Devizes is covered elsewhere in this issue, but ex-members will like to know that, even if our numbers were low, we thoroughly enjoyed it, and that we managed to win the First Aid and Rescue Competition. Congratulations to L/Cpl. Peter Faulkes, the highest scorer.

A big welcome for our new P.S.I., W.O.II "Mac" Sennett, who has got to know all the Company in a remarkably short time, and is making a valuable effort towards training. But there are still one or two that he hasn't yet drunk under the table!

Congratulations to Sgt. Doug Burch on his baby daughter, and—just as we go to press—to Mrs. Turney on her son: "6 lb. 14 oz., 10 inches long, and lots of black hair." Obviously another recruit!

We are now looking forward to our weekend at Brynrefail Rock Climbing Centre in North Wales, and to Pte. Terry Holder's wedding on July 17 to Beryl Page, daughter of C/Sgt. Harry Page. In the words of Sgt. Doug Burch, "Hold Tight."

"C" COMPANY

The New Year started off with a very successful "Company Dinner" at Leiston T.A.C. The previous Company Commander, Major R. A. F. Kemp, was guest of honour. We used this opportunity to present him with a silver Danish-style tea service and tray. In accepting the gift, Major Kemp thanked us in his inimitable way with a feast of T.A. stories. I am sure that every member of the company feel a sense of deep loss at his departure. He had completed, in war and peace, 25 years' service, a fine example to us all, and we wish him well in his new school-teaching appointment in Norfolk. It was also gratifying to see so many ex-members of the Company in attendance as well.

In March we had a highly successful training week-end with the R.A.F. Helicopter Air Rescue Flight at Coltishall Aerodrome and received instruction on section embussing and debussing helicopter drills from Flt.-Lt. C. Paish, the climax of which was a climb down a 20ft. rope from a hovering helicopter; this was enthusiastically led by the Company Commander, Major G. M. Wilson, and not a few of us had sore hands at the end. We were able to repeat this type of training again in May, for the purpose of practising our role in the Suffolk Tattoo at Bury St. Edmunds on June 12. The C.O. "dropped in" on us on this occasion, his means of transport being his private 'plane. He landed right beside the helicopter we were using and this certainly impressed both the R.A.F. personnel and ourselves. This proves we have a "fly" C.O.!

An amphibious operation, Exercise "Dawn Mist" was held in April and we were able to supply some men to the Royal Norfolk who were doing this in collaboration with the Royal Navy. Basically, it involved a Battalion beach landing on the Essex coast, an advance to contact, and an attack on an enemy radio station. The Royal Navy told us that the depth of water on landing would be a maximum of 3ft. Their measuring stick must be something comparable with our R.S.M.'s mile! In spite of this a "swimming time" was had by one and all.

We welcome 2/Lt. P. J. Gibbons, Officer Cadets J. Bewley and I. N. Boast to the Company, they are sorely needed, and we sincerely hope they will soon become a distinct asset to us.

P.S.I. Sgt. K. Alright has joined us from Battalion H.Q., and will help us immensely, especially with his originality of training aids.

The end of May sees us at our annual camp, which is at the Army Home Defence Centre, Devizes, Wilts.

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"H.Q." COMPANY

We have had a change of P.S.I.s, W.O.II Townley is now with the 1st Royal Anglian and we welcome to the Company Sgt. Boon.

Capt. Bevis has become M.T.O. The amount of bribery and pressure required to obtain his consent is not known. Lt. Brown (Loyals), who attends Ipswich Drill Hall for drills, has agreed to become R.S.O.

We welcome the detachment at Haverhill who have transferred to "H.Q." Company. They will form the Defence Platoon, under the command of Lt. Wylie.

Camp at Devizes was enjoyed by all, and many soldiers in the Company found that their specialist occupations did not preclude them from their part in digging one of the burrows.

The Signal Platoon spent the week after camp at Skye, and found that for some unknown reason voice procedure was improved by trotting up and down mountains.

Congratulations are due to Cpl. Pittock, who has been awarded the Territorial Efficiency Medal.

DRUMS

Our months of consistent band practice during the winter months have been of immense value to us. We have been perfecting beatings for the marches played by our friends in the Band. The stick drill, difficult to learn, and equally difficult to remember on the march, has proved again to be most impressive to the spectator, as was commented upon most favourably after our appearance on our latest parade, the Ipswich Carnival.

Regretfully, we still have to be without our melody, as fife players are most difficult to come by. However, it is universally agreed that what the Drums lack in melody, they make up for in dress and deportment. Their front three ranks of four, in scarlet tunics and perfectly whitened equipment, supply that necessary dash of colour to ensure a smart turnout of the Band and Drums.

The public may not understand the finer points of music, but they can, and do, appreciate the precision of movement, dressing, and high standard of turn-out, which is what we, the Corps of Drums, aim at every time we appear on parade.

Finally, thanks to all Drummers for the excellent attendance at practice throughout the winter; this is most gratifying to your instructor and the results are evidence of his skill.

OFFICERS' MESS

Our last notes ended with a comment on the postponement of the Regimental ball. It finally took place on April 30, and with the attendance exceeding 200, all was set for an enjoyable evening. For once, expectations were

matched by reality. A further officers' ladies' dinner night was held in Ipswich in the spring, when we were able to dine-out Robin and Elizabeth Mason. Whilst the attendance was not great, those who made the journey felt it to have been worthwhile.

These notes were started at camp, but other events prevented their completion. This year we had adequate accommodation and were pleased to share the Mess with the officers of 161 Field Ambulance (T.A.). Apart from a guest night, we were able to meet a number of officers from other units, together with local guests, at a cocktail party. During the first week we were pleased to entertain the Warrant Officers and Sergeants. Perhaps it was our good fortune that shortage of time prevented the holding of the Officers v. Sergeants football match which had been suggested.

Now we revert to the need for continued Mess interests out of camp. The lack of adequate premises and long distances to be traversed by many members are constant problems to be met. Our monthly lunches continue to be popular and are now to be held from time to time in centres other than Ipswich. Some interpretation of the sketchy notes of the Mess Meeting may reveal at least to the writer, activities to which, in an optimistic hour at the start of camp, the Mess has committed itself.

WARRANT OFFICERS' & SERGEANTS' MESS

In February last we were at Norwich for a week-end of Home Defence training, which "happened" to coincide with a social being held in the Mess at 4th Royal Norfolk in Britannia Barracks. A good time was had by one and all, although the training on Sunday was very heavy going for some!

The bi-annual Mess Meeting was held at Lowestoft in April, and was attended by the Commanding Officer, Training Major, Adjutant and Quartermaster, and the Company Commander of "D" Company, our hosts for the meeting. A successful day in every way, with many curious wives asking why their husbands were so late home. At least one member arrived home after dark.

We extend a hearty welcome to W.O.II Sennett and Sgt. Boon on their arrival, and hope their stay will be a pleasant one. Sgt. Boon has had minor problems over accommodation, for the "bed-sit." life proved too much, especially when it came to boiling eggs in very expensive saucepans. He now resides in more luxurious surroundings with Sgt. and Mrs. Fincham, and is even putting on weight.

To come up to date, the Mess is now beginning to pack up, ready for handing over and return to Ipswich, although most of the

members are at present underground in their Survival Holes recovering from the efforts of digging for the past 24 hours.

We have had an enjoyable camp; at the same time we have completed an extensive course in Home Defence Training. Now, of course, we await the School's comments on our efforts, which we hope will be in our favour.

On the first Tuesday evening we invited the Corporals to a social evening in the Mess, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. This has, in fact, become an annual event. The following evening we held our guest night, inviting members from all other units, which proved very successful. On both occasions a cold buffet was arranged and the Messing Committee and cooks are to be congratulated on making such an impact on the appetites of everyone attending. Our thanks are also due to W.O.II Conboy and his Entertainments Committee for their efforts towards making the evenings successful.

At lunch time on Wednesday, we were honoured by a visit of the G.O.C.-in-C., Lieut.-General Sir George Cole, K.C.B., C.B.E. He stayed for almost an hour and chatted with as many members as possible in the short time available.

Tales of deeds performed at camp are already passing from mouth to mouth, with a little exaggeration at each telling. Like the one about the Warrant Officer who issued a challenge to another Mess for a drinking competition and then collapsed after his first drink!

Or the one about the fairly senior member of the Mess who went to town, parked his car, and was then unable to find it again. The help of a police constable was obtained, although this gentleman became very suspicious when asked to find a car by a very merry driver who was talking about a certain very popular club he wanted to find.

But the best one to date is the one about a sergeant who, in the local bar, spotted what he considered to be a Regimental tie, worn by a fairly prosperous-looking gentleman. "Royal Dragoons or Scots Greys," asked our hero. "Neither, mate," came the quick reply. "It's the Amalgamated Society of Plumbers!" Exit our hero.

We offer our congratulations to R.S.M. J. F. Parrott on his being awarded the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, and to ex-Sgt. Gillett on his award of the T.A. Efficiency Medal, which unfortunately, arrived soon after he left the Mess.

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September 25. — Reunion Dinner at Britannia Barracks.

September 26. — Service in the Regimental Chapel, 10 a.m.

October 12. — Nurse Cavell Memorial Service, Life's Green, Norwich Cathedral, 10.45 a.m.

October 30. — King's Lynn Branch Dinner.

November 11. — Remembrance Service at the Memorial Cottages, Norwich, 10.45 a.m.

November 13. — London Branch Dinner at the Cooper's Arms, Bucklersbury, Cannon Street (corner of Queen Victoria Street).



2nd (Duchess of Gloucester's Own Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire) Battalion

THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

BATTALION REVIEW

Act I of the drama we are reporting was the Annual Inspection. Although the days of whitewashing stones, fixing clothing on to boards, polishing boot-studs and similar relaxing diversions are now past, we all found plenty to do making sure that our documentation, clothing and equipment were in top condition. Special mention must be made of the M.T., who previously received a good report on vehicles which had been in a poor condition. The big day passed off comparatively peacefully, and the Brigadier departed in good spirits after visiting the W.O.'s and Sergeants' Mess for refreshments and the Officers' Mess for lunch.

Operationally, there is little to report. The situation on the island has eased still further, allowing some relaxation of states of readiness; nevertheless, a large number of soldiers are still employed guarding the base installations. With the arrival of the hot weather, these duties become increasingly irksome, and every opportunity is taken to provide a little light relief.

One relief, sometimes a little less than light,

is training. Our constant aim is to make this as interesting and enjoyable as possible. Few opportunities present themselves for the whole Battalion to get away at the same time, but we have been able to organise two Battalion exercises.

The first, "Poacher's Run," took place mainly in our local training area, which goes by the picturesque name of Goshi-Troulli. The whole area looks rather like an artist's impression of the surface of the moon, and the maps do not have to be studied for long for their inadequacy to become clear. The exercise aim was to practise us in airportability and defence. The Battalion assembled at Akrotiri and was flown the sixty miles back to Dhekelia in Argosy aircraft of R.A.F. Transport Command. The "fog of war" descended at an early stage, because the Q Movements Representative could not be found and there was difficulty in discovering the exact time of take-off for the first chalk, but he arrived in the nick of time, and the first aircraft left as planned. Apart from a slight dislocation, caused by the fact that the Michigan excavator of our Sapper Troop was half-an-inch too long to fit into an aircraft, the

Cpl. Noble, 2nd Bn. The Royal Anglian Regiment, supervises the unloading of a Land Rover from an Argosy during Exercise "Poachers Run."





*Exercise "Poachers Run"—end of the battle.
Pte. Crawforth and Sgt. Shailes at "A" Company H.Q.*

move proceeded smoothly. The Battalion later deployed into reverse slope positions and spent 48 hours practising the routine of defence, including patrolling. The exercise ended with a mass attack by the "Buckshees," which was repelled after heavy fighting. Many valuable lessons were learnt, not least being the necessity for very careful map-reading.

Our second exercise, "Dragon's Blood," took place at the other end of the island and was a counter-insurgency exercise with a Borneo-type setting. Companies were dispersed over very wide areas, operating from platoon bases, and spent their time patrolling and ambushing. The exercise culminated in a Battalion dawn attack on a bandit camp. To ease the administrative problems, there being few tracks in the area, Companies took to the local form of transport and hired donkeys. This was not altogether a success as our inexperienced soldiers found that the donkeys could not always be persuaded to move in the required direction, or in some cases even to move at all. In the end no one went short of food or water; the only commodity in short supply was sleep!

Prior to this exercise the Battalion spent ten days camped by the sea near Episkopi. Each company took part in a two-day exercise named "Fell Swoop," organised by the Training Officer, Major E. Turnill. This was particularly designed to exercise the platoon commanders and N.C.O.s. In addition, all visited Akamas, at the north-west extremity of Cyprus, where they trained in idyllic surroundings beside Aphrodite's bath. There they were able to get away from the bustle of modern life for a few days and relax amidst magnificent scenery. Back in Dhekelia, all the normal types of training

have been carried out whenever circumstances have permitted.

Cadres for Junior N.C.O.s and specialists have also been held. Through the good offices of the R.A.F., the N.C.O. cadres have been able to visit Libya for the final week of their course for tactical training and field firing in the desert. We are very much indebted to the 14th/20th King's Hussars, in Benghazi, for all the help they have given us.

Two rifle companies have been away for a fortnight each, one to Nicosia and one Episkopi, to relieve other Battalions and allow them to train. Although on these visits much of the time is taken up with duties, the change of surroundings provides a welcome relief. Even the duties can make a pleasant variation. For example, it is a very different matter standing guard at Nicosia airport from being up a 40ft. tower amid the barren wastes of the ammunition sub depot.

A party of climbers, under Capt. D. J. Wilford has visited the mountains in the Aladag region of Southern Turkey. An article on the visit appears elsewhere.

In conjunction with other units in Dhekelia, the Battalion took part in the Queen's Birthday Parade, which was held on our barrack square. On June 3, "A" Company provided a guard of honour for the Chief of the Defence Staff. It was commanded by Major M. J. Barthorp.

The Band have had an extremely busy time. Apart from the dance band, which is in constant demand, the military band has performed at social occasions in the various messes of the garrison, played for parades, at athletic meetings, football and cricket matches and other

Sir Geoffrey De Freitas, M.P. for the Kettering Division of Northamptonshire, chats to Pte. David Peasnell and Pte. Murl Asbrey, two of his constituents, during a visit to the 2nd Bn. The Royal Anglian Regiment on June 10, 1965.



sporting events. In addition, it has broadcast a weekly programme of regimental marches for British Forces Broadcasting Service, Cyprus.

The Battalion Group, "The Four Chessmen," has now really got into "the groove." It has taken part in a broadcast, as well as performing at several local dances.

Major Terence Knox, the P.R.I., organises an all ranks' dance every month; these are extremely well attended. We have also been fortunate in getting C.S.E. shows, including one starring Marty Wilde, which was very popular.

During the past three months we have been visited by the Vice-Chief of the General Staff, Lieut.-General Sir Geoffrey Baker, K.C.B., C.M.G., M.C., and Sir Geoffrey De Freitas, M.P. for the Kettering Division of Northamptonshire, the Director of Land Air Warfare, Major-General Napier Crookenden, D.S.O., O.B.E.

We are happy to welcome back to the Battalion, Major J. B. Akehurst, now O.C. "B" Company, Capt. E. M. C. D. Taylor, M.C., O.C. "H.Q." (Admin.) Company, Lt. J. A. G. Everitt, who has joined the Air Platoon as a fully-fledged pilot, and 2/Lt. Kirton, from Mons O.C.S.

We say *au revoir* and good luck to Major J. M. Barstow, who has gone to command 4th/5th Bn. The Essex Regiment (T.A.); Capt. D. J. Wilford, to Staff College; and Lt. T. H. English to the Depot.

Finally, it is with much regret that we record the deaths of Cpl. Jackson and L/Cpl. Boothright, of "A" Company, who lost their lives, together with four Cypriot policemen in a tragic fire at the guardroom of Anzio Camp. To their wives and families we extend our deepest sympathy.

THE SPORTING DAY IN CYPRUS

Just outside the main gate of Alexander Barracks, Dhekelia, is what could be loosely termed the "Sports Stadium." It has a gymnasium, but is no Crystal Palace. Dust swirls across the barren acres at every buff of wind. The sun beats down and the glare rebounds from the gaunt surrounding hills. It is not a place conducive to vigorous exercise, but it is the place where we find half of our sport and recreation. The sea, naturally, is our other sporting centre, and here our story begins in the cool calm of a June morning.

At precisely 6 o'clock the deserted beach stirs with life. A few figures, clad only in swimming trunks and "flip-flops," emerge from the barrack blocks and stroll the hundred yards to the water's edge. Here, close to "Fort Knox," our beach casino, they huddle round a sleek white motor boat. Five minutes of pushing and pulling and she is afloat in the glassy sea. Suddenly the Nuffield Trust 75 h.p. outboard motor bursts into life and breaks the silence of the early morning. Water ski-ing has begun. We have two boats, conditions are perfect, and we pay a mere shilling for the ride. As the sun rises higher the sea breezes begin to blow and the ripples in the water change to white-capped waves. The water-skiers return to their duties.

It is 9 o'clock now, and the sea becomes alive with gasping men returning from their fitness training. Quite a number, perhaps gasping more than others, have returned from athletics training. Athletics has not been a major sport in the Battalion for some time, but this year there is some enthusiasm for the sport. It began with the inter-Company meeting in

mid-April; with the exception of the sprints, it was dominated almost entirely by "H.Q." (Ops.) Company. This was undoubtedly due to the daily training they did, of double importance here, because of the heat. The next stage was the Army Individual Championships, held in mid-May. These were used as a team trial for the Inter-Unit Competition in June, but there were some notable individual winners: Pte. Morton (pole vault), Cpl. Freeman and Pte. Lenton (sprints), and Pte. Murphy (javelin) all won their events.

The Inter-Unit Competition was disappointing for us—we should have managed better than fourth place. Everything depended on a good average performance by the whole team, but in almost every event, one man did not run, jump or throw to form, and consequently the efforts of the others were in vain. However, we are not too disappointed, for we have the basis of a strong team, which, with concentrated training, could put us on the road to success on the athletics field.

The morning passes. In shimmering heat we can take out two canoes. They are the two Canoe Club boats (shortly to be increased to eight, again by courtesy of the Lord Nuffield Trust). As there are no rivers in Cyprus, they are restricted to the sea, but nevertheless they provide as much as, if not more, pleasure than any other recreational activity. The same can be said of sailing. The importance of finding some outlet completely apart from military life is appreciated by most. A small number do belong to the Garrison Club, but we would prefer to acquire boats for our own exclusive use.

The lunch-time siesta is short, for round about 2 p.m. the cricketers descend into the

stadium for a Battalion or a Company fixture. The heat is stifling, but they say they enjoy it. (The young Sgt. Ashworth scornfully knocked a quick hundred the other day—a run for each degree of temperature!). The highlight of this early season has been a lightning tour of Libya in which two games were played. We were narrowly beaten by the Green Howards, against whom Lt. Hipkin knocked a good 62, and the newcomer, Pte. Graves, took 4 wickets for 48 runs. The second fixture, against the rest of the Army, Tripoli, was drawn. Again Lt. Hipkin played a captain's innings of 76 not out, while Pte. Murphy hit 43. The two local league fixtures so far played have been two good wins. In our "dust bowl," in the post mid-day sun, we usually find the following regular Battalion XI players: Major Akehurst, Lt. Hipkin, S/Sgt. Hill, Sgt. Ashworth, Sgt. Worley, L/Cpl. Parkinson, Pte. Murphy, L/Cpl. Gooday, Pte. Cummerbatch, Pte. Cocks, Pte. Taylor, Pte. Graves and, with sharpened pencil, the scorer, Pte. Masterman.

Others prefer an afternoon game of tennis. With two courts only a stone's throw from the barrack block, and a good stock of P.R.I. rackets and balls, the tennis season has flourished.

Two Battalion tournaments were arranged early in the year in the hope of beating the hot weather. The first, an all ranks' Inter-Company League, requiring pairs from each Company, has reached the final and exciting stage at the time of going to print—H.Q. (Ops.) 2nd team and H.Q. (Admin.) 1st team are lying equal first. The second tournament, a knock-out competition for corporals and below, had to be delayed on account of training commitments, and the first matches are now being played. With thirty-two entrants, there should be some very



Brigadier Marchant, Deputy Commander Cyprus District, congratulates Cpl. Freeman, 2nd Battalion, on winning the Cyprus individual 100 yards sprint.

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good matches. The Battalion has entered three teams in the Eastern Zone Inter-Unit League. This, too, is only the beginning—so far, one match has been won and one lost. A few brave souls did enter the Dhekelia Spring Tournament, but did not win anything.

The day begins to get cooler, and we cross the road to the Garrison gymnasium, where we find the Battalion basketball team on a workout. Having won the Eastern Cyprus League, they are quite pleased with themselves. The York and Lancaster Regiment just snatched the Army Knockout Competition from us, but we think we shall beat them next time. Within the Battalion an Inter-Company League thrives, and at the half-way stage the "H.Q." teams and "C" Company's team share the lead in the "A" and "B" divisions.

Tucked away in another corner of the gymnasium is the Judo Club. Numbers swelled recently with the completion of a grading course (another is to be held in August). The following achieved the white belt standard: Sgt. Platt, Pte. Asbrey, Pte. Todd, Cpl. Butters, Pte. Graves and Pte. Volley.

As the evening falls we might stroll down to the beach and see the fishing club starting out on a jaunt. Thanks to a generous grant of £200 from the Lord Nuffield Trust, we have been able to purchase a powered boat. The club has got off to a promising start, fifteen members enrolling on the first day. We have decided the name the vessel *Poacher*; this is

not a hint of our intentions on the local fishing grounds. Members of the club have spent the first few days cruising round the bay, practising their watermanship and searching out some likely sporting spots.

As you will see, we are getting ourselves organised in the sporting world.

REBIRTH OF THE SOLDIERS' GAME

BY CAPT. J. G. P. WHITE,
2ND BN. ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

Polo has been described as "the soldiers' game par excellence." Indeed it was the British Army which brought the game to England from India some eighty years ago, and soldiers have taken a leading part in it ever since.

In recent years, however, since the horse is no longer standard military equipment and because it can be an expensive pastime, the game of polo has only been played by the more prosperous regiments, and then mainly by officers. It is wrong, though, to restrict any game to one section of a community, particularly such good one as polo. We are doing our best to arrange a renaissance of the sport, on as broad a social basis as possible.

For any sport to be thoroughly satisfying, it should contain one of the following ingredients; Speed, an element of risk, or skill. Polo contains all three. It is certainly very fast, with always a slight hint of danger to give



A goal is saved! 2 R. Anglian v. 14/20 King's Hussars.

Left to right: Capt. Peter Taunton, Pte. David Crowston, Capt. Peter Whittington, 14/20 H., Pte. Ralph Tompkin, Lt. John Barrow, 14/20 H., Capt. James White, Capt. Peter Harman, 14/20 H.

it spice, and requires skill. Yet, it is untrue to say that in order to play polo a man must first be a good horseman; he can learn on the hoof, as it were. There is no finer riding school than the polo field, and novice riders soon overcome their basic fears and difficulties in learning to master the horse, because they are concentrating on the game.

As the player progresses, he learns not only to hit a fast-moving ball with a mallet no bigger than a broom-handle, but also to do it from the back of a galloping pony with a sometimes wayward mind of its own. It is in this technique that we find the skills and the thrills of this great game. We find the spills, too, but safety first is not the best motto for the professional soldier.

Here, in Dhekelia, the Battalion runs the Garrison Saddle Club, supplying four of the five grooms, the kennelman, M.F.H. and Secretary. The membership is in the region of 150, of which almost two-thirds are from the Battalion and the majority of these are junior ranks. We have a keen polo following and have managed to raise a polo team comprising Pte. Crowston, No. 1; Capt. Taunton, No. 2; Capt. White, No. 3; and Pte. Tompkins, back. Neither Pte. Crowston or Pte. Tompkins had played polo before our arrival in Cyprus, nor had either of them ridden much in the past.

Unfortunately the Battalion team was beaten in the first round of the Inniskilling Cup, an inter-unit knock-out competition, by the 14th/20th King's Hussars, ten goals to four.

THE POACHER AND HIS FAMILY

"What's the water like today?" This is the question on every lip on our free afternoons, as the families make their march to the sea. While dad is on training during the morning, mum does the housework, makes a light lunch, assembles the beach kit, and stands by with off-spring and water-wings. There used to be "coffee mornings" in the past, but now the refreshments and chat have been transferred to the afternoon and the beach; if anybody talks too much we can always push them under.

One result of our post-meridian aquatics is that the kids practically have webbed feet; they practise in the Rhine Camp pool, instructed by Sgt. Ann Freeman, W.R.A.C., and then come and show off in the sea. Watch out, you Olympic girls! We are producing our own gold medallists in Dhekelia.

The Wives' Club ran their first dance at the St. George Club on June 5. Mesdames Hastie, Selwood, Platts and Simmonds did wonders with the decorations and organisation, N.A.A.F.I. provided a satisfying buffet, and the Regimental Dance Band played. Mr. Franks

made sure that even the shyest "got fell in"; the evening was a tremendous success and is to be repeated.

Into each life a little rain must fall and, not unnaturally, a number of mums have visited the Families' Clinics in Larnaca and Dhekelia, either on their own account or for the children's throats, rashes, sunburn, and so on. We record here that the treatment we receive at both clinics is first-class, and we offer our grateful thanks to all the doctors, sisters and nurses.

On Saturday, June 12, after the Queen's Birthday Parade, 115 of us set off by coach and landing craft for the lovely Fig Tree Bay and its island, not far from Famagusta. We sailed along the coast, lowered the ramp on to the golden sands, picked ourselves up after being felled by the rush of children through the exit and into the sea.

We congratulate all who have had additions to their family since arriving in Cyprus. We cannot mention everyone by name, since the list would read like a families' nominal roll, but we are going to devote the whole of our next report to "gawd forbids," "ankle-biters," "chips-off-the-old-block (or should it be shoulder?)" and that troupe of "performing midgets" known as our beloved children. Watch this space.

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4th/6th BATTALION THE ROYAL LINCOLNSHIRE REGIMENT (TA)

BATTALION NOTES FOR MAY 8, 1965

May 8 saw the opening of the new T.A. Centre at Sobraon Barracks by H.R.H. The Duchess of Gloucester. This was a great day for the 4th/6th Bn. The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment (T.A.), it being the first time our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief had visited the H.Q.

The programme consisted of lunch for the guests, followed by the inspection of the guard of honour by Her Royal Highness, a brief speech of welcome by the Commanding Officer and a response by Her Royal Highness. The Duchess then unveiled a plaque commemorating her visit. Her tour of inspection was conducted by the Commanding Officer, and the first place of call was the Orderly Room, where the Chief Clerk, W.O.II Ward and Mrs. Hussey were presented. In the main hall, the Royal party, consisting of Her Royal Highness, the Commanding Officer, the Lord Lieutenant the Earl and Countess of Ancaster, Brigadier Oulton, and the C.O.'s wife, Mrs. A. J. Bennett, were met by the R.S.M., the architect and the builder. It was here that the architect explained how the new centre had been built on to the old keep. Her Royal Highness next

visited the canteen, where six soldiers and their wives were presented—the Duchess was very much impressed by the fine furnishings of the canteen.

It had been arranged that a visit to the Regimental Museum would now take place, and Her Royal Highness was conducted to the Museum by Brigadier Oulton, Deputy Colonel of the Royal Anglian Regiment. At the entrance she was met by Major Segon, the Assistant Regimental Secretary. After the inspection of the Museum, the Duchess had a short rest in the Officers' Mess Ante Room, prior to meeting the officers of the Battalion and visiting Mayors from surrounding towns in the district. At this short ceremony in the Officers' Mess dining room, Colonel and Mrs. Denny, Colonel and Mrs. Sanders and the Chief Constable and Mrs. Sayer were presented. After this Her Royal Highness took tea with the Warrant Officers and Sergeants in their Mess (a report of this will be found elsewhere in this Journal).

It was now very nearly time for Her Royal Highness to depart, and after saying goodbye to the G.O.C.-in-Chief, Northern Command, Lieut.-General Sir Geoffrey Musson; the Divisional Commander, 49th Infantry Division



H.R.H. inspects the Guard of Honour accompanied by the Guard Commander Major D. F. Clarke.



Pte. Smith presenting a silver Vanity Case to Her Royal Highness on behalf of all ranks of the Battalion.

(T.A.), Major-General Man; the Brigade Commander, 148 (N.M.) Infantry Brigade (T.A.), Brigadier Spencer Smith; the Mayor of Lincoln and other guests, she was escorted back to the main entrance by the Commanding Officer, where Pte. C. I. Smith presented Her Royal Highness with a suitably engraved vanity case from all ranks of the Battalion.

After short goodbyes to the R.S.M., R.S.M. R. A. Blood; the Training Officer, Major T. H. Styles; and the Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. A. J. Bennett, Her Royal Highness finally said goodbye to the G.O.C.-in-C. and the Lord Lieutenant and departed, being given a Royal Salute by the Quarter Guard at the main gate.

Whilst the Duchess was inspecting the new T.A. Centre, families and guests of the Battalion were entertained to tea on the football field; in all nearly a thousand people attended a day which will long be remembered in The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment, in particular by the many ex-members who were present.

SERGEANTS' MESS

During the evening of March 20, when W.O.II C. H. Lowery requested our Brigade Commander, Brigadier J. M. Spencer Smith, O.B.E., M.C., that he declare our new Mess open, it was considered that a further piece of Regimental history had been made in that the 4th/6th were about to use their first-ever Sergeants' Mess. We are now comfortably-off, due largely to a small minority of loyal W.O.s and Sergeants and their ladies of "H.Q." Company who have worked extremely hard to achieve the very high standard we intend to set and maintain.

In addition to our Brigade Commander, the following guests also attended: Lt.-Col. and Mrs. A. J. Bennett, Major and Mrs. T. H.

Styles, Capt. and Mrs. T. W. Beard, Capt. C. A. Rushby, and a number of our well-established honorary members.

With the exception of our normal free-from-training Saturday social, life has been devoted to the official opening of our new T.A. Centre, and, despite long hours and much hard work for most members, it was rewarding to know that everything went off well. We feel that we must make special mention of two weekends spent at the Royal Air Force Station, Swinderby, where rehearsals for the Royal guard of honour took place, and where the Mess facilities and accommodation were of the highest order. In fact, to show our appreciation, we were pleased to entertain a number of their members and ladies at a social evening in our own Mess.

We were delighted, indeed honoured, to receive H.R.H. The Duchess of Gloucester into the Mess for tea on the occasion of the opening of our new T.A. Centre on May 8. Accompanied by her Lady-in-Waiting, Mrs. Barbara Holland, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. A. J. Bennett and Major T. H. Styles, the Royal party was met by R.S.M. R. A. Blood who presented the following: Mrs. R. A. Blood, W.O.I (B/M) and Mrs. J. E. Ingall, W.O.II and Mrs. C. H. Lowery, W.O.II and Mrs. K. J. Morriss, W.O.II and Mrs. D. Barsby, W.O.II and Mrs. R. E. Ingall, C/Sgt. and Mrs. W. Flett, Sgt. and Mrs. T. W. Grocock, Sgt. and Mrs. F. Thompson, and Sgt. and Mrs. A. G. W. Coulbeck, representing each Company and part of the Mess Committee.

Following tea, it was the wish of Her Royal Highness that all Mess members and their ladies who were not previously presented to be introduced; this we considered a delightful gesture on the part of Her Royal Highness,

and it was greatly appreciated by everyone.

The social, to follow, was attended by many relatives and friends of members, and, much to our surprise, the Mayor and Mayoress of Lincoln, the Sheriff of Lincoln and his lady, Colonel and Mrs. F. C. L. Bell, the C.O. and a number of officers and their ladies, who joined us after their cocktail party, and it was nice to have them with us.

So much time was devoted to the opening ceremony that all appeared to forget about our forthcoming annual camp. However, the Orderly Room is almost back to normal and movement orders for our fortnight at the A.H.D.C. at Devizes are now in circulation, and with that we will "pack-up," and move.

We all got off to a very good start during our first week at Camp, with mixed weather considering the time of the year; we trust the last week will be one of sunshine, especially for the period of the Battalion survival exercise.

We were all delighted to see with us in the Mess for drinks, Major the Lord Worsley, Air Cdre E. D. McK Nelson and Colonel F. C. L. Bell, D.S.O., M.C., T.D. It was most disappointing their stay was so brief.

The Castle rep is calling for our edition, so we conclude mid-way through Camp 65.

"A" COMPANY

It seems to be agreed that this has been a really interesting Camp with reasonably friendly weather until the last day or so. "A" Company have maintained a good chance of success in the Grinling Cup for the third year in succession by winning the tug-o'-war. This we managed despite the fact that after we had wrapped the rope around our anchor man Cpl. Senior, there was very little left for the rest of the team to pull on. Although success still eludes us in the six-a-side football competition, we are quietly proud that we reduced the margin of our defeat this year and next year we hope to get it down to single figures! Once again our recruits have shown up well at Camp and good reports have been heard in particular of Ptes. Wilson and Smith, though at the time of writing the award to the Best Recruit had not been announced. We had two socials at Camp, both organised by Cpl. Senior, and during the social on the last Friday a silver cigarette case was presented to L/Cpl. Joyce by the Company Commander in recognition of many years of hard work on behalf of the "A" Company T.A. Club.

Further success to have come our way recently was our win in the Shoulder-to-Shoulder .22 Competition at Lincoln in May. This brought us into second place in the .22 Competition overall and will be a great help in the race for the Grinling Cup. Much will depend on the Battalion Rifle Meeting and we have

already been putting in some practice both at Uundle and at Wittering.

The other main event to have taken place recently was the opening of the new T.A. Centre at Lincoln by H.R.H. The Duchess of Gloucester. "A" Company was well represented on the parade and C.S.M. Barsby was an escort to the Colour on this occasion. Mrs. Ellis was presented to the Duchess representing the wives of serving members of the Company.

Finally, congratulations to L/Cpls. Benson and Brindle on their promotion.

"B" COMPANY

"B" Company after making a concerted effort have been able to sign on nine new recruits. A hard programme was put into action after the Guard of Honour to H.R.H. The Duchess of Gloucester, requiring the attendance of a party of three every night for a week. We welcome 2/Lt. Giles Simmonds who is being transferred to us from the Gloucesters.

We have all enjoyed our Camp and I am pleased to be able to report that "B" Company featured prominently in breaking the record for digging a fall-out shelter, which was in fact dug by a composite Company. It is not possible at this stage to say if "B" Company has managed to get the year's best recruit, but we stand a very good chance with nearly 20 per cent. of the recruits.

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4th/5th BATTALION

THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE REGIMENT (TA)

ORDER OF BATTLE

4th/5th Bn. The Northamptonshire Regt. (T.A.)

BATTALION H.Q. (PETERBOROUGH)

Commanding Officer: Lt.-Col. F. G. Barber
Second-in-Command: Major J. W. H. Green, T.D.
Training Major: Major H. H. Moore
Adjutant (conrates): Capt. A. A. Pilgrim, M.B.E., M.M.
Intelligence Officer: Capt. D. H. B. Dowdy
Unit Paymaster: Capt. W. H. Bennett, R.A.P.C.
Medical Officer: Major G. N. Cash, R.A.M.C.
R.S.M.: W.O.II R. J. Pond
O.R.Q.M.S.: W.O.II A. J. Wilbourne

H.Q. COMPANY (PETERBOROUGH)

Officer Commanding: Major J. L. Boe, T.D.
Second-in-Command: Capt. R. Pearce
Recce Pl Commander: Lt. H. N. Hargreaves
Sig. Pl Commander: Lt. A. C. Bailey
Quartermaster: Major F. W. Gascoyne
 Capt. J. G. Hogg
M.T.O.: Lt. A. R. Streek
 Lt. P. W. Johnson
Chaplain: Rev. F. G. Adams, C.F., I.V., C.L.
R.O.M.S.: W.O.II H. G. Tompkins
C.S.M.: W.O.II F. Beales
P.S.I.: Sgt. J. D. Evans
Officer Cadet (Recce Pl): O/Cdt B. D. Freeman

"A" COMPANY (NORTHAMPTON)

Officer Commanding: Major R. C. Jeffery, T.D.
Second-in-Command: Capt. N. R. Ayrton
1 Platoon Commander: Lt. P. R. Rainger

2 Platoon Commander: Lt. J. L. Ford
3 Platoon Commander:
Sp Pl Commander:
C.S.M.: W.O.II E. V. Sye
P.S.I.: W.O.II H. J. George
Officer-Cadets: O/Cdt A. J. Coulson
 O/Cdt W. J. Meredith

"B" COMPANY (CORBY)

Officer Commanding: Major V. C. M. Williams
Second-in-Command: Capt. C. H. R. Marriott
Platoon Commander: Lt. A. W. M. Petch
Platoon Commander: Lt. G. M. Schlesinger
Sp Pl Commander:
C.S.M.: W.O.II J. R. Gayne
P.S.I.: W.O.II A. P. Cheshire
Officer Cadet: O/Cdt C. A. Day

"C" COMPANY (WELLINGBOROUGH)

Officer Commanding: Major D. F. Hooton, T.D.
Second-in-Command: Capt. W. H. Baxter
1 Platoon Commander: 2/Lt. T. R. Walker
2 Platoon Commander:
3 Platoon Commander:
C.S.M.: W.O.II B. Wolfe
P.S.I.: Sgt. P. Crawshaw
Officer Cadet: O/Cdt P. J. Nutt

"D" COMPANY (HUNTINGDON)

Officer Commanding: Major P. Strickland, T.D.
Second-in-Command: Capt. T. Overall
1 Platoon Commander: Lt. P. J. Burton
2 Platoon Commander: Lt. R. K. Hill
3 Platoon Commander: 2/Lt. C. A. Bull
C.S.M.: W.O.II J. F. Kelly
P.S.I.: Sgt. D. F. Knight

These notes are being written a week after returning from our Annual Camp at Folkestone. From all accounts heard it has been rated a first rate camp from all points of view except that of the weather. Although we were delighted to have the company of two very senior serving chaplains, they were no more able to abate the force of the wind than was our own Padre. Fortunately no tent was carried away but whether that was true of all the occupants is debatable.

Our first visitor was Major-General C. M. M. Man, O.B.E., M.C., our Divisional Commander, who came to see the first day's training. On an exposed and very rough hill the General sat eating his haversack ration and watching the Trained Soldiers Cadre instructors execute a demonstration section attack. A good battle appreciation was made, the orders were given crisply and clearly and in no time at all a right flank assault was thundering by just where the General sat. The sound of their stertorous

breathing and the thunder of their flying feet must have made the ancient Britons lying in their burrows think a sabre toothed tiger was after them. The General was heard to remark quietly: "They won't need to shoot the enemy, they'll blow him over."

A week later we were honoured by the visit of our Brigade Commander and the Deputy Brigade Commander, whom we entertained at a combined Officers' and Sergeants' Mess Social, preceded by an exercise called "Ratrace," in which the rats seemed to have different ideas about the race.

We were also honoured to have our Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, Brigadier R. H. L. Oulton, C.B.E., and Brigadier D. E. Tauton, C.B., D.S.O., together with Major-General G. St. G. Robinson, C.B., D.S.O., M.C., to Dinner on May 28 and the Deputy Colonel took the Salute and presented the following awards at a parade and church service held the following morning:—

R.S.M. Pond, J.L.—Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

C/Sgt. Jellis, J.T., Sgt. Capstaff, J., Sgt. Wilkinson, J.D., Cpl. Gowler, G.J.—Territorial Efficiency Medal.

S/Sgt. Pugh, J., Sgt. Segasby, A.R., Pte. Monaghan, J., Pte. Preston, H., Pte. Keedy, D.W.—Lord Lieutenant's Certificate.

One feature of our fitness training this year were two cross-country runs in which the whole Battalion took part. The Band used their wind to play us in and some appropriate tunes were played as we staggered the last few yards home. The over forties put up a splendid performance and proved their fitness in fine style.

We have to announce one or two changes that are seen to occur. After many years of loyal service Major Bill Williams is now due to retire in early September. He has been the leading light at Corby since December 13, 1955, and has built the Company up to its present total of 142. We wish him well in the future and hope to see lots of him. He will be succeeded at Corby by Major P. Strickland, T.D., who is no stranger there and in turn his present command of "D" Company at Huntingdon will be taken over by Capt. Ted Overall, one of our newer members.

Our main task now is to prepare for the parade for the presentation of new Colours to the Battalion in the Autumn of 1966.

SERGEANTS' MESS

"DIBGATE DOWNS" OR "OUR CANVAS HOME ON THE HILL"

The first letter said we were to go to St. Martin's Plain Camp for our annual fortnight. Spirits soared as those in the know described it as a comfortable hutted camp close to town and pubs. A mixture of joy and dismay greeted

the amendment that sent a unit with a large number of W.R.A.C.s to St. Martin's Plain, and us to Dibgate tented camp a mile away.

There must be many hundreds of members and ex-members of the Regiment who will remember this bare-topped plateau with its water tower and corrugated iron ablutions, and we can say with certainty now, that you would still recognise it. Time appears to have stood still. Slight improvements have been made, but it appears basically the same as it always has. One remarkable feature is that after having been used for so many years, someone who obviously believes that camping will always be a permanent feature of T.A. life, has planted trees alongside the roads through the Camp. One can visualise how pretty the camp will be in 1980!

The sun shone as the advance party moved in and took over. Accommodation Mess-wise seemed to be short so we promptly hired a large white marquee which, when, illuminated at night, proved a most excellent homing device.

The bar was set up, and the scene was set.

As the Battalion arrived so the familiar Dibgate drizzle started and the wind increased. The old stagers (competing with each other like fishermen telling a tale) told vivid stories of camps being blown away, mud reaching waist height (or depth), saturation, and frost! Younger members fortified themselves against both the stories and the weather which alas, seemed to bear out all that was being said, and so it continued.

However, lest you should misunderstand, let me say that everyone adapted themselves to the conditions very quickly, and spirits were extremely high, and on such a note we held our first Mess function when we challenged the Corporals to a Games Night.

From the beginning it was a success, a first-rate group from the Band came and played for us, the Mess bulged at the seams, the wine flowed, and the fun and games were on. A fish supper was served during the course of the evening which was thoroughly enjoyed. There appears to be some doubt on both sides as to the final outcome of the games, so it looks as if the battle will have to continue next year!

The Officers were invited on the middle Saturday lunch-time when the drinks were on the house and on the medals presented that day. We were most honoured to have the Deputy Colonel of the Regiment visit us, and we apparently gave him the right sort of medicine which enabled him to beat the Training Major at golf that afternoon.

After a weekend spent at various centres of attraction the second week opened with a social evening at the Officers' Mess where we were very well looked after with both food and wine!

The effects of this evening made themselves

TOLLY COBBOLD ALES

Still

Marching ahead

in East Anglia

felt the following afternoon when the Battalion had its second cross-country run which, although said to be shorter than the first, appeared to be much longer and more gruelling. Congratulations must go to young and old alike for finishing the course. Perhaps the cunning plot of arranging pay parade to follow the run had something to do with it?

All too soon the second week drew to a close, and with it came the sun and Whitsun, a time to relax at home and think and talk over the Camp, certainly well worthwhile, and very well done.

WARR IN ADEN

(An account of a visit to the 4th Battalion in Aden by Sgt. T. Warr of "C" Company (Wellingborough) 4th/5th Bn. The Northamptonshire Regiment.)

* * *

A cluster of lights far below the Britannia was our first view of Aden. We had travelled straight out from our civilian jobs in England just 18 hours before. We were to start 14 days concentrated training with the 4th Bn. The Royal Anglian Regiment, based at Radfan Camp.

At 23.30 hours we stepped from the plane into a "cool" 80 degrees, looking very conspicuous in our winter suits and sweaters. Our first reaction to the large number of armed guards present on the airfield was to realise how underrated the situation had been made to seem back home.

Our party consisted of Sgt. Leslie Halliday of "B" Company—this made two of us from the 4th/5th Northampton, two Sergeants, two Corporals and two Privates from the 4th/5th Royal Leicesters and two more Privates from the 5th/8th Bn. The Sherwood Foresters.

In sweltering heat we climbed aboard an armed truck to make the short trip to Radfan Camp, which was to be our home for the next 14 days. On arrival we thankfully flopped on to our camp beds at 02.00 hours, which had been kindly made ready for us by Sgt. "Topper" Brown.

Our first day started at 05.45 hours. This should have been 30 minutes earlier as time didn't allow us novices to learn to put on our puttees; I think we would have been a lot quicker had we attended first aid classes on bandaging.

After initial formalities, Sgt. Halliday and I found ourselves together, and attached to "A" Company. We soon acquainted ourselves with C.Q.M.S. Phillips who passed us down a bit further to the care of Sgt. A. Kerr and Sgt. B. Baker, and we found ourselves on IS details. After begging and borrowing sets of combat webbing we began to look something like

soldiers again, with that and one freshly starched K.D. which we had anticipated needing and had brought with us.

After spending the day getting our bearings and training, we mounted the trucks at 16.30 hours to go to the "Crater Armed Police Barracks"—a somewhat halfway point between the European and Asian communities. Our duties included periodic patrols around the outer wall of the State Prison. Patrolling the dingy back streets was a real eye opener to any new Pinky. We also had a small patrol for explosion spotting on top of the flats, from where we had a panoramic view of Crater.

We returned to camp at 02.00 hours and flopped beneath mosquito nets to GONK (a phrase in daily use, meaning to sleep in any position).

Up again at 05.30 hours to start our second day doing Mobile Patrolling (a vehicle patrol in a Land Rover) consisting of driver, commander, operator, Lower and Upper Guards. I was given command of "3IC" and acted as Sgt. Kerr's No. 2. Vehicle patrols always go in pairs.

Our aim was to be first on the scene in the event of any unauthorised explosions, etc.

It didn't matter how long the day, there was always some kind of hilarious incident which helped to compensate for the strenuous hours the men were having to put into their "8-day week." For instance, like the day when carrying out a bridge examination, a certain Private, with thoroughness in mind of course, decided to commandeer a fisherman's boat for a closer look at said bridge. Unfortunately, he didn't come under the category of Able Seaman, for as soon as he had planted his feet in the boat it objected to such treatment and spewed its cargo into the sea. There emerged one very wet soldier, with much dampened enthusiasm pending a charge: "Taking unauthorised recreation on duty, i.e. swimming!" Incidents like this were repeated in one way or another every day.

The pattern of these first two days was to set the stage for our short stay. To enlighten you further on our duties will of course have to wait, for reasons which I am sure will be appreciated by all.

One of the highlights of our visit, was our half day shopping in the bazaar at Steamer Point. My only regret was that I couldn't get a recording of Sgt. Halliday bartering. Imagine Pidgin Arabic with a Scottish accent, blended with the Scottish sense of value; nevertheless, after an hour of much flourishing of arms we won the day and left a very bewildered Arab vendor behind. Somewhat sore throated I imagine.

Time went all too quickly, and noses were peeling for the second time, as we packed our

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buys and started our farewells among the many friends we had made.

You may think it odd that Mess life has not been mentioned. It was virtually nil for both of us.

Looking back on the highly successful exercises, we looked on the experience as 100 per cent. Should there be another voluntary exercise in the near future, I don't think our names will be far from the front.

ON BEING SUBJECTED TO A BRIGADE C.P.X.

By LT. T. OVERALL, "D" COMPANY
(HUNTINGDON)

I had just returned to active T.A. duties after being on T.A.R.O. for a long number of years. The Training Major thought it would be a good idea if I joined my Company Commander on the Brigade Exercise. Talk about being thrown in at the deep end and being told to swim! With tongue in cheek, chest out and drawn up to the full extent of my medium height I told the Training Major I agreed it was a good idea.

At home the same evening I thought 'there is really nothing to it, just remember Able, Baker, Charlie, Dog . . .' oh! yes, this will be a piece of cake. In any event the object of the exercise was to accompany my Company Commander and learn voice procedure. Being a keen type I thought it would not be a bad idea to do a little swotting in advance. The P.S.I. supplied me with all relevant material, one item of which was a green card. Ah! this is the thing I wanted to help me re-cap. I saw the heading Phonetic Alphabet, closed my eyes and started "Able Baker . . ." when I got stuck which was not very long after I had started I opened my eyes to find the next letter. What was this? Surely the printers were suffering from shell shock or the morning after the night before 'Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, Belta . . .' either that or the P.S.I. had given me some foreign pamphlet translated to English. One can imagine my feelings when later I was advised "Sorry, you're way out of date, this is the modern army, get with it."

The day of the exercise approached and with mixed feelings I reported to my T.A.C. ready to move to the start. A cheerful voice said "Excuse me, sir, the Company Commander will not be able to join you until later this afternoon, he wants you to act for him until he arrives." Oh he . . . ! It was too late to report sick, have a puncture or be working late at the office, this really was the deep end, so get in Overall and swim you b—d, swim.

The Training Major was very kind when we moved off at the start of the exercise. He did not put my vehicle in the lead which at least

gave me a chance to listen for a time without having to say much and thus familiarise myself with the change over from message pad and Don R (or was it Delta Romeo?) to this new fangled crackling of sound. Why on earth had the army changed from those lovely, easy, simple message forms? Keeping half a mile behind the vehicle in front, strangled by my earphone and microphone cords, map on one knee, green card on the other, notebook in one hand pencil in the other, listening for messages and trying to map read at the same time, the exercise began.

I listened to the messages for the first half hour and soon began to pick up the meaning of voice procedure. Then, "Hullo 49 signals over," a short pause and the message was repeated again. Someone else must be rusty or the set not working. "Hullo 49, signals over." The penny dropped, it was my call sign. I made a grab for the microphone, dropped my pencil, notebook, green card and map, by this time the earphones were round the back of my neck and I couldn't find the microphone. At last I sorted out some form of order and managed a meek "49, o.k. over." "49, at the next check point take over vanguard," "49, Roger out." Now, I thought, picking up my dropped belongings, is that fore or aft?—can't ask the driver—think, you fool, think. I eventually took over the lead and things began to run smoothly, I was at last swimming after coming up for the third time. About 3 p.m., another vehicle pulled up along side and signalled us to stop. It was my Company Commander coming to take over. I was sorry in a way to have to transmit that my Sunray had now joined my vehicle as I had really begun to enjoy the exercise.

In the early evening we moved to a Harbour Area and captured a number of 'enemy' prisoners who tried to approach our position.

Sunday saw us working well and putting in imaginary attacks with orders going over the air down to section level with the Major acting as O.C. and myself answering for Platoon and Section Commanders. At the end of the weekend I felt happy and wondered why the Army had not got rid of those awful old fashioned message pads many, many years ago.

PRIVILEGE FREEDOMS CONFERRED ON THE REGIMENT

It will be of particular interest to all readers of *The Castle* to know that Freedom Privileges originally conferred on the Regular Battalions of the 10th Foot Royal Lincolnshire Regiment by the County Boroughs and Boroughs of Lincolnshire, and subsequently transferred to the 2nd East Anglian Regiment (Duchess of

Gloucester's Own Royal Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire), have now by order of the Councils of these Boroughs deemed to have been conferred upon the 2nd (Duchess of Gloucester's Own Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire) Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment.

The interest and affection which the County of Lincolnshire has always had for its County Regiment continues undiminished, regardless of any title it may assume, and a welcome awaits the Regiment when, during its service, the

Battalion is able to visit the County and exercise the Freedom Privilege conferred upon it by:

The City and County Borough of the City of Lincoln;
The County Borough of Grimsby;
The Borough of Cleethorpes and the Borough of Grantham;

and in addition receive a welcome from the citizens of all other Boroughs.

OFFICERS DINNER CLUB

2nd (Duchess of Gloucester's Own Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire) Battalion,
The Royal Anglian Regiment

ANNUAL LUNCHEON PARTY

The annual luncheon party of the 2nd Battalion Officers' Dinner Club was held at the Naval and Military Club, London, on Friday, May 21, 1965. Brigadier R. H. L. Oulton, Deputy Colonel, presided and those present included some thirty-five serving and retired Officers and their ladies.

THE REGIMENTAL DINNER

The annual Regimental Dinner was held at the United Services Club, London, at 8 p.m. on Friday, May 21, 1965.

Members of the Dinner Club were honoured by the presence of the Earl Spencer, T.D., Her Majesty's Lieutenant of Northamptonshire and Honorary Colonel 4th/5th Battalion The Northamptonshire Regiment (T.A.), and Lieutenant-General Sir Reginald F. S. Denning, K.B.E., C.B., D.L., as guests. Brigadier R. H. L. Oulton, C.B.E., Deputy Colonel, presided, and seventy-seven Officers were present.

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATIONS

Lincolnshire Wing

ANNUAL REUNION—10th FOOT CHANGE OF VENUE AND DATE

The annual reunion of the 10th Foot Royal Lincolnshire Regiment Association will now be held at the Town Hall, Grimsby, on Saturday, October 16, and NOT at Skegness, where it is regretted accommodation this year is not now available.

LINCOLN BRANCH

The Chairman, Committee and all members of the 10th Foot Royal Lincolnshire Regimental Association congratulate the Editor and staff of *The Castle* on the first issue of the Regimental Journal and wish success for every subsequent issue. It is hoped that all our members will give their support, and help to increase the circulation.

SOBRAON DAY CELEBRATIONS

Sobraon Day was celebrated with a social evening, held in the club room at Sobraon Barracks on Saturday, February 13. This function was very well attended by members of the branch, who were entertained by music, dancing and bingo. During the course of the evening we were delighted and honoured to be visited by our Association's President, Brigadier R. H. L. Oulton, Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, who was accompanied by Major P. H. Segon. The Brigadier had left the Sobraon Ball of the 4th/6th Battalion Royal Lincoln (T.A.), being held in the adjoining Drill Hall, to visit us, and chatted with many members, including two very old hands who had been invited from the nearby Burton Cliff Home. The evening was a great success and thoroughly enjoyed by all. Next year it is hoped that we shall be in the position to run our own customary Sobraon Ball.

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Enquiries welcomed at all T.A. Centres in the County or at this Association:—
STONEFIELD HOUSE, CHURCH LANE, LINCOLN

BRANCH DINNER, MARCH 27

The branch dinner was held this year at the Annesley Hotel, Lincoln, and attended by over 70 members and their wives. Unfortunately, owing to a previous engagement, Brigadier Oulton was unable to attend, his place as guest of honour was filled by Colonel G. M. Sanders, County Commandant of the Lincolnshire Army Cadet Force, who was accompanied by his wife. Other guests included Major Segon, General Secretary of the Association (unfortunately this year Mrs. Segon was unable to attend owing to ill health); Major V. Geary, Assistant Secretary of the T. & A.F. Association, and his wife; Capt. and Mrs. T. Beardmore, and seven widows of former members of our branch. After-dinner speeches were made by Major Segon on behalf of the Regiment, and Colonel Sanders for the guests. The remainder of the evening consisted of a real old get-together, with entertainment, games and dancing.

**OPENING OF THE NEW T.A. CENTRE,
MAY 8**

We were privileged to receive a large quota of tickets for members and their wives to attend the opening of the new T.A. Centre, at Sobraon Barracks, by Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Gloucester, and amongst the guests attending were the Chairman of the Branch, Mr. F. C. Lovesey; Vice-Chairman, Mr. R. Woodthorpe, and his wife; Secretary, Capt. W. H. Lewin, and Mrs. Lewin; Mr. and Mrs. Fred Smedley and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Firth. Many readers may remember Mr. Firth when he was serving as a P.S.I. at the former Regimental Depot at Lincoln. "Charles," as he is known, is a stalwart of the branch.

BRANCH MEETINGS

The monthly attendance at branch meetings has fallen off recently. In the opinion of the committee, this is due to the fact that there is insufficient business on the agenda to warrant a monthly meeting, and it is proposed that at the next annual general branch meeting, monthly meetings be changed to quarterly. Branch members will be notified if such a change is made, and it is hoped the attendances will improve.

GRIMSBY & DISTRICT BRANCH

The usual monthly meetings have been held at Westward Ho Barracks and some new members have been made welcome. The annual branch dinner was held at the Winter Gardens, Cleethorpes, on Saturday, March 6, when a large number of members and friends enjoyed a most pleasant and successful evening.

Among the guests were the Mayor and Mayoress of Grimsby and the Mayor and Mayoress of Cleethorpes. Owing to the extremely bad weather conditions, Brigadier Oulton was prevented from coming, but was able to drink the toast of the branch in the "Grimsby Mug."

In his absence, the Chairman, Lt.-Col. S. C. W. Disney replied to the toast of "The Regiment," proposed by the Mayor of Cleethorpes, and gave an account of its recent doings, coupled with an appeal for increased membership of the Association. A telegram from H.M. The Queen was read, expressing her thanks for the loyal greetings received from the branch. During the dance which followed, a successful raffle was held in aid of branch funds.

On May 15, another jumble sale was held and the committee are most grateful to all the ladies who assisted so ably in its success. In April a member of the branch, Alderman A. W. Cox, became an Honorary Freeman of the Borough of Cleethorpes. As a compliment to the Regiment its badge was included on the scroll presented to him. Another mystery tour of the Wolds has been arranged for Sunday, July 15.

As it is not possible for the 1965 Reunion to be held at Skegness, the branch, as the year's host, has made arrangements for the Reunion to take place at Grimsby on Saturday, October 16.

The annual general meeting will be held in the Town Hall, Grimsby, followed in the evening by the dinner and dance. Arrangements for accommodation are in hand and details will be sent to all branches. Any communications should be addressed to the Hon Secretary: Mr. B. Brittain, 176, Convamore Street, Grimsby.

**The Royal Lincolnshire
Regiment Museum**

Her Royal Highness, The Duchess of Gloucester, C.I., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, during her visit to Lincoln after officially opening the T.A. Centre at Sobraon Barracks on May 8, visited and toured the Museum of the 10th Foot. An item in which Her Royal Highness showed particular interest was the framed Japanese water colour of Mount Fujiyama painted on silk, which was presented to the Officers' Mess of the 2nd Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment in 1870 by Major Kurakawa, of the Imperial Japanese Army.

The Museum Trustees gratefully acknowledge the following gifts to the Museum:

From Lt.-Col. J. D. Ricketts, D.S.O., H.Q., The Worcestershire Regiment, the gift of two copies of the Annual of the 5th Battalion The Lincolnshire Regiment Officers' Association.

From Major F. W. Clifton, M.C., the gift of an Army Book 152 (Field Service) Correspondence Book, in which he, as a 2/Lieutenant serving with the 1st Battalion as I.O. during 1915, recorded his pencilled reports and sketch maps.

From Lt.-Col. D. L. Hooton, of Catterick, Yorkshire, the M.B.E. (Military) awarded to his brother, 2/Lt. G. V. Hooton, whilst serving with 1st Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment, for gallant conduct on October 31, 1922, at the town of Killenaule, in Southern Ireland.

Northamptonshire Wing

NORTHAMPTON BRANCH

On May 7 the branch held its annual dinner and dance at the Wedgwood Rooms, Northampton. Over eighty people sat down to an excellent dinner and afterwards enjoyed dancing to the Hi-Five Band. During the evening a raffle realised £10, which our President, Major D. Baxter, accepted on behalf of the Association.

The Club skittle team finished joint fourth in their league, a very creditable performance in its first season. This was celebrated by a dinner at the Saracens Head Hotel, Daventry. The meal laid on by our host, "Darky" Howard, and the social evening which followed were much enjoyed by all.

On June 6 an outing was arranged by the Chairman, Mr. J. O. Roberts, to meet friends in Birmingham. The rendezvous was the Beverley Hills Hotel. A lavish buffet, a trio of piano, drums and Grapelly-style violin, and the vocal talents of our members made this a highly successful evening. A return visit has been arranged for July.

Over the Easter holiday four of our members, Messrs. McGurk, McNicol, Wharton and Woodhouse, visited Halluin, near the Franco-Belgian border, where the 2nd Battalion was stationed during 1939-40 and were royally received by old friends there. Their own account of the trip appears on other pages.

As these notes are written the Club is preparing for the Reunion Week-end, when some hundreds of Northamptonshire Regiment comrades converge on Northampton from all parts

of the country. This event, though rather hectic, is much looked forward to and all comrades are invited to visit the Club.

Several new members have been enrolled recently and we are glad to have with us serving members of the Royal Anglian Regiment, who are working in Northampton and County with the Army youth team.

It would be appreciated if members would inform the committee of any cases of distress amongst comrades of The Northamptonshire Regiment which may be helped from the branch Welfare Fund.

RETURN TO HALLUIN, NORTHERN FRANCE

On April 15 Messrs. McGurk, Woodhouse and Wharton made a return journey to Halluin, in Northern France, where the 58th was billeted in 1939-40.

The trip had been talked about for several years and various ways of making it had been discussed, but the journey never seemed as though it would happen. This year, however, we were determined to go and Easter week-end was chosen as the most suitable time.

We left Northampton in the early afternoon of the 15th, drove down to Dover and crossed to Dunkirk, where we arrived at about 11 p.m. and stayed the night.

The first morning was spent in looking around Dunkirk and at the beaches from which we had so dramatically departed 25 years before. We left Dunkirk along the same coast road we had marched along under such very different circumstances. Memories came flooding back as we saw the sand dunes which had sheltered us from the incessant German artillery and aerial bombardment. The atmosphere was certainly different now!

Dunkirk and the sand dunes behind us, we headed along familiar roads to Poperinghe, which we had last seen as a smoking ruin, on through Ypres and to our destination, Halluin.

We parked the car in the square in front of the church in Halluin, outside the building we knew as the Officers' Mess, and walked around the town we felt we knew so well. It was all very familiar; there was the cinema, where we had our Christmas dinner in 1939, the public baths and most of the cafes we knew were still in business.

After an hour or so wandering around, we went to the village of Troise a Calloux, where Joe Woodhouse was billeted with "A" Company. Whilst looking around the old billets we were spotted by a gentleman who, in fact, was the Mayor of Halluin. He was shown

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“STEELBACKS”

RETURN TO FRANCE

Messrs. W. McNicol, W. Wharton, W. McGurk, J. Woodhouse at a reception in Halluin.



Photo by courtesy of Nord Matin, Lille.

some photographs taken 25 years previously. He immediately recognised the family and took us to their home. Although they had not seen us for 25 years their recognition was absolutely spontaneous. The welcome they gave us was wonderful.

On Saturday morning we set out through Roubaix, Lille, Houplin and Seclin to Vimy Ridge, retracing the route the Battalion took in 1940. After a look around Vimy Ridge, we came to the village of Maroculle, where we first engaged the Germans on the ground. The village had not changed at all since our occupation. We found the exact positions we were in, the copse in which Battalion H.Q. was shelled and where the C.O., Adjutant and R.S.M. were wounded; the larger wood with the road running through it—all was just as we remembered it. We met in the village a Scot who had stayed in France in 1918; he was a great help to us. He asked his son to take us to the village cemetery, where the comrades we lost in the action were buried.

On our return to Halluin we were told by our friends that the Mayor and several of the town councillors would like to meet us at the Town Hall the following morning.

We arrived at the Town Hall at 10.30 a.m. and were met by the local dignitaries in the Council Chamber. Champagne was the order of the day and we felt deeply honoured by this gesture. The local Press interviewed us on our present impressions of Halluin and our reasons for returning after such a long time. We have since received a copy of the Press report, together with a photograph of the proceedings.

Our visit ended for us on Sunday evening, when we gathered our friends together in one of the cafes and had a really memorable evening, singing the songs we sang in '39; in fact, the barrel was truly rolled out in more ways than vocally.

We left early on Monday morning to catch our boat at Boulogne at about midday.

So ended a wonderful experience of friendships renewed and a feeling that we could not have been better received if we had been Royalty.

LONDON BRANCH

The branch met at the Bermondsey Drill Hall on Saturday, May 22, and on this occasion a plaque was presented to our Vice-President, Mr. W. Jones.

Mr. Tindall, introducing both Mr. and Mrs. Jones, spoke of the great help he had given over the years to the London Branch and how he would be missed now that he was unable to attend regularly owing to age. It was emphasised that he would always be welcome whenever he was able to attend.

The Secretary then asked the President, Major Mumford, if he would kindly present the plaque.

The president spoke of his association with Mr. Jones and said:

“Ladies and Gentlemen. It gives me much pleasure to make this presentation to Mr. Jones on behalf of the London Branch as a token of our recognition of the excellent services he has rendered. Mr. Jones is one of the founder members of the branch and has attended meetings regularly since its formation. He has, without doubt, been one of our main supporters over a very long period and when circumstances and health have permitted has been present at all our meetings. He is not as sprightly as in days gone by, but we still get the pleasure of seeing him occasionally and we welcome him and his suggestions at all times. I am sure we shall always take notice of all he

says. In conclusion and on behalf of the branch I would like to thank Mr. Jones for his untiring efforts in the past to keep the branch functioning during some very difficult periods and to wish both Mrs. Jones and himself the best of health and happiness in the years to come."

The President then presented the plaque, which was inscribed with a silver plate telling of his work for the branch.

Mr. Jones attempted a reply, but was too overcome to say anymore than "Thank you."

I have since received a letter from Mr. Jones, in which he states:

"I would like to say how much I appreciate

the presentation of the Regimental shield which I received at the last meeting. It will always remind me and my family of the many good times we have had together during the last 40 years and shall always try and get to the meetings whenever possible. I was sorry I did not make a speech; I was too full for words. I will close wishing you all the best of luck and hope to see you all soon."

This was rather an overdue thank you to Mr. Jones and I was very pleased that a number of members were present, although I have no doubt more could have been there had they made an effort.

G. H. TINDALL, Secretary.

LINCOLNSHIRE ARMY CADET FORCE

One hundred Cadets, under O.C. 1st Cadet Battalion, Major T. G. Prestwood, r.d., lined the route on the occasion of the visit of H.R.H. The Duchess of Gloucester to open the new T.A. Centre at Sobraon Barracks on May 8, 1965.

The Cadets were congratulated for their smartness and turn-out.

Since our last report, 30 Cadets from all parts of Lincolnshire under Capt. E. L. Law and S.M.I. G. H. Bailey visited B.A.O.R. and were

attached to 1st Battalion Royal Hampshire Regiment. Their visit was full of interest and thoroughly enjoyed, as also was the visit paid by another 30 Cadets to Aldershot for attachment to the Parachute Regiment. Their programme consisted of P.T., swimming, firing S.L.R. and S.M.G., film shows and lectures.

Cadet Cpl. B. Cant, of Horncastle Detachment, has been presented with his certificate after attaining the bronze standard award in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme.



Party of Lincolnshire Army Cadets during the Roll Call prior to leaving Lincoln for a ten-day visit to B.A.O.R. in Germany. S.M.I. G. H. Bailey is calling the Roll.

We congratulate Grimsby and Gainsborough Detachments for having reached 26th place in the News of the World Challenge Cup competition.

We welcome Wintringham Grammar School on joining us. Their transfer was necessary owing to their C.O. leaving the school to take up other employment. Major S. Warmouth, who commands 594 Company R.A.S.C. (Mot. Amb.) (T.A.), now commands this new Lincolnshire A.C.F. unit.

Otterburn and Jurby, Isle of Man, have been considered as camp sites for the annual camp, but turned down, the former being unsuitable, the latter for financial reasons.

A camp site at Deverell Camp, Ripon, has been offered and after a reconnaissance, accepted. It will meet all our needs and it is hoped 450 Cadets will attend the 1965 camp at Ripon and thoroughly enjoy themselves.

Traditional bonfires were made and lit at Marcham-on-the-hill and Canwick, Lincoln, by Lincolnshire A.C.F. units to support the National Trust in drawing attention to the waning coastlines of Britain. Sites chosen commemorated those which gave warning to the country of the sighting of the Spanish Armada.

Opportunity for recruiting was afforded 863 Mov. Lt. Squadron, R.E. (T.A.), who provided searchlights, 170 Comm. "Z" Workshops, R.E.M.E. (T.A.), 4/6 Royal Lincolns (T.A.), Civil Defence, Army youth teams and others to

give demonstrations. The event proved to be successful, thanks to Major H. M. Clayton and S.M.I. G. Cliff, who organised it.

Northern Command cross-country championships were held at Belper, Derbyshire, and attracted a record entry of 16 junior and eight senior teams. We competed in the junior team event and came sixth. Cpl. Bland, who was second man home, is congratulated by the County Cadet Committee for his excellent placing.

The Officers' annual dinner, held at the Grand Hotel on April 30, 1965, was well attended.

Since our last report eight Cadets have enrolled, nine have joined the Regular Army, one the T.A. and six officers have resigned and one has transferred.

The sports arena at R.A.F. College, Cranwell, was kindly loaned for the A.C.F. athletic championships. The team events were won by the 4th Cadet Battalion, with the 1st Cadet Battalion gaining second place.

The annual rifle meeting took place at Beckingham. Three practices were fired, application, snap shooting and rapid, and produced some excellent results.

Sgt. McCall, of Grimsby, was the individual champion, Sgt. Brameld, of Barton, second, C.S.M. Betts, of Grantham, third. The team championship was won by 4th Battalion A.C.F., Grimsby, with 1st Battalion A.C.F., Lincoln, runners-up.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ARMY CADET FORCE

Four of our senior Cadets have attended several post-certificate "A" week-end at Northampton, and with the generous help of the 4/5 Battalion T.A. have been instructed in advanced training.

On February 19, a party of Cadets from this Battalion, in charge of S.M.I. J. Hunter, visited the Depot of the Parachute Regiment at Aldershot, and judging by the enthusiastic talk on their return, a good time was had by all. S.M.I. J. Hunter formerly served with the Parachute Regiment.

The Army youth team, under the command of Lt. D. Costin, have so far paid us three visits, two at detachment level, to give instruction in physical efficiency and games. On their other visit they laid on an exceptionally first-rate, one-day scheme and exercise, finishing up with a film show and games.

On February 26 we held one of our adult annual dinners, and this year it was at the Dolphin Hotel, St. Ives. A most convivial

evening was had by all. During the course of the evening a silver tankard was presented to Lt. A. E. Booth on his retirement from the Battalion.

In March a small party of Cadets visited the Royal Anglian Regiment Depot at Bury St. Edmunds. It is felt a lot of goodwill and interest is experienced from these visits, so much so that we have a waiting list for the next one.

A Part I Certificate "A" examination was held on March 21 at Corby and this Battalion achieved 12 passes.

So far the Battalion has attended two .303 open ranges at Elmington and the quality of shooting is slowly improving. There should be several good shots for later in the year, when we fire our county competitions.

Our most important event so far this year was the visit to the 9/12th Lancers at Osnabruk, in B.A.O.R. Lt. B. Acton took eight Cadets from the Battalion. The whole visit was a complete success with schemes, exercises and visits to places of interest.

Over the Easter holidays three Cadets from this Battalion attended the Annual Pennine Way Walk which is run under the auspices of the local T.A. Regiment. It was a very damp, cold and tiring trek.

A simple training weekend was held at Tiffield under the instructions of Capt. E. Mansfield, assisted by 2/Lt. P. Tighe and S/I. D. Jacklin and, as all adventure weekends, was completely enjoyed.

At the moment we are participating in a local Trades Exhibition at Peterborough. We are sharing a stand with the Sea and Marine Cadets and Air Training Corps. It is a simple way of keeping in the public eye. This combined with a recruiting drive at Detachment level has lifted our parade strength well up from that of December last year.

We said a fond farewell to Lt. M. Clements who has left us to work in another area. He has spent 16 years with this Battalion and will be missed by many of us.

Congratulations are given to S.M.I. J. Bland on his promotion to Father, his wife having recently presented him with a son.

Unfortunately we have had to say farewell to our Commanding Officer, Major R. M. Hobbs, who has left us on retirement. He has been a most dedicated and loyal officer to the cadet cause and will be greatly missed by us all. A farewell party was given to Major Hobbs on April 29. All officers, both past and present, together with the adult staff presented him with an inscribed cigarette case. Our very sincere and best wishes go to him and his wife for a happy retirement.

A welcome is given to Major T. Agutter, T.D., who has recently joined us to command the 3/4 Battalion. Major Agutter was until recently with the 4/5 Battalion T.A. and has a distinguished record.

Between the departure of Major Hobbs and the arrival of Major Agutter, the Battalion was under the temporary command of Capt. J. Setchfield.

The Battalion is now awaiting the completion of new accommodation and upon its completion Lincoln Road Drill Hall will be closed. Our headquarters will move to London Road Drill Hall.

We should also like to mention that Lt. Booth has retired from our ranks, and we all thank him for his loyal service and wish him happiness in his retirement.

We congratulate S.M.I. J. Firth on being awarded the Cadet Force Medal, and S.M.I. R. Harbour on his recent promotion. We also welcome S/I. M. Nightingale to our ranks



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3rd (16th/44th Foot) Battalion THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

The Battalion has been extremely busy during the last few months, training in Western Germany, taking part in ceremonial parades, and performing well in the field of sport.

On April 7 our Annual Administrative Inspection took place, with the whole Battalion parading on the square to receive Brigadier A. M. Taylor, M.C. and his staff. Following the inspection, presentations of the Long Service and Good Conduct Medals were made to Lt. (Q.M.) Bates, Bandmaster Cockcroft and C.S.M. Phillips of "C" Company.

The parade finished to the accompaniment of sonic booms of Soviet and Soviet Zone jet fighters, and some quick thinking had to be done in order to "show the flag." So the Battalion quickly mounted in its vehicles, still in No. 2 Dress and toured the British Sector of the City in several columns to show the Berliners that the British fully supported the rights of the Bundestag to hold a session in West Berlin.

After a quick lunch and an even quicker change into Combat Kit, the Battalion staged a repeat performance for the West Berliners in the afternoon.

There was no sense of relaxation after the Administrative Inspection as rehearsals for the

review to mark the occasion of H.M. The Queen's visit began on April 9, together with the preparation for the Battalion's training visit to Sennelager.

It was hoped that the weather would permit us to hold our Inter-Company Sports on April 12/13, so that the Battalion team could be selected for competition with the Berlin Police on May 15 followed by the Brigade sports. However, the track at the Olympic Stadium was waterlogged, and the sports were postponed until May.

The advance party left for Sennelager on April 12, and the Easter holiday was taken in a rush with the unit working on Easter Monday in preparation for an early start on the Tuesday morning.

The Battalion travelled down by road and rail, arriving on the evening of April 20 to carry out its annual live firing over many excellent battle ranges. On arrival, the cooks were heard to complain bitterly that no one had ordered haversack rations for them—it will take them a long time to live that one down! The Battalion quickly settled down under canvas, with each company living in separate sites in order to practise company administration. Those of

A section from "D" Company being briefed by the Section Commander before an attack on Fox range at Sennelager. Left to right: Pte. McBurnie (Leicester), Cpl. Blower (Scotland), L/Cpl. Whybrow (Stevenage), Pte. Brogan (Luton) and Pte. Malerick (Thorpe Bay).





Pte. Laugharne-Booth (Rainham) and Pte. Cailing (Rainham), both kneeling, explaining the 3.5 inch rocket launcher to the crew of a Centurian tank from 17th/21st Lancers, whilst training at Sennelager.

us who had heard the glowing reports of the wonderful weather from 1 SCLI were in for a surprise—it rained every day during our stay, except for the final weekend. This, however, did not dampen our spirits, and we spent the first two days on reconnaissance and settling in before live firing began. A very full programme was arranged, and with two years' allocation of ammunition at our fingertips, there was no holding us back—this was borne out by "B" Company who fired 15,000 rounds in an afternoon and have several wilting bren barrels to prove it!

The ranges were extremely varied and far superior to any that the Battalion has used in Berlin or Ballykinler. They included Wellington, an excellent platoon in defence range, with targets advancing to within 50 yards of the defensive position, and even incorporating a dummy which fell from the barn loft to the ground when hit—this invariably raised a cheer from the platoon, and made a hero of the rifleman concerned. Other ranges used, to name but a few, were "Alma," an excellent mechanical target range, where targets appeared at the touch of a button and when hit fell down, giving a realistic touch to the range shooting; "Fox" for section attacks; Klarard and Spearhead for 36 and 80 grenades, and 3.5-inch rockets; Castle for 3-inch mortar HE and Smoke, and Blucher, where the anti-tank guns gave a most impressive demonstration for the Battalion, firing practice and Hesh rounds up to 800 yards.

Although the ranges echoed to the chatter of machine guns both day and night, the Battalion still found time to relax, and the arrival of the fish and chip wagon at Company locations

during the evening triggered off a turnout quicker than our alert practices in Berlin. Members of the H.Q. Company who missed the wagon found satisfaction at "Dirty Dicks," a distinctly shady joint where the tinkle of glasses mingled with the aroma of hot dogs and cigarette smoke. Colour Sergeant South, who was responsible for this excellent service, always kept a fatherly eye on H.Q. Company cookhouse. One ill-fated morning he noticed some potato peelings in the drainage sump by the Company cookhouse. He immediately jumped into the pit, only to be covered in a shower of dirty water poured down the chute by an unsuspecting cook—exit one irate and very wet Colour Sergeant!

During our stay we received a great deal of help from the units stationed at Sennelager, particularly the 17th/21st Lancers and 39 Missile Regiment R.A. The range authorities went out of their way to help us, in spite of several incidents involving the mysterious disappearance of two ducks from a neighbouring farm and the discovery of several snares and even a pig trap.

On April 27, Public Relations paid us a visit and made some films of the Battalion training for Anglia Television. The Brigade Commander, Brigadier A. M. Taylor, M.C., flew down from Berlin to visit us on April 30, and Lieut.-General Sir Richard Goodwin, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., paid a short visit on May 6. Those of us who were on the camp site close to the playing fields were fortunate enough to be able to watch free fall parachuting which took place periodically on Bad Lippspringe airfield opposite the site. The Battalion athletes made use of the running track at the edge of the airfield, and



(Above): The Queen and Prince Philip review members of the Battalion during the Queen's Review, on May 27, 1965.

(Below): A view of the end of the Allied Forces Day Parade, with the Tripartite Colour Guard, Tripartite Honour Guard (3rd Royal Anglian contingent on the right) and Band and Drums of the 3rd Battalion, together with members of the 1st Battalion The Royal Irish Fusiliers Band (both extreme right).

the motor cycle enthusiasts spent their spare time practising for the Berlin Infantry Brigade Group MC Trials, to be held on June 10. Our golfing wizards: Capt. H. D. Lucas, W.O.II C. Ladley and Pte. A. Pearce, left us to take part in the B.A.O.R. Golf Championship at RAF Bruggen from April 26-30. Pte. Pearce is to be congratulated on getting into the last eight out of 163 competitors. Other recreational activities included film shows in the evenings, weather permitting. Another show of more spectacular nature took place on May 2, one of the two fine days we had during our stay. Four members of "D" Company returned to their tent on Sunday evening to find it a pile of ashes—the result of an over-efficient paraffin stove!

Just before we returned, an inter-Company cooking competition was held. The Command Catering Advisor, Major S. J. Pattel came down to judge it, and the result was a win for "B" Company, with "A" Company very close second. On May 7 the road party left Sennelager on the return journey to Berlin. Colour Sergeant J. T. Dallimore had the misfortune to break down in the Hamelin Bridge checkpoint and had to be towed through by the water wagon, to the amusement of the Russian Officer on duty at the time! The main body of the Battalion returned by train the following day, having thoroughly enjoyed themselves and looking forward to their next visit to Sennelager.

Whilst the Battalion was away the Mayor of Bury St. Edmunds, Councillor E. V. Sewell visited Berlin as a guest of the U.S. Air Force. Fortunately his programme, although very full, was manipulated to allow him to visit Wavell Barracks. Accompanied by the Town Clerk, he watched the Regimental Band at rehearsals, and also paid a visit to the Kindergarten, the JRC and Officers' Mess.

Having returned from Sennelager, members of the Battalion took part in the Allied Forces Day Parade on the historic 17th of June Street. The parade, which included detachments from the American, British and French forces in Berlin, was an extremely impressive and colourful spectacle. The Recce Platoon drove past in their Ferret Scout Cars, and the Battalion provided anti-tank and vehicle mounted troop detachments, as well as detachments for the Tripartite Colour Guard and Honour Guard. The Regimental Band, together with members of the band of the 1st Battalion The Royal Irish Fusiliers, played throughout the parade in front of the saluting base. This parade, however, was overshadowed by the highlight of the year—the visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II to Berlin on May 27. Numerous rehearsals and preparations took place during the preceding three weeks, and the

city hummed with excitement and anticipation. Finally, the morning of the great day arrived and the Queen, accompanied by Prince Phillip, landed at Gatow Airport to inspect a guard of honour provided by the American, British and French Forces and the Berlin Police. The Royal party then drove to the Olympic Stadium, the Headquarters of the British Garrison, where they reviewed the Brigade on the Maifeld, to the cheers of over 100,000 West Berliners. Every member of the Battalion took part in the review, including the Recce Platoon in their Ferret Scout Cars, and a large number of DKW quarter-ton vehicles. After taking the Royal Salute the Queen and Prince Philip drove round the Maifeld to review the Brigade. This was followed by a 21 gun salute from the tanks of "A" Squadron The Queen's Own Hussars, and a "Feu de Joie" from the Infantry Battalions.

The parade culminated with an advance in review order, and a Royal Salute. The Queen then left the Maifeld to a rousing "three cheers" given by the Brigade.

During the afternoon the Royal Party visited the English Garden in the Tiergarten. This garden was originally laid out with gifts from the English Royal Family. The Queen planted an oak tree from Windsor Park, and several members of the Brigade were presented to Her Majesty. Cpl. Jones of the MT, was amongst the selected few to be so presented—an honour which he will long remember.

The excitement of the Queen's visit over, the Battalion's athletes settled down to training for the B.A.O.R. Individual Championships which took place at Paderborn from May 31 to June 2. Ten members of the Battalion entered for these Championships and they are to be congratulated on an excellent performance. L/Cpl. Milne came 2nd in the Javelin, Pte. Basham was placed 5th in the discus, 2/Lt. Groves came 6th in the 100 metres, and Capt. Cross reached 5th and 7th place in the 400 and 800 metres track events. L/Cpl. Gooden deserves a special mention for his outstanding performance in the 100 and 200 metres. He won both these events with the astonishing times of 10.7 and 22.1 respectively. L/Cpl. Gooden, who is the Inter Services 100 and 220 yard champion, is leaving the Army in August this year. We wish him every success in athletics for the future.

This meeting was followed by the Brigade Athletics Championships, held at the Olympic Stadium on June 11 and 12. The Battalion competed against two other major units, the 1st Battalion The Somerset and Cornwall Light Infantry and 1st Battalion The Green Jackets, and found themselves up against very stiff opposition. Two competitors were entered for

The Battalion Athletics Team, which won second place in the Brigade Athletics Championship at Berlin on June 12, 1965.



each field event, the aggregate of their scores counting towards the final placing. Major Bacon and L/Cpl. Milne won the shot, Lt. Veitch and L/Cpl. Milne were placed first in the Javelin, Ptes. Basham and Allen (66) came 2nd in the discus event, and Sgt. Kellely and Cpl. Missenden won the hammer with a throw of 224 feet. Second places were gained by Ptes. Pearson and Allen (66) in the Pole Vault, 2/Lt. Hart and Pte. Pearson in the high jump, and L/Cpls. Gooden and Pettitt in the long jump.

Turning to the track events, the Battalion hurdles team was placed second, with 2/Lt. Hart, Cpls. Hemmings and Pateman and Pte. Allen (66) taking part.

The relay events proved to be equally thrilling and we were just beaten into 2nd place in the 1,500 and 5,000 metres events. The highlight of the Championships was the 4 x 100 and 4 x 200 metres relay events, both of which were won by the Battalion. 2/Lt. Groves, L/Cpls. Pettitt and Gooden and Pte. Mercury gained a victory for us in the 100 metres, and 2/Lt. Groves, L/Cpl. Lawton, Gooden and Pettitt won the 200 metres event.

A number of Battalion records were broken during the Championships and the score board at the end showed a very close finish, with 1 S.C.L.I. just beating the Battalion by 75 points to 67, with 1 Green Jackets in 3rd place with 42 points.

As these notes go to press, we have just finished a fortnight as duty Battalion, during which time we have provided all the guards and personnel required for Brigade duties. The Battalion certainly deserves a rest, and the Commanding Officer has arranged a "Jolly Fortnight" with this in mind. From June 21 to July 3 all members of the Battalion not

employed on essential duties are taking part. The programme includes instruction and participation in a number of sports and recreational activities, including basketball, squash, badminton, swimming and water polo, hockey, sailing, canoeing, cycling and horse riding. Special periods of instruction have also been arranged for those who wish to learn the German language or study for their 3rd Class Army Certificate of Education.

Forthcoming events include a visit to the Battalion in early July by the Regimental Colonel, Colonel J. C. Denny, O.B.E., M.C., and the departure in late July of the Battalion Kape team for a month's tour of the Regimental Recruiting Area. The Battalion leaves Berlin on September 22 for its annual training period on the Soltau-Luneburg Training Area.

Lt. Veitch leads a canoeing expedition of eight men down the river Rhone from September 4-20, and it is hoped to include an account of this unusual exploit in the next edition of the Regimental Journal.

As is customary, we include the names of those Officers, Warrant Officers and Sergeants who have recently arrived or left the Battalion. Since the last Battalion Notes we have welcomed the following old friends back to the Battalion :

Major K. J. T. Hoile, Capt. P. J. Sincock, Capt. W. T. Dodd, W.O.II B. Day and Sgt. M. Dear.

We also welcome a number of newcomers from the Regimental Depot, but we have said goodbye with regret to :

Major J. V. Miseroy, Major W. D. Page, Major M. L. A. Duffie, Capt. B. W. Cridland, Capt. D. R. Palmer, W.O.II W. Bedford.

The 3rd (16th/44th Foot) Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment Dinner Club

The first dinner of the 3rd (16th/44th Foot) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment Dinner Club took place at the United Services Club, Pall Mall, London, on Friday, April 30, 1965. Sixty-eight serving and retired officers attended.

Lieut.-General Sir Reginald F. S. Denning, K.B.E., C.B., D.L., Colonel of the Regiment, presided, supported by Brigadier C. M. Paton, C.V.O., C.B.E., D.L., Deputy Colonel, and General Sir Henry C. Jackson, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., Past Colonel of The Regiment. The guests were: Major S. H. Whitbread, J.P., Lord Lieutenant of Bedfordshire, Colonel Sir John Ruggles-Brise, Bt., C.B., C.B.E., T.D., J.P., Lord Lieutenant of Essex, and the Right Reverend A. J. Trillo, M.Th., B.D., Bishop of Bedford.

During the evening the Colonel of the Regiment read out the gracious replies from Her Majesty The Queen and Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, to messages of loyal

greetings he had sent on behalf of all those present.

After the Loyal Toasts had been honoured General Sir Reginald Denning welcomed the guests who had honoured the members of the Dinner Club with their presence that evening. He then referred to the formation in September, 1954, of the Royal Anglian Regiment, the first of the large Regiments, and of the very high standard of morale which existed in the four Battalions, all of which were serving abroad. The 3rd Battalion stationed in Berlin had earned itself a very high reputation and had made many friends amongst the allied powers.

Brigadier Paton, after speaking of the progress and excellent records of the Territorial Battalions, proposed the Toast of "The Regiment."

The company then broke up and more informal discussions took place.

1st Bn. The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment (TA)

The Battalion went to camp at Devizes on April 24, for a fortnight's training in firefighting. For the first week the unit was divided into squads of 10 men in order that the instructors (who were drawn from Civil Fire Brigades all over the country) could give instruction in all aspects of firefighting.

The week's heavy programme included being taught how to lay and reel in hose, drive fire tenders, the controlling of both mobile and portable water pumps, and the methods of conveying fire equipment both on land and over water.

Whilst every soldier had the opportunity to practise individual tasks, a great deal of emphasis was laid on team work, which inevitably created a spirit of rivalry between squads, that was settled by a pump drill competition at the end of camp.

By way of contrast to the physical training aspect, many good lectures and films were shown, both on the methods of dealing with the various known types of fires and those which would be likely to occur in the event of nuclear attack.

It was clear to everyone that the T.A. had an important role to play in the event of being called upon to act in a firefighting capacity, and how we would fit into a plan of operations working alongside the civilian brigades.

The second week was spent carrying out three schemes, putting into practice the lessons learnt previously. Firstly, a company endured a period of 12 hours in an underground fall out shelter, to give those partaking some experience of what difficulties might be expected in the event of a nuclear attack.

The first main exercise involved the whole Battalion, formed into five composite companies with the task of relaying a water supply over a distance of three miles. Many difficulties in laying six-inch hose across and along public roads were experienced, and a number of men were "half-drowned" when the time came to break the supply pipe and the water which was under pressure gushed out. However, these difficulties and the fact that it rained hard all day did not dampen the spirit in which everybody went about their tasks.

The second exercise held in the Swindon



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area, involved the Battalion transporting sufficient equipment across a quarter-mile of water in order to provide 35 jets to fight a factory fire.

The task was to load 12 portable pumps on to "Bikinis" (rubber dingies) and ferry them plus enough men to man the jets situated some 50 yards from the far bank. The use of the rubber dingies caused much amusement at first, as the power and steerage which were provided by a jet from one of the pumps fixed on the craft, caused so much difficulty to the "Newly trained firemen," that they nearly took a ducking. However, these problems were soon overcome and the job of loading and unloading was efficiently carried out, with the set task being completed in the allotted time.

Those who before camp had any doubts as to the implications of two weeks spent firefighting, soon had their fears dispelled and by the end of camp everyone agreed that the training had been worthwhile and enjoyable, for which a great deal of credit must go to the civilian staff who prepared the programme and carried out the instruction.

SERGEANTS' MESS

The considered opinion amongst all members of the Mess was that "Devizes 1965" turned out to be a jolly good Annual Camp. The training was arduous but interesting, and there is no doubt that the high standard of firefighting achieved was due mainly to the excellence of the fire fighting instructors of the School.

Mess activities at camp were very strenuous, especially the first week, and the Entertain-

ments Committee must be congratulated on their very successful efforts.

The Entertainments Committee in particular and the Sergeants' Mess as a whole, were extremely sorry to say farewell to W.O.II Watson, P.S.I. of No. 1 Company. He was a very popular member of the Mess and will be greatly missed. We wish him the very best of luck on his new posting to the Junior Leaders Battalion at Oswestry.

C.S.M. Colclough of the 4th Bn. Royal Anglian Regiment has taken over from C.S.M. Watson, and has settled in very well. When his final pay queries have been settled and his last Disturbance Allowance claim has been met, we hope his "settling in will be completed!" Seriously, we hope his stay with us will be a very pleasant one.

Congratulations also to our Chief Clerk W.O.II Crook, and C/Sgt. Fairclough (No. 2 Company) on receiving the Clasp to the T.A. Efficiency Medal; to Sgt. Killick, now promoted to C/Sgt., and to our latest newcomer to the Mess, Sgt. Bright (of H.Q. Company).

We also had the good fortune whilst at camp of entertaining Mr. ("Roy") Blackman ("The Daily Mirror" Services correspondent) who came along presumably to check morale, consequent on reports of a cut in the T.A. establishments! Mr. Blackman was suitably impressed by what he saw, and departed in delightful mood in the very early hours of the morning. There are no "shadows over the Sergeants' Mess" Mr. Blackman, although possibly there may have been a few under the eyes of certain members!

4th/5th Bn. The Essex Regiment (TA)

During the Easter holiday two Adventure Training projects were undertaken — one in Northern Ireland and one in North Wales. The Exercises were known as Get Away I and II respectively. They had common aims namely:

- (a) To provide tough enjoyable training in new surroundings;
- (b) To raise the standard of physical fitness of those taking part and to train them in self reliance and leadership.
- (c) To carry out training in fieldcraft, map reading, compass and marching across country by day and night.

To make these exercises possible, all those taking part contributed half the pay and allowances payable for the period and Regimental Funds provided the balance.

Exercise "Get Away I" took place in the Mourne mountains where Major David Purves took a party of one officer and 14 O.R.s marching and climbing over the whole area. They were based at the Annalong Hut supplied by the R.A.S.C and were entirely self-administered. On the first day the programme included the conquering of Slieve Donard, the highest peak in the range — this has been achieved before! However, our team selected a new route and by the time the summit was reached all concerned realised that the going was tough and that the next three days would call for stamina and determination. We understand in particular, that Major Purves endorsed this assessment in spite of his years of "roughing it" with Gurkha Brigade.

The dawn of day two was bleak and uninvit-

ing. Rain turned to hail as the party in two independent sections gained height. The aim was to cover two separate routes through the mountains and to RV at the Spelga Dam. After a very wet and cold four hours they achieved their objective, and after a short rest during which they prepared their own lunch, the return march began. This last phase extended all to the full and some men arrived back quite exhausted. Spirits were high, however, and a game few managed to lump down to Newcastle in the evening. There was no dancing that night!

The next day was better weather but the aches and pains were beginning to make themselves felt. At 09.15 hrs the party set out to follow a course through the Western Stretches of the Mountains. It was a pleasant day's march through beautiful scenery, and by evening as the party approached their base the stiffness had gone and all members were well into their stride.

By the dawn of the last day, 34 miles of rough country had been covered in pretty appalling weather. It was, therefore, decided that for the final morning a five-mile march from the hut, up the Silent Valley to the reservoir would make a gently fitting climax to the "holiday"!

The party travelled to Ireland by train and steamer, and to make the most of the time available they flew home on the Night Flight by BEA.

The other Adventure Training Exercise which took place over the Easter holiday was called "Get Away II." Lt. Trevor Nightingale organised a party of one officer and 11 Ors,

and at 22.15 hrs. on Thursday, April 15, they left Ilford for Bethesda Drill Hall in Caernarvonshire. The journey up to Snowdonia took 10 hours, allowing for one hour rest and a meal at the top of the M1. The trip was not without incident, for on the outskirts of Gobowen — foreign territory — the 3-tonner got a puncture. After about 45 minutes and a good deal of sweat, the wheel was changed without waking those asleep in the back and the journey was continued!

The party was divided into two groups for the training. Lt. Nightingale took one and 2/Lt. Chris Baxter the other. On the Friday both parties left the TAC at Bethesda to climb Trufan. The march took five hours for a total climb and descent of 4,000 feet. There was a certain amount of excitement when reaching the summit a red distress rocket was fired, and on reaching the mountain rescue post nearby it was found that a rescue party had already been formed, but our party was asked to stand by for half an hour.

The next day the two groups started out from Betws-y-Coed on a cross-country march along the north bank of the Nantygwryd to Capel Curie and thence through the forests to the north. A total of nine miles was covered, and both parties were pleased to see the transport waiting for them at a pre-arranged RV. After a few beers and a good night's rest, all awoke with eager anticipation at the thought of tackling Mount Snowdon.

This second highest peak in the British Isles is measured at 3,560ft. The ascent began at 11.15 hours and by 14.30 hours all enjoyed a



Left: 2/Lt. Baxter at Wainn Pass. Right: 4th/5th Bn The Essex Regiment (T.A.). Adventure Training in Snowdonia. (From left) Ptes. Wiltshire, Crow, Taylor, Sherburn, Whitehead, Rivers, Barrance, L/Cpl Setters and Lt. Nightingale.

hot drink and a bite to eat on the summit. The highlight of the climb was the crossing of the Snowdon Horseshoe, a very narrow and sharp col approximately 900 yards long, with a sheer drop of 500ft. on the south and 700ft. on the north side. Most members of the party said that they were "worried" by this phase, usually expressing their feelings more forcibly!

On Monday, April 19, the party returned home to Ilford. This excellent Infantry training taught the soldiers self-reliance, self-discipline and built up their stamina. It has been assessed by most as their best week-end in the T.A.

Pte. Taylor's comment on returning from Wales was "Now I can tell all my mates I've been abroad," and so the recruiting value of this type of training should not be underestimated.

The Battalion sent a party of two Officers and 17 other ranks, all members of the T.A.E.R. (except the Officers) to 1st Battalion The Royal Warwickshire Fusiliers on Exercises at Sennelager. This was annual camp for the Ever Readies and took place from May 2-22 this year. The party flew over, to be greeted by appalling weather. The camp was tented and plenty of "in the field" experience was gained! The training was extremely well laid on by the Regular Army and full advantage was made of the excellent range facilities.

In the first week, section and platoon formations were practised and shooting included static figure targets, field firing and a night shoot.

Personal camouflage was practised and a night patrol exercise stimulated much enthusiasm.

Although the men were kept very busy, time was allowed for recreation on the odd evening. Some found their entertainment at the indoor swimming pool in Paderborn and others elsewhere!

During the second week the weather improved and all had a chance to use A.P.C.s, and they also experienced the gas chamber. The training culminated in a defence exercise with

patrolling by day and night, normal routine in the daytime, and the finale was provided by the Regular soldiers, who carried out a dawn attack, which, the T.A. boys say, was singularly unsuccessful!

The Battalion annual camp this year takes place at Shorncliffe. Ours is to be a tented camp at Dibgate, so fair weather is the primary consideration. At the time of writing, the Battalion has been moving in under ideal conditions. The sun is shining and in spite of fairly heavy road traffic there have been no undue delays for soldiers joining camp.

At present the numbers actually attending are not firm, but it is approximately 215 all ranks. The Band and Drums this year are attending a separate camp, together with all Bands and Drums of the Brigade at Colchester in July. We shall miss them here at Shorncliffe, but arrangements have been made for them to visit us during the middle week-end. A fuller report of our action while at camp will be given in the next edition.

In the Battalion, .22 shooting still continues to flourish. The Battalion team entered the Edmonds trophy competition and managed to take second place to 308 (S. and N.Y.) Field Regiment, R.A. The scores in the final were: 308 Field Regiment, 568; 4/5 Essex, T.A., 565.

We also entered a team in the 54 (E.A.) Division/District knockout competition and again achieved second place. Scores were: M.C.T.C., Colchester, 575; 4/5 Essex, T.A., 565. Sgt. Gratz is congratulated on his personal score of 99.

There is still one final .22 competition yet to be completed and this is the 54 (E.A.) Division/District League. Each Company has entered a team and at the time of going to press we have the results up to and including the fifth round. These are most encouraging, "C," "H.Q." and "B" Companies are in first place within their respective divisions. "D" Company are occupying second place, hotly pursuing "D" Company of the 4th Royal Norfolk (T.A.), and "A" Company are fourth in their own division.

Annual Civic Service, Warley

The annual Civic Service for 1965 was held in the Regimental Chapel at Warley on Sunday, June 27, at 3 p.m.

The service was conducted by the Rev. W. A. Williams, B.A., Senior Chaplain, 54 (East Anglian) Division/District, and the Address was given by the Right Rev. A. J. Trillo, M.Th., B.D., the Bishop of Bedford. The Lord Bishop of Chelmsford, the Right Rev. J. G. Tiarks, M.A., officiated.

The Band of the 4th/5th Bn. The Essex Regiment (T.A.) played in the Regimental Chapel, and afterwards on the lawn while the guests were entertained to tea by the Officers of the Regiment, and the bells of The Essex Regiment Memorial Carillon were played before and after the service. The fine weather helped to make the afternoon another very successful Regimental occasion.

The following guests attended: H.M.

Lieutenant for Essex, Colonel Sir John A. Ruggles-Brise, Bt., C.B., O.B.E., T.D., J.P.; the High Sheriff of Essex, A. H. Carnwath, Esq., and Mrs. Carnwath; the High Sheriff of Hertfordshire, L. P. Thompson-McCausland, Esq., and Mrs. Thompson-McCausland.

The following Deputy Lieutenants of Essex and their wives:

Brigadier G. Shenstone, C.B.E., T.D., J.P., D.L., Colonel Sir Stuart S. Mallinson, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., J.P., D.L., Colonel A. J. R. Waller, J.P., D.L., Colonel C. Portway, M.C., T.D., J.P., D.L., Lieut.-General Sir Geoffrey W. Howard, K.C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., D.L. (Past Colonel, The Essex Regiment), Colonel A. Noble, C.B., D.S.O., T.D., D.L. (Hon. Colonel, 4th/5th Bn. The Essex Regiment (T.A.)), Colonel V. S. Laurie, C.B., T.D., D.L., Lt.-Col. C. L. Wilson, O.B.E., M.C., D.L., Colonel H. Craig, O.B.E., T.D., D.L., Colonel N. R. Salew, O.B.E., D.L. (Clerk to the Lieutenancy), Colonel R. A. Chell, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., T.D., D.L., Colonel P. V. Upton, M.B.E., T.D., J.P., D.L., Colonel A. E. C. Alston, T.D., D.L., Colonel F. H. Everingham, O.B.E., T.D., D.L., Colonel H. L. Clarke, T.D., J.P., D.L., Lt.-Col. A. F. Leggett, O.B.E., D.L., Colonel P. H. A. L. Franklin, D.L., Lt.-Col. A. R. Kiggins, T.D., D.L.

Also present were: The Chairman of the Essex County Council, Alderman S. W.

Millard, and Mrs. Millard, and the Chairman of the Hertfordshire County Council, Alderman Claude C. Barker, LL.B., J.P., and Mrs. Barker.

The Mayors and Mayoresses of Bedford, Maldon, Colchester, Hemel Hempstead, St. Albans (Deputy), Harwich, Chelmsford, Southend-on-Sea, Watford, and the London boroughs of Barking, Barnet, Havering, Redbridge, Newham and Waltham Forest.

The Chairman of the Brentwood Urban District Council, Councillor A. J. Davidson, C.C., J.P., and Mrs. Davidson, the Clerk to the Council, Mr. C. Booth, and Mrs. Booth, and the Deputy Clerk to the Council, Mr. A. F. S. Lee, and Mrs. Lee.

The Chairmen of the Urban District Councils of Basildon, Benfleet, Braintree and Bocking, Brightlingsea, Burnham-on-Crouch, Chigwell, Clacton, Epping, Harlow, Rayleigh, Thurrock, Waltham Holy Cross, Wivenhoe, Witham, Leighton-Linslade, Bishops Stortford, Bushey, Cheshunt, Sawbridgeworth and Stevenage.

The Chairmen of the Rural District Councils of Chelmsford, Epping and Ongar, Halstead, Rochford, Ampthill, Luton, Hatfield and St. Albans.

Other guests were: Lieut.-General A. E. Percival, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., Colonel J. C.

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Denny, O.B.E., M.C., Regimental Colonel, The Royal Anglian Regiment, and Mrs. Denny, Lt.-Col. H. W. Clark, Commanding Officer, The Depot, Royal Anglian Regiment, and Mrs. Clark, Mr. J. R. Moore-Simpson, Hon. Architect to the Regimental Chapel.

Present to welcome and entertain the guests were: The Colonel of the Regiment, Lieut.-

General Sir Reginald F. S. Denning, K.B.E., C.B., D.L., and Lady Denning, the Deputy Colonel, Brigadier C. M. Paton, C.V.O., C.B.E., D.L., and Mrs. Paton, Lt.-Col. R. J. Randall, Commanding Officer, 4th/5th Bn. The Essex Regiment (T.A.), and Mrs. Randall, Major T. R. Stead, the Regimental Secretary, and Mrs. Stead, and the Officers of the Regiment.

The Essex Regiment Honours its First V.C.

The first Essex Regiment recipient of the Victoria Cross was Colour-Sgt. William McWheaney, who received the decoration from Queen Victoria in 1855 for repeated acts of gallantry during the Crimean War.

C/Sgt. McWheaney died at Dover in 1866, and on Thursday, June 10 last, a headstone erected by the Regiment was unveiled at his grave in St. James's Cemetery, Dover.

The brief but impressive ceremony was attended by the Mayor of Dover and witnessed by a small gathering. The unveiling was carried out by Brigadier C. M. Paton, C.V.O., C.B.E., D.L., Deputy Colonel, The Royal Anglian Regiment, and a Guard of Honour was provided by O.C., 4th/5th Bn. The Essex Regiment (T.A.). Lt.-Col. R. J. Randall, O.C., 4th/5th Essex, and Major T. R. Stead, the Regimental Secretary, were also present.

Prayers were read by the Rev. K. F. Belben, Chaplain to the 4th/5th Battalion.

The citation of the Victoria Cross award reads as follows:

"Volunteered as sharpshooter at the commencement of the siege, and was in charge of the party of the 44th Regiment; was always vigilant and active, and signalled himself on the 20th October, 1854, when one of his party, Private John Keane, 44th Regiment, was dangerously wounded in the Woronzoff Road, at the time the sharpshooters were repulsed from the Quarries by overwhelming numbers. Sergeant McWheaney, on his return, took the wounded man on his back and brought him to a place of safety. This was under a very heavy fire. He was also the means of saving the life of Corporal Courtney. This man was one of the sharpshooters and was severely wounded in the head on the 5th December, 1854. Sergeant McWheaney brought him from under fire, and dug up a slight cover with his bayonet,



C/SGT. McWHEENEY, V.C.
The unveiling ceremony.



*C/SGT. McWHEENEY, V.C.
Headstone in St. James's Cemetery, Dover.*

where the two remained until dark, when they retired.

"Sergeant McWheeneey volunteered for the advanced guard of General Eyre's Brigade, in the Cemetery, on the 18th June, 1855, and was never absent from duty during the war."

REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATIONS

The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association

1st/5th BEDFORDS (1914-18),
"YELLOW DEVILS," O.C.A.

Tribute was paid to the memory of yet another comrade—Charles Jeakings—at our April meeting. After the formal matters of the monthly meeting had been disposed of, the annual general meeting of the Branch was held.

The President, Mr. C. W. Gilder, reported that five more comrades had passed on during the previous twelve months, but despite diminishing numbers, the Branch could look back with pride on its activities during the past year.

Advertisements

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REGIMENTAL CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 18: Saffron Walden Branch, The Essex Regiment. Annual Social and Dance, Town Hall, Saffron Walden. Full details from: Hon. Secretary, Mr. E. W. Elsom, 11, Castle Cross, Saffron Walden.

OCTOBER 9: London Branch, The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association Annual Dinner. Details from: Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. G. Aldridge, 118, Valley Drive, Gravesend, Kent.

OCTOBER 15: Chelmsford Branch, The Essex Regiment Association Annual Dinner. Details from: Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. Gilder, T.A. Centre, Market Road, Chelmsford.

OCTOBER 16: Watford Branch, The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association Annual Dinner. Details from: Hon. Secretary, Mr. J. V. Hackman, 34, Judge Street, Watford, Herts.

OCTOBER 23: 1st Bn. The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment (1939-45) O.R.'s Reunion at "The Clacham," 34, Kingly Street, London, W.1. Details from: Mr. F. W. Earnes, 72, New Park Drive, Hemel Hempstead, Herts.

The annual outing to Brighton, the local Memorial Service, Remembrance Day at Kempston, benevolent grants to members were some of the highlights and there is no doubt the Branch is admirably fulfilling its duty for which it was created.

The balance sheet revealed a very healthy state of affairs, reflecting great credit on the officers concerned, and the Branch can look forward with confidence to the future.

The election of officers for 1965/66 was as follows: President, Mr. C. W. Gilder; Vice-Presidents, Colonel Rt. Hon. The Lord Luke, T.D., D.L., Colonel C. H. Misken, O.B.E., M.C.,

T.D., Lt.-Col. W. S. Chirnside, M.C., Miss G. Cumberland; Chairman: Mr. F. King; Hon. Secretary/Treasurer, Mr. J. Ward. Committee, Messrs. J. Land, C. Boughton, C. Plummer, J. Hunt, with all officers.

It will be 50 years on Sunday, August 15, that the 1st/5th Battalion went into action at Gallipoli and earned undying fame and their sobriquet—The Yellow Devils. A memorial service is being arranged for that date, to which ex-Servicemen who served at Gallipoli are being invited.

8th (S) BN. THE BEDFORDSHIRE REGIMENT (1914-1918)

On Saturday, May 1, 1965, 25 members of the original 8th (S) Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment assembled at the Bath House Hotel in Soho for their annual general meeting, to be followed by the reunion dinner. General Sir Henry Jackson presided and the Honorary Vice-President, Lord Amptill, was also present.

General Jackson opened the meeting by paying tributes to the late Secretary, Mr. F. Cooper, and his assistant, Mr. W. Packer, both of whom had died in recent months.

Amongst the guests were the Chairman and Secretary of the 6th (S) Battalion and during the meeting it was agreed that, in view of diminishing numbers, the two Service Battalions of The Bedfordshire Regiment should dine together in future years.

It was decided to hold the next dinner at the same venue on Saturday, April 23, 1966.

Major E. E. Ashby, M.C., of 9, Campbell Road, Bedford, a member of the Battalion since the early days at Shoreham, has now taken over as Secretary.

HERTFORD BRANCH

Our annual dinner and dance was held in the Mayflower Hotel, Hertingfordbury, on Saturday, April 3. Our President, Major J. S. Townsend, was in the chair, and 103 members, their friends and guests sat down to an excellent dinner followed by the usual get-together and dance. Among our many guests, we were pleased to welcome Councillor and Mrs. A. W. Bentley, the Mayor and Mayoress of Hertford, Major D. T. Tewkesbury, M.B.E., our popular Regimental Secretary, Major and Mrs. J. H. Busby, Alderman and Mrs. P. G. Brooks and Councillor G. W. Dale. A special welcome was afforded to our South African veterans present, Mr. Woods and Mr. Harman, 82 and 81 years old respectively.

The toast to Her Majesty The Queen and to our Colonel-in-Chief, Her Majesty The Queen Mother, was proposed by our President, Major J. S. Townsend, as also was the toast of "Absent Friends."

Major Tewkesbury, in proposing the toast of "The Regiment," gave us an up-to-date account of the recent reorganisation of the Royal Anglian Regiment, including in particular the activities of the 3rd Battalion in Germany.

The toast of "The Branch" was suitably proposed by Major J. H. Busby, who congratulated our team in winning the championship of Division 12 League of the Hertfordshire Small Bore Rifle Association.

Our sincere congratulations to our popular Secretary and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Mansfield, on the occasion of their Golden Wedding anniversary which they recently celebrated.

ST. ALBANS BRANCH THE HERTFORDSHIRE REGIMENT)

Former members of the Hertfordshire Regiment living in the St. Albans area will be interested to learn that a Branch for them has been formed there. After a successful inaugural meeting last September, Lt.-Col. J. C. Ottaway, M.B.E., T.D., was appointed President and Mr. G. W. Fisher as Chairman.

Enquiries should be addressed to the Secretary, Mr. S. Hawthorne, 16, Coningsby Bank, St. Albans, Herts.

BEDFORD BRANCH

We would like to begin these notes by congratulating the Editor on the successful first issue of *The Castle*. He has managed to cover the news of all the units and affiliated Associations of the Regiment, as well as articles of interest, resulting in a fine Regimental Journal.

The Branch team, playing in the B.U.S.A. Winter Games League, finished fourth at the end of the season, whilst Mr. Willmott won the individual darts competition—well done, Jerry, and all those players who have represented us. The trophies were presented at the B.U.S.A. Club and during the evening our team reached the final of the darts knock-out competition, but were eventually beaten 2-1.

We shall be very pleased to welcome any serving or ex-Service member of the Regiment at our monthly meetings held in the T.A. Social Club, Ashburnham Road, Bedford, on the first Friday of each month.

The Essex Regiment Association

A DISTINGUISHED POMPADOUR

Mr. Joseph Johnson, who joined the Pompadours at Warley in 1884 (Number 1393), was 100 years old on May 12, 1965.

At his home in Bournemouth the great day was marked by a family celebration. The house at West Way, where he lives with a married daughter, was filled with flowers and more than 150 telegrams were received, including one from the Queen and one from the Regiment. Two former members of the old Essex Regiment, Majors F. H. Jury and H. G. Ricketts, called on Mr. Johnson on his birthday, and spent some time with him discussing his days with the Regiment.

Though a little hard of hearing, Mr. Johnson is remarkably fit and active, but admits to a somewhat lazy existence nowadays, not getting out of bed until mid-morning.

Our picture shows him listening to his transistor radio, which is a favourite recreation of his.

We wish him "Many happy returns."

6th BATTALION (CEDARS)

The Branch annual dinner was held at the T.A. Centre, East Ham, on Saturday, March 27, when Major S. Brunskill, T.D., was in the chair. On the same date, 48 years ago, many of those

present at the dinner were engaged in the battle of Gaza.

A brief but very interesting talk on his experiences was given by Lionel King; and Bert Shute, after thanking the speaker, made an appeal to all present to do their best to persuade any Old Comrades known to them to become members of the Branch.

An excellent meal was followed by a very pleasant "get-together" at the bar.

Full information concerning the Branch can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. W. Leaford, 71, Herschell Road, Leigh-on-Sea.

BRENTWOOD BRANCH

A dinner was held at "Les Cuisiniers" Restaurant, Brentwood, on May 14, when some 28 members and their wives enjoyed a very pleasant evening.

During discussions following the dinner, it was decided that informal monthly meetings would, in future, be held on the first Friday in each month at the "Artichoke," Shenfield Common, and all members would be most welcome.

SOUTHEND AND DISTRICT BRANCH

Regular support for our monthly meetings continues to be forthcoming from a loyal band of stalwarts, and in April a challenge from the



Ex-Sgt. Joseph Stephen
Johnson.

Photograph by courtesy of
Luther-Smith, Ferndown,
Dorset.

T.A. Centre at Leigh-on-Sea was taken up and resulted in a win for the "Pompadours" in both the .22 shoot and the darts (by a very short head).

The Branch held a most successful dinner and dance on May 15, when more than 90 members and their wives spent a thoroughly enjoyable evening. We were very glad to have with us once again our President, Brigadier G. Shenstone, C.B.E., T.D., D.L., J.P., and Mrs. Shenstone, Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Scholfield and Major and Mrs. Tom Stead. Strong support came from our Thurrock sub-branch and from our good friends at Chelmsford.

Loyal greetings were sent to H.R.H. The Princess Margaret, our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, and her reply was read by the President.

During the evening Mr. Doug Deer, a founder member of the Branch, made a presentation of an engraved silver tankard to Mr. Charlie Harrod, the retiring Hon. Secretary, in recognition of his services to the Branch. We are delighted to record that Charlie Harrod is to continue to lend his support to the Committee, and we welcome an old friend, Captain Len Hammond, of 40, Cumberland Avenue, Southchurch, Southend-on-Sea, as a new Hon. Secretary.

CHELMSFORD AND DISTRICT BRANCH

The Branch has now been in existence for almost two years, and we are proud to record that our membership already exceeds 250.

In April we returned to the old Warley Barracks Gymnasium, now known as "Keys Hall," where a most successful social and dance was held. We have decided that this event shall be held annually in April.

Our first Branch dinner is to be held at the County Hotel, Chelmsford, on Friday, October 15, and the demand for tickets is already considerable. Tickets at 21/- each are obtainable from the Secretary.

Other social functions include a "Family Sports Day" at Pointwell Mill, Coggleshall (by kind permission of Major and Mrs. D. J. Jarvis), on Sunday, September 12. Tickets, including buffet, 4/-. Also a social and dance at Messrs. Crompton Parkinson's (Chelmsford) Social Club on Saturday, October 2.

Full details of all activities can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. Gilder, T.A. Centre, Market Street, Chelmsford.

Normandy Revisited

On June 6, 1944, 2nd Bn. The Essex Regiment (Pompadours) landed on the Normandy beaches, as part of the 56th Infantry Brigade assault group.



Ex-Pompadour C. F. Harrod placing a wreath on the 56th Infantry Brigade Memorial at Bayeux Cathedral.

On June 4, 1965, ex-Pompadour Charlie Harrod, together with his wife and family, paid a return visit to the beaches. He writes as follows:

"The evening of June 4 found us firmly 'dug in' at Arrormanches, and we were soon joined by three comrades from the S.W.B.'s and a fourth from the Herts Yeomanry, also of 50th Div. On June 5 we visited the war cemeteries at Bayeux, Tilly, Hottot and Banneville, where the names of so many comrades are recorded. We also found Essex Wood and called on the Abbot at Juaye-Mondaye, who insisted we stayed to tea.

"Our first visit on the morning of the 6th was to Bayeux Cathedral, where we laid the Essex Regiment poppy wreath at the 56th Brigade Memorial, "in honoured memory from all Pompadours." Next we went to Gold Beach (where we landed), and to the nearby village of Asnelles. Here we met the local Mayor and Council laying their wreath at the 50th Div. Memorial. They invited us to take wine with them and gave us a great welcome. Our wives were presented with sprays of red roses, and the wine was both good and plentiful. Our thoughts flashed back to our first introduction to Calvados 21 years ago, and it is comforting to know that on June 6 each year the towns

and villages along the whole invasion coast are decorated with flags, and wreaths are laid at every liberation memorial.

"Leaving Normandy, we all came through to Holland, to Nijmegen and Arnhem, where we visited the graves of altogether well over 80 Pompadours who died in the campaign in North-West Europe.

"One of our lasting impressions is of the peaceful cemeteries which are all so beautifully maintained by the War Graves Commission."

The Essex Army Cadet Force

CADET BASS WINS NATIONAL BOXING TITLE

Cadet David Bass, of the Grays (R.A.S.C.) Platoon of the 3rd Essex Cadet Regiment, boxed well to become National Army Cadet Force boxing champion at Class "B," 9st. 7lb., at Plymouth on February 20, 1965. He met Cadet T. Conquest, of the County of London, an experienced boxer of no mean ability, but Bass boxed cleverly. Scoring well with his left to the body and head and deflecting blows with his right hand, he gradually built up a lead on points which was never in danger.

His footwork, ringcraft and all-round ability is the obvious result of some good coaching and training.

Four other Essex Cadets competed in the finals at Plymouth, and Essex were placed

fourth with a total of five points in the inter-county championships.

ATHLETIC MEETING

The Essex Army Cadet Force athletic championships were held at Melbourne Park, Chelmsford, on Saturday, May 29, 1965, under bitter conditions.

The entries were good and there were some close finishes. Two records were broken; Cadet C. Oxford with a jump of 5ft. 2½in. beat the previous best by half-an-inch, and Cadet J. Kingsnorth ran the 200 yards senior in 24.7 seconds, which was three-tenths of a second better than the previous record. The 7th Essex Cadet Regiment are to be congratulated on winning all four challenge cups.

Colonel P. H. A. L. Franklin, D.L., County Cadet Commandant, presented the prizes.

CROSS-COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS

By kind permission and with the assistance of the Chelmsford Athletic Club, the Essex Army Cadet Force cross-country championships were held at Westlands Secondary School, Chelmsford, under ideal conditions on Saturday, March 27.

Entries were again good, with 14 teams in the junior race. Both races were very closely contested.

The prizes and challenge cups were presented by Colonel P. H. A. L. Franklin, D.L.

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4th (Leicestershire) Battalion

THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

There is nothing else for it. These notes will have to be a chronicle of events during the past four months in Aden. We cannot be too fanciful anyway, as the 1st Battalion live only a couple of miles away and Jimmy Hughes will be only too ready to dispute any claim we might make to having captured umpteen terrorists or recovered hundreds of grenades and bazooka bombs. Which after nearly four months of driving hundreds of miles in our mobile patrols, walking an almost equal number on foot patrols and standing on guard for interminable hours, we have not done. Not quite; Pte. Scotney caught a man who threw a grenade at his Land Rover and whose innocence is being maintained only through some legal nicety. We know, too, that one night during our all too short stay in the Radfan a patrol under Sgt. Sprason killed one dissident and wounded another. But like the 1st Battalion, or 1 Royal Sussex, who now share our camp, we appear to have very little to show for the drudgery of I.S. duties in Aden,

although every night that is spent without incident is some reward and we are re-learning many of the techniques we forgot after Cyprus.

The Battalion was complete in Aden by February 15. We moved into the Aden Transit Camp, now recently and rather grandly renamed Radfan Camp, after taking over from 1 Royal Scots.

We began I.S. duties in Aden straightaway; the pattern is too familiar to most people to bear repeating here, but after only three weeks of this we moved by road to Thumeir, in the Radfan. This 'country' was well-known to the 1st Battalion, who had made a great name for themselves in the operations there last summer, but for us a great change from Borneo jungle and Salisbury Plain. We were to stay there two weeks only, with "C" Company, under Capt. Dick Robinson, detached at Monk's Field, "A" Company responsible for the defence of the Thumeir Camp area, and "B" Company, under Capt. John Heggs, patrolling,

Convoy . . . to Thurmeir



(Left): "B" Company waiting to move to Thumier. L/Cpl. Rushin, Pte. Bland, Pte. Donaldson, Pte. Derbyshire, Sgt. Sprason. (Right): R.S.M. Jenks, M.M., organising the convoy to Thumier.



Winners of the Middle East Land Forces Soccer Cup.

moving up the wadis with long camel trains, and generally trying to escape from Battalion H.Q. (also at Thumeir) as often as possible.

This period, although far too short, was not without its excitements, and the Companies had their share of activity. Most of the picquets were fired on, if inaccurately, and everybody's support weapons were kept busy firing D.F.s or harassing fire on the likely approaches, most nights.

Then back to Aden, but now to a firmly established Battalion area of responsibility which is what one might loosely call Aden town proper. The 1st Battalion looks after Crater, the other main urban area. And back also to an almost established pattern of terrorist activities and our reactions to them. The grenade thrown at a Land Rover of a mobile patrol with mercifully, so far, no casualties. The quick cordon of the area, perhaps by the I.S. Platoon, which is always ready to rush to this sort of incident; the search, and then the return to patrolling. And so on, with Companies changing from I.S. duties to guard duties every three or five days.

This roster is temporarily upset, because, at this moment, "B" Company is detached to under command 2 Coldstream Guards, at

Monk's Field, in the Radfan, and so cannot take their place in the usual change round. They will be there for about five weeks. They were to have gone to Mukeiras, a Company group camp near the Yemen border, which has already been manned by "C" Company for two weeks, and where "A" Company are looking forward to going very soon.

SPORT

There has been little opportunity for organised sport, much to our disappointment, although the first eleven managed to find time to win the Middle East Army soccer championship, after a number of very exciting matches on the way up.

One of our favourite games is five-a-side football, pioneered by "H.Q." Company and now a regular feature of late afternoon activity; the Battalion H.Q. team, which includes the Second-in-Command, R.S.M. and O.R.C.S., is still unbeaten.

"A" company seems to find climbing Shamsan, the local peak, a form of sport, but perhaps the swim from the Gold Mohur beach, which invariably follows, has some attraction.

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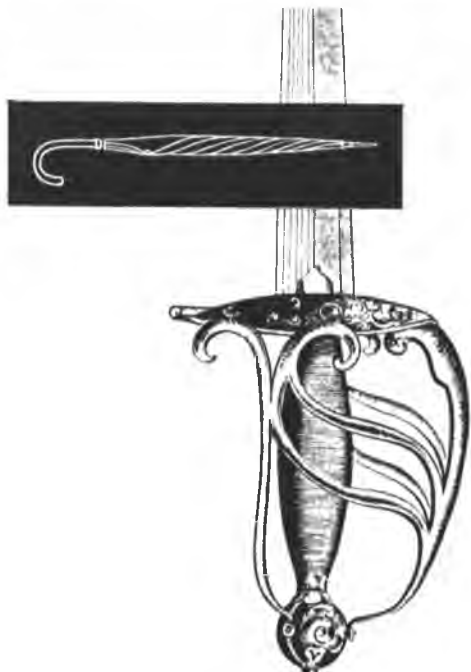
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BATTALION HEADQUARTERS

Commanding Officer : Lt.-Col. J. A. C. Cowan,
M.B.E.
Second-in-Command : Major T. Holloway
Adjutant : Capt. B. N. Crumbie
I.O. : Capt. F. A. H. Swallow
Regimental Sergeant-Major : W.O.I N. Jenks, M.M.

HEADQUARTER COMPANY

Officer Commanding : Major R. E. J. Gerrard-
Wright
Battalion Paymaster : Lt. P. Carr
Quartermaster : Capt. (Q.M.) M. McColl
Technical Q.M. : Capt. (Q.M.) E. P. Kelly,
D.C.M.
Signal Officer : Lt. R. Howe
Mechanical Transport Officer : Lt. J. E. Tilley
O.C. Recce Platoon : Lt. M. J. Peele, M.C.
O.C. Army Youth Team and Recruiting Team Officer : W.O.II D. Grove
Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant : W.O.II G. E. Veitch
Company Sergeant-Major : W.O.II L. Grant

"A" COMPANY

Officer Commanding : Major K. Burch, M.B.E.
Second-in-Command : Capt. F. L. B. Vigers
Support Platoon Commander : Lt. B. H. M. Davenport
Platoon Commanders : 2/Lt. M. R. Charles
2/Lt. M. E. Romilly
Company Sergeant-Major : W.O.II G. Wood

"B" COMPANY

Officer Commanding : Capt. J. C. D. Heggis
Second-in-Command : Lt. B. D. Hickman
Support Platoon Commander : Lt. A. E. Thompson, M.C.
Platoon Commanders : Lt. A. Fisher
2/Lt. A. C. Taylor
2/Lt. H. R. Childs
Company Sergeant-Major : W.O.II C. Murray

"C" COMPANY

Officer Commanding : Capt. R. H. Robinson
Second-in-Command : Capt. J. R. E. Bowes
Support Platoon Commander : Lt. D. E. A. Michael
Platoon Commanders : Lt. D. W. James
2/Lt. A. W. C. Dexter
2/Lt. P. B. Keeble
Company Sergeant-Major : W.O.II J. Pearce

REAR PARTY

Officer Commanding : Major R. H. D. Graveston
Major P. L. Philcox, M.C.

recently been "adopted" by units in Aden which have their families with them. We are looking forward to evenings in Messes and clubs and homes, and the first invitations are coming in. I am sure some of those invitations may well come under the heading of "sport."

COMINGS AND GOINGS

We have had a number of these during our few months in Aden. That is, excluding our normal daily life, which is all coming and going.

Major Peter Philcox did something to his ankle whilst running round the camp one morning in our early keep fit training. Sadly, he could not get it right here and had to be flown home in late March. We hear he is slowly improving in Watchet.

In February we welcomed Major Keith Burch, who commands "A" Company, who have also got a new C.S.M. in C.S.M. Woods; C.S.M. Bryant has left us for civilian life.

Major Bill Brown, who is hoping to go to Malaysia at any time, has handed over to Major Dick Gerrard-Wright, and the other major change in "H.Q." Company is the arrival of C/Sgt. Ancliffe to the M.T. C/Sgt. Davis is helping out "C" Company, but is also looking forward to a tour in Malaysia.

Sgt. Morris is just about to go home on a mortar course before joining the 4th/5th Battalion, and one or two soldiers have been sufficiently taken by Aden to apply to serve with the Federal Regular Army.

We have had the usual round of visits from local or visiting Generals, but we are not news here any more and the Royal Sussex, with the Company of "Ever Readies," are taking this load off us.

We have had two particularly welcome visits. Firstly, the Colonel of the Regiment managed to spend a short time with our Advance Party whilst visiting the 1st Battalion in January. Then in early April, 15 "Ever Readies" from various units joined us for two weeks. They were thrown straight into normal I.S. duties in Aden and did extraordinarily well, and we were sorry to see them go.

In about ten weeks we shall be packing up to go home, and from there to Malta, for what we hope will be a fairly settled period. The families have been greatly missed, for the second time in three years, but everyone in the Battalion is in very good heart. We would not have missed Aden for anything, but it will be good to be all together in what we hear are fairly civilised barracks and to be able to do, as a Battalion again, all those things which we seem to have missed in the last 2½ years.



H.R.H. Princess Margaret talking to Mrs. O'Brien, wife of Sgt. O'Brien who is in Aden, also Mrs. Murray, Elizabeth and Gwendoline Batty, and Pauline and Mrs. McDonald.

REAR PARTY AT WATCHET

Back at Watchet the small Rear Party, which includes the Band and 120 wives and families, flourishes. Morale of the families, many of whom have been separated for a second time, is high and the visit of H.R.H. Princess Margaret on April 24 added greatly to this by giving such tremendous pleasure to the many wives and children who welcomed her and Lord Snowdon. Her Royal Highness was met by Lt.-Col P. G. Upcher, D.S.O., D.L., Acting Deputy Colonel, and Mrs. Alan Cowan, Mrs. Terry Holloway, Mrs. Jenks, Mrs. Baxter (of S.S.A.F.A.) and Major Dick Graveston (O.C., Rear Party) were presented. Princess Margaret and Lord Snowdon talked to a great many wives and their children before being given a cheerful send-off by everyone present. As a local paper so aptly described the Royal visit, "it was like the first Rose of Summer."

Since the departure of the Battalion, Wives' Club meetings are held once a week and photographs, news from Aden and local gossip are all exchanged. At the beginning of the Easter holidays there was an outing to the local cinema, and on Whit-Monday a children's Sports Day was run by the Sergeants' Mess. This was great fun, and the tea, produced by the catering firm of Cpls. Stewart and Pugh, ensured complete success, despite a violet thunderstorm beforehand. A few days later over a hundred wives and children went for the day to Butlin's, in Minthead, for which £20 had been subscribed by men in the Battalion. This, too, was much enjoyed; equally, we suspect, as much by the old as by the young. The 1st Doniford Brownies and Cubs have been allowed by the H.Q.s to wear their Tiger badges and permission for the Brownies came through just before Mrs. Colclough handed over to Mrs. Crutchley

as Brown Owl. During their visit on April 24, Princess Margaret and Lord Snowdon showed great interest in both packs. The next day both Brownies and Cubs took part in the annual St. George's Day parade and service held at Dunster Castle.

A number of the families, whose husbands are in Aden, have either gone home for the whole six months, or for short holidays, or have had relations staying at Watchet. This has helped to make the time pass more quickly until August, when the husbands return, a date so much looked forward to.

The Band have started a busy season of engagements by playing at the Suffolk Show and will be away for most of the next few months. On July 2 they have their big inspection by Kneller Hall and the following day are playing at a lunch and giving a fanfare for the visit of H.M. Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother, to Watford.

Of recent departures, Major John Parsons, who has always done so much for the Regiment, left in June for Netheravon to become Chief Instructor of the Anti-Tank Wing at the School of Infantry, W.O.II Colclough has left for 1st Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire (T.A.) and that notable character, Cpl. Johnson (400), for civilian life. To them all, and their wives, farewell and our warm wishes.

- Would subscribers report their change of address as soon as possible to the Secretary concerned so that their journals can be addressed correctly.

4th/5th Battalion The Royal Leicestershire Regiment (TA)

Since the first edition of the new Regimental Journal the Battalion has undergone considerable Home Defence training, and at the time of writing these notes we are in Devizes at the Army Home Defence Centre for 14 days. The initial reserve with which this type of training was greeted soon vanished as Officers, N.C.O.s and men found themselves involved in the intricacies of a new and interesting subject.

Daily training at camp has been hard work, with great emphasis on the physical practice of all subjects. The big moment of camp has still to come when, after 24 hours of digging, we shall go underground to survive a simulated nuclear attack.

In a rescue and first-aid competition held during the first week, the Battalion showed commendable skill in all the techniques they had been taught and achieved excellent results; the squads commanded by Sgt. Girvan, Sgt. Smith and W.O.II Parker achieving 189, 186 and 180 marks respectively out of 200.

Camp has not been all work, however, and "H.Q." Company proved themselves a useful side when they beat "A" Company in the final of the inter-Company football knock-out competition. The Battalion side played very creditably against the A.H.D.C. XI and drew 2-2, some of the younger players showing considerable talent. There are still "potted sports," tug-of-war and six-a-side football competitions to be won, and the Rifle Companies are determined not to let "H.Q." Company win all the cups.

Of visitors, we have had many and were privileged to have the Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, Colonel Martin, dining in the Officers' Mess. Other visitors at camp included Colonel Guy German, our Honorary Colonel, and Major-General John Spurling, who came to see the Battalion training.

In April, 9 T.A.E.R. volunteers of the Battalion went to Aden for a fortnight and were attached to 4th Bn. Royal Anglian Regiment. By all accounts the tour was a great success, and our men came home well tanned and with many tales of the hard work being done by the Regular Battalion.

Also prior to camp the Battalion won the 148 Infantry Brigade support weapons shield. All the men firing deserved the highest praise and none more so than Sgt. Copland, whose accuracy in controlling the Mortar Section astounded the School of Infantry representatives. For the M.M.G.s it was a rather sad day,

for when the weapons had been cleaned and boxed they were handed in for the last time.

C/Sgt. Grice, who was unable to come to the Brigade support weapons competition with the Mortars, is unfortunately still in hospital; we hope that he will be fully recovered soon. His place as P.S.I. to "B" Company has been temporarily filled, firstly by A/Sgt. Bromfield, from the Royal Anglian Depot, and presently by Sgt. Taylor.

The Band is now under the direction of W.O.I Williamson, who has taken over from W.O.I Henson. He is a former Regular Tiger, who has also served in the Canadian Army. We wish him and the Band good luck on their numerous engagements in the summer, which include twice Beating Retreat with the massed Bands and Drums of 148 Infantry Brigade.

Our congratulations go to C/Sgt. Smith, of "C" Company, and Sgt. Moore, of the Regimental Police, both of whom were awarded the Lord Lieutenant's Certificate. Sgt. Moore is a senior Sergeant, with a fine record of hard work and good attendance; while C/Sgt. Smith is a much younger N.C.O. whose award represents outstanding service over a short period.

Looking into the future, there is the annual



C/Sgt. Perry instructs members of the Battalion in retreating.

Regimental shoot in August, and even further ahead two night Exercises. We are not at the moment given to looking too far ahead, how-

ever, but it is the sincere hope of us all that the clouds which now threaten the T.A. will soon pass.

Royal Tigers' Association

Royal Tigers' Week-end this year was held on May 22 and 23. We were all so very sorry that Major-General Sir Douglas Kendrew and Lady Kendrew were unable to get home from Western Australia for it, but we had a good gathering of Tigers present.

Saturday evening at the T.A. Centre, Ulverscroft Road, started with the annual general meeting and was followed by the annual dinner and reunion. About 300 were present and enjoyed themselves, and Major-General John Spurling, who took the chair, assured them that the Royal Tigers' Association would continue for as long as anyone who had served in the Royal Leicestershire Regiment might need help.

On the Royal Tigers' Sunday parade service in the Regimental Chapel we were honoured by the presence of the Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire and Mrs. Martin, the Lord Lieutenant of Rutland and Mrs. Haywood, the Lord Mayor of Leicester and the Lady Mayoress, the High Sheriff of Leicestershire and Mrs. Hyde-Thomson, the Chairman of the Leicestershire County Council and Mrs. Lloyd,

and the Mayor and Mayoress of Loughborough. Major-General Spurling read the Lesson and the sermon was preached by Colonel The Rev. Stephen Field. Led by the Band and Drums of 4th/5th Bn. The Royal Leicestershire Regiment (T.A.), Old Comrades, commanded by Colonel J. C. Barrett, v.c., and with the Standard carried by ex-R.S.M. T. J. Marston, marched past Colonel R. A. St. G. Martin, who has recently been appointed Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, and is a nephew of that grand old "Tiger," Colonel Sir Robert Martin.

All the social events were held at the T.A. Centre, Ulverscroft Road, and we are most grateful to Colonel Creagh and the 4th/5th Battalion for all the great help they gave us, as did a small but most helpful party from the Regular Battalion. We are grateful to Colonel Farnsworth and the A.C.F. for letting us put up Old Comrades at their week-end training centre at Mountsorrel, and to Major Dudley and his party for making them so comfortable. And last, but by no means least, to Mr. Batrye and the Band of the 4th Battalion for playing



By courtesy of "The Leicester Mercury"

Members of the Royal Tigers' Association, commanded by Colonel J. C. Barrett, v.c., march past the Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire, accompanied by the Lord Mayor of Leicester, after the Service in the Regimental Chapel on Royal Tigers' Sunday.

so well at the reunion on Saturday night and on Sunday morning after the church parade service.

It is hoped to print the date of next year's Royal Tigers' Week-end in our autumn News Letter.

In view of the uncertainty as to whether the Grand National would be run this year our annual sweepstake, for raising funds for the Royal Tigers' Association, was run on the Derby and a profit of about £350 was made. We are very grateful to all the vast number of members who bought and sold so many tickets and helped to make the sweep such a great success.

Continued from page 96

Many of the peaks are both unmapped and unnamed, and a visit to the area gives a great sense of exploration. Although we were unable to reach the summits, every member of the expedition found new experiences and adventure, which made the trip very worth while. Any future visit should be made in either January or August, depending upon whether the object is snow-climbing or rock-climbing. "Out of season" visits by experienced climbers would be frustrating. Fortunately, we were sufficiently inexperienced to be able to enjoy ourselves no matter how bad the conditions.

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