



# THE CASTLE



VOLUME 1  
NUMBER 3  
JANUARY, 1966

REGIMENTAL JOURNAL OF  
**THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT**

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# THE CASTLE

THE JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

VOL. 1. No. 3.

JANUARY, 1966

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3RD (16TH/44TH FOOT) BN. THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

4TH (LEICESTERSHIRE) BN. THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

## TERRITORIAL BATTALIONS

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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.)

## ALLIED REGIMENTS

### CANADA

The Lake Superior Scottish Regiment  
The Sherbrooke Hussars  
The Lincoln and Welland Regiment  
The Essex and Kent Scottish Regiment

### AUSTRALIA

The Royal Tasmania Regiment

### NEW ZEALAND

3rd Bn. (Auckland (Countess of Ranfurly's Own) and Northland)  
Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment

### PAKISTAN

5th Bn. The Frontier Force Regiment

### MALAYSIA

1st Bn. The Royal Malay Regiment

### COLONIAL FORCES

The Barbados Regiment  
The Bermuda Regiment

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*Leicestershire H.Q.:* Lt.-Col. P. G. Upcher D.S.O., D.L. (Retd.) Major J. T. Dudley (Retd.).

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## EDITORIAL

Three letters are published in this number from readers who have clear views of what form the *Journal* should take. Generally speaking it is fair to say that the suggestions made conform with the ideas of most of us. The material is there, plenty of it, but the presentation is dull and lacks the style which invites a reader to read on. When a change is made it must be complete. There is no point in attacking this problem piecemeal and it is your Editor's intention to put the matter in hand as early as possible. Much consideration has already been given to the form that future *Journals* should take and the old soldier may rest assured that he will not be forgotten. Indeed, he will find reading about the activities of The Royal Anglian Regiment interesting and exciting.

Membership of the Regimental Association is going well. With a new Regiment, however, the Association Funds take a long time to build up. Association news comes from the former Regiments and will do so for some time yet. But we are growing fast and will have held our first Annual General Meeting by the time you receive this issue of the *Journal*.

It is with great regret that we have lost Mervyn Reynolds, our first Regimental Secretary. After putting Regimental affairs firmly on the map he has had to retire owing to illness. Morrell Eliot has been working single-handed for several months. Now he too has left Regimental Headquarters. The Regiment is well pleased with the splendid work they have done.

## HONOURS AND AWARDS

### 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:

23945091 Pte. Jenner Victor Elba-Porter, 1st (Norfolk and Suffolk) Bn. The Royal Anglian Regiment.

On March 12, 1965, Pte. Elba-Porter was on Internal Security operations with a Platoon Headquarters of "B" Company, 1st Royal Anglian, in the Police Station at Sheikh Othman. He was the signaller on duty in the operations room when the room was struck by a Blindicide missile. The other occupants of the room were the Platoon Commander, 2/Lt. Copping, and the Platoon Sergeant, Sgt. Smith. The latter was seriously wounded in the face and Pte. Elba-Porter also was wounded in the eyes and shoulder. The explosion of the missile caused havoc in the room, the telephone being destroyed and the wireless set wrecked.

In spite of his wounds which temporarily blinded him in one eye, Pte. Elba-Porter attempted to repair his wireless set. Finding this impossible he fetched another set and re-established communications, passing instructions for the redeployment of the Platoon so that effective counter measures could be taken. The determination and bravery shown by Pte.

Elba-Porter was exemplary and enabled the cordons and blocks to be quickly established.

Pte. Elba-Porter only agreed to be relieved of his duties when all communications were working properly again and Sgt. Smith's injuries had been attended to. Very shortly afterwards he was removed to hospital.

23921727 Pte. Anthony David Kent, 1st (Norfolk and Suffolk) Bn. The Royal Anglian Regiment.

On March 12, 1965, Pte. Kent was with his Platoon carrying out duties in aid of the civil power based on Sheikh Othman Police Station. Although trained as a stretcher bearer, he was a normal member of a rifle section.

At about 20.30 hours a terrorist rocket exploded in Platoon Headquarters wounding the Platoon Sergeant and the radio operator. The Platoon Sergeant, Sgt. Smith, received extremely severe facial injuries, the front of his face above the lower jaw being blown free and attached only by a skin flap.

Pte. Kent immediately gave first aid to Sgt. Smith, who was bleeding profusely and for the next twenty minutes prevented him from either choking or bleeding to death. It is the opinion of Wing Commander E. R. Griffiths, the consultant in Orthopaedic Surgery at the Royal Air Force Hospital, Steamer Point, who saw Sgt. Smith on admission, that the first aid



*Left to right: Pte. Elba-Porter, B.E.M., Pte. A. D. Kent, B.E.M., 2/Lt. B. Copping, Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct.*

treatment given by Pte. Kent was a major contribution towards his survival.

On December 31, 1964, Pte. Kent had also been present immediately after a mine exploded in the Wadi Taym, killing Pte. Frazer, gravely wounding Cpl. Andrews and seriously injuring Pte. Barrell. On that occasion also, Pte. Kent administered first aid and treatment to both the living until skilled medical assistance arrived.

#### QUEEN'S 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:

**2/Lt. Brian William Copping (477749), 1st (Norfolk and Suffolk) Bn. The Royal Anglian Regiment.**

On the night of March 12, 1965, in Aden, 2/Lt. Copping's Platoon Headquarters suffered severe casualties, following a bomb explosion. His quick presence of mind and high qualities of leadership undoubtedly saved an N.C.O.'s life and resulted in some one hundred and twenty dissidents being apprehended for questioning.

**14638096 W.O.II Holden, W. E.**

From April 1964, W.O.II Holden was constantly on operations in the Radfan, at Mukayras and in Aden. In spite of the extremely arduous conditions encountered W.O.II Holden set the highest standards. His drive, example and leadership were remarkable. He added to those qualities a wealth of experience and a total disregard of his own

personal safety under fire. This combination made a most valuable contribution to the successful completion of the operational tasks set to the Company.

**23778918 Pte. Richardson, M.**

On June 19, 1965, Pte. Richardson was driving 2/Lt. W. E. Hawkins, when he chased and captured the terrorist after the grenading of the Seamen's Mission. Pte. Richardson's splendid driving during the pursuit through the Crescent and the back streets of Tawahi was rewarded when the terrorists' car was eventually forced to a halt. Pte. Richardson showed skill and determination of the highest order during the chase of the terrorist, and also later when he was despatched to get assistance.

#### Commander-in-Chief's Commendations

The following members of the Special Branch Squad were also awarded the Commander-in-Chief's Commendation for continuous hard and dangerous work by day and night on operations in Aden State:

Capt. H. R. Horrex  
23873239 Pte. Cox, M. E.  
23967501 Pte. Mieszek, R.  
23853663 Pte. Sergeant, H.  
23853651 Pte. Sands, B.  
23933628 Pte. Shinn, L.  
23869674 Pte. Wayman, M.  
23708544 Pte. King, S.

## *Items of Regimental Interest*

---

### Dates for your Diary

#### Officers' Dinner Clubs

1st Battalion Friday, October 7  
 2nd Battalion Friday, May 20  
 3rd Battalion Friday, April 29  
 4th Battalion Friday, May 6

#### Regimental Associations

Information regarding meetings, dinners and other functions will be found on other pages under the appropriate Association notes.



*Regimental Memorial in Crater Cemetery before renovation.*

#### The Regimental Week-end, 1965

The Royal Anglian Regiment held its first Regimental Week-end at Bury St. Edmunds on July 16-18. The Massed Bands and Drums of 3rd and 4th Battalions and the Junior Soldiers' Wing beat Retreat prior to the Officers' Cocktail Party, which was attended by over 400 officers and officers' guests. The Warrant Officers and Sergeants entertained many Old Comrades and friends after the Retreat and later in the Mess.

#### The Northamptonshire Regiment Comrades Association Annual Reunion, 1966

The dates of the reunion have had to be changed and it will now take place on Saturday and Sunday, July 16 and 17, 1966.



*Memorial, after renovation, with C.S.M. Holland, whose father-in-law was present when the Memorial was first erected.*

## Golf

There was a very good entry for the annual meeting of the Golfing Society. Twenty-eight officers competed and once again Flempton Golf Club offered us every facility.

### Results:

#### Inter - Battalion Cup

Winners	Tigers
Runners-up	Vikings

#### Scratch Competition

Winner	Lt. J. B. Winckley
Runner-up	Lt.-Col. A. G. R. Noble, M.C.

#### Pompadour Cup

Winner	Lt.-Col. A. L. Novis, M.C.
Runner-up	Lt. H. T. Hutley

#### Suffolk Cup

Winners	Lt.-Col. D. F. Coburn, D.L. Lt.-Col. A. L. Novis, M.C.
---------	---

#### Stableford

Winners	Lt. J. B. Winckley Lt.-Col. A. G. R. Noble, M.C.
Runners-up	Lt.-Col. J. E. Fletcher Major R. M. Williams, M.C.

On the Saturday morning the Annual Rye Foursomes match was played against the Flems-ton Golf Club. It was a good fight and the Club won for the second year running.

## Alliances

On formation of The Royal Anglian Regiment Her Majesty the Queen has been graciously pleased to approve alliances between it and regiments of countries of the British Commonwealth as stated below:—

### CANADA

The Lake Superior Scottish Regiment.  
The Sherbrooke Hussars.  
The Lincoln and Welland Regiment.  
The Essex and Kent Scottish Regiment.

### AUSTRALIA

The Royal Tasmania Regiment.

### NEW ZEALAND

3rd Bn. (Auckland (Countess of Ranfurly's Own) and Northland) Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment.

### PAKISTAN

5th Bn. The Frontier Force Regiment.

### MALAYSIA

1st Bn. The Royal Malay Regiment.

### COLONIAL FORCES

The Barbados Regiment.  
The Bermuda Regiment.

These alliances replace those of component regiments of The East Anglian Brigade whose former alliances are now cancelled.

## EDITORIAL NOTES

The Editor's apologies to "Tiger" readers for the standard of the Tiger badge appearing in *The Journal*. It had been hoped to put this right in this issue—and also reverse the badge which seems to have passed unnoticed by most. Unfortunately there are too many covers already printed to warrant making a new block. It is probable that later issues of *The Journal* may appear with a complete change of cover.

### The Castle, 1966

Owing to rising costs and in accordance with the unanimous wishes of Officers commanding Battalions the number of issues of *The Castle*

in 1966 will be reduced to two instead of three. Issues will be in the Spring and Autumn. Dates by which copy is required will be notified through Regimental Secretaries.

### Subscribers' Notes

All articles and notes for reproduction in *The Castle* should, if possible, be typed on one side of the paper only, with double spacing. When photographs are submitted for reproduction, please state whether permission to reproduce has been given by the owner of the copyright of the photograph and what caption is required.



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*On leave in Fakenham (left to right): Pte. B. E. Francis, Royal Anglian Regiment; Jun. Pte. R. B. Warnes, All Arms Junior Leaders Regiment; Pte. B. J. Bear and Pte. D. A. Perry, Royal Anglian Regiment.*

## REGIMENTAL RECRUITING

In what is increasingly proving a very mediocre year for Army recruiting generally, the Regiment is succeeding in keeping its head above water. We have, however, continued to drop well behind the high intake rate of 1964. By the end of October 1964 the Regiment had enlisted 542 men. This year's figure of 479 compares not at all well. The Third Battalion area continues to be the most productive with 136 enlistments by the end of October. Of the rest, the Second Battalion area produced 119, the First Battalion area 94 and the Fourth Battalion area 87, leaving a total of 43 who enlisted in offices outside our eleven counties. The effect of having the First and Fourth Battalions on leave in the U.K. has been discernible but we hope that the main harvest is yet to be reaped.

The Third Battalion KAPE tour of their area went off very successfully and the system they adopted of visiting many small towns and large villages with small well equipped display teams is the pattern that might also be adopted by future KAPE tours.

It cannot be too strongly stated that there must be no slackening of our recruiting efforts. The fact that by the end of the year all Battalions will be up to establishment is irrelevant when it is remembered that in 1964, out of a

total of 605 men enlisted, the Regiment showed a manpower profit of only 92. We must maintain our efforts at the present level if we are to ensure that Battalions are kept up to strength with the consequent interesting postings to good and worthwhile stations overseas. In this connection, we emphasise that it is up to every man in the Regiment to help the Regimental family—and thereby himself—by fostering enlistment into his Regiment. He can do this best by talking about his life in the Regiment to friends and relations in the U.K. and, when the occasions arise, by filling in the introduction cards and posting them to the Regimental Recruiting Officer.

The Regimental Recruiting team has been active again in the month of October. They carried out a 'follow-up' tour in the steps of the Third Battalion KAPE teams with the aim of providing a second quick impact which might convince any interested waverers of the benefit of a career in the Regiment. Another tour in Norfolk and Suffolk is being planned for the months of January and February, 1966.

- Have you placed a regular order for a copy of the Journal? Why not do so now?

## FROM THE A.C.F. TO THE ARMY

In these days when nearly every village and small town has its youth centre, equipped, often lavishly, by a generous County Education Committee and run by a paid Youth Leader, the task of the local Army Cadet Commander is not an easy one. He has at his disposal a not too large building, which he has to keep clean and in good order with the help of his Cadets. It has to serve as a drill hall, recreation room, class room, canteen and "Q" stores. It must be warm in winter and ready two or three times each week, to be use for any of these functions. The members of his detachment are issued with a battle dress which, though cleaned, is often secondhand and which becomes too small for *them* in a matter of a month or two. They are told to get their hair cut and not wear pointed shoes; in fact, generally disciplined into doing everything which their mates at the Youth Centre do not like doing. Yet they respond in a quite remarkable manner. With encouragement they make the building their own building. They organise their own fund-raising functions and buy their own recreational equipment. This, indeed, means far more to them than a free issue. They develop not only a pride in their detachment but a pride in being a *soldier* and, without any coercion they often decide to make the Army a career. Here are some of the Cadets from the Fakenham Detachment, 1st Battalion, Norfolk A.C.F., who have done just that:

- Cpl. L. George, Grenadier Guards.  
 Gdsm. M. Neale, Grenadier Guards.  
 Pte. M. Debbage, R.E.M.E.  
 Pte. D. A. Perry, 1st Bn. Royal Anglian Regiment (now home from Aden).  
 Pte. B. King, 1st Bn. Royal Military Police (stationed in Indonesia).  
 Pte. B. J. Bear, 1st Bn. Royal Anglian Regiment.  
 Pte. B. E. Francis, 1st Bn. Royal Anglian Regiment.  
 Pte. D. Hall, 1st Bn. Royal Anglian Regiment.  
 Junior C.S.M. David McDowell, All Arms Junior Leaders Regiment, Tonfanau.  
 Junior Pte. P. Wade, All Arms Junior Leaders Regiment, Tonfanau.  
 Junior Pte. R. B. Warnes, All Arms Junior Leaders Regiment, Tonfanau.

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# Letters to the Editor

## The Castle

Dear Sir,

In your last Editorial you asked for suggestions by readers on making the Journal more interesting.

I'm afraid I believe the two *Castles* issued so far have been rather dull. That, however, is hardly the point, since I am one of the 340 or so Officers of the Regiment, not one of our 3,000 soldiers. After all, *The Castle* is surely to be aimed at interesting the soldiers, not the Officers. If *The Castle* provides entertaining, vital and "with it" reading aimed at capturing the support of our soldiers and they queue up to buy it, then the Journal must clearly be a success.

Yet this is not the case at the moment, and it is partly because the aim is wrong: too much is devoted to the interests of the Officers both retired and serving. Let me give examples from the last issue.

There are 37 items on the "Personalia" pages. No less than 28 of these items concern Officers, 12 of which are retired officers. Now while it is well known that old soldiers never die, surely it is ridiculous to suppose our young soldiers are also misogynists.

It takes seven pages, or a tenth of the Journal not counting the advertisements, to chronicle the above items of minority interest. This does seem to me a little hard on the majority, since I don't believe the majority could really care less where Major So-and-So is now living or indeed if he is living at all.

What precisely, apart from his own Battalion Notes, has the soldier got left to read? In the last issue he had 14 pages on Regimental Associations and Cadets, of which perhaps four pages may interest him, being of his own Battalion area. He has 16 pages on T.A. Battalions, of which for the same reason he will possibly care to read four. He is left with 32 pages of advertising and three pages of articles.

Assuming, therefore, that the present Royal Anglian Regiment Journal ever finds its way into a barrack room, just what does the customer get for his money? I suggest the last issue gives him:

	<i>On Average</i>
Editorial, etc. ... ..	3 pages
Own Battalion ... ..	5 pages
Own T.A. Battalions ... ..	4 pages
Own Association and Cadets ... ..	4 pages
Total	16 pages

Let us assume the customer recently completed recruit training and is therefore likely to read Depot Notes: this will now give him altogether a mighty 21 pages out of the Journal's 69 pages. Now this is surely all wrong, and I believe it is precisely why the first two issues have not been exactly "smash hits" with 3,000 soldiers.

In order to make the Journal more interesting to our soldiers, the following action is suggested.

Firstly, cut down the officers share of the seven Personalia and Births, Deaths, etc. pages. Let us hear more about our soldiers.

Secondly, have more articles of general interest. A competition with cash prizes might stimulate the idea of soldiers writing articles.

Thirdly—and this is really needed—*The Castle* must have a host of small, interest-arousing features such as cartoons, crosswords with a Regimental flavour, photographic competitions, lucky number copies of the Journal, deliberate mistakes, limerick-completing competitions, letters to the Editor (both series and facetious), perhaps with a small cash payment for those published (!), an advice column written by someone with a big tongue-in-cheek in answer to mythical problems from soldiers, wives and girl-friends. There are surely many such ways of livening up the pages of *The Castle* without turning it into a comic. If every item is written or presented from a Regimental or Battalion angle, purpose and dignity is retained.

I do see that to include anything now along these lines means a *Castle* with more pages. This may be impossible. However, there will be blank pages in the future where at present we have notes and features from our T.A. Battalions.

You said in your last Editorial "the form and presentation of *The Castle* has inevitably followed much the same lines as its four predecessors." With all respect to you, Mr. Editor, I think this inevitably was a bit overdone. Now is the time for changing things, before they become traditional.

Let us have a Journal our soldiers will buy, read, enjoy, and keep as a memento to browse through in old age. Such a Journal will, in addition, be of tremendous value to our Recruiters. If the Parachute Regiment can double the circulation of their magazine inside 12 months by adopting the use of cartoons, articles and competitions along with the normal Battalion features, there is no reason why *The*



Castle should not also succeed. We are the first Large Regiment, and rightly believe we are slap-bang up-to-date. Let us therefore get up-to-date with our Journal.

Yours faithfully,  
P. W. EDWARDS, Capt.

Dear Sir,

#### DOES MUSSOLINI STILL INVADE?

Reading *The Castle* is like reading a school magazine with strong military bias. The impression was so strong when I first flipped through the pages that I was reminded of my school C.C.F. training: of misty days on soggy fields where we attempted to master military methods.

"In Italy Mussolini Always Invades" was the vital clue for issuing orders. Information, Intention, Method, Administration . . . ? They did introduce a new-fangled system which included "command and logistics." I never felt happy about it because neither I nor anyone else seemed to know what a logistic was.

It seemed appropriate to apply the old system to the questions posed in August's edition of *The Castle*.

#### INFORMATION

*The Castle* lacks appeal.

#### INTENTION

This is not merely a question of desiring to increase circulation, but of deciding what part *The Castle* should play in the life of the Regiment.

The Journal is a means of communication, but what do you wish to communicate, and to whom?

In the first place, but the least important, you should let us civilians know what is going on.

Secondly, you must provide information to every man in every Battalion and, most important, to their families, too.

#### METHOD

Those of us in "Civvy Street" need "background information" about the tasks that the Battalions are performing and the nature of their location. It is pointless of the Leicestershire Battalion correspondent to remark "the pattern (of I.S. duties in Aden) is too familiar to most people" if we don't know the first thing about I.S. and have no conception of the nature of Aden. How about a panoramic colour photograph of the Radfan Mountains *on the cover*, with the banner "Tigers' Country"? This would at least replace the present format, which has little information and no interest.

To "reach" every man and family in the Battalions, you must provide not only the information, but also the interest. How do the newspapers do this? By giving their readers

up-to-the-minute information in simple pungent terms.

The Leicesters are probably in Malta now, but while they were in England who told them about their next posting? Why are there no photographs and brief descriptions to tell the men where they were going to soldier and the women where they were going to live?

The school magazine approach must go, to be replaced by a positive, excited style. "Sgt. Jones gets B.E.M." is far more useful to Regimental morale than the present style. Whilst on the question of morale, surely it would be far better to make the most of regimental traditions instead of trying to play them down? I want to know about the "Poachers" and the "Tigers" and not about the 2nd and 4th Battalions.

No-one is going to treasure each Journal for life, so you might just as well make it disposable, perhaps more in the style of the week-end newspaper magazines.

#### ADMINISTRATION, ETC.

This I leave to you.

Yours faithfully,

P. L. FISHER

[P. L. Fisher was a National Service Officer in the Royal Leicestershire Regiment].

#### EXTRACTS FROM SOME SUGGESTIONS FROM MAJOR K. J. T. HOILE, 3rd BATTALION

Too many of the soldiers say that it is a magazine for the Officers and Old Comrades. In order to prevent this, a form of newspaper supplement should contain such things as T.A. notes, Personalalia and obituaries.

Births and marriages should be in the magazine if they affect Battalion personnel, in order to maintain wife interest. These should be in short form rather like the *Daily Telegraph*.

Every Officer and Warrant Officer in each of the Battalions must be able to tell at least six anecdotes of an amusing nature. Let's have a page on the line "It happened in the Regiment."

Filler material, i.e., little stories included after articles to fill the pages and neaten the layout could also be on an informative basis. "Do You Know" might be a good title for the group. Example:—

On completion of their tour of duty in Aden the — Battalion was presented with a — by the —. This is now held in the Officers' Mess and is displayed in special occasions such as —.

Taking the 3rd Battalion at the moment, the following articles could be produced almost immediately, and I can dream up at least another ten.

C.O.: Shooting a lion in Kenya Colour and Pageantry with the Guards.

MACKIN-BREMNER: Beagling as a sport. Running the Army Beagles.

HOILE: Diving in the Mediterranean Sea. Underwater archaeology.

BACON: In Korea with the Glosters.

LUCAS: In the Congo with the Nigerians. A picture of life in Nigeria.

R.S.M. JENNS: Life with the Chindits.

DODD: Trekking in the Himalayas. SAS patrols in Borneo.

STYLES: In training with the SAS.

PTE. PEARCE: Golfing in the Army as a private.

ANY REASONABLE CORPORAL: Adventure training in Norway.

CPL. MAHER: Opportunities for free travel in B.A.O.R.

RECCE PLATOON SGT.: Berlin Border Patrol.

YOU SIR!: The task and problems of the Brigade Colonel. The men know who you are, but how many know your task and difficulties?

STAFF OFFICERS: Why you may not get a quarter if you go to B.A.O.R. Notes on new equipment—AFV 432. Why you should try for your 1st ACE.

WIFE INTEREST: The odd interesting tour by a wives' club. Two articles a year would suffice. A good line might be an article by a wife serving in a theatre to which a Battalion is moving, giving a few hints on costs, what to bring in the way of clothes and lists of good shops, etc.

#### *Material from Affiliated Units*

We have lots a affiliated units. The U.S. Infantry produce a very good magazine, and I am sure would let us use their articles, providing we give credit. We could get some good up-to-date material from U.S.S. *Essex*, The R.A.R., the Essex Scottish of Canada, and our other affiliated units. If they each gave us one article on their country it would make good reading.

#### *Design*

"Soldier" is an excellent example. Let us break from the conventional cover. An action

picture is far more attractive. Even good poster work is better than a stereotype cover. We do not really want the list in the front of all the battle honours and who the Regimental Banker is.

We must not shy at controversial subjects and articles. These cause argument and lead to letters to the Editor and also stimulate interest. As with the British Army Review, we can always make it clear that these are the views of the individual.

#### *Conclusion*

We are the first of the Big Regiments and should think big. In modern terminology, we have got to "get with it." We are a new Regiment in a new era. To my certain knowledge, the format of the magazine has not changed since I got my first copy of *The Eagle* in 1948. This makes us seventeen years out-of-date. Furthermore, we must not, with all due respect, allow long-established custom in this field to be continued by the older generation of officers and men.

Today we must cater for the "winkle-picker" shoed soldier who likes beat music, and unless we do, the magazine will never be financially sound. In addition, we are going to lose a chance of building a tremendous amount of Regimental pride and spirit.

I further feel that if we can make the magazine a really great success, we may be able to expand its sale to such people as school cadet forces and youth organisations in our counties, and this will be a terrific boost to recruiting.

[The writer is no doubt insured against legal action by persons mentioned by name. Articles and stories of this kind are just the sort of thing around which can be built up a readable and interesting picture of Battalion activities.—Editor].

## **Adventure Training**

From: Lt.-Col. J. K. Arthur,  
Northamptonshire Regt. (1928-45)

Sir,

After 25 years away from regimental soldiering, one inevitably recognises only a few of the personalities reported in our magazine, but this adds to the pleasures of search and discovery.

However, having just, in May, given up Chairmanship of the Mountain Rescue Committee in Scotland, I cannot let the 4th/5th Essex Regiment adventure training report (Vol. 1, No. 2, page 140) get away with supposing Capel Curid is, at 3,560ft., the second highest peak in the British Isles!

Here are some in quite different parts of Scotland, apart from Ben Nevis:—

Braeriach (4,248ft.)  
 Ben MacDhin (4,290ft.)  
 Cairn Gorm (4084ft.)  
 Beinn Chiochan (Lochnagar) (3,786ft.)—  
 Balmoral  
 Creag Meagaidh (3,700ft.)—Lochaber  
 Ben Alder (3,757ft.)—Badenoch  
 Ben Lawers (3,984ft.)—Loch Tay  
 Ben More (3,843ft.)—Criarlarich  
 Ben Cruachan (3,689ft.)—Loch Awe  
 Main Soul (3,862ft.)—Glen Affric

If the same adventurers want to try any of these districts, I will gladly put them in touch with experts, but avoid the winter, unless highly-skilled and well-equipped.

J. K. ARTHUR, Lt.-Col. (Retd.)

Armadales,  
 S. Beach Lane,  
 Troon, Ayrshire.

## Kanchanaburi War Cemetery

Extract from a letter received from Capt. R. L. Trevethick, Royal Anglian Regiment

“On a recent visit to Thailand and the Burmese border, I took the opportunity of visiting the War Memorial at Kanchanaburi, where, regrettably, many dead of the former Regiments of the Royal Anglian Regiment lie buried.

“I am glad to report that the Memorial is incredibly well cared for—flowers are well maintained and not a blade of grass is out of place. Those responsible for the upkeep really do a magnificent job of work and I duly recorded our thanks in their visitors' book.

Yours sincerely,

R. L. TREVETHICK.”

The writer enclosed some photos of individual graves, which are being passed to the next-of-kin.—Editor.

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# Personalia

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Congratulations to Colonel Arthur Noble, Honorary Colonel of 4th/5th Bn. The Essex Regiment (T.A.) who received a well merited "C.B." in the Birthday Honours List.

\* \* \*

Colonel A. J. Bennett, M.B.E., T.D., has been appointed County Cadet Commandant for Lincolnshire on relinquishing command of 4/6th Royal Lincolns (T.A.).

\* \* \*

Congratulations to Lt. (Q.M.) J. W. Denny on the award of the L.S. and G.C. Medal.

\* \* \*

Congratulations to Major P. F. Walter, M.B.E., M.C., 3rd Bn. The Parachute Regiment and late of the Royal Lincolns and 2nd East Anglian Regiment on the award of a bar to his Military Cross for gallant and distinguished services in the Radfan Area of Southern Arabia.

\* \* \*

The following cablegram was received by a young officer on leave before attending a course: "You are accepted for Hythe but not yet for War Minister."

\* \* \*

During a recent duty visit to Libya, Lt.-Col. W. R. Chambers, Commanding Officer of the 2nd (Duchess of Gloucester's Own Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire) Bn. The Royal Anglian Regiment, had an opportunity to see the British War Cemeteries at Tobruk and Knightsbridge, where he found a number of graves of Officers and soldiers of The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire and Essex Regiments.

He reports that he found the graves in very well kept order.

A list of the graves is held at 16th/44th Foot H.Q., Warley, and Bedford.

\* \* \*

The Immortal Seventh Division Survivors held their Final Reunion on September 25, 1965, at Lyndhurst. It was from here that the Division left for France in October 1914. The following representatives of the 2nd Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment were able to attend: Mr. T. Farmer, Mr. R. A. Foster, Mr. W. Scrivener and Mr. J. H. Selby.

\* \* \*

Major-General H. Essame writes to invite readers' attention to the book "Battle of Normandy" written by Mr. Belfield and himself. This account of the battle, published by Batsfords, is of military and regimental interest.

An invitation to join 10th Essex (1914-18) at their Annual Dinner in 1966 is extended to all who served in a Service Battalion of The Essex Regiment during World War I. Please see 10th Battalion Notes on another page.

\* \* \*

Mr. A. G. C. Parker, former National Service Officer of the 10th Foot, and his wife are living for the next two years in Nassau where Mr. Parker is employed with Shell Bahamas.

\* \* \*

L/Cpl. Dennis Hall, who was the 3rd Battalion bass drummer for a long while, has now left the Army. He and his wife, Mary, are now managing Bay's Wine Vaults in Queen Street, Peterborough. Bay's serves coffee, lunches, caters for parties and has a well-known bar, and the Hall's would welcome any visitors from the Regiment.

\* \* \*

A most successful Reunion Dinner of the Essex Home Defence Battalions was held at Chelmsford in October. The gathering was "engineered" by Major H. J. Young, T.D., who enjoyed a personal celebration during the same month—his 81st birthday.

Another Reunion at Chelmsford is planned for next year.

\* \* \*

2/Lt. G. K. Armstrong relinquished his commission on August 15, 1965.

\* \* \*

Lt.-Col. W. R. Chambers takes over the appointment of G.S.O.1 53 (Welsh) Div./ District, Brecon, in January, 1966.

\* \* \*

Major G. S. Drew took up a Grade II appointment at the Ministry of Defence in December, 1965.

\* \* \*

Major R. C. C. Greener retired on retired pay, May 28, 1965. His address is now 181, Grange Lane, Boreham Road, Warminster, Wilts.

\* \* \*

Major J. P. Growse left the 2nd Battalion in January, 1966, and is relieved by Major G. R. Yates. Major Growse is taking up an appointment with the Malaysian Armed Forces.

\* \* \*

Lt. H. M. P. Halcrow succeeds Capt. K. G. Ford as Adjutant of the Bermuda Rifles in January, 1966.

\* \* \*

We welcome Capt. J. W. Hayton to the Regi-

ment from the Buffs. He is serving with the 4th/6th Royal Lincolns (T.A.).

\* \* \*

Major J. A. Hughes takes up an appointment as D.A.A. and Q.M.G. with 20 Armoured Brigade Group in February, 1966.

\* \* \*

Capt. R. F. Kitchin took up an appointment as G.III (Air) with H.Q. 3 Division in January, 1966.

\* \* \*

Major B. S. Lee retired on August 6, 1965. His address is now 53, Windmill Rise, York.

\* \* \*

Lt. N. T. P. Mayhew leaves the 2nd Battalion in November, 1965, and is relieved by 2/Lt. R. L. Hazan. Lt. Mayhew is now serving with the Junior Leaders Battalion at Oswestry.

\* \* \*

Lt.-Col. H. H. Moore has succeeded Lt.-Col. A. J. Bennett, M.B.E., T.D., as C.O. of 4th/6th Royal Lincolns (T.A.). Congratulations to him on his promotion.

\* \* \*

Capt. P. H. Surtees, M.C., transferred to the C.R.M.P. on March 29, 1965.

\* \* \*

We welcome 2/Lt. G. Symonds to the Regiment from the Glosters. He is serving with 4th/6th Royal Lincolns (T.A.)

\* \* \*

Capt. G. W. R. Terry has been appointed Chief Constable of East Sussex. He served in the 5th Bn. The Northamptonshire Regiment during the Italian Campaign.

\* \* \*

Major E. Turnill is now Brigade Major with 8th Infantry Brigade.

\* \* \*

Major J. P. Wetherall has assumed the appointment of Training Major of 4th/5th Northampton (T.A.) vice Lt.-Col. H. H. Moore.

\* \* \*

Lt. M. S. Wright joined the 2nd Battalion in November, 1965.

## Engagements

MR. G. A. BARRETT AND MISS J. D. HAGGER  
The engagement is announced between Graham André Barrett, the Royal Anglian Regiment, and Juliet, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Hagger, of Mildenhall, Suffolk.

MR. R. S. CONDER AND MISS J. GOODWIN  
The engagement is announced between Rupert Stewart Conder, The Royal Cypher

Regiment, and Jill, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Goodwin, of Frome, Suffolk.

MR. J. A. VARLEY AND MISS R. J. BARBER

The engagement is announced between John Anthony Varley, Royal Anglian Regiment, elder son of Capt. J. D. Varley and the late Mrs. W. Varley, of Camberley, Surrey, and Rosemary Jane, elder daughter of Colonel L. A. Barber and the late Mrs. H. M. B. Barber, of 8, Upper Montagu Street, W.1, and of Thurston, Suffolk.

## Births

ANKER.—On May 6, 1965, at Bury St. Edmunds, to Pte. and Mrs. C. Anker, a son, Michael.

BURLEY.—On May 10, 1965, at Swindon, to Pte. and Mrs. P. Burley, a son, Richard David.

BURWOOD.—On June 27, 1965, at Lowestoft, to Pte. and Mrs. O. Burwood, a daughter, Mandy Elaine.

COLLINGS.—On August 3, 1965, at Aden, to L/Cpl. and Mrs. D. Collings, a son, Stephen James.

COULSON.—On April 27, 1965, at Aden, to Cpl. and Mrs. D. Coulson, a daughter, Barbara.

GREEN.—On July 3, 1965, at King's Lynn, to Pte. and Mrs. R. Green, a daughter, Helen Elizabeth.

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

PARRY.—On July 14, 1965, at Ipswich, to Pte. and Mrs. R. Parry, a son, David Charles.

PAUL.—On July, 25, 1965, at Aden, to Cpl. and Mrs. E. Paul, a daughter, Susan Ann.

JOBES.—On June 16, 1965, at Bradford, to L/Cpl. and Mrs. M. Jobes, a son, Neil.

REEVE.—On July 30, 1965, at Zomba, Malawi, to Capt. and Mrs. W. Reeve, a daughter, Emma Kathryn Mary.

SMITH.—On August 25, 1965, at Aden, to Pte. and Mrs. D. Smith, a daughter, Valerie Ann.

THOROGOOD.—On August 30, 1965, at 8, North Road, Hertford, to Susan (née Taylor) and Capt. David Thorogood, a son, Simon Julian.

WHITE.—On June 27, 1965, at B.M.H., Dhekelia, to Capt. and Mrs. J. G. P. White, a daughter, Sarah Louise Purcell.

## Marriages

**BEATON—CHAPLIN.**—On August 21, 1965, at Walson, Suffolk, Pte. F. Beaton to Miss Ann Frances Chaplin.

**HOWE—MARSH.**—On September 25, 1965, at St. James's Church, Bulkington, near Nuneaton, Lt. R. Howe, The Royal Anglian Regiment, to Barbara Florence Marsh.

**ISLES—BERNARD.**—On July 31, 1965, at Aden, L/Cpl. W. Isles to Miss Agatha Bernard.

**MONIER-WILLIAMS—SOUTHERN.** — On September 29, 1965, at Lowestoft, Lt.-Col. H. B. Monier-Williams, O.B.E., M.C., to Mrs. Madeline Southern.

**REYNOLDS—CASTLE.** — On October 2, 1965, quietly, Colonel Mervyn L. Reynolds to Mrs. Nyra Castle. Address: Woodlands, Lodden Close, Camberley.

**VEITCH—GLASGOW.**—On August 28, 1965, at Windsor Presbyterian Church, Shankhill, Belfast, Capt. Alastair Robert Aydon Veitch, The Royal Anglian Regiment, eldest son of the late Mr. and Mrs. W. Aydon Veitch, of Clavering, Essex, and Rosalind Prior, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. B. Glasgow, of Lisburn Road, Belfast.

**WOODROW—HARRIS.**—On August 14, 1965, at Church Brampton, Northampton, Kerry Woodrow, The Royal Anglian Regiment, son of Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Woodrow, of Wollaston, Northamptonshire, to Susan Mary, younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Harris, of Church Brampton, Northamptonshire.



Mr. and Mrs. Kerry Woodrow with members of their Guard of Honour. From left: Lt. A. Amos, Lt. H. W. E. Steadman, Lt. P. B. Light, Capt. V. J. Gee, Capt. A. B. Veitch, Lt. C. J. Brock, Capt. W. R. W. Pika, Groom and Bride, Lt. R. D. Campbell-Lamerton, Capt. J. E. Hutchings, Lt. J. Elder, Capt. J. Hillis, Lt. C. B. Jones, Capt. J. D. Drummond.

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Regular Forces Employment Association, 4, Buckingham Palace Mansions, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.1.

## Deaths

ATKINS.—On October 8, 1965, at Stretton House, Hinckley, Leicestershire, Major A. H. Atkins, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment.

BOTT.—On June 30, 1965, at the General Hospital, Burton-on-Trent, No. 22220976 ex-Bdsm. W. Bott, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment.

BOUTWOOD.—On September 15, 1965, Capt. F. W. Boutwood, M.B.E., late The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, aged 53

CARTER.—On May 2, 1965, Mr. A. W. Carter, former Signal Sergeant, The Bedfordshire Regiment.

CLARKE.—On September 3, 1965, at Kirkby-in-Ashfield, No. 4850620 ex-Pte. J. Clarke, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment.

COCKSEGE.—On September 4, 1965, at Torquay, Lt.-Col. F. A. Cocksedg, M.C., M.M., late the Royal Norfolk Regiment, aged 71.

HALE.—In February, 1965, Mr. A. W. Carter, former C.S.M., The Bedfordshire Regiment.

HOLLAND.—On May 24, after a long illness, No. 302070 ex-Pte. John Henry Holland, late 2nd/7th Bn. The Essex Regiment, 1915-1919, and also the Royal Berkshire Regiment.

HUBBARD.—On November 16, 1965, at Norwich, Capt. Jesse C. Hubbard, late The Royal Norfolk Regiment, aged 60 years.

MABBOTT.—On August 24, 1965, at Bedford ex-Cpl. (574274) A. J. Mabbott, late The Bedfordshire Regiment.

MAXWELL.—On August 28, 1965, in a London Hospital, Brigadier R. H. Maxwell, C.B., late The Suffolk Regiment, aged 66.

MORGAN.—On August 10, 1965, at 41, Rosamund Avenue, Leicester, No. 4849271 ex-Pte. J. S. Morgan, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment.

PALMER.—On September 21, at Clacton-on-Sea, ex-C/Sgt. E. ("Pedlar") Palmer, late The Essex Regiment, aged 74 years.

PELL.—On September 27, 1965, at Royston, Mr. William James Pell, ex-Private, No. 2103, 1st Bn. The Hertfordshire Regiment.

PICKERING.—On September 9, 1965, at 16, Hillary Place, Leicester, No. 6006, ex-Sgt. W. E. Pickering, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment.

PIGG.—On September 2, 1965, at Royston, Mr. William Robert Pigg, ex-L/Cpl. No. 8059, 1st Bn. The Bedfordshire Regiment.

PORTER.—On July 26, 1965, at Stoney Stanton, Leicestershire, No. 8373, ex-Pte. S. K. Porter, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment.

ROBINSON.—On September 23, 1965, in hospital, ex-Cpl. (7473) J. W. Robinson, late The Bedfordshire Regiment, aged 86 years.

SEE.—On August 10, 1965, at Hertford, after a long and painful illness bravely borne, Mr. W. C. ("Jack") See, former R.Q.M.S., The Hertfordshire Regiment.

SMITH.—On June 10, 1965, at the Nottingham General Hospital, No. 4971137 ex-Sgt. A. W. Smith, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment.

SMITH.—On August 22, 1965, at Hillcrest Hospital, Leicester, No. 200735 ex-R.Q.M.S. J. H. Smith, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment.

SPENCER.—On October 7, in Rochford Hospital, ex-Sgt. Stanley Spencer, D.C.M., late 6th Bn. The Essex Regiment, aged 74 years.

WALLACE.—On July 4, 1965, at Aden, South Arabian Federation, Pte. L. Wallace.

WATERMAN.—On October 10, 1965, at the Infirmary, Royal Hospital, Chelsea, In-Pensioner Cyril Charles Waterman, former Private No. 3694 The Hertfordshire Regiment, aged 89 years.

WHEATLEY.—On October 14, 1965, at 76, Bradford Crescent, Sunderland Road, Estate, Durham City, ex-Cpl. T. E. Wheatley, late The Royal Leicestershire Regiment.

\* \* \*

Notification has also been received of the deaths of the following former members of The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment:

Ex-R.S.M. J. Danvers, ex-C.S.M. J. B. Jones, Lt. W. H. Geiger, ex-C.Q.M.S. C. Redmile, ex-Cpl. T. W. Lincoln, ex-L/Cpl. F. Hibbs, D.C.M., ex-Cpl. Albert Brooks, Band-Sgt. Percy Acres, and of Canon John Porter, Hon. Life Member and Chaplain of the 10th Foot Royal Lincolnshire Regimental Association.

## Obituaries

### BRIGADIER R. H. MAXWELL, C.B.

Brigadier Richard Hobson Maxwell died on August 28, 1965.

He was commissioned into The Suffolk Regiment in August, 1918, and served with the 2nd Battalion in Germany, Gibraltar, Shanghai and India.

In 1934 he became an instructor at Sandhurst, and, after a period as Brigade Major of 161 Infantry Brigade (T.A.), he joined the 1st Battalion of the Regiment in Malta.

After Dunkirk, he formed the 7th Bn. The Suffolk Regiment, which was converted to 142 Regiment, Royal Armoured Corps, in 1942. He assumed command of 25th Army Tank Brigade in 1942 and commanded it during the last five months of the North African Campaign. He was evacuated to the United Kingdom after being wounded by an anti-personnel mine.

After a period in command of Infantry Brigades, he spent fifteen months in command of districts in Palestine during the closing stages of the British mandate. For his services there he was awarded the C.B.

He was appointed Inspector of Physical Training in 1948 and was Provost Marshal from 1952-1955.

He was A.D.C. to The Queen from 1952-1955 and retired from the Army in 1955 to become the Secretary of the Royal Tournament.

In 1957 he became Colonel of The Suffolk Regiment, and became Colonel of the 1st East Anglian Regiment when the Royal Norfolk and Suffolk Regiments were amalgamated in 1959. He relinquished this appointment in 1962. He was also Honorary Colonel of 23rd (City of London) Regiment (T.A.) for six years.

His many friends in all walks of life feel a very deep personal sense of loss at his death. His great personal charm and complete honesty endeared him to all who knew him.

### LT.-COL. JOHN W. HURRELL, M.C.

Lt.-Col. John W. Hurrell, M.C., late R.A.O.C., died at his home at Great Shelford, Cambridgeshire, on May 9, 1965.

He was first commissioned in The Bedfordshire Regiment prior to the outbreak of the First World War, in which he served with distinction and was awarded the M.C.

He continued to serve with the Regiment after the war and was appointed Brigade Major of the newly-formed 163rd Infantry Brigade shortly before the outbreak of war in 1939. He later commanded the 2nd/4th Bn. The Essex Regiment, until May, 1942, when

he was appointed to the R.A.O.C., with whom he remained until the end of the war.

He will be missed by his many friends in the old 16th and the 44th/56th, and we extend our sympathy to his widow and daughter.

### CAPTAIN F. W. BOUTWOOD, M.B.E.

Frank Boutwood enlisted into The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment in 1932. At the outbreak of the war he was serving in the Middle East with the 1st Battalion, with whom he remained on active service until 1943, when he was posted to The Royal Welch Fusiliers in the United Kingdom. He took part in the D-Day Landings with that Regiment, being severely wounded.

He returned to his Regiment in Greece at the end of the war and then followed a number of Permanent Staff appointments with our Territorial Battalions. In 1953 he was commissioned as Quartermaster of the 5th Battalion, with whom he served until his retirement in 1960. In recognition of his services he was appointed an M.B.E. After retiring he became Quartermaster to Bedfordshire Army Cadet Force and later to the Territorial and Auxiliary Forces Association, an appointment he was holding at the time of his sudden death.

With his keen sense of humour, Frank had many friends who enjoyed being in his company. They also learned to respect him for his loyalty, his willingness to offer his help in so many ways, and his unfailing loyalty to his Regiment. He will be sadly missed by us all.

The Parish Church at Biddenham was filled to capacity for the funeral service, on September 21, which was conducted by the Rev. V. J. French, and later the cremated remains were scattered in the Garden of Remembrance at Kempston Barracks.

We offer our deepest sympathy to his widow and young daughter.

### SERGEANT E. PALMER

Sgt. Palmer died at Clacton-on-Sea on September 21, 1965, aged 75 years. He enlisted in The Essex Regiment in January, 1906, and served with the Colours for 22 years. Almost all his service was with the 1st Battalion of the Regiment, and he was their Provost Sergeant for many years. Towards the end of his active service he was a P.S.I. with 4th Essex at Southminster. He was a fine boxer and represented the Regiment on many occasions in the light heavyweight division.

After his discharge in 1828, Sgt. Palmer was employed for many years at the Ilford Post



Office, and in 1939 he joined the 7th Home Defence Battalion, with whom he remained until ill-health necessitated his resignation.

He will be affectionately remembered by his many friends in the Regiment.

#### CAPT. J. C. HUBBARD

Jesse Hubbard enlisted in The Norfolk Regiment in 1924 and very soon made his mark as an outstanding athlete. In addition to holding various regimental championships over a number of years, he represented the Army in the one-mile, three-miles and cross-country events.

He specialised as a machine-gunner and reached the rank of P.S.M., before being granted an emergency commission in 1941. He served as an instructor to the Home Guard and in the 70th, 30th and No. 2 Holding Battalions, reaching the rank of Captain. He retired in 1945.

In 1949 he was appointed Officers' Mess Steward at the Regimental Depot, a post he held until amalgamation in 1959. Since then he had been actively associated with the Officers' Mess of the 4th Battalion, and, although working virtually single-handed, did much to maintain a high standard of comfort in the Mess.

"Mr. Hubbard," as he was generally known, will be remembered by many serving and retired officers as one who was always willing to attend to their needs, both in the Mess and at various regimental functions held elsewhere.

The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. W. Blathwayt, Chaplain of the 4th Battalion, and attended by the Honorary Colonel, Brigadier F. B. Barclay, serving and retired officers and a number of Mr. Hubbard's other regimental associates.

### The Officers' Pensions Society

Attention is invited to this Society, whose President is Field Marshal Sir Francis Festing, and Chairman is General The Lord Bourne. Its objects are to procure improvements and increases in the retired pay and pensions of officers and widows of the three Armed Services, and to promote their interests in every way.

There are now over 26,000 members, which number is increasing every day. The annual subscription is only £1 for retired officers and serving officers' wives, and 5/- for widows. So many useful concessions are available to members that they can save far more than the cost of subscriptions. Full details can be obtained from the General Secretary of the Society at 137, Victoria Street, S.W.1.

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# Army Boys Expedition, 1965

BY L/CPL. J. ASPELL, 4TH BATTALION

On the bright sunny morning of Tuesday, August 10, 1965, thirty boys from different Army units, including myself, left Dover by cross-Channel ferry. With us went nine qualified mountaineering instructors. All were under the leadership of Major Warrick (Royal Engineers).

The object of this expedition was a fortnight's mountaineering in the French Alps.

Having reached Boulogne, the party undertook a long, tiring rail journey to our destination, Begneres-de-Luchon, at the foot of the Pyrenees? On our arrival, on Wednesday morning, we found ourselves in a very pleasant atmosphere which helped to rid us of the fatigue of the journey. After a couple of hours' wandering through the streets of Luchon and stocking up with rations, we proceeded on a long walk over the mountains to our base camp. The scenery was absolutely breathtaking. Snow-capped mountain peaks and the country around us surely could be a naturalist's paradise. We learned during our first day that the heat was almost overpowering . . . most of us were brown or red by the end of the day.

Our base camp was situated in a very pleasant valley. The valley of Oo. It stretched out from a small village of the same name and lay among the Pyrenees. The village was 9 kms. from Luchon. The advance party had travelled through France by mini-bus with the majority of the expedition's climbing equipment. They had pitched the base camp by the time we had arrived down off the mountains that evening.

During the first week several of the expedition's instructors had been doing a reconnaissance for rock-climbs and snow and ice-climbing, while the rest of the expedition party had been mountain walking in the area.

Unfortunately, we learned from our tired instructors on returning to base that all the good and relatively safe climbs were miles away over the mountains. This called for a long conference between the Major and the instructors, the conclusion of which was an expedition away from the base.

We were all split into three groups. Numbers one and two climbing parties and a walking party. These groups were arranged according to our experience.

Myself, being in No. 1 climbing party, we left base camp early on the morning of August 13. The walking party came up behind us with all the climbing equipment, which we were to put to use during the course of the next four days. This equipment included some of the newest designs of ice axes, crampons, ropes,

pitons and karabiners. I think the biggest feature was the Macinson mountain stretches which the expedition had.

With the expedition being self-supporting, we provided our own mountain rescue team, which was put to use on more than one occasion during the fortnight.

It took the best part of a day's slog over the hills in heat that was almost unbearable, and it was like this until we got to an altitude of some 12,000ft. Once we had established a camp in the mountains, we were all above the snow line. We were not affected so much by the sun but by raging thunderstorms and torrential rain. Many of us were amazed at the astonishing changes in the weather due to altitude. Although the sun did not affect us as it did in the valleys below, the ultra-violet rays affected some of us while we were ice climbing.

During the four days we were up there, experience was gained by all, not only on rock but on snow and ice as well. I, for one, gained much experience which will prove of great value to me in future expeditions.

When it was time for our descent, the number two climbing party had come up to take our place. At this stage the walking party was not required as all the equipment was needed for the second lot of climbers. Once we reached the bottom and got back to base, we were pretty wet and hungry. A good night's sleep was followed by a rest day. During this we stocked up with rations from Luchon, while others scrubbed clothes by the waterfall. Having restored our energy we finished off our walking programme. This consisted of two separate day's walks.

One of the walks took us for quite some distance to visit part of the Spanish border. We took crampons and ice axes with us because we knew some ice work would be required before we reached the border height. Stretching down each side of the ridge were gigantic glaciers dropping for thousands of feet on the Spanish side. Once we reached the border we learned that there was some resemblance between this ridge and the Crib-y-Ddisgle ridge in North Wales, or as often called the Snowden Knife-edge. Many of the peaks we could see resembled the jagged Dolomite peaks in Italy.

Our second day's walk took us on a very interesting mountain forest walk. We proceeded at a recognisable mountain pace up the steep side of the Oo valley. Soon we met deep forest country, the colours were magnificent, some of

the things we saw around us were very interesting. There were gushing waterfalls everywhere, which produced the scent of French Alpine waters. The Falls glistened in the scorching sun as the ice-cold green waters swept in torrential force over the green slippery rocks beneath.

Many animals and insects showed themselves to us from time to time. Large brown deer were darting through the trees every now and then, and a few snakes gave us a scare but they struck us as very interesting. Alpine butterflies were numerous and very colourful. One thing we realised was that there were few birds although we were only 6,000 feet up.

When we reached the top of the front line we were absorbed with the wonders of nature. After a tiring climb in scorching sun we reached a large lake, Lac d'Oo by name. Those of us who were brave enough to go for a swim

did. In the sun the deep green waters looked very calm and cool, but I was soon to learn that they were not cool but ice cold. The whole thing was one big shock. After a while we made our way back to base camp by a different route.

We were up early next morning with a feeling of disappointment. We were going home. August 22 had arrived. After a few hours working as a team we had struck base camp and were making for London.

It was certainly an expedition which we shall all remember. Should any of us meet in the Himalayas in the future for instance, memories and experiences will come flooding back.

The Army Boys' Expedition, 1965, was a wonderful opportunity to take part in the rewarding experience of being a member of a great team. Everyone who took part is grateful to those who made the experience possible.

# S.O.S. or Serving Old Soldiers

BY CAPT. N. MCCOLL, 4TH BATTALION

When do you actually become an old soldier? It used to be said that you were never an Old Soldier until you had served in India, but those days (some will say, unfortunately) have gone.

I suppose that you are an Old Soldier, in your own opinion, when you have finished your recruits training, or when you get that first magical stripe; or even when you have finished your first seven days jankers—and that word seems to be fast disappearing! You might feel an Old Soldier when you complete your first course away from your unit. You will certainly feel that you are an Old Soldier when you complete your first stint of active service. And then there is that proud moment when you qualify for your "roti-gong." But there always seem to be other soldiers knocking about your Unit.

The day that I knew, without doubt, that I was an Old Soldier, was the day that I met a retired Lieutenant-Colonel who was first commissioned when I was a Lance-Sergeant; and I am still serving!

I find it very hard to believe, when I look around my battalion, that I am the oldest man in it. It horrifies me, because I don't *feel* old. But it does make me think, sometimes very nostalgically, of some of the Units of the Regi-

ment in which I have at sometimes or another served in. It makes a formidable list. I have served in nine units of the Regiment. They are: 1 Hertfordshire T.A., 1 Bedfordshire/Hertfordshire, Depot Bedfordshire/Hertfordshire, 1 Suffolk, 4 Suffolk T.A., 1 Royal Norfolk, 1 East Anglian, 1 Royal Leicesters, and 4 Royal Anglian, and I have served under no less than twenty Commanding Officers of those Units. (Does this make me the most Anglian of the Royal Anglian?)

To be an old serving soldier today is a very good thing to be. You can look back on some wonderful memories and marvellous times spent in the company of some stalwart friends.

Memories? Of Christmas 1940, when all the troops sang "Oh, Johnnie, Oh" when the C.O. came to the dining hall.

A war-time trip to India in a very old trooper.

The row when some one robbed the safe at Brigade H.Q. in Ranchi.

The Sergeants' Mess caterer who smuggled the "hooch" out of the State of Bombay camouflaged as "ecclesiastical stores."

The glorious time we had in Bangalore when we came out of Burma.

The day that we arrived in Dehra Dun, and it snowed!

The V.J. rehearsal parties we had in the Sergeants' Mess and in the wet canteen.

The time when we got our War Gratuities at Kempston Barracks, and the Passing Out Parades with "canned" music.

The first post-war T.A. camp at Landguard Fort.

Malaya 1950/53. Who amongst those who were there could ever forget that stupendous Minden Day of 1951. Remember the bogus Brigadier? And that moustachioed R.S.M. being thrown fully clothed into the swimming pool at H.Q. Malaya!

Then 1953—glorious Trieste.

Memories of Germany and of Berlin.

And even memories of a Sergeants' Mess accepting the freedom of Fingering Ho Camp!

But memories after all are only memories. In addition to the memories, the Old Serving Soldier of today takes part in the very exciting times being experienced by the Army of today. Realistic exercises in England and overseas.

Active Service in all parts of the world. And travel such as we could never have imagined only a few years ago. In the course of one month recently, I found myself in such places as Nice, Malta, Tripoli, Benghazi and even Rome, all at Army expense!

So, summing up, I don't know when you actually become an Old Soldier now-a-days; I only know that I have lived a full and enjoyable life in trying to become one—and I have still some nine years to do!

I might add, and it is no small thing, that since August 1941 I have been married, so my wife perhaps, is also "and old soldier," and has served with me on active service in Malaya and in Cyprus having joined me in 1950, and except for some very short periods due to the various moves of the Battalion, has served with me continuously since then, successfully "bringing up" two children in the process. Strange, she never got a medal! But she, too, has enjoyed her Army life.

It's not a bad life in the Army.

PERPETUUM MOBILE

## Exchange Officer U.S.A.

BY LT.-COL. R. H. MEDLEY, ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

My posting as an Exchange Officer to H.Q., U.S. Army Continental Command, at Fortress Monroe, in Virginia, placed me within but a few miles of the place of the original landings of the first English settlers at Jamestown, and the historic Yorktown battlefield. The settlement at Jamestown is commemorated today by an exhibition, which includes actual size replicas of the three ships in which the settlers crossed the Atlantic. On seeing them, one is amazed that they even survived the English Channel.

The original party were decimated by disease, so it was not long before they moved inland to Williamsburg, to escape from the malarial swamps alongside the early township. This new town was to become the centre of government as the colony expanded. Today Colonial Williamsburg has been rebuilt and reconstructed in the style of the 18th century, and depicts life in America as it was prior to and at the time of the War of Independence. There is so much to see at Williamsburg that many visits are required to absorb all the detail. We have been eight times so far, and still have much to see. The people in the reconstructed part of the town wear period costumes, depict the ancient trades, and explain

how the craftsmen used to work. At the armoury the local militia load and fire their pieces, the printer pulps his paper, the silversmith makes his cutlery. On the village green a cricket match was in progress. On enquiry, it transpired that this was a serious match between a British Commonwealth team from Washington down to play against William and Mary College. Cricket is becoming popular in parts of the States, so perhaps it will not be too long before a test team may visit England?

Prominently displayed in a craft shop were a set of four prints of British Infantry in 18th century attire, and two of these depict officers and men of the 44th and 48th Foot.

Only twelve miles away from Williamsburg is Yorktown, the scene of the defeat of British Arms under Lord Cornwallis in 1781. The old British earthworks at Yorktown were strengthened by the Confederates in the Civil War. Now the battlefield area is a national park—old artillery pieces and mortars are on the ramparts. The Union Jack flies over the British positions. A museum portrays the actions leading up to the final British defeat at—the end of an era—the beginning of a nation. The lists of regiments taking part reveals large numbers of Germans fighting for the British,



*Historic Ships on View.*

*Moored at Jamestown Festival Park, Virginia, are full-size reconstructions of the "Susan Constant," "Godspeed" and "Discovery," which brought America's first permanent English settlers to Jamestown in 1607. Here visitors view them before going aboard the "Susan Constant" for a tour. These and other exhibits are offered by the State of Virginia all the year round.*

*[Photograph: Virginia Chamber of Commerce.]*

and equally large numbers of French on the American side. This explained the comment when I first announced my intention of visiting Yorktown by one of my American friends: "Oh that's where the French defeated the Germans." Strange in some ways that the final debacle should take place within a few miles of the first landings of 174 years before. Yet, on reflection, not so strange, as this land held the very core of those who had left England to seek more freedom and independence. The events which led to taking separate paths are now history. To the Americans this was the step forward, the time when the grown child set forth on his own.

The Commonwealth of Virginia is very proud of its ancient traditions, and its links with the Home Country are treasured and well loved. Annually, the early landings are commemorated formally, and revered for their achievements. The link with England is a close one, and the bonds are remembered with pride and affection today. Virginia is a state of nostalgia, with names like Richmond, Norfolk, South-

ampton, Portsmouth, Gloucester, Warwick and countless others, as a perpetual monument to those early settlers. The Commonwealth of Virginia, more than any other State, provides the English visitor with the best possible back-drop to American history. I hope to be able to continue my studies during the rest of my stay here.

#### OUR ADVERTISERS

Would readers very kindly mention "The Castle" when purchasing from or communicating with the firms who advertise in these pages.

## ME FINGER DONE GO

BY LIEUT.-COLONEL H. H. MOORE, ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

"Another cup of tea, dear?" "Yes, please," I said, as I watched the Moa river gurgle past the sitting room window and noted the formation of white egrets beginning their evening flight up river. As rivers go in Africa, this one is small, just about 150 yards wide at Daru. The few crocodiles left there are well behaved and our main problem was the "devil that lived on the railway bridge." However, it was still daylight. My C.O. was three hundred miles away, in Freetown, with the rest of the Battalion, and the radio linking us had closed down for the day.

There was a quiet tap on the door and Koin-kordhu, our steward, walked softly in leading a rather frightened-looking youth. "Sah," said Koinkordhu, "his finger done go," and grinned widely. The youth, who was one of our grass-cutters, had his left hand tucked into his skirt. With his right hand he passed me a piece of dirty cloth, roughly rolled. I took it on my lap, put down my tea cup and unfolded the cloth. Inside was one black finger neatly severed. My wife by this time was examining the stump on the left hand, which the lad had choppered with his langa-langa. This is a crude, home-made knife, about 2ft. long. Well, one has to *do* something in such situations, so we gave the boy a cup of tea.

In the Camp M.I. Room there was a case of instruments for just such occasions as this, but no anaesthetic. One shuddered at the thought of surgery. It was bad enough dealing with snake bites. We had nothing, however, to deal with devils and they were the real problem. Perhaps we had better prepare for surgery and give the boy a large brandy.

We were saved by the arrival of little Sgt. Thomas, our smiling medical orderly, bringing with him a real live missionary doctor who wanted tea and a swim. The doctor very soon did a neat bit of sawing and stitching and put the boy to bed. I still had the dirty cloth and the severed finger and it seemed sad to chuck it into the river. The boy was back at work next day looking as happy as ever.

There is no point in going "bush-whacking" unless you are prepared to come to terms with devils. These beastly creatures never read the Secondment Manual and they have a total disregard for the British Army way of doing things. What is easier than telling a soldier to climb a tree to hang the radio antenna? It may be the only tree you have; but if a devil gets there first the soldier will explain to you, with grave patience, that only a very stupid

person would imagine the radio could work from that tree! You may, of course, have a C.O. (white or black) who doesn't believe in devils; but he probably doesn't climb trees either, so how can he know? He may be the type that demands his sitreps on time when you're in the bush and will only misunderstand you if you explain its non-arrival by saying that it has gone to the devil.

My wife always follows the drum, and once she found herself commanding the barracks. It happened this way. The Battalion was three hundred miles away and stretched to the limit on internal security commitments. My Company was in barracks north of the Male river and contented with its peaceful role, when our peace was rudely shattered by our being ordered up-country to a place about eighty miles away. Lots of feverish activity. The C.O. flew in for twenty minutes and gave me orders. No time for any questions.

We were to leave the next morning at six. One officer was to stay behind and run the camp. This chap had a date the night before with one of the very few unattached white girls in the area. She lived a mere ten miles away. The road was tolerably good, but either covered in dust or mud, several inches deep, depending on the season. There was a bridge at one point where a really bad devil lived, who repeatedly wrecked motor cars and lorries at the site. It wasn't difficult for the devil to do this, as the road bent sharply and there were no sides to the bridge at all. As soon as this young officer had taken his girl home, this devil hopped into the cab of the (fortunately) borrowed Land Rover and pushed him straight into the river when they reached the bridge. The officer went to hospital, and that's how my wife commanded a barracks for a week. "Don't worry," I said, "you can always get me on the radio." I am told that tattoo, roll-call, lights out, etc., went on just the same, and that guard mounting was very well executed. Even the "in-tray" was empty on my return.

The funniest thing I remember during my tour in Sierra Leone occurred about a week after the country became independent of Britain. In the company of a rather serious-minded official, I called on a chief living in a remote village. We arrived to find that the Union Jack was still flying from the village flag pole. "Where's that fine new flag?" stormed the official. The chief, sitting cross-legged on the floor, blinked and said mildly: "We like dis colour de best."

## A Visit to the El Alamein War Cemetery

BY LT.-COL. C. A. BROOKS, O.B.E., T.D., D.L.

Calling at Alexandria on a cruise, I decided to try and visit El Alamein, where the fallen of 2nd/5th Bn. The Essex Regiment who died at Deir el Shein on July 1, 1942, lie buried or are commemorated.

Immediately on docking, I hired a car with an English-speaking driver and set off on the 65-mile journey by the coast road bordering the desert.

After about two hours the gaunt water towers and squat buildings of El Alamein Station came into sight. The road rose a little higher towards a few houses. A memorial stone was passed and the driver pulled up where a smoothed path to the south led down between agaves to the Cemetery, which blends so well into the landscape with its walls of local stone, that I had not noticed it before. Actually, where the road is nearest, it has dropped out of sight. On walking the 150 yards or so down the slope to the entrance, there lay the desert stretching away to the skyline, where the low Ruweisat Ridge lies some seven miles off. Deir el Shein, which is a depression, of course, was not discernable, but vivid memories flooded back into my mind.

Through the three arches which form an impressive entrance, I could see the Stone of

Remembrance and the Cross bearing its Sword, which are a feature of all British War Cemeteries. Passing through these arches, the atmosphere is much as in every war cemetery; one of beauty and peace. There is the cloisters with the names of the thousands who have no known grave, and there are the serried rows of silent headstones, all so well tended. But there expectation ends for, though walled in, it is all part of the desert, gaunt and bare, maintained free from scrub and with a few flowering plants spaced out among the graves. They are tended and watered with care by the staff, but are obviously struggling hard to survive in the harsh climate. Even though care and memories bring peace to this hallowed spot, it still remains, and should remain, a part of the desert where they fought and fell.

Standing under the arches, such was my impression, but then wandering forward to explore the cloister, which, by reason of the fact that at the entrance it has been set back, prevents a view along its whole length, I suddenly saw, stretching to right and left from its ends, vistas of lawns and flowering shrubs trained on the walls leading to small arbours, each with a shady seat. I chose the western one in which to sit and contemplate whilst I consumed a few sandwiches. Green lawn, flowering shrubs



*The Alamein Cemetery as seen from the Memorial.*

on the wall; even some rose bushes—bare, but putting out new shoots—and sparrows with other small birds hopping about. Truly a miracle and a fitting one to conjure up a vision of England and home.

But the backcloth to this vision—this tiny vision—remains the desert; the desert among the graves and beyond the walls, stretching down to El Alamein Station and away to the far horizon. Whilst I sat, a growing roar and streamer of dust heralded the approach of a train from the east, which halted at the station. After a short interval another arrived from the west, and in due course they departed again on their journeys. Further memories flooded into my mind of that day in late June, 1942, when 2nd/5th Essex detrained at that very spot.

The time for contemplation had passed and I checked the registers and found the few graves and the larger number of names in the cloister. It was not surprising to me that so few of the fallen had been found. Under the conditions of the battle it was impossible to mark their immediate resting places, and no systematic search of Deir el Shein could have taken place for several months. The names on the cloister wall are arranged in panels by Regiments, so all those of The Essex Regiment were all together.

There were two or three names on my list of 2nd/5th casualties which I was unable to discover and which must be taken up with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, but apart from this, all was in good order. I had no lists with me of the fallen of other Battalions,

so it was not possible to check that all names of the Regiment were recorded.

After taking some photographs and one last look round, I walked a few hundred yards direct across the desert to the "Rest-House," where I shared a large beer with my driver, who was partaking of a meal. I had been over two hours at the Cemetery and he was hungry. Through the large windows there was a splendid view down to the sea and along the coast to the west, where the German and Italian Memorials were visible a few miles off.

As we left on our drive back, I stopped at the Memorial stone by the road which had caught my eye just before reaching the path to the Cemetery, and found that it bore a simple inscription in English and Afrikaans, recording that on their trek to Germany in 1939-45 the South Africans passed this way.

I took a last look out towards Deir el Shein and recalled that Von Mellenthin, the German Panzer Commander, wrote of it: "On the afternoon of July 1, the Afrika Korps broke into Box and after very severe fighting, destroyed 18 Indian Brigade. But we lost eighteen tanks out of fifty-five, and the fighting edge of the Afrika Korps was finally blunted . . . Looking at the battle in retrospect, it seems that our prospects of victory were hopelessly prejudiced on July 1 . . ." With this warm tribute in my mind to all those of 2nd/5th Essex commemorated there, I said farewell to El Alamein.

By the time I reached Alexandria the sun had gone and the lights were coming on. I returned to the ship with a sense of satisfaction at having made the pilgrimage and in what I had found.

## RANGER '65

May 6 to July 16

By LT. D. M. F. GOODALE, 2ND BATTALION

There were three of us—Capt. John Wilsey, from The Devon and Dorset Regiment; Sgt. Wilson, from The Green Howards, and myself. Our flight to America and subsequently to Fort Benning, Georgia, was uneventful but rapid, with an overnight stop in Washington for briefing and documentation by the British Army Staff.

Fort Benning is the home of the U.S. Infantry, in fact their Infantry School. Unlike us, they have centralised all their wings into one vast school. Here, all O.C.S., basic, signals, airborne, ranger and support weapons training is carried out. On post there are some 150,000 soldiers and dependants, and the

reservation itself covers some 200 square miles. As Allied Students, we came under the Allied Liaison Section, which was responsible for all our administration during our twelve-week stay.

There are a large number of Allied Students on post—mostly South Vietnamese, but we were all extremely well looked after by the A.L.S. staff, who were also very adept at dealing with the problems that inevitably crop up when one is in a foreign country.

Two days after our arrival at Fort Benning and after a fearsome medical test, the fateful morning arrived when the bus from the Ranger Department came to pick up three British, four Canadians, one Turk, two Malaysians, one



Philippine and two Thais. At that moment we forgot our nationality and rank and became members of the 1st Ranger Company. We were now Rangers!

The U.S. Army Rangers have had a varied and chequered life. Originally formed during the Second World War and trained by British Commandos in Scotland, they performed gallantly in North Africa, Normandy and Burma. Most of them were disbanded after the war, and it was not until the outbreak of the Korean War that regular training of Rangers started up again—this time at Fort Benning.

They were organised into companies and were to be used for intensive patrolling operations behind enemy lines. Unfortunately, infantry commanders considered Ranger units assigned to their units as supermen and used them as ordinary infantry, expecting them to hold or attack a front normally held by a battalion or more. As a result, they were massacred, and so it was decided to disband all regular Ranger units and concentrate on training individuals who could go back and train their own men, thereby making it possible for the unit to carry out Ranger-type operations. This is how it is today.

The Ranger-trained soldier is held in very high respect by the U.S. Army. After the nine-week course he is considered to be an expert in conducting Commando-type raids and those operations for which our own Special Air Service is trained. He is, in American eyes, the complete professional soldier, and ranks second only to the Airborne Forces and perhaps the Special Forces who, since the death of President Kennedy, and now, during the Johnson administration, have found official enthusiasm waning somewhat.

The Ranger course lasts for nine weeks and is divided up into three equal phases. Phase I is conducted at Fort Benning, Phase II at Dahlonga, Northern Georgia, and Phase III at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida.

Phase I is considered the weeding-out period. A large number of officers and men on the course have come straight from O.C.S. or basic training and have limited or no troop command experience. For the first ten days we went through pure unadulterated hell, or "harassment" as the Americans call it. Physically and mentally it was shattering, with little or no sleep, regular early morning P.T. periods, periods of up to two hours at a time in the unarmed combat pit and constant shouting and kit inspections from the staff. We had little or no time to ourselves and any free moments we did have were spent in a deep sleep.

This treatment was designed for those who really wanted to be Rangers and there were

quite a number who decided either for physical or other reasons that this was not the life for them. Of the 170 who enrolled on the course 110 graduated at the end.

After ten days of this hell, we all marched up to Camp Darby, some eight miles from Main Post, but still on the Reservation, where we were introduced to patrolling—"Ranger Style." Here was our first introduction to the Georgian countryside of scrub oak, slashed pine, swamp and impenetrable scrub of palmeta, wait-a-minute vines and ty-ty bushes. We were also introduced to the grading system, which was to hang over our heads for the whole of the course.

The course is intensely competitive, and whilst we co-operated together, there was no doubt that everybody wanted to be number one. Throughout the course we were graded on everything we did in public and private. Reports were written by both the staff and your buddy at the end of each phase. You were also graded on the patrols you led and given bonus points for any outstanding work, for example, carrying a machine-gun for three days or for good compass work! At the end the Ranger with the most points became Honours Graduate.

Camp Darby lasted for a further ten days, and, having mastered patrolling, "Ranger-style," we marched back to Fort Benning, where we completed the second of two confidence tests, which are prerequisites for graduation.

The first was a suspension traverse of some 75ft., which proved no great difficulty. The second was slightly more complicated, consisting of a climb of 35ft. up a pole, a walk along a six-inch wide plank, then a monkey-crawl along a rope and request permission to drop into the water 50ft. below. No one "fucked" these obstacles and, with a certain amount of gritting of teeth and the Ranger "growl," they can be crossed without much trouble. The Ranger "growl," incidentally, is part of you for nine weeks, you growl everywhere you go and whatever you do. It is supposed to promote *esprit* and give you some sort of "Dutch courage," but, in fact, it gives you an incredibly sore throat and makes you feel rather stupid.

This marked the end of the first phase and we were let out on the town for one night before travelling up to Dahlonga and the Mountain Ranger Camp. Dahlonga is situated in the mountainous region of Northern Georgia. The mountains are not very high, rising only to about 4,000ft. The main terrain feature is the Tennessee Valley Divide. The initials "T.V.D." are engraved on every Ranger's heart.

The training at Mountain Ranger Camp introduced us to long-range patrols and a certain amount of anti-guerilla warfare. The "harassment" ceased, but in order to simulate combat conditions, patrols lasted three to four days, with perhaps six or seven hours' rest before going out again. Also during this period we were introduced to military mountaineering techniques which entailed five days' very interesting work in rock climbing, abseiling and casualty evacuation from mountains. The instructors during this phase were quite excellent, some of the best I have ever met.

By now we were getting to know each other fairly well, and I made a number of firm friends. More than ever we had to rely on each other during this three-week period because of the extreme tiredness which the majority of us had never experienced before, and the exacting schedule that the staff planned for us.

The three weeks went quickly, and we were soon on our way back to Fort Benning for another night of abandon before leaving the next day for Eglin Air Force Base and the Florida Ranger Camp on the Gulf of Mexico.

Eglin A.F.B. is the largest base in the world and is engaged mostly in development work. It is covered for the most part by cyprus and savannah swamps, both of which we were to know intimately by the end of three weeks.

The final phase of the course was taken up by swamp operations, seaborne raids and anti-guerilla work. Here we spent three or four days waist-deep in stinking slime, making eyes at rattesnakes and alligators, who were just as frightened of us as we were of them.

Perhaps the most interesting part of this phase was the survival training. Here we were taught how to live off the land, catch and cook snakes, racoons, opossums and other such delicacies. The climax to this was a superb meal called a "Survival Banquet," which consisted entirely of food found in the Eglin area. Fried rattlesnake and alligator, oysters, dogfish, crabs, roast hog, and salad from assorted weeds. This was one of the best meals we had during the course. This is no reflection on the mess-during our stay; by and large, the few times that we did spend in camp the food was plentiful and varied.

Suddenly, it was all over—one moment we were in a swamp and the next walking up to the dais to receive the Ranger tab from the Assistant Commandant of the Infantry School. As we came back we passed the Fort Benning Ranger Camp and saw the next Ranger Class hard at it in the unarmed combat pit. I thought to myself "thank God it's all over."

Those are the facts. What about impressions? First, the American Army is so different to ours

that it is difficult to make fair comparisons. What suits them obviously does not suit us. I do think that the Ranger Course is over-rated by the Americans, and any fit, "on the ball" British officer or N.C.O. could get through the course without much trouble, provided he was carefully briefed on what to expect beforehand. This is most important, since the "harassment" at Fort Benning is "something else," as the Americans say. As one British N.C.O., who had been on the staff at Colchester M.C.T.C., said: "We don't even treat the prisoners like this." Above all, one must not lose one's sense of humour.

The training we received was good, and I personally learnt a great deal, especially on the survival side. It differed little from our own patrolling techniques. One point that the staff tried to hammer home was that Rangers do not need rest and sleep, and therefore is bottom priority when planning a mission. All students took great delight in proving them wrong.

We spent a further two weeks at Fort Benning as guests of the American Army, and managed to meet people and see normal training without the restrictions of Ranger School.

We spent about ten days visiting an Infantry Battalion and an A.P.C. Battalion, which were part of the Demonstration Brigade permanently based at the School. Everybody, from the Colonel downwards, made us extremely welcome and gave us a free rein to see anything we liked. The mind boggles at the amount of equipment that an Infantry Battalion carries into the field. In Battalion TAC H.Q. alone there are three vast teleprinters.

Perhaps the biggest difference between our two armies is in the question of unit morale. Most American officers we met, especially those who had come into contact with British units, felt that the lack of the regimental system made it difficult to build a really good unit morale. It must also be remembered that the majority of the U.S. Army is conscripted and is not held in such high regard by the rest of the community as is the British Army.

Before we left Fort Benning we had an opportunity of visiting the famed 1st Cavalry (Air Mobile) Division. A large number of its platoon commanders had been on the Ranger course with us. They were destined for Vietnam and were packing up ready to go. It was a most impressive unit and we spent a wonderful day flying in helicopters of all shapes and sizes, firing the new Armalite Rifle, and finally saying goodbye to a large number of friends who had undergone the rigours of Ranger training with us and who were soon to put it into practice.

Thus our stay at Fort Benning came to an end. By a fantastic stroke of luck one of our

Ranger buddies asked John Wilsey and myself if we would mind driving his Austin Healey 3,000 miles across the States to his home in San Francisco. "Not at all," we said!

This was a wonderful trip, with visits to New Orleans, Dallas, the Grand Canyon, two fabulous night in Las Vegas (it's what everybody says about it, and more, much more) and then on the Los Angeles for stops at Disneyland and a film studio. On then to San Francisco and a couple of brushes with the law—a slight disagreement over what constituted the speed limit! The car stood up to the trip extremely well, considering the distance of some 3,000 miles was covered in 10 days.

We stayed two days in San Francisco, taking in the Golden Gates, Alcatraz Prison Island, a large hotel and sundry night clubs, and then hitched a lift with the Military Air Transport Service to Washington D.C.

After a few days in Canada, visiting relations, I arrived back in England at the end of fourteen action-packed weeks. I made a lot of friends and learnt a great deal. I strongly recommend anyone who has a chance to go on an exchange or just a visit to a U.S. Army unit in U.K. or Germany.

## Acknowledgement

The Editor thanks all those who have submitted articles for inclusion in *The Castle*.

It has proved impossible to include them all but it is hoped to publish more of them in subsequent issues.

Further contributions will be gratefully received.

Two typed double spaced copies should be submitted.

- Would subscribers report their change of address as soon as possible to the Secretary concerned so that their journals can be addressed correctly.
- All articles and notes for the May number of *The Journal* should be sent to the Editor by not later than March 15, 1966.

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## Regimental Headquarters and The Depot

The Regimental Depot was honoured by a visit from our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness The Duchess of Gloucester, on July 22. Her Royal Highness arrived by a helicopter of the Queen's Flight at 12 o'clock. She was received by Brigadier R. H. L. Oulton, C.B., Deputy Colonel of the 2nd Battalion, on behalf of the Colonel of The Regiment. After introductions to the Regimental Colonel, Mrs. Denny and the Commanding Officer of the Depot, she was presented with a bouquet by seven-year-old Julie Clark, the Commanding Officer's daughter. Her Royal Highness was then introduced to Officers, Warrant Officers and their wives before being conducted to the Sergeants' Mess. Here she talked informally to members of the Mess.

Her Royal Highness then took lunch in the Officers' Mess. Unfortunately, space in the Mess precluded Officers' wives from this. After lunch, group photographs were taken of Her Royal Highness with Officers and Sergeants. Her Royal Highness then departed for another engagement at Felixstowe.

The Regimental Week-end was held in the Depot on July 17/18 and prior to and during this the Depot staff and facilities were, as usual, fully stretched.

Training of recruits at the Depot has continued apace, although platoons are slightly smaller than last year, due to a slight slowing down in the recruiting rate.

The G.P.M.G. has now replaced the Bren in the training syllabus, although we are still short of the new weapon. This results in the weapons being constantly in use.

During week-ends the camp at Buckenden Ferry has proved popular and a number of soldiers prefer a week-end on the Broads to going home.

A number of changes in Depot staff have taken place. Notable among these are Major Young's departure for Borneo, Sgt. Stoves' (A.P.T.C.) departure to the 4th Battalion, Sgt. Leatherland, Sgt. Sainsbury, C/Sgt. Childs and Cpls. Wadlow, Taylor and Groom; we wish them all luck in their new stations.

The Junior Soldiers' Wing has been stirred by an intake of 36 new Juniors in September. This brought the Wing strength up to 116 on

the first day of term. A week later seven Juniors were transferred to the Junior Tradesmen's Regiment at Rhyl for training as clerks or driver/operators.

A new system of handling new intakes to the J.S.W., to ensure correct "streaming," has resulted in the addition to the J.S.W. staff of Sgt. Knowles.

The Depot was sorry to say farewell to Mr. Smyth, Bandmaster here since 1960, who has retired to Stanford. To him and Mrs. Smyth we wish the best of luck. Mr. Smyth has been replaced as Regimental Bandmaster by Mr. Blackburn, who, with his wife and family, we offer our welcome.

During the summer term both the Band and Drums were kept very busy on parades and other duties and reached a creditable standard. Apart from the many passing-out parades, they were proud to be able to play alongside the Regular Bands at the Beating of Retreat in July. The Junior Bandsmen played at a guest night in the Officers' Mess, after which the Commanding Officers of the Regular Battalions were able to meet their future Bandsmen.

Mention must be made of J/Bdsm. Cooke and Paulley, who gained distinctions in their senior music tests.

The Junior Band and Drums paraded for our Colonel-in-Chief, Her Majesty The Queen Mother, at Watford, in June on the occasion of the opening of the new T.A. Centre there. Shortly after this the Wing provided a contingent to visit Northampton in order that the Regiment should be represented when Her Majesty The Queen paid her visit to Northampton. Members of the Wing, mostly Junior Privates, helped to line the route outside the Guildhall. As a reward for the hard work of the term a party of Junior Soldiers visited the Royal Tournament.

Command of the Junior Privates Platoon has now devolved on Lt. English, who has replaced Lt. Hutley. We extend our good wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Hutley, who have now joined the 4th Battalion. We also welcome Sgt. Everitt as Platoon Sergeant, who has replaced Sgt. Tucker. A number of Juniors have left and a number joined, but the Platoon goes on, we hope, for



*H.M. Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother inspecting the Corps of Drums of the Junior Soldiers Wing, at Watford, 3rd July, 1965.*

ever. The Junior Privates are frequently called on to represent the Regiment as a body of troops. In recent months the route lining at Northampton, the participation in the Battle of Britain parade, and more recently the provision of a Guard of Honour at the Nurse Edith Cavell memorial service at Norwich Cathedral. In such ways does the Wing play its part in the large Regiment and we are proud to be able to represent the regiment throughout the counties.

Junior Soldiers' camp was once again held in Cumberland at the end of summer term.

On the sporting side, the Depot cricket team had an enjoyable though not very successful season. Up to August we had failed to win a match, but then came three resounding victories, including two against R.A.F. Honnington and R.A.F. Stradishall, both of whom had defeated us earlier in the season.

There were some outstanding individual performances, notably Capt. Veitch's century against 8 Infantry Workshops; Capt. Parker, Cpl. Warrington and Pte. Boughton also had a good season. We had a fortunate spell in August when Capt. Bowling, R.A.D.C., was attached for a short time. He had played for Lancashire 2nd XI, so was welcomed to the side. Major Pool captained the side throughout the season and others who played regularly were Capt. Hiney, Capt. Veitch, Lts. Varley, Hutley and Light and Cpl. Tidman. The rest of the team was made up of recruits under training.

Such are the problems of Depot cricket.

A disappointing feature of the cricket season was the lack of Officers from the Regiment for the Regimental Week-end fixtures. We are grateful to Major David Thorne and Capt. Lewis, who did us very well, but the Week-end fixtures are Regimental and not Depot ones, and the Depot side is not strong enough to compete against Ampton or Colchester Garrison. We hope that next year we will be able to produce a strong Regimental team to avenge this year's defeats.

Visitors to the Officers' Mess in recent months will have noticed that the alterations have now been completed. The porchway planned early in the year was completed by July and is a great improvement. Among our visitors to the Mess for Passing-Out Parades are included the Lord Mayor of Leicester, the Mayor of Bury St. Edmunds, the Mayor of Cambridge, the Mayor of Sudbury and the Mayor of Southwold on the civilian side. Military Inspecting Officers have included our G.O.C., Major-General F. A. H. Ling, Colonel Atkinson, A.I.O. Cambridge, Lt.-Col. Barstow and Lt.-Col. Howgego. We welcome the opportunity of entertaining civilian dignitaries on these occasions, since in doing so we are able to maintain the Regimental link with the distant counties and thus, we hope, assist recruiting.

Readers may be interested to know that planning of Blenheim Barracks, Barnham, is now

well under way. It is still in the planning stage and it will be a year or so before any activity is seen on the ground. A conservative estimated completion date would be 1969. In the meanwhile we are grateful to the M.P.B.W. who continue to maintain and improve the present barracks. Next year we expect to see a large number of huts lined with false ceilings and the change to strip lighting. The coal stoves, unhappily, will remain.

The Sergeants' Mess, like the rest of the Depot has suffered the turbulence of membership so common these days. Departures have been already mentioned. Mr. Blackburn, C.S.M.I Tarpley (A.P.T.C.), Sgts. Hans'ey, Wright, White, Ball and Knowles have joined. Many pleasant social evenings organised by Q.M.S.I. Wight, S.A.S.C., have been held, and the Suffolk Constabulary, off-duty, are frequent guests.

Finally, no notes are complete without mention our loving and faithful wives. Last winter we formed a ladies' shooting club which, in competition with Wives' Clubs from seven other Depots, ended the season in second place. Shooting has again started this season and we look forward to many enjoyable Wednesday evenings. Mrs. Wright has started the season well with a "ton" and several others are showing good form.

The Wives' Club now meets twice a month in a thrift shop which we hope will be better patronised than the evening meetings of last year. They have set their sights at raising money for the Regimental Benevolent Fund, a worthy cause. We hope that more and more of our wives will attend our meetings.

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## 1st (Norfolk and Suffolk) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment

### BATTALION REVIEW

During the period, The Battalion has been fully committed by day and night on I.S. duties in Aden State. The only break was a three week tour of duty in the Radfan from July 28 to August 22.

Operation requirements have been heavy and at the best men have only been able to have one night in four off duty. Therefore, spare time has been spent in catching up on sleep rather than indulging in sporting and social activities.

Despite long hours on routine IS duties we have had our rewards. The major one being the arrest of four terrorists after a grenade attack on the Seamens' Mission. On June 19 and officer was returning from visiting guards in Steamer Point, when he heard two grenades explode in the area of the Seamen's Mission. Seconds later, as he approached the Mission in his vehicle, he saw a car move slowly away from it and two men run out and get into it. Ordering his driver to give chase they followed the car into the back streets of Tawahi. After a chase round several blocks, the car stopped and three

men got out and ran off. The officer managed to apprehend the driver and despite a hostile crowd detained him until assistance was fetched by his driver, Pte. Richardson. The car proved to be that used by the grenade throwers and the arrest of the driver later led to the arrest of the other terrorists. This event led to the first significant break through into the NLF organisation.

The Battalion's sixth and last tour in the Radfan was from July 28 to August 22. Initially, Battalion H.Q., and "A" and "B" Companies occupied Sapper camp in Habilayn. "C" Company was in the Danaba Basin; Company H.Q. and two platoons being at Monks Field and a platoon each at Cap Badge and Piccadilly (H.10). Tasks were very much as usual, area proscription in the Danaba Basin and the provision of a large number of ambush patrols to protect our camps and roads by night. For the first time since June 1964 we had a reserve company which operated from Habilayn south, down the Dhala Road to Nowbat Dukaym.

Minden Day was celebrated in the field. "C" Company began the day by releasing red and



*C.-in-C. talking to men of "C" Company during his farewell visit.*



*Representative Party after Memorial Service at Maalla Cemetery. Left to right: R.S.M. Hazelwood, Lt.-Col. Creasey, Major Palmer, Capt. Barnes, Rev. W. J. Stanley.*



yellow smoke from Coca Cola, a dominating feature near Monks Field, which could be seen throughout the Battalion area. Minden Roses were worn by all ranks all day, much to the amazement of the local Arabs. The day ended with "C" Company firing red and yellow pyrotechnics on Coca Cola.

There were two attacks on our positions during the tour. The first on August 3 when the Political Officer's house and Sapper camp were shot at with small arms and rockets. There was a sharp fire-fight and the dissidents withdrew, leaving behind an LMG barrel, some grenades and ammunition. It was later confirmed that three dissidents had been wounded and that two of them had subsequently died of their wounds.

The second occasion was on August 12 when the "B" Company Platoon on Cap Badge was fired on. This attack was carried out at close range by dissidents using L.M.G.s and rocket launchers. They withdrew when engaged by artillery fire from Monks Field.

"C" Company carried out a four-day patrol in support of the Political Officer in the Wadi Taym going as far as Blairs Field. An account of this appears elsewhere.

On August 24 two days after our return from the Radfan, the Band and Drums Beat Retreat in Waterloo Barracks, to mark our departure from the Command. A large number of guests attended the ceremony and were entertained by the Battalion afterwards.

We reassumed our IS tasks in Crater on August 25 and continued until relieved by 1 PWO on September 21.

This was a most intense period of operations, because as a result of the assassination of a

Special Branch Officer and of the Legislative Council Speaker, a dusk to dawn curfew was imposed on September 2. This placed a greater load on the Battalion, which was fully committed day and night. This was aggravated by our movement to U.K. starting on September 8, which meant that as our numbers grew smaller the already intense burden was increased. "C" Company spent their last four days in Aden on continuous duty.

The C-in-C., Lieut.-General Sir Charles Harington, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., and the G.O.C., Major-General J. E. F. Willoughby, C.B.E., paid formal visits to the Battalion on September 2 and 13 respectively. They both spoke to a large number of men and congratulated us on a most successful tour and a job well done in South Arabia. The G.O.C. said that in his opinion he regarded us as having a knowledge and experience of IS duties second to none.

Before leaving Aden a memorial service was held in St. Martins in the Sands to commemorate all those who were killed or died during our tour in South Arabia. After the service a representative party led by the Commanding Officer went to a Maalla Cemetery and laid wreaths or flowers on all Battalion graves.

We handed over operational command to the 1st Battalion The Prince of Wales' Own Regiment of Yorkshire at 1200 hours on September 21.

#### OFFICERS' MESS

Due to operational commitments, social activities have been confined to occasional lunch parties squeezed in between our Internal Security duties.



*Capt. H. H. Norman, M.B.E., meets his son, 2/Lt. Norman, 45 Commando, R.M., at Habilayn.*

On July 3 we had a curry lunch for twelve officers from H.M.S. *Ark Royal* who were en route for the Far East. The G.O.C., Major-General J. E. F. Willoughby, C.B.E., lunched in the Mess on July 17 after conducting an IS discussion period with officers of the Battalion. We also had the officers of the Crater Division, Aden Police, to lunch on July 22.

To mark the Battalion's departure from Aden the Band and Drums Beat Retreat on August 24. This was followed by a large cocktail party held on the Mess patio and in the Mess garden. Principle guests included the G.O.C., A.O.C. and the Commanders of Aden and 24 Brigades. This party went off very smoothly and the Mess staff are to be congratulated for their hard work which ensured the success of the occasion.

The following have arrived during the period: Arnold Palmer from the Army Air Corps and Peter Williamson on commissioning from Cambridge University.

Departures have been Ken Lywood to an appointment in U.K., Patrick Stone off as A.D.C. to General Kendrew in Australia, Bill and Deidre Deller to Washington, Frank and Priscilla Fleming to the Ministry of Defence, Jimmy and Betty Hughes to 20 Armoured Brigade, Hugh Horrex has joined the staff at the Depot, and Brian Copping has left for The East Anglian University.

### SERGEANTS' MESS

To get our order of priorities right we must start off by saying a big welcome to R.S.M. Fowler who has flown out to have a look round before he takes over from R.S.M. Hazelwood. By the time these notes are published the hand-over will be complete and both R.S.M.s firmly placed in their new jobs. To R.S.M. and Mrs. Hazelwood we say all the very best of luck in

Berlin, and congratulations "Sir" on your forthcoming promotion. We understand that someone has already tried to dispose of R.S.M. Fowler by hurling rocks at him whilst on a Cordon and Search operation — whoever was responsible was unsuccessful — welcome back after your sojourn with 4 R. Norfolk.

We have recently returned from a trip up country which was celebrated by a Beating of the Retreat followed by a cocktail party and social which was attended by friends which Mess members have acquired since arriving in Aden. We sincerely hope that they all enjoyed themselves.

Our celebration of Minden Day had to be a little premature as a direct result of the trip up country—but it did not prevent all who attended from enjoying the festivities. Our apologies to some Mess members who had to wear IS kit over their Mess dress? As usual our Master Cook gave us an excellent buffet—thank you very much, John and all your cooks for all your hard work. Not forgetting, of course, the "Grafters" on the entertainments committee.

Congratulations must be extended to C/Sgt. "Bert" High on his recent promotion to W.O.II. We understand that until he arrives in Celle he has the unique title of Mogul.

Farewells must be said to C.S.M. "Bill" Holland on posting to 4 Royal Norfolk, S/Sgt. "Tiffy" Ridout who is returning to R.E.M.E. fold after many years with us, and Sgt. Rackham who has left for civilian life. To you all we say "Good Luck" for the future.

We understand that C/Sgt. (Petrol Feet) Bates, B.E.M., did pay us a short visit but we aren't quite sure whether or not he intended to stay—welcome back, John; another newcomer is Sgt. Sainsbury recently joined from the Depot, a happy stay to you both.

As we close these notes our first flights have already left Aden and those that are left are watching the flight plans in case of change. To quote the Beatles, 'It's been a hard day's night,' which just about sums up our tour in Aden. Anyone who has any ideas about setting up road blocks in East Anglia should ensure that they have the right kit. — you never know where "Sunray" is. See you all in Celle.

### INTERNAL SECURITY IN ADEN

"It is beyond the capacity of my policemen I request the military take over!" "No 2 Rifleman — the man in the green turban — one round fire!" It all seemed so simple and straightforward when we saw the film and practised our drills in an icy December wind in Felixstowe in 1963. It didn't seem all that different in Aden when we arrived — we still

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By Appointment

practised our drills but apart from one or two half-hearted cordon and searches nothing really happened until the beginning of 1965 when the Egyptian-financed and inspired National Liberation front began to step up its terrorist activities in Aden.

The Battalion really became involved heavily in IS in late January 65 and has gone on getting steadily more deeply committed until at the time of our departure here we are working at an intensity that no one thought possible six months ago. We have done everything envisaged in "Keeping the Peace" with the exception of dispersing a hostile crowd. Curfew, cordon and searches, road blocks and checks, foot and mobile security patrols, VP guards and so on have all been our task at one time or another. It would have to be an unusual IS task to catch the Battalion unawares now.

The IS task in Aden grew from a one battalion task which we discharged for eight weeks January/March 65, to a three-battalion task in September, 65. Aden naturally divides itself up into three areas—the old town of Crater, the new residential area and business section of Maalla and Steamer Point, and the military cantonment of Khormksar. The latter is a smallish area and is coupled with the entirely Arab township of Sheik Othman. Each battalion has an area. As always in his sort of situation the initiative is in the hands of the terrorist, and the role of the security forces is one of prevention and reaction. Short of a 24-hour curfew and many more soldiers to enforce it, nothing can prevent the terrorists creating incidents and doing their worst. This has taken the form of grenade throwing at mobile and foot patrols, shooting at families' flats with rocket launchers, blowing up the pipe line with PE, sabotage of government buildings and installations with timed explosive devices and assassination of prominent officials and local police officers. Generally speaking the assassinations have been the work of imported and specially trained gunmen who are obviously very efficient. The other tasks have been the work of poorly trained local malcontents and have been added for their bungling execution. In Aden the situation has been complicated by the lack of racial splits in the population which could be exploited for intelligence purposes, and the declared intention of ending British rule in 1968. This last political act has made anyone who has to live or work in Aden after 1968 very wary about being thought of as a "friend" of the security forces.

Against the background of poor intelligence, lack of local assistance and with the initiative with the NLF the load on the security forces has been a heavy one. One night in bed in three is normal, and for long periods the "night in bed" has meant leaving duty at 2300 hours—



*Men of "A" Company on a cordon in Crater.*

in bed by midnight and on duty at 0700 hours the next day for a further 24 hours.

For most of the time the Battalion has been responsible for the Crater area of Aden. With its rabbit warren of backstreets and a fringe of modern buildings now occupied by service families at the eastern edge it is a terrorists' paradise. To go into the backstreets except for a specific purpose would be giving hostages to fortune and the terrorist has a ready-made hideaway there. To keep this area quiet—and it has been quiet more often than not—one company has been deployed there each night with assault pioneers, mobile searchlight vehicles and mobile patrols of the Recce Platoon to assist it. This force has maintained road blocks on the entrances to Crater, roof top OPs and foot patrols in the streets, and has mounted snap "seal and search" operations on the likely approaches used by terrorists. A reserve has always been maintained to deal with the incidents that have occurred. On top of this nightly programme, daylight road blocks, vehicle checks, and mobile patrols by the Recce Platoon have been carried out. A second company has, as a rule, been committed to guards, the third company has been what is jokingly referred to as "reserve." When a major curfew has been ordered all three companies have been involved in one way or another.

Statistics can prove anything but in the period February - September of this year some 35,000 Local Nationals have been searched at one time or another; 8,000 vehicles checked and searched; 13 cordon and searches have been carried out and an incalculable number of hours spent on guard. All this has yielded 12 grenades; 1 mine; 6 pistols and other odd items of intelligence value. It has caused a great deal of loss of sleep and provided some very amusing moments.

It is rarely an exciting and satisfying task and Aden has been no exception in this respect. However, the Battalion has earned high praise from all directions for its work here and always seems welcome wherever it goes. That and the continued safety of the Service and European families in Aden must be our reward.

#### ON DETACHMENT IN SOUTH ARABIA

South Arabia is a great place for company and platoon detachments which are invariably popular, being away from the immediate eyes of 'Big Brother' as they are. Generally speaking, such detachments are in isolated localities and any visitor must arrive by air giving due notice. The three most common detachments for sub units are at Mukayras, Al Milah and Perim Island.

#### MUKAYRAS

Approximately 100 miles to the north-east of Aden on the border between the Yemen and South Arabia, the mountains rise precipitously to a plateau 8,000 feet above the arid desert and wadis below. The first thing the visitor from Aden notices is the crisp mountain air, fresh and invigorating after the enervating humidity of Aden. Another marked contrast is the genuine friendliness of the local inhabitants, the Audalis. Many years ago the Yemeni tribes occupied the Mukayras plateau and it was the British who had driven them out. Thereafter there has always been an excellent relationship between the British and the Audalis.

When the operational situation permits Mukayras is a first class training area, having a good classification and field firing range close by. At present the camp is shot up periodically by bands from across the border using all kinds of weapons ranging from the rifle to the mortar and even occasional self-propelled Russian medium gun. This means that a large proportion of the detachment is always occupied patrolling and in guarding the camp.

Only a mile from the camp is the fertile Wadi Salul where the soldiers are able to enjoy a Sunday afternoon stroll (in threes) and an hour or so away along the dusty track is the famous Thirra Pass where the view over the 3,000-foot escarpment is breathtaking and the climb up

even more so. The Wadi Salul provided the local political officer with one of his greatest triumphs; when having fed a VIP visitor on frozen trout he persuaded him to bring his rod with him on his next visit, as the trout fishing in the Wadi Salul is second to none. In spite of the bitterly cold nights in winter Mukayras is a haven in a troubled South Arabia and very few soldiers leave there without wishing they could stay longer.

#### AL MILAH

Approximately 40 miles north of Aden on the Dhala Road is the village of Al Milah in the foothills of the Radfan Mountains. An engineer camp was established there to grade and tarmac various stretches of the road. As with any camp in this area it drew its share of dissident fire and the Battalion periodically had to provide a Support Platoon to strengthen its defences.

The temperatures at Al Milah are extremely high as the camp is at a low altitude and the surrounding features form a sun trap. It is also very dusty as the heavy engineer equipment has churned up the area. Support Platoons generally enjoyed their three weeks detachment there as they were able to train realistically and fire operationally. "C" Company killed at least three dissidents on one such occasion.

"A" and "C" Companies used Al Milah as a base for operations while the Battalion was operating in the Radfan during August 1965, sending out virtually the whole Company each night on ambushes and either resting or picqueting the Dhala Road by day.

#### PERIM ISLAND

At the southern end of the Red Sea and 97 miles west of Aden lies Perim Island. The island is within four miles of the Yemen and therefore Army and Armed police detachments from Aden are stationed there. Dakotas fly in three times a week with supplies for the 'locals' and the Army detachment.

Although only three and a half miles long and two miles wide it has been an island of some importance. At the end of the eighteenth century a British Force occupied the island to prevent the French Fleet sailing to attack India. They did not stay long because of the lack of a water supply.

Water was soon made available when Perim became a coaling station in 1883. The advent of oil burning ships brought the downfall of the coaling station and today all that remains are the derelict buildings, a water distillation plant, which are still in use, and a graveyard.

The attraction of the place is not in the island but in the sea around it. Here is some of the best fishing in the world. Smaller fish

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are easily caught from the shore, even by beginners, and the Baracuda and Tuna abound in the deeper waters. Sharks, too, abound and unfortunately make swimming in the sandy bays dangerous.

There is no doubt that Perim Island with its few and friendly people is the most popular of all detachments in South Arabia.

## OPERATION "BOAT HOOK"

### RADFAN

AUGUST 1965

During the Radfan Operation April-June 1964, the area east of the Aden-Dhala road was occupied and area proscription enforced. In November 1964, after surrendering hostages and proclaiming loyalty to the Emir of Dhala, the tribes were allowed back, and the Army withdrew to the present position in the Dhala Basin and at Habilayn.

When the tribes returned to their areas, government sponsored rehabilitation began. This consisted of digging wells, supplying materials for the construction of catchment dams in wadis, supply of tractors, and the building of schools in particular areas. The scheme was administered by the Political Officer at Habilayn, who because of the size of the area was only able to inspect progress occasionally.

Shortly after the Battalion's arrival at Habilayn in August, it appeared that dissident activity in the Wadi Taym was increasing. After a clash between a dissident gang and the Ibdali Tribal Guard, the Political Officer decided that a military show of force was required in the Wadi Taym, and the Battalion was asked to carry this out.

Operation "Boathook" was the result and "C" Company with an OP party from 67 Bty 19 Light Regiment R.A. and a Forward Air Controller was detailed for the task. The Political Officer with his Federal Guard escort accompanied the Company Group. Because of mining in the Taym the operation was carried out on foot and the Company carried 24 hours supply of ammunition, food and water. The Support Platoon manpacked their 81 mm mortars and ammunition to provide immediate support should it be necessary. A daily helicopter flight was allotted for re-supply of rations and ammunition. Water was to be obtained from wells in the area.

During the afternoon of Sunday, August 15, the Company moved from Habilayn to the head of the Rabwa Gorge. They then laid up for the night and moved into the Taym before first light on the 16th, arriving at Table Top by 09.00 hours. The Company base was established there, within range of the guns at Monks Field.

The Company was warmly welcomed by the

Ibdali Sheik who immediately gave information of a dissident base some 7,000 metres from Table Top and north of Blairs Field. This base was said to be occupied each evening and after further discussion with the Political Officer an air strike was requested for that evening. This, however, was refused. In the meantime, platoon strength patrols were sent out in daylight to Blairs Field and north and south of Table Top. At night ambushes were laid on the approaches to the Company Base.

The next day, a similar programme of patrols was carried out. As a result of more information about the dissident base, the air strike was requested again. This time it was approved for 17.30 hours August 17. 11 Platoon under Sgt. Finn was sent to Blairs Field during the afternoon in an attempt to draw fire and to locate the enemy position accurately. Capt. Ross, the F.A.C., moved out to an operation position with his wireles sets carried on a camel, under cover of a heavy rainstorm.

At 17.30 hours two Hunter aircraft carried out a most spectacular and accurate strike with rockets and cannon which lasted for half an hour. During the strike 11 Platoon withdrew from Blairs Field to Table Top.

That night the dissidents fired heavily on Blairs Field with LMG, rocket launchers and an 81 mm mortar, presumably thinking that it was still occupied. "C" Company had a grandstand view from their ambush positions around Table Top.

The Company remained unmolested in the area all day on August 18. A detachment of Federal Guards arrived during the afternoon to assist the Ibdali Tribal Guard in the event of further dissident attack.

The Company set out for Habilayn that night, led by Ibdali guides to the top of the Rabwa Gorge. The main reason for these guides was to avoid being shot up by friendly tribesmen. The Company arrived at Habilayn at 05.30 hours on August 19, weary, footsore, but in good spirits having accomplished a worthwhile task.

Operation "Boathook" showed that fit acclimatised soldiers can carry out such tasks with the minimum warning. Twenty-four hour supplies can be carried easily and if local wells are used the only requirement is for the re-supply of rations and ammunition. A Support Platoon can carry its mortars—sufficient ammunition for emergencies. 12 Platoon are to be congratulated on their achievement and can claim to have carried their mortars further than any other Support Platoon.

It is hoped that the operation by showing the flag to the resettled tribes has encouraged them to keep the peace and reassured them that military assistance can be provided quickly if it should be necessary.

## 4th Battalion

# The Royal Norfolk Regiment (TA)

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### BATTALION REVIEW

This review covers the period from June-September.

Activities in Territorial Units are always taking place but the summer months are particularly active—T.A.E.R. to Germany—Battalion Camp—Nijmegen Marches—Rifle Meeting—Band Camp—to mention but a few, all interwoven around the routine Battalion training programme.

The T.A.E.R. element of the Battalion had a very profitable fortnight in Germany with the 1st Bn. The Royal Warkwickshire Fusiliers. They were encamped in a Field Firing area and were able to do some realistic training. They returned fit and confident and by all account enjoyed themselves.

The Battalion annual camp was held in Digate area, Folkestone, this year. Our members were somewhat depleted owing to the separate camps for the T.A.E.R. and Band. Nevertheless the camp at Digate was a success. A great deal of live firing including support weapons was carried out, emphasis throughout was on individual training. At the end of the last week Exercise "Checkmate" provided the Battalion with an opportunity to pursue subversive elements across the pleasant fields and woods of the North Downs. During the mid-weekend of camp a number of the Battalion visited France and happily returned, present and correct, for the second week!

The Band and Drums this year camped separately in Colchester with the other musical elements of units in 161 Infantry Brigade.

The second week of this camp was phased to coincide with the Colchester Military Tattoo. The T.A. Bands and Drums joined together to form a massed Band and Drums Unit of 161 Infantry Brigade. They achieved a high standard in the Tattoo, and considering the amount of time available for rehearsal, their performance was very creditable.

Two Small Arms meetings were held in July. The Sergeants' Mess shoot was held first and, provided with good weather and support from the families, it was a successful meeting. The champion shot was W.O.II Banthorpe, and the proud owner of the celebrated wooden spoon is C/Sgt. Barnes. The Battalion's Small Arms meeting was held three weeks later and ran well. Outside T.A. and A.C.F. units entered teams and although acquitting themselves well they, fortunately for us, did not take away any of the

major prizes. We were pleased to have their entries and hope next year that more will enter. Battalion Champion shot for 1965 is Cpl. Banthorpe.

Lt. P. Darley took a team of 12 men to Holland to compete in the Nijmegen Marches in July. All, including the cycle orderly (on foot) completed the course and have returned with their medals. Our congratulations to them all, not forgetting C.S.M. Banthorpe who, deciding at the last minute to enter, still managed to complete the course. Next year it is hoped to send more teams to compete in this very worthwhile international event.

The Divisional Rifle meeting has just taken place, we were placed 3rd out of 17 major units competing. Individual successes were:

1. Individual Rifle: 2nd, (W.O./Sgt.) Sgt. Slaughter.

2. Young Soldier Competition: 2nd, 2/Lt. Shephard, O/Cdt. Springfield, Pte. Walker, Pte. G. Mason.

3. L.M.G. Pairs (Reg. P.S.): 1st, W.O.II Hiscock, Sgt. Cocksedge; 2nd, W.O.II Bullock, C/Sgt. Bullock.

4. L.M.G. Team, 'Essex County Shield': W.O.II Hiscock, W.O.II Pillar, Sgt. Cocksedge, Cpl. Turvey.

The next events on the calendar are the Band and Drums competition and the Brigade Tactical Competitions to be held in Colchester. Both events we look forward to with confidence and the reports on them will be published in the next issue.

On August 31, 1965, we reluctantly said farewell to Lt.-Col. "Joe" Joanny, who retired from the Army after some thirty-three years' service with the Regiment.

"Joe" served us well in the 4th Battalion as Q.M. for two and a half years, during which time he managed to attune himself to the way of Territorial soldiering and still keep his stores intact. "Joe" has now entered the wine business in Norfolk and we wish him well in his new career.

We welcome Major (Q.M.) Bill Moody, 3 Royal Anglian as successor to "Joe," and hope he has an enjoyable tour with the 4th Battalion.

R.S.M. Fowler has completed his tour with the Battalion and is succeeded by R.S.M. Veitch whom we welcome to the Battalion. We shall miss R.S.M. Fowler and Mrs. Fowler, who have both served us well. We wish them every success with the 1st Battalion in B.A.O.R.



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## The Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment (TA)

### BATTALION HEADQUARTERS

In the last issue of The Castle the Battalion was about to receive a new Commanding Officer. Lt.-Col. G. C. Howgego has now taken over and is wrestling with the problems surrounding the proposals for the re-organisation of the T.A.

The Battalion was visited by the Under-Secretary of State for Ministry of Defence, Mr. G. W. Reynolds, M.P. The meeting took place at "D" Company Headquarters, Lowestoft, on July 16, 1965. A simple demonstration was arranged on Pakefield rifle range after which he was entertained in the Company Officers' and Sergeants' Mess. By all accounts the Under-Secretary was suitably impressed by what he saw.

Brigadier N. St. G. Gribbon, O.B.E., has recently handed over the command of H.Q., 161 Infantry Brigade, T.A., to Brigadier M. E. M. MacWilliam, D.S.O., M.C., T.D.

The Battalion is now on the eve of the Brigade competitions and as last year's winners is very much on its mettle to regain the cup again this year.

The anti-tank competition was held at Lydd on September 4/5, 1965, and as the holders 1964, the cup has been retained for 1965.

At the recent Divisional Rifle Meeting the Regiment obtained no singular success, although those taking part displayed great keenness.

The next major event of any interest is Exercise "Broadbent," organised and run by O.C. "C" Company, Major G. M. Wilson. The Exercise, an ambitious one, is to take place on

October 30/31, using the rivers and Broadwaters of Norfolk.

### OFFICERS' MESS

These notes were last prepared at the beginning of camp, when we were looking forward to a hectic Mess programme. The 14 days fulfilled their expectations in this direction.

Since camp it has been personalities rather than activities that have proved notable. Lt.-Col. G. Howgego took over command of the Battalion from Lt.-Col. Wells, who has been appointed Deputy Brigade Colonel Designate. The interesting feature of the take-over was its coincidence in time with the announcement of the Government's proposals for the re-organisation of the T.A. Colonel Howgego is no stranger to the Unit or the Mess, so that we look forward with confidence to one or two excellent evenings during his period of command. We almost succeeded in "dining out" Colonel Wells in his absence, but having discovered that the guest would not be present, it was possible to postpone the dinner until October 22 at the Depot Mess.

Marriage seems a popular pastime this year. In a previous issue we mentioned that Major Walker, our Medical Officer, had achieved this happy state, but now the infection has spread to two of our most established bachelors—Capts. Bill Keatley and Brian Marshall. In the face of this, it is not surprising that eyes are turning in Major Henry Garood's direction.

Members of "A" Company, seen here by Ruddyard Reservoir in Staffordshire, during an Adventure Training Canoeing Week - end. From left to right Ptes. K. Bouch, R. Bates, B. Woodbridge, T. Callaby, R. Bruce and B. K. Brammer; behind them is C.S.M. B. Emmerson.



For the first time in many years the strength of the Mess is increased by the membership of Officer Cadets. We welcome them and trust they will acquire skill at some military arts by Mess membership.

We extend our congratulations on promotion to Major (Q.M.) Morgan and Lts. Latchford and Patterson.

Our monthly lunches have now been extended and in July it took place in Cambridge. The experiment was so successful that this will now become a regular feature.

### SERGEANTS' MESS

Before the next publication of *The Castle* we will have attended our quarterly Mess meeting and dinner at Newmarket on November 7. R.S.M. Parrott decided to leave the Army and try his luck in "Civvie Street." We hope he makes a success of this and wish him good luck, also our best wishes to Sgt. Barrell (R.E.M.E.) on his transfer to 4 Royal Norfolk (T.A.).

Sgt. J. Burgess and Mrs. Burgess are very happy at the birth of their daughter and to them we send our heartiest congratulations.

The Battalion shooting team was strongly represented by the Sergeants' Mess at the Division/District shoot held at Colchester. Sgt. Pollen was at the prize table to claim the Veterans' Cup. Well done! Next year we hope to see many more members of the Sergeants' Mess at the prize table and congratulate all those who took part this year. Most of the P.S.I.'s were published for the new G.S.M. Clasp "Radfan" and even one P.S.I. (no names, no pack drill) wonders what he got it for. The first time he saw the "Radfan" was when he came home from Aden and saw it on the "telly."

We were very sorry to see Colonel Wells, T.D., leave on relinquishing command of the Battalion and wish him all the best in his new appointment. In his place we welcome Lt.-Col. G. C. Howgego as our new Commanding Officer and wish him a happy tour.

## REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATIONS

### The Royal Norfolk Regiment Association

#### FORTHCOMING EVENTS

January 7, 1966 Regimental Ball at the Norwood Rooms.

April 24, 1966 Regimental Commemoration Service in the Regimental Chapel, Norwich Cathedral, at 10 a.m.

#### REUNION DINNER AT NORWICH

All post-war attendance records were broken when 340 sat down to dinner on September 25. A very warm welcome was given to Lt.-Col. T. M. Creasey, the Commanding Officer, and a good number of Officers and men of the 1st (Norfolk and Suffolk) Battalion just home from Aden. The opportunity was taken to present ex-C.S.M. Holden and Pte. King with Certificates for Good Service in Southern Arabia, which they had been awarded by the Commander-in-Chief, Middle East Command.

Brigadier Barclay, who presided and made the presentations, congratulated the 1st Battalion on their stout work under trying conditions during their recently completed overseas tour.

#### ST. LEGER SWEEPSTAKE

Magnificent support of this venture resulted in the sum of over £211 being paid into the Regimental Association Benevolent Fund.

The gross receipts totalled £276, of which the London Branch collected more than £63, while 4th Battalion raised nearly £25. Mr. B. R. Pitt sold well over 400 tickets.

Prizes amounted to £30 and the other expenses for printing, postage, etc., came to £35. Prizewinners were:

1. Mr. V. Atkinson, of Nottingham. £20
2. Brigadier F. W. Clowes, of Acle, Norfolk. £5
3. Mr. G. Chaplin, of Stowmarket, Suffolk. £3

Mr. W. Robinson, of Nottingham, sold the ticket which secured first prize. His reward was a special prize of £2.

The Committee are most grateful to all those who gave support to the sweepstake, which, it has been decided, is to become an annual fixture.

#### BENEVOLENT WORK

Nearly £1,000 was expended on the relief of distress among former members of the Regiment, their widows and dependants during the year ended June 30, 1965. Of those who received help, more than half were over 70 years of age, many of them widows. Assistance was

given to a widow living in Bangalore and to a married man with two children in the troubled city of Saigon. The Association received grants totalling £265 from the Army Benevolent Fund.

#### MEMBERSHIP

Fifty-five new members were enrolled during the year. Of these 45 were Officers and men of the 4th (Territorial) Battalion.

#### ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

The annual meeting of the General Committee was held on September 25, with Brigadier Barclay in the chair. Apart from the normal routine business transacted at these meetings, revised rules of the Association were approved.

Lt.-Col. W. D. Flower was elected to fill a vacancy for a trustee caused by the death of Lt.-Col. A. B. Floyd.

#### MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR NURSE EDITH CAVELL

To mark the fiftieth anniversary of the execution by the Germans in Brussels of Nurse Edith Cavell a Memorial Service was held in Norwich Cathedral on October 12. The service, which was conducted by the Dean, was attended by a large congregation, which included the Lord Mayor of Norwich and representatives of military and nursing organisations in Norfolk. Bandmaster Baker, of the 4th Battalion, sounded the Last Post and Reveille and Miss Anna Neagle read extracts from letters written by Nurse Cavell. After the service the traditional wreath laying ceremony took place in the Cathedral Close at the grave of Nurse Cavell. The Regimental wreath was laid by Colonel J. H. Jewson in the absence of Brigadier Barclay, who was in Scotland.

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## The Suffolk Regiment Old Comrades Association

### ANNUAL REUNION

The annual reunion of the Old Comrades' Association was held at Blenheim Camp on Sunday, July 18.

We were especially favoured by the weather and the success of the occasion was ensured by a warm day and brilliant sunshine.

The programme opened with a church service, attended by a congregation of about 120. The service was taken by Canon Godfrey, Vicar of St. Mary's Church, and the Lesson was read by Lieut.-General Sir Richard Goodwin.

After the service General Goodwin spoke of the future of the Old Comrades' Association, urging all concerned to give it their fullest support and to encourage their friends to attend the annual reunions.

He also mentioned the high praise he had had of the 1st Battalion in Aden from a number of sources.

The Band of the Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment played at the service and later played a selection of music.

During the day there was a great coming and going of members of the Association, ranging from one who enlisted in 1898 to some who are still serving. In all, about 500 attended the reunion at some time or another during the day. It would be invidious to pick out individuals, but I will mention a few names to give you a cross-section of those present, such as ex-R.S.M. J. Chalk, M.B.E., M.M., ex-C.S.M. A. W. Leatherhead, D.C.M., two Mortlocks, ex-C/Sgt. Barrett, Moore, who was groom at the Depot, Goodchild, Collen, J. Doughty, C.S.M.s Evans and Drew, both still serving and on the Depot staff, Majors Aldred and Williams, Lt.-Col. Bevan, Capt. Harris, who was Adjutant of the Depot during the War, Capt. Smith, late 8th Battalion in Jamaica and so on.

The proceedings ended with the Beating of Retreat by the Band and Drums of the Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment.

A successful reunion of this type would not be possible without the assistance of the Commanding Officer and staff of the Depot, The Royal Anglian Regiment, and we are all most grateful for the help and co-operation they have given us.

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

# The Royal Anglian Regiment

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### BATTALION REVIEW

The period covered by this review, from June to September, coincides with the period of extreme heat when Cyprus changes from a picturesque Mediterranean island to a parched desert country. There has been no rain since April—which may be news to those of our readers who have spent the summer in England! In spite of the heat the Battalion has maintained its readiness to carry out its operational tasks should the need arise, sent two Companies to train in Libya, and at the same time taken the lead in every Garrison activity.

As part of his drive to stamp out the tendency among Officers in Cyprus to "shop in the N.A.A.F.I. on Saturday and clean their car on Sunday," the G.O.C. directed that Platoon Commanders should be given the opportunity to get away with their Platoons. Each of the Rifle Companies was given a fortnight free of all duties and the resulting platoon camps were probably the most enjoyed training of the year. Unfortunately, one is severely restricted in Cyprus; one can only train, or even camp, in one of the three recognised training areas. There is one in each Sovereign Base area and also the peninsular called Akamas, at the western extreme of the island.

Although two or three Platoons elected to camp at Episkopi, the popular choice was Akamas. This is a bare, mountainous and rocky spit of land some four miles long and three miles wide at the base. In summer it is uninhabited and there is plenty of scope for field firing, navigation training, rock climbing, swimming and canoeing. Water is in short supply and countless bottles of "pop" were sold by platoon canteens. Most Company accounts now include columns for platoon funds generated at the platoon camps.

Guard duties have mercifully been considerably reduced, with the result that one Company can cope with almost all of them for a week. This normally gives two weeks' training out of three, which is much better than before. However, there are often times when others in the

island must be relieved of duties for their own training. This may sound arduous, but is seldom so. "B" Company enjoyed their two weeks at Episkopi and found fewer guards for a battalion there than for a company in Dhekelia. It was a good opportunity to catch up with individual training and education. "C" Company, too, found time for education during their fortnight at Nicosia. Platoons of "A" and "C" Companies have also had spells at Nicosia and enjoyed the change of scene, though it was very hot there in August.

The next aims for training are the District Rifle Meeting in November and Trooping the Colour in December, and Dhekelia rings with the unfamiliar cries of the barrack square and "Watch your front."

The main social events have been the celebrations for Ta'avera Day, which started with a swimming gala and ended with a very successful fair and barbecue on the Battalion beach. During the evening entertainment the Corps of Drums paraded and Drum-Major Scotney received from the Commanding Officer a new Drum-Major's mace, which has been presented to the Battalion by the members of the Corporals' Mess. The previous Saturday the Sergeants' Mess held a magnificent Talavera Ball. The Officers celebrated Talavera in the usual way on July 28 with a Dinner Night in the Mess, when the junior subaltern to have the privilege to drain the Talavera Cup was 2/Lt. Bob Marshall.

The P.R.I. has organised two picnic trips by "Z" craft to Fig Tree Bay, a beautiful sandy beach not easily approached by road, and Mrs. Lane, of W.V.S. regularly takes small parties at week-ends to various places of interest on the island.

Dances and socials in the Junior Ranks' Club have become a regular feature and one evening the Officers and Sergeants accepted a challenge to play indoor games against the Junior Ranks. We never found out who won!

The Battalion played a major part in the organisation of a very successful Horse Fair held by the Dhekelia Saddle Club to raise money. The Battalion was represented in the



2/Lt. Marshall, Major Francis, 2/Lt. Waller.



winning tent pegging team and our dog handlers, attached to No. 3 War Dog Training Unit, put on a good demonstration of their dogs' capabilities.

The Battalion Band has steadily enhanced its reputation and took part in an impressive Beating of Retreat by the massed bands in Cyprus, under the direction of Bandmaster Blackburn.

During the past four months we have been visited by Sir Geoffrey de Freitas, Member of Parliament for Kettering, General Sir Reginald Hewetson, the Adjutant-General, General Sir John Anderson, the Military Secretary, Major-General P. G. F. Young, the Director of Infantry, Mr. John Bryce, the producer of the Television show *Red Cap*, and Lt. Terry English, on leave from the Depot.

We bid farewell to Major Teddy Turnill, who has been appointed Brigade Major to 8 Brigade in Catterick, to Capt. Bobby Hastie, who has gone to Hythe as an instructor, and to Bandmaster Blackburn and C.S.M. Rogers. Bandmaster Blackburn, who leaves the Band after nine years, has been appointed Regimental Bandmaster at the Depot.

We are pleased to welcome Lt. John Tyzack from the 4th Battalion, who has joined the Air Platoon; to David Goodale, who has returned to the Battalion from the post of O.I.C. Army Youth team in Northampton; and Bandmaster O'Connell, from Kneller Hall.

### TRAINING IN LIBYA

Early on Sunday morning, September 5, "C" Company, together with an anti-tank section from "A" Company, travelled by bus to Akrotiri to board an R.A.F. Britannia for El Adem. Despite the Corporals' Summer Ball, which had ended in the small hours, the right number of soldiers were collected together to agree with the numbers on the many flight documents. The Company was met at El

Adem by Major Francis and set off on a three-hour drive to Bomba, a camp on a peninsula just off the coast road to the east of Derna. C/Sgt. Naylor and the drivers, who had gone to Libya by sea a fortnight before, had set up the store tents and bivouacs and the Company settled into one of the dustiest camps we have ever experienced. When the wind turned to the north it was like living in a permanent sandstorm. Fortunately, the sea was only 100 metres away and it was possible to wash off some of the dust occasionally.

In Libya we were attached to the 1st Bn. Royal Ulster Rifles, with whom we worked as one of their Companies. We also renewed acquaintance with "A" Squadron, 16/5 Lancers, who had shared the barracks in Osnabruck.

The discomforts of Bomba Base Camp were no great problem, for an intensive training programme took us out into the desert for most of the fortnight and the desert was found to be preferable. We were surprised to find how good the going was on the desert, although the stony surface and many, many punctures slowed down vehicles considerably. Pte. Livingstone will surely never forget having had five punctures in one day.

We quickly mastered the use of the sun compass and soon Sgt. Worley was leading his mortar section on an independent mission to plot landmarks accurately in the open desert. Elaborate precautions were taken to avoid getting lost and, although sometimes it was necessary at night to use the radio to contact errant vehicles which had struck impassable ridges or stony areas, no navigator lost his group at any stage. In particular, Lt. Thompson, Pte. Hall, his driver, and Pte. Hill, his signaller, are to be congratulated on navigating the Company on a four-hour drive across unknown, rough desert at night. The three-tonner towing Atkinson's Landrover, carrying C.S.M. Smith,

was very careful to follow Hall's tracks, but Hall must have had some nasty moments as he found himself on or in various obstacles.

Sgt. Barnes, of the anti-tank section, was fortunate in having a Coles compass fitted on his Landrover, but navigation was much more difficult for 9 and 11 Platoons mounted in three-tonners. The Platoon Commanders and Sgts. Gooch, Sutton and Robinson had to jump out of their vehicles continually to use their prismatic compasses. There was indeed a lot of driving to be done, but there was time for some foot soldiering too. One interesting and very enjoyable day was spent on platoon field firing, when the mortars "shot in" each platoon in turn on to a big, rocky hill near the sea. There was also a day when sections set out independently to cross a strip of desert containing a huge wadi, about 300 feet deep, with almost sheer walls. The wadi made one of the anti-tank groups footsore, but they found a way out in the end and the Company was able to sangar up for the night near an oasis.

On the one day off, one group went to visit the British, Free French and German war memorials and cemeteries near Tobruk and another group visited the ruins in Cirene and Appollonia.

After a short Battalion Exercise, during which the enemy seemed to avoid us, we returned to Bomba, cleaned up and prepared to move back to Cyprus. The flight home took place on two nights in R.A.F. Argosies and we were able to greet "A" Company and Cpl. Palmer's mortar section, who boarded the same aircraft when we left them at Akrotiri.

Our stay in Libya, although short, was a very pleasant change from the routine in Cyprus and we hope that more military excursions of this nature await us.

### SIGNAL PLATOON

*Mens sano in corpore sano* is the well-known motto of the Army Physical Training Corps. We might well regard it as our own. Rather as our forebears looked upon manoeuvres on the parade square as an essential part of military training, we believe that physical fitness incorporates many vital aspects of present-day soldier requirements. Indeed, they are the hallmarks of a good soldier.

The requirement of physical fitness by soldiers is unquestionable. However, there are many other aspects which come to light when the value of fitness is examined. It instills into men a pride of bearing in themselves and in the team to which they belong. A hard physical challenge disciplines both the mind and body to go on when every aching muscle shouts "stop." And perhaps even more important it gives men

an alertness of mind and a deeper awareness of life. We are not fanatics, but we do appreciate the value of a somewhat neglected side of military training.

We have no intention of making this an editorial column, but our preamble does serve the purpose of introducing our headline story:

### DRAMATIC AIR-SEA RESCUE

Canoeing is generally accepted to be a placid Sunday afternoon pastime. However, if you venture to the open sea and begin racing against the clock, the tides and the wind it becomes a much more exciting prospect. Our "summer madness" began about June when six bright and light two-seater canoes were acquired by the Battalion.

Not being Marines, our initial outings on the high seas (there are no rivers in Cyprus), were rather like a child's first venture into the deep end of a swimming pool. But confidence increased, as did our ambitions. We were really beginning to enjoy our new found form of physical exercise.

We began racing across the six-mile stretch of Larnaca Bay. The first time it took us nearly two hours, but with more knowledge of currents and winds and, of course, canoe-fitness we cut the time by half. This, we prided ourselves, was quite an achievement and so threw the gauntlet down to other organisations. But before any really serious contenders came along our seafaring activities received rather a jolt.

The jolt happened on a morning in September, which to all intents and purposes was the same as most of the summer mornings in Cyprus. The sky was clear and the sea calm. A light sea mist made it comparatively cool, although we knew that within half-an-hour it would all have vanished in the hot sun. A "goon-sounding" running (seven miles), canoeing (six miles) and swimming (one mile) medley race was our challenge for the day. That was the intention, but the non-arrival of the swimmers' escort boat made a quick alteration of programme necessary. The first leg between the runners and canoeists began and ended with the runners slightly ahead. The second was about half completed when one of the canoes with its two occupants vanished about two miles out from Larnaca. A thorough binocular search revealed nothing. And then the drama really began.

Fortunately, we were well prepared for such an eventuality. Within 15 minutes two Auster aircraft were sweeping across the bay and Landrovers searching along the coastline. The air-sea rescue organisation was alerted and our two water-ski speedboats put to sea. The drama

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mounted as negative reports were received over the radio nets. Faces began to reflect the anxiety. The air-sea rescue were asked to join the search and within half-an-hour a helicopter appeared over the bay. False alarms added to the tension. And then the two canoeists were seen and lost again. With the aid of coloured verrey lights one of the Austers was able to pinpoint the two life-packed figures for the helicopter. They were winched aboard from the now choppy sea and were back with us in more friendly surroundings after their two-hour immersion.

Perhaps the original concept did go astray, but it provided us with the finest combined operations radio exercise we have ever done. "All's well that ends well."

We have been doing other things too!

### M.T. SECTION

At the time of writing it is just 12 months since we were in the middle of that dreadful period of upheaval, when the motor transport was being handed over between relieving Battalions. On reflection, it is felt that the year has been a very rewarding one, especially for those on tour in a hot climate for the first time and whose job of work is directly concerned with M.T. The often used tow chains for those awful nearly morning details in Germany have not exactly been put into retirement, suffering as we do now from the heavy dampness of living alongside the Mediterranean.

Rapid deterioration in the vehicle bodywork is very much in evidence, due, of course, to being permanently exposed to all weathers, as the M.T. park has no overhead cover. The rough terrain causes some new headaches on the maintenance and spares replacement side of the section, but to name the greater problems probably carries a security risk.

Training-wise we have enjoyed the thrills of being airborne with our Landrovers in their airportable state after painstaking hours of packing and weighing. The latter, often taking place on scales borrowed from the bathroom, which are usually returned with the most alarming inaccuracies. Great frustration in the world of camouflage was met when on field training, in that there are two definite backgrounds to compete against. One which calls for the close meshed "sand net" and the other suitable for the "woodland, garnished" type. Within a space of a few hundred yards the requirement can alter and leave the supposedly "cammed-up" vehicles exposed as a sore thumb. Curtailed, both by weight and space, it is impossible to carry nets of both varieties. Experiments were made on the "sand net,"

by spraying it a mottled green on the one side only. This was found to leave the "sand" side unmarked, whilst the reverse offered excellent cover against the semi-green background, often encountered in the Cyprus season.

Individual training has seen more drivers take advantage of furthering their knowledge and skills by attending upgrading courses run by R.C.T./R.E.M.E., and the four recent successes of Ptes. Stanley, Hunt, Lunn and West brings our total of Class I/Standard I drivers up to 26.

ACE III is still required by a reluctant half-dozen, whilst ACE II is the target of ambitious Corporals, and the S/Sergeant is a "cert" for his final two First Class subjects this October! Cpls. Mitchell and Piper have been on courses at the Army School of M.T. and both obtained very good results. Cpl. Cooper is there at present sweating out his M.T. Sergeants' course.

Credit now to Cpls. Fisher and Waite, both of whom have been promoted to appointments of M.T. Sergeants, the former to 145 T.A. Brigade and the latter to the Borneo Forces.

Ptes. Taylor, Mathers and Stamps have also placed their feet on the first rung of the promotion ladder and we congratulate them on their Lance-Corporal appointment.

Sadly we shall miss Cpls. Whitelock, Robins and Johnson, who have been released from the Army, all of whom have been M.T. Section members of many years standing.

### THE AIR PLATOON

With the arrival of Lt. John Tyzack from the Army Aviation Centre in September the Air Platoon can claim to be the first of the Army's integrated flights to possess its full establishment of regimental pilots.

Over the past eight months the Platoon aircraft have flown a total of 710 hours in support of H.Q., Cyprus District, and our own Battalion. It is true to say that a good 70 per cent of these hours have been spent on sorties asked by the District H.Q. and vary in details from passenger/liason between the two Sovereign Base Areas of Episkopi and Dhekelia, including the R.A.F. base of Akrotiri and R.A.F. Nicosia, together with visual and proto recce, scheduled SDS runs, search and free-falling. Possessing the only light aircraft (Auster AOP Mk. 9s) with the Sovereign Base Areas, the Platoon maintains an essential communications link between these Base Areas and is prepared for any immediate emergency recce that it may be called upon to perform, working either in direct contact with the District H.Q. or any Unit nominated by District.

During the period March to July, 1965, the Platoon flew no fewer than nine different V.I.P.s (Lieut.-General or above), including the

new Chief of Defence Staff, Field-Marshal Sir Richard Hull, G.C.B., D.S.O. At present our records show a neck-and-neck race between the G.O.C. and Deputy Commander, for since January, 1965, they have each completed over 60 flights.

Every opportunity is taken to work with our own Battalion, whether it be supply drops to Company Exercises, message pick-up, recces or local familiarisation flights to N.C.O.'s cadres or individual platoons. The latter proves invaluable in introducing the Air Platoon capabilities to members of the Battalion, who because of the three-mile distance between our own airstrip camp and the Battalion barracks see little of us except as a speck in the sky.

The strength of our members has now dropped below our establishment, for we are now a total of 15. This total includes the three regimental pilots, Capt. David Smith, O.C., Lt. John Everitt and Lt. John Tyzack, along with S/Sgt. Rix, R.E.M.E., N.C.O. i/c Aircraft Workshop element, Sgts. Reading, Turner and Cpl. Webb, all Aircraft Technicians A. and E., Cpl. Potter, R.E.M.E. Radio Technician, Cpls. Dillingham, R.E.M.E. G1098 Storeman and Accountant, and Herron, R.A.O.C. Aircraft Spares Storeman, along with L/Cpl. Drake, R.E.M.E. Technical Control Clerk and typist for all. This Workshop element, together with Sgt. Neal, the Platoon Administrative N.C.O., Cpl. Sargent, Royal Anglian, and L/Cpl. Searle, Royal Anglian, all of whom are trained in aircraft ground handling, with the latter two now fully qualified light aircraft observers, forms our little "Teeny Weeny Airlines" team to run and maintain our three aircraft.

## REGIMENTAL WATER SKI-ING CLUB

Water ski-ing is a rich man's sport and the reasons for this have become very clear to 2 Royal Anglian. Who would expect that in two short mornings two engines can drink 30 gallons of petrol at over 4/- a gallon, that a tow rope costing £3 can break with the sound of a bow string, or that a boat can suddenly begin to sink because a split a foot long has suddenly materialised in the fibre glass hull; not to mention the propellor of the other craft striking a submerged barrel of concrete placed in the sea and promptly forgotten by some misguided military organisation.

In spite of these crises, the Battalion has a thriving Water Ski Club, consisting of two Italian fibre glass boats, two good American outboard motors—one 75 h.p. and one 40 h.p.—and one engine that workshops have been unenthusiastically looking at for some time because it is so ancient; all of these presented by the Nuffield Trust over a period of time.

We ski four times a week, starting at 0600 hours on weekdays. Nobody has yet reached the standard you see on news reels, but we progress; someone the other day even lifted one ski out of the water and saluted—how about that for military devotion?

The smooth running of the Club depends entirely on the few who are prepared to give up a great deal of their spare time. An outboard motor is decidedly temperamental and it needs a skilled and patient hand to get the best out of it. The Battalion is lucky to have such a helpful and energetic crowd as our own R.E.M.E.

A word of advice to others who want to start a club; get two mechanically-minded men trained on an outboard motor course in England. You will find Perkins Diesel in Peterborough most helpful.



*The start of a morning water ski-ing, 06.15 hrs.!*

# 4th-6th Battalion

## The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment (TA)

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### OFFICERS' MESS

As the Sobraon Barracks T.A. Centre had recently been opened the social activities at camp were restricted. The usual Guest Night was held, at which we were most pleased to entertain Brigadier J. M. Spencer-Smith, Colonel F. C. L. Bell, Major The Lord Worsley and Air Commodore McK. Nelson as our guests. In addition, at the request of our Divisional Commander, we had an informal supper and were pleased to have Major-General C. M. M. Man, Lt.-Col. A. G. Way, Brigadier R. H. L. Oulton and Lt. C. G. Reeves with us. This turned out to be a splendid opportunity for some of the subalterns to brief the General during the course of the meal.

On the second Monday we were guests at the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess and they, as usual, were most excellent hosts to us. We returned their hospitality later in the week.

After camp, the Battalion Rifle Meeting was held at Beckingham and we again had a marquee, where a buffet luncheon was served to some 50 Officers, families and guests, despite the atrocious weather.

We were able to commence holding Mess gatherings again in July and four have been held to date; the attendance has been somewhat disappointing, but we are seeking ways of improving the occasions.

All too swiftly September 30 arrived and the change of Command took place. We held our annual dinner on Friday, October 1, for the first time in the T.A. Centre, and 41 Officers attended; the Band played during the dinner. Major B. S. Foster presided and welcomed the guests, who were Lt.-Col. A. J. Bennett, Lt.-Col. H. H. Moore, Brigadier R. H. L. Oulton, Major-General Sir Christopher Welby-Everard, Colonel F. C. L. Bell, Major P. H. Segon and Major T. H. Styles. We later presented a tankard to Tom Styles and a silver cigarette case to Colonel Bennett on behalf of the Officers. We are indebted to Judith Foster and Mrs. Clarke for the floral decorations on this occasion.

We welcome to the Mess Lt.-Col. Harold Moore, John Hayton, Phillip Dew, George Sykes, Roger Kenyon and Roger Pritchett, and sadly say farewell to Colonel Jack and Tom Styles—both have left their mark. Tom for the enjoyment he gave to "A" Company Officers, and failing to attend camp for the full period,

and Colonel Jack for defeating all challenges on the social net, not withstanding a bold attempt by Peter Merrikin during the last night of camp. We send Colonel Jack and Wynn our best wishes in their semi-retirement and hope to see them often in the future. Tom and Audrey take our best wishes to Singapore.

### WARRANT OFFICERS' AND SERGEANTS' MESS

The annual camp at Devizes was enjoyed and although life socially was restricted we were able to hold the Mess dinner and to be visited by the Corporals and Lance-Corporals.

The annual Mess dinner was its usual success and our guest of honour was Lt.-Col. A. J. Bennett, M.B.E., T.D. It is with our sincerest regret when we say this was his last camp with us as our Commanding Officer. We congratulate the Band on their fine performance during dinner, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all members, and may we add, we all feel that the "Toast" procedure should now be well-known by all.

The Mess were well represented at the Regimental Week-end at Bury St. Edmunds in July, when six members and their ladies undertook the long journey. This was the first time the invitation has been accepted and we trust that it will become an annual event.

Congratulations to C/Sgt. T. W. Grocock on his promotion and appointment to H.Q. Company as C.Q.M.S. We feel that this was very well deserved, following many years' loyal service to the M.M.G. and Recce Platoons. C/Sgt. Grocock takes over his duties from C/Sgt. B. Plumley, who has gracefully resigned, and we all wish Mr. and Mrs. Plumley the very best of luck for the future.

We welcome Sgt. Ryles to H.Q. Company and Signals Platoon on his transfer from 4 D.L.I., and we hope his stay will be a happy one.

W.O.II J. F. E. Rogers has arrived from 2 Royal Anglian and to whom we extend a very warm welcome. He will be relieving W.O.II W. H. L. Thompson as P.S.I. of "A" Company at Stamford. We hope to see more of the latter, who will be close to us with the A.R.O. at Scunthorpe.

### "A" COMPANY

The Battalion Rifle Meeting occupied us last July and for us it was most successful, as we won Match 1 and the Inter-Company Cup and the S.M.G. Cup with our "A" team, and the "B" team took the Falling Plate Cup. In addition, Capt. Batten won the individual Class A shot award and Pte. Dixon the individual Class B award. The rifle team followed this up, producing half the Battalion team for the Divisional Rifle Meeting, Major P. M. Merrikin, Capt. D. O. Batten, Ptes. E. W. Smith, D. M. Dixon, J. T. Wilson representing the Battalion.

We had a most successful water Exercise on the River Nene, under the expert guidance and organisation of C.S.M. D. C. Barsby, which was enjoyed by all, and a number of the Company took part in the Exercise "Retiring Poacher" on Stanford P.T.A. This was again a great success.

Finally, we welcome to the Company W.O.II J. F. E. Rogers, Sgt. Taylor (on a temporary basis) and Pte. Jarvis, and say farewell to W.O.II W. H. L. Thompson with a very worried look to our bar profits in the future.

### "C" COMPANY

The emphasis on training since annual camp has been on range classification and preparation for the Battalion and Divisional Rifle Meeting. Unfortunately, we did not win any trophies, but hope for a change of fortune next year.

Saturday, August 14, saw most of the Company out on a night map reading Exercise in the Horncastle area. Most of the starters completed the course (a few in a champ) and it is obvious that we need some more training. Full marks to Cpl. Hardy's team, who completed the course first, even though they were the last to start. Who was it that took a short cut and walked round the course again?

On Friday, September 17, most of the Company, with their wives and girl friends, were on parade at the Company annual dinner and dance in the Tudor Cafe, Grimsby. Lt.-Col. and Mrs. Bennett were the principal guests and it was on this occasion that we were able to bid farewell to the C.O., who was presented with an engraved pen and pencil set by Sgt. Brett on behalf of the Company. The Entertainments Committee worked very hard to make this such a success.

We had a very good turn-out on Friday, September 24, for Exercise Poacher, on the Stanford P.T.A. Apart from a few showers everybody thoroughly enjoyed the Exercise. The Parachute Regiment proved to be a very difficult enemy and some of the Company gained some first-hand instruction on how to

capture and treat your prisoners. No further comment from the Company Commander.

Congratulations to 2/Lt. R. Phillips, who recently completed his Mons O.C.S. course successfully and also to Sgt. Brett on his promotion to that rank.

### "D" COMPANY

Within the Company there have been several changes. Lt. Mike Gregory has left to take over the Signals Platoon, and in return we have two new Officers. We welcome 2/Lts. Pritchett and Kenyon to the Company.

The Company Second-in-Command, Capt. John Gleadell, duly attended the altar, and his drill attendances have dropped off noticeably. The guard of honour voted it the wedding of the year.

The Battalion Rifle Meeting was a great success, although marred slightly by the weather. Again, the Company could only make runners-up, but this was sufficient to secure for us the Grinling Cup and Champion Company for the year. We have now returned to the position we held for many years and intend to stay there. During the year C.S.M. Ingall has spent time and energy in working for the Grinling Cup, and without his efforts we would not have been successful.

Exercise "Retiring Poacher" was a great success and very enjoyable into the bargain. It marked the retirement of our Commanding Officer and the success of the Exercise somehow summed up and reflected the success of his tour in Command. The Exercise showed that basically the Company spirit and training is excellent, although we must devote more time to self-discipline. It also proved that Mr. Dev has fantastic powers of relaxation, even under the most adverse conditions, and to Pte. Harri valour comes before discretion, and that to Pte. Nicholas sentry duty comes before food poisoning.

Following the Exercise, Lt.-Col. Bennett paid his last visit to the Company. His tour has been a most happy one for us all—we wish him every possible success as County Commandant of the Cadets.

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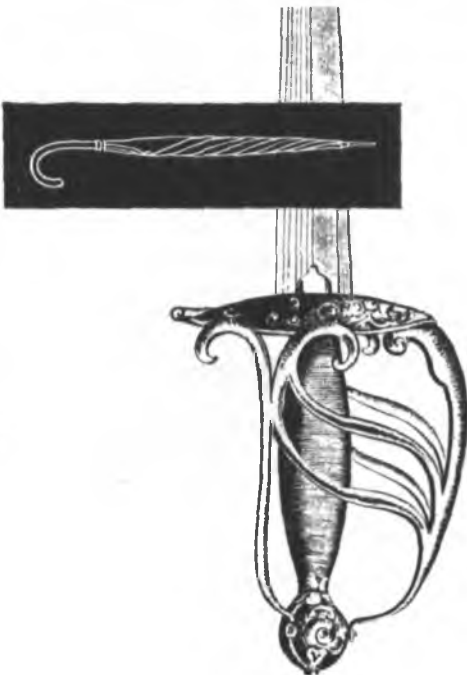


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## 4th-5th Battalion The Northamptonshire Regiment (TA)

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The period following annual camp is usually regarded as a period of calm in between the storm of annual camp and winter training and administration. Thus, since the last publication, we have only sent a party to visit the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers in B.A.O.R., taken part in the Nijmegen Marches, fired at Bisley, held a Battalion rifle meeting, taken part in the Divisional rifle meeting, and spent a week-end firing Battalion weapons at Stanford P.T.A. In addition, both the Northamptonshire Regiment reunion and the Royal Anglian Regiment Reunion were held in July. The Band and Drums performed at the annual show at Peterborough, and, very creditably, paraded 35 strong, out of a total of approximately 100 at the Brigade massed band Retreat at Chilwell in September.

The only change in our regular contingent has been the departure of the Training Major, Major H. H. Moore, lured by promotion to a rival concern. We wish him the best of luck with his command, 4th/6th Royal Lincolns (T.A.) His replacement is Major J. P. Wetherall, also of the 2nd Bn. Royal Anglian Regiment, who, until recently, has been propping up the Berlin wall.

### THE NIJMEGEN MARCHES, 1965

This year the team shared a coach with the Oundle C.C.F. team, led by Capt. Hogg, of this unit. Twelve men of "B" Company, and C/Sgt. Jackson of "H.Q." Company, left Corby at 11 a.m. on Friday, 23rd July. After picking up the Oundle Continent, Dover was the next stop. The ferry departed at 7 p.m. arriving at Boulogne just after 9 p.m. Inexperience with continental signs brought its inevitable results, and a dinner booked for 11 p.m. at Ostend, turned into a hurried, packed meal at midnight. Nijmegen was reached at 8.30 a.m. the next morning; breakfast was eaten at the station and then to the tented camp at Heumensoord. True to pattern, the camp staff was not expecting us—even though notification had gone out "through the normal channels." However, we booked in, drew blankets, had a couple of hours' sleep, then a wash and brush up and into Nijmegen souvenir hunting and present buying. On Sunday, the majority of the team went to Arnhem, the war cemetery and the zoo being the main attraction.

On Monday there was briefing, kit assembling, packing and checking for weight, then

more shopping, and early to bed. On Tuesday and Wednesday, the first two days of the march were carried out in cold, windy weather. For the Thursday, the longest and hardest day of the march which took in the seven hills, it rained. For practically the whole day it came down relentlessly. However with the aid of the occasional "nip" of cognac, the day's march finished up in fine style—as a certain lady from Sheffield will verify. In the early hours of the morning of the last day it came down in torrents but the rain gradually died away and by noon the sun was out. For the final march in the weather was glorious and the Dutch people turned out in their tens of thousands to clap us in. As befits a unit who had probably more experience both collectively and individually of the Nijmegen Marches than the other teams, a large number of bouquets were received on the march in. However, flowers held in the left hand parallel with the seam, a smart eyes right was given when passing the saluting base, and so to Wedren Plain, the receipt of the team medal, and the distinction of the individual awards. Apart from the usual crop of blisters, this year was the first for some time when we did not have a member who had to be assisted.

Success was celebrated that evening by team members with their various Dutch friends. There was an early Reveille on the Saturday morning for bedding to be handed in, tents cleaned, and then to the railway station for a final meal in Holland. Departing at 10 a.m. for lunch in Antwerp about midday and to reach Ostend at 4 p.m. Several members bathed their "poor feet" in the sea, and swore that they could see them go down in size as they watched. The ferry left Ostend about 11 p.m. hours and arrived in Dover at 5 a.m. on the Sunday morning. After unloading the coach for the Customs, the officials took a long look at the amount of baggage we had, could not believe that it came from just one coach, thought of their Sunday dinner—then waved us on our way. At London the Oundle Cadets, who had also been 100 per cent successful, departed their various ways.

What have we to show for our endeavour? The satisfaction that once again we have achieved our aim, that the Northamptonshire Regiment has again shown the flag and given a good impression to other competing units, both British and of other nationalities. We have renewed our contacts with old friends in participating units of earlier years, and above all met our Dutch friends and made more. At the

time of writing these notes, one member of the team is spending his annual holiday back in Nijmegen at the home of Dutch friends made during the marches.

#### ANNUAL RIFLE MEETING

The annual Rifle Meeting was held on Saturday and Sunday, September 4 and 5, 1965, at Grafham Range, near Huntingdon. The meeting was blessed with sunshine for both days, giving ideal conditions to the large number of competitors and visitors.

Guests invited for lunch and tea included the Mayors and Mayoresses of Peterborough and Huntingdonshire, the Chairmen and ladies of Wellingborough, Corby, Rushden, Oundle and Fletton U.D.C., Brigadier J. M. Spencer-Smith, O.B.E., M.C., Brigadier D. E. Taunton, C.B., D.S.O., Colonel R. K. McMichael, O.B.E., T.D., J.P., D.L., and Colonel J. C. Denny, O.B.E., M.C.

The shooting was of quite a good standard; congratulations to the Champion at Arms and Runner-up, C/Sgt. J. Capstaff, "D" Company, and J/Bdsm K. S. Pilgrim, "H.Q." Company. The Commanding Officer's wife, Mrs. F. G. Barber, kindly presented the prizes.

*Champion at Arms:* 1, C/Sgt. J. Capstaff, "D" Coy.; 2, Y/Soldier K. Pilgrim, "H.Q." Coy.; 3, Pte. R. Griffin, "H.Q." Coy.

*Officers' Class:* 1, Lt. F. Streek, "H.Q." Coy.; 2, Major H. H. Moore, Bn. H.Q.; 3, Major J. W. H. Green, T.D., Bn. H.Q.

*Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Class:* 1, R.S.M. R. Pond, Bn. H.Q.; 2, Sgt. J. Evans, "H.Q."; 3, Sgt. R. Sambrook, "C" Coy.

*Corporals' Class:* 1, Cpl. T. Turner, "A" Coy.; 2, Cpl. J. Jordan, "D" Coy.; 3, O/Cdt. B. Freeman, "H.Q." Coy.

*Privates' Class:* 1, Pte. L. Burgess, "D" Coy.; 2, Pte. D. Green, "A" Coy.; 3, Pte. R. Fox, "D" Coy.

*Young Soldiers:* 1, J/Bdsm. K. Pilgrim, H.Q.; 2, Pte. R. Griffin, H.Q.; 3, Pte. W. Ball, H.Q.

*Inter-Company Championship China Cup:* 1, "H.Q." Coy.; 2, "A" Coy.; 3, "D" Coy.

*Invitation Falling Snap:* Depot Royal Pioneer Corps.

*Comrades' Competition:* 1, Mr. G. Tyers, Mayor of Peterborough; 2, Mr. E. Turner and Councillor N. Hutchings; 3, Major P. F. Keily, M.C.

*Ladies' Match:* 1, Miss J. Barber.

*Children's Match:* 1, Master J. Clarke.

#### WARRANT OFFICERS' & SERGEANTS' MESS

Although the period of the last few months has been fraught with uncertainty regarding the

future of the T.A., everyone hopes a satisfactory solution will be found to the problem. Meanwhile social events follow their usual pattern. We were strongly represented at the Regimental Weekend at Bury St. Edmunds, when the R.S.M. and twelve members and their ladies attended and we would like to express our gratitude for the grand way we were entertained by the Depot Mess.

Sgt. Capstaff has been promoted to Staff Sergeant (filling the Assault Pioneer W.O. vacancy) and Sgt. Knight, (PSI "D" Coy.) to Colour Sergeant. The latter, together with C.S.M. Cheshire, C.S.M. George, Sgt. Evans and Sgt. Crawshaw, are our present PSIs and their calibre can be measured by their performance on courses they have recently attended, where they gained no less than eight "B's" between them! Perhaps it was as a reward that Sgt. Evans was allowed to go on the "Swan" with Oundle School CCF to Osna-bruck?

C.S.M. "Bernie" Wolfe, late of the 2nd Battalion, is now firmly entrenched as C.S.M. of "C" Company, the position vacated by C.S.M. Sambrooks. "Sam" did very well, and we are most pleased he is staying on.

#### "H.Q." COMPANY

We have been concentrating on the tests for classification, and a trained soldier weekend has helped us in reaching the necessary standards. It seems likely that it played its part in the Company's performance at the Battalion Rifle Meeting, culminating in the winning, yet again, of the China Cup. Other trophies gained by members of the Company included the Young Soldiers' trophy by Y/S Pilgrim who was also runner-up to the Champion at Arms, and the Officers' Cup by Lt. A. F. Streek.

Additionally, Pte. Griffin gained third place in the Champion at Arms competition.

We have been pleased to welcome back to Peterborough Lt. N. Hargreaves, who has been away at Birmingham University and has returned to work again in the city.

#### M.T. PLATOON

Several summer weekends have seen the M.T. Platoon out on the roads of Northamptonshire, improving their driving techniques and raising their navigational standards. Practice in vehicle concealment has made the game of "hide and seek" very popular, with drivers hiding vehicles and the M.T.O. seeking them. On one of these exercises, the M.T.O., with Cpl. Gulson, who had devised their own J.E.W.T. (jungle exercise without tracks) discovered why the police constable who asked where they were going, raised his eyebrows at the answer, and were saved only by a timely warning shout from a householder from driving



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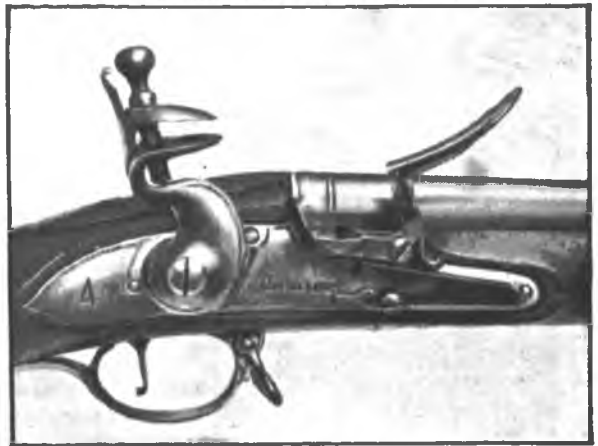
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over a cesspool. As Cpl. Gulson remarked at the time, "nearly in it again."

The day of the Battalion Rifle Meeting saw the M.T. Platoon at times responsible for the operation of the donkey rides, and the well-known donkey drivers, Ptes. Burton and Winfield certainly passed their test that day.

Since Pte. Winfield joined the M.T. earlier this year, Ptes. Ward, Smith and Painter, all from the same village, have enlisted, and the words "take-over bid" have been heard in the T.A. Club.

#### "I" SECTION

The "I" Section, who, in addition to working with the Recce Platoon on several exercises, have been frantically producing visual aids for the recruits cadre week-end in mid-September. Sgt. Watts, who has been lately in the company of members of the local constabulary, denies rumours that he may be leaving us, and says that all he did was to instruct them on the miniature range.

#### RECCE PLATOON

In July, a training week-end took the Platoon to Morston, in Norfolk, where the opportunity was taken to meet C.S.M. Beale's relations, who live there. The rest of the time was spent on reconnoitring routes in that area. One result was that one Land Rover found itself out to sea with no navigation lights. Cpl. Deacon, by virtue of his experience of driving a Land Rover along the top of the sea wall is now available with his wire balancing act for church fetes and bazaars. C.S.M. Clarke provided the food, which was reckoned to be at least up to normal Recce Platoon standards.

#### "Q" BRANCH

Cpl. Gowler has recently left us for further service with a London Unit. We thank him for his service and loyalty over a number of years.

Major F. W. Gascoyne, the Quartermaster, will be completing his tour of duty in January, 1966. He hopes to settle in Peterborough, so we shall still see him around and about. Our best wishes for the future.

We have, unfortunately, been depleted in the strength of our cooks, but all is well, as the remainder are still as keen as ever, under the supervision of W.O.II Clarke and Sgt. Fensome.

#### "C" COMPANY

At camp, two members of "C" Company distinguished themselves in the two cross-country runs. Pte. P. Brown won the first race and Pte. D. Bettles the second. The Battalion teams put in a very creditable performance, as did the rest of the Company in the major exercises. In the final exercise, our Company Commander was seen to be moving mysteriously from "Hooton's Hotel" to the area of the Space Vehicles, from which poisonous fumes and rays were emitting. He was protected by a respirator and a white armband, but umpired out anyone who dared to get close enough to see the "Medusa."

Although the weather was not perfect, everyone enjoyed themselves at camp and the end-of-camp party, held at The White Swan, Hythe, was regarded as the best in recent years.

Among 20 soldiers from the Battalion who visited the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers in B.A.O.R. in July were 12 members of "C" Company. We hear that they all behaved themselves and put some of the regulars in the shade on the range and on manoeuvres.

On August 19, "B" Company visited us to claim the shield for the Brigade tug-of-war championship, which a joint team from "B" and "C" Companies won last year. Although the night was mainly a festive occasion, both teams demonstrated their physical prowess by challenging each other at basketball, darts, dominoes, cribbage and skittles.

The Rushden Detachment of our Company has received visits from the local Youth Club and the Round Table. Both events did a great deal to enhance our reputation in the area.

Our team for the Northern Command Night March are busy training, and we hope that their efforts will be well rewarded later in the year.

The Junior N.C.O.s are undertaking a course of advanced training which will include methods of instruction, map-reading, first aid, pioneering and, we hope, some canoeing.

The emphasis seems to be on physical fitness, and in this sphere, "C" Company has been doing well, but we do not intend our training to exclude brain entirely in favour of brawn.

### Note to Contributors

*If you have done something interesting why not write about it for THE CASTLE. Please submit any photographs to the Editor for the next edition.*



## REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATIONS

### Lincolnshire Wing

At their annual general meeting, held at the Town Hall, Grimsby, on Saturday, October 16, 1965, members of the 10th Foot Royal Lincolnshire Regimental Association unanimously approved a proposal that their Association should be affiliated to the Royal Anglian Regimental Association. Also, that any soldiers of the Royal Anglian Regiment on leaving the Army for civilian life, if not already members of the 10th Foot Royal Lincolnshire Regiment Association, be permitted to become honorary members of it, and could, by so doing, if they so desire, join any of the Association's branches and attend their social functions. A cordial invitation is extended to all such soldiers.

### 5TH BATTALION VETERANS

World War I veterans of the 1st/5th Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment, as is their custom, had their annual reunion dinner in one of the County towns with which the Battalion was formerly associated.

The date chosen is nearest to that which commemorates the battle of the Hohenzollern Redoubt, near Loos, in which the Battalion fought.

Gainsborough T.A. Centre was the venue for the dinner, and the date, October 9. Brigadier H. W. Clarke, M.C., who presided, stated in a speech that the only absentees from the dinner were those who had died since the last reunion, and those whose health would not permit their attendance.

Among the guests were Brigadier R. H. L. Oulton, Deputy Colonel, The Royal Anglian Regiment, who responded to the toast of the Regiment, and E. Emerson, Chairman of the Gainsborough Urban District Council, a former member of the 5th Lincolnshire Regiment (T.A.) and later, for 16 years, a regular soldier and bandsman of the Royal Leicestershire Regiment.

On display, before their presentation to the Regimental Museum of The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment were the medals, copy of Citations and Commission of the late Sgt. Conrad Leadbeater, D.C.M., of the 1st/5th Bn. Lincolnshire Regiment, who, in World War I was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal and two bars for gallantry. On being commissioned he served as an officer in the Lincolnshire Regiment T.F. and rose to the rank of Captain.

The Veterans, on receiving information that

Sgt. Leadbeater's medals were being offered for sale, by a very distant relative, quickly bought them for the Regimental Museum, rather than let them fall into the hands of a collector.

### REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REUNION

Unfortunately, we were unable to hold our reunion at Skegness, and arrangements had to be made for it to take place at Grimsby on October 16. The distances having to be travelled were greater and accommodation more expensive; nevertheless, thanks to the work of members of the Grimsby Branch, who organised the accommodation, the dinner and dance, everyone present was full of praise for that branch in making it a most memorable occasion. The spacious banqueting room of the Grimsby Town Hall, in which the 255 people sat down to dinner, provided a beautiful setting for an excellent dinner.

Brigadier Oulton, our President, after giving all news of the "Duchess of Gloucester's Own," informed us that early in 1966 he would relinquish the office of President of the Regimental Association, and his successor, who was present at the dinner would be Major-General Sir Christopher Welby-Everard, K.B.E., C.B., now retired and resident in Lincolnshire, the county of his birth.

Major P. M. Segon, M.B.E., Secretary and Treasurer of the 10th Foot Royal Lincolnshire Regimental Association, paid a tribute to the Brigadier, who had travelled in his car no fewer than 90,000 miles in the service of the Regiment and Regimental Association, and no doubt, as the Brigadier had expressed, would continue his close association with the 10th and Royal Anglian Regimental Association. A standing ovation was given to the Brigadier, and we record our appreciation of his tremendous work over a period of seven years to further the interests of the Regimental Association and Regiment. All former members of the 10th Foot will be delighted to know that Major-General Sir Christopher Welby-Everard is to be our new President.

Among those present at the dinner were the Deputy Mayor and Mayoress of Grimsby, Lady Welby-Everard, the Chief Constable of Grimsby (J. Angus Esq.) and his wife, Alderman Major A. Cox (former Mayor of Cleethorpes—in office when the Freedom of Cleethorpes was conferred on the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment), the Rev. Canon D. G. Hawker, M.A. (Vicar of



Grimsby), and J. Hopper, Esq. (representing the Editor of the *Grimsby Evening Telegraph*). Congratulations to the London Branch, who left on Friday night to travel by road in order to arrive on time, also the comrades from Dover, Bournemouth and Warwick; distance is no object if it means meeting an old friend at least once a year.

Capt. C. G. Miller, for 40 years Secretary of the 5th Bn. Veterans, handed to Brigadier Oulton, Chairman of the Royal Lincolnshire Regiment Museum Trustees, the gift of the late Conrad Leadbeater's medals, commission and other documents for the Museum, which the Brigadier gratefully acknowledged.

#### SUNDAY, 17TH OCTOBER

By kind permission of Lt.-Col. H. H. Moore, the Band of the 4th/6th Battalion Royal Lincolnshire Regiment (T.A.) headed the march of the 10th Foot Comrades to St. James's Parish Church for Divine Service. The Branch Standards were received at the Altar prior to the service, during which, the President read the second Lesson and later placed a poppy wreath in the Memorial Chapel of the 10th Chums Battalion. After the service, the parade moved from the Church to the Town Hall, under the command of our President-elect. The Mayor of Grimsby, Alderman D. E. Petchell, C.B.E., and the Mayoress were present at the service. The Mayor, attended by Brigadier Oulton, took the salute at the march past.

The weather was perfect, and all the "old sweats" were pleased to march behind the excellent band of the 4th/6th Battalion to the strains of "The Poacher."

#### REUNION, 1966

This will be held at the Derbyshire Miners' Holiday Centre, Skegness, on Saturday, October 1.

#### LINCOLN BRANCH

The Lincoln Branch annual general meeting, held on August 30, 1965, was well attended, in spite of the fact that several members were still on holiday; this was very encouraging, as it shows renewed interest in the branch.

There was only one change made in the present committee, and we welcome Lance Halliwell to the General Committee, having been elected to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Tommy Bentley, owing to ill health, who is still a regular visitor to the club; the committee and members join in thanking him for the keen interest and help he gave during his long term of office as a committee member, and hope that his health will now improve. Best wishes, Tommy.

The Chairman and committee members take this opportunity to place on record thanks to



*Children's outing to Wicksteed Park.*

Capt. Lewin, our Secretary, and his good lady, for the untiring effort, work and time they devote to the branch—running the bar, keeping accounts, etc., etc.—a thousand and one things. Without them what would we do?

Thanks, too, to all members of the committee for the way that they have organised the entertainment and branch functions during the past year, the proof of their success lies in the fact that no one wants to change the committee.

#### SOCIAL EVENTS

Social events during the past three months have been many, but amongst those highlighted was the children's outing. I use this term loosely, because although there was a fair share of children, there were plenty of Mums and Dads present as well. The visit was to Wicksteed Park, Kettering, on June 27, which was a tremendous success; it was a beautiful day and we had a lot of fun, a picnic lunch and refreshing drinks. Two coach loads attended, and the outing proved so popular that we hope this will become an annual event. All the men agreed it was the best children's outing they had ever been to.

There was a visit paid by members of our branch to the Green Room Club, Lincoln, on May 18, which was very well attended, and a return visit to our club by their members on September 17. This was for us a grand event, as the members of the Green Room Club are all local talent associated with the Theatre Royal, Lincoln, and for our enjoyment, put on a complete show of "Old Time Music Hall." We are extremely fortunate in having them as our friends.

A visit to Manchester was well attended by our members, and planned to enable the ladies to go shopping and the men to attend the soccer match between Manchester United and

Stoke. This outing was a great success, and the subject of much animated conversation in the club.

It is planned to make many visits to local places of interest, two that are already arranged are to the local steelworks at Scunthorpe, where we hope to meet some of the lads from our branch who work there, also a visit to the local police headquarters. We hope that such visits will be a means of creating more interest for our members.

#### ANGLING SECTION

The Angling Section has opened again this season with a full membership, under the guidance of Reg Burman, who has appealed to me to express through the medium of *The Castle* that the anglers of our branch are looking further afield for fishing waters, and asks that if any other branches have anglers who wish to arrange a match with us, or any reader who may be lucky enough to own a stretch of water they would be willing to let our lads fish, he would be most grateful if they would drop a line to Mr. R. Burman, of 111, Addison Drive, Lincoln.

Indoor games competitions are in full swing again this year, winners' names will appear in the next edition.

## The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment Museum

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

From Miss M. Davy, 45, Edward Street, Grimsby, various pieces of stained glass and bell-ropes which were souvenirs collected by the late Sgt. Tom Spence, 10th Battalion, of various churches which were demolished by enemy shell fire in France during World War I.

From Miss I. Clark, 34, St. Leonard's Street, Stamford, her brother's medals, the late Cpl. Ralph Clark, which were the 1914/15 Star and the Victory Medal.

From Mrs. Plumb, 21, Yew Trinity Road, East Finchley, London, N.2, W.O.'s sashes worn by her grandfather over 100 years ago, in the 10th Regiment of Foot, and a piece of embroidery made by her brother, the late Drum-Major A. A. White, during the South African War.

From Miss V. Scaffham, Albert Street, Brigg, Lincs., photograph and Queen's South Africa Medal with Five Bars, originally presented to 813, Pte. H. Scaffham of 2nd Lincolnshire Regiment.

From Mr. A. E. Kitchen, 77, Station Road,

Healing, Grimsby, four photographs relating to H. Brereton, formerly of the Lincolnshire Regiment.

From ex-Sgt. F. Spriggs, 39, Charlotte Road, Sheffield 1, of an electric battery lamp, salvaged from a dugout in the Hohenzollern Redoubt.

From Mrs. R. W. Cave-Orme, a Treatise on Military Finance, 1797.

From World War I Veterans of the 5th Bn. Lincolnshire Regiment, T.F., their gift of the late Conrad Leadbeater's Medal of the D.C.M. with two bars, his other War Medals, commission parchment and relative documents.

## Northamptonshire Wing

### NORTHAMPTON BRANCH

#### MEMBERS' OUTING

On Sunday, August 22, members and their wives and children filled two coaches for a trip to Alton Towers. A half-way stop was made in the morning for turkey sandwiches and the usual liquid refreshments, then on to the Towers for lunch, after which members found the activities which suited them best. The weather was kind until 4.30, when rain drove us back to the buses, where another attack was made on the beer. We then rode on to the Jaguar Social Club, at Coventry, where the evening was spent with bingo and dancing.

#### WELFARE

The collecting tins at the club are providing a steady contribution to the Association funds, and several grants have been made to individual members during the quarter.

### HUNTINGDON BRANCH

Steady progress continues to be made in this comparatively new branch, our membership increases all the time and the monthly meetings throughout the summer have been fairly well attended, in spite of so many other demands on people's time at this period of the year. Matters of welfare and sick visits have been ably handled by the Branch Welfare Officer, Mr. C. E. Lees, but fortunately we have no serious cases at present and we sincerely hope this situation continues.

Taking a leaf from the book of our comrades at Peterborough Branch, we held our October meeting at St. Neots. By this arrangement we hoped to extend our membership in the area, apart from the added facility to our existing St. Neots members by having the occasional meeting in their own town.

With these notes we take the opportunity to say *au revoir* to Major Peter Strickland (O.C. "D" Company, at Huntingdon). We are ever grateful for his assistance to us in the early days of formation, and we wish him well in his new post as Company Commander at Corby. A welcome, too, to Capt. Ted Overall, who takes over at Huntingdon as Company Commander. We hope this will only be the beginning of what promises to be a very happy association.

It is pleasing to report on the support and encouragement given to this branch by our Vice-Presidents, who have not been mentioned in any earlier notes. Mrs. C. C. Green (St. Ives) whose late husband, Lt.-Col. W. E. Green, once commanded the 5th Battalion, was the first to accept this office. Major J. G. (Guy) Fisher and Major W. V. (Bill) Marshall have since accepted, and, apart from the support they give us, we, in turn, hope their association with our activities will keep them in touch with many old friends.

#### PETERBOROUGH BRANCH

After some delay, our branch social evening eventually took place on June 23. We were

delighted to entertain members of The Royal Lincolnshire and Royal Artillery Associations.

Major H. H. Moore has now left the 4th/5th Battalion to take command of the 4th/6th Royal Lincolns. We thank him most sincerely for the interest he has taken in our branch activities. A farewell party in conjunction with the W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess took place on September 19, at which there was a very good attendance. We send our best wishes to both Major and Mrs. Moore, and we welcome their successors, Major and Mrs. J. P. Wetherall.

Quite a number of our members attended the Regimental Week-end at Bury St. Edmunds and enjoyed the very pleasant evening and the hospitality afforded us.

The branch annual outing took place on August 28. This was a most enjoyable trip to Great Yarmouth. The weather was excellent until departure time, when the rains fell, which did not at all dampen the "spirits."

We regret to record the death of Mr. C. W. Fincham. The branch was represented at the funeral.

Best wishes to all branch members.

## LINCOLNSHIRE ARMY CADET FORCE

The 49th (W.R. & N.M.) Division/District Army Cadet Force Rifle Meeting took place on Beckingham Range on Sunday, September 12, 1965.

The team match was won by Northamptonshire "C" Team and the Individual Competition was won by Leicestershire and Rutland with Northamptonshire as runners-up. The Falling Plate Competition was won by Derbyshire "A" Team. The 148 Infantry Brigade Shield was won by Lincolnshire, Grimsby "A" Team, Sgt. McCall, L/Bdr. Munday, Sgt. Brameld and Cadet Ferrier.

Our teams shot quite well, but were no match for Northamptonshire, who have come along 100 per cent since last year's shooting.

#### ANNUAL Camp, 1965

The Lincolnshire Army Cadet Force camped at Deverell Barracks, Ripon, Yorkshire, from July 24 to August 7. Twenty-seven officers, 32 S.M.I.s/S.I.s and 250 Cadets attended the camp.

The accommodation was excellent, the food was very good and there were plenty of stores and offices and a large cinema or lecture room.

The training areas were very good and some good training was carried out, culminating in a Platoon Competition. This was won by No. 1 Battalion. There were two 30-yard ranges

available at the camp and a full classification range at Bellerby, about 20 miles away.

Although the weather was not too kind, the camp was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The training was quite successful and a very good Certificate "A," Part I, examination was carried out. Duke of Edinburgh's adventure training was also carried out by a number of those at camp.

The Lincolnshire Army Cadet Force will camp in 1966 at Crookham, Hampshire, when it is hoped that all will attend. This is a very well equipped camp and is all-electric. Training areas and ranges are plentiful.

#### APPOINTMENT—COUNTY CADET COMMANDANT

It has now been confirmed by M.O.D. that Lt.-Col. A. J. Bennett, M.B.E., T.D., lately Officer Commanding 4th/6th Battalion Royal Lincolns (T.A.) has been appointed County Cadet Commandant of the Lincolnshire Army Cadet Force with effect from November 20, 1965, in the rank of Acting Colonel.

We all welcome Colonel Bennett and hope that he will have a happy and successful tour as County Cadet Commandant.

He will relieve Colonel G. M. Sanders, T.D., D.L., who has spent three years as Commandant. We would all like to thank Colonel Sanders for all that he has done for the Cadet Force of Lincolnshire during his tour and wish him all success on his retirement.

## NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ARMY CADET FORCE

### 3RD/4TH (CADET) BN. THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE REGIMENT

After some 20 years of residence at Lincoln Road Drill Hall, Battalion Headquarters, Walton and Peterborough Detachments, finally moved out. Headquarters are now at London Road T.A. Centre, Peterborough, and the Peterborough and Walton Detachments are at Westwood. To some of us it is a sad wrench, as many a happy hour had been spent at Lincoln Road.

On August 1, 61 Officers and Cadets started annual camp at Westdown Camp, Tilshead, on Salisbury Plain, and were fortunate with the weather after the first two days.

The training this year was well organised and went well. All were kept busy and benefited greatly from the instruction. Visits were made to Stonehenge, Devizes and Salisbury, and the R.A. arranged a demonstration for us at Larkhill which was most impressive.

The Senior Cadets had a four-day scheme and went trekking and bivouacking on the Chiltern Hills, spent a few hours at Cheddar Gorge and managed to call at the coast on their last day. By their enthusiasm, it was

evident that more of this type of scheme must be done at future camps.

Unfortunately, like all good camps, this one drew to a close all too soon, and on the final Saturday, all Battalions amalgamated for a Drumhead Service and march past, led by the combined Corps of Drums of the 2nd and 3rd/4th Battalions.

During the course of this parade S.M.I. J. Firth was presented with his Cadet Force Medal for 12 years' exemplary and devoted service.

On Saturday, August 28, our Corps of Drums, under the command of Bandmaster S.M.I. J. Firth paraded at St. Neots carnival together with a contingent from our Huntingdon Detachment. All were complimented on their turnout.

On September 19, this Battalion, together with other local pre-Service units, participated in the local 25th anniversary of the Battle of Britain. Our Corps of Drums, led part of the parade to and from Peterborough Cathedral. It was a solemn but impressive affair.

*When in Lincoln come and see*

**THE MUSEUM**  
OF THE  
**THE ROYAL LINCOLNSHIRE**  
**REGIMENT**  
IN  
**THE KEEP**  
**SOBRAON BARRACKS**

*When in Northampton visit*

**THE MUSEUM**  
OF  
**THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**  
**REGIMENT**  
AT  
**GIBRALTAR BARRACKS**  
**BARRACK ROAD**



## 3rd (16th/44th Foot) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment

### FILM—THE POMPADOURS, 1965

During the last few months the Battalion has been making a film in Berlin. This film shows just how many varied and interesting jobs there are to be done in the Battalion, and all the different kinds of weapons and equipment an infantry man has to handle.

The cheerful faces of the camera team were a familiar sight in the barracks during July and early August, and many members of the Battalion found themselves film stars overnight, and immediately demanded exorbitant fees for their services. The film, which is in colour and lasts for 50 minutes, was made especially for a "Keep the Army in the Public Eye" tour, which visited the small towns and villages in Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex from August 16 to September 11. The team was split into two halves, Capt. V. J. Gee commanding "A" team, which toured West Essex and Hertfordshire, and Lt. J. E. Bowers led team "B," visiting villages in Essex and Bedfordshire.

The teams, made up from men from all parts of the Battalion, were as follows:

Team "A": Capt. V. J. Gee, Cpl. J. Valentine, L/Cpl. R. Stocks, Ptes. M. Ratcliffe, P. Ellis, M. Bardwell and D. Webb.

Team "B": Lt. J. E. Bowers, Cpls. M. Hill and R. Whiting, Ptes. D. Jones, R. Grant, P. Denny, D. Grant.

Each team visited a number of small towns and villages in their area, spending two or three days at each site. The teams were equipped with a display caravan together with modern infantry weapons and equipment, including a Wombat anti-tank gun, Carl Gustav, 81mm. mortar, GPMG, the most up-to-date radio sets. The Battalion's own beat group, "The Digits" accompanied the team and played to very enthusiastic audiences in the neighbouring large towns. Meetings with many former members of the Regiment during the tours proved to be most interesting.

*The Battalion own Beat Group, "The Digits."  
(Left to right) Ptes. J. Johnson, L. Justice, M. Jeffery and I. Lent.*





*Some members of the Battalion KAPE team beside their Mobat anti-tank gun.*

*Back row (left to right) Pte. N. Bardwell, Cpl. J. Valentini, Cpl. R. Stock Pte. D. Ellis.*

*Front row (left to right) Pte. D. Webb and Pte. M. Ratchiffe.*

The tour over, the K.A.P.E. team returned to Berlin, bringing the Battalion film with them. This was shown to the entire Battalion on September 17 in the Jereboa Cinema; the cheers which greeted the Battalion's budding film stars could be heard halfway down the Heer Strasse!

#### BLENHHEIM DAY

The Battalion annual holiday was celebrated on August 13 in a most unconventional manner. The morning activities took place at the children's swimming pool at Brigade H.Q. The whole Battalion turned out in force to take part in the "Clacton Capers," which included pillow fights in rubber dinghies (the Adjutant, Capt. P. J. Sincock, went under in the final, brandishing his pillow), various sideshows, and a number of other races certainly not listed in the Manual of "Games and Sports in the Army." The main attraction was the "crossing of the line" ceremony, with C/Sgt. P. South as "King Neptune," complete with a 3ft. razor, which gave the Second-in-Command, Major J. A. Bacon, the closest shave he has had for some time. The afternoon entertainments included "foot-in-the-fire-bucket" races, and 4½-ton water trailer races, the trailer being pulled by Company teams of ten men. The day was rounded off admirably by an all ranks' dance in the gymnasium; an impromptu cabaret being admirably performed by C/Sgt. P. South.

#### BERLIN BRIGADE RALLY

September 7 saw the start of the Berlin Brigade B.A.M.A. Rally, in which we entered

a fairly large, and what later proved to be a very capable team.

The rally took place at various points between Alexander Barracks and Paderborn, passing through some picturesque and difficult countryside. The aim of the rally was to promote efficiency in map-reading, route-finding in difficult conditions, both by day and by night, and skilled driving in general, with the accent on road safety.

The 800-kilometre course included day and night sections, cross-country courses, and skilled driving tests against the stop watch, which proved most exciting, and no doubt exhausting. Results:

**4½-ton Class.**—The crew, consisting of Pte. E. Stockdale, L/Cpl. F. Juchau and Sgt. M. Allen, distinguished themselves by winning this class by a comfortable margin. Pte. E. Stockdale deserves special mention for his magnificent effort over the skilled driving course.

**Staff Car Class.**—Lt. C. Groves, C/Sgt. R. Templeman and L/Cpl. F. Sykes provided the crew for this class and romped to victory with a highly-professional performance.

**½-ton Class.**—The crew, of L/Cpl. S. Littlechild, Pte. S. Grimwood and Pte. R. Kendall, finished fifth in this event after suffering some map-reading problems during the day event. However, an excellent drive over the night section saw them safely home with no points lost.

**1½-ton Class.**—Pte. M. Coy, Pte. R. Hurlock, Cpl. A. Soper, Cfn. F. Noble, Pte. R. West and Pte. J. Robinson finished well on the day section but came to grief on the night course.



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**VISITS**

On August 3, General Sir James Cassels, G.C.B., K.B.E., D.S.O., Chief of the General Staff, visited the Battalion in Wavell Barracks. The General watched various aspects of the Battalion training and had lunch in the Officers' Mess.

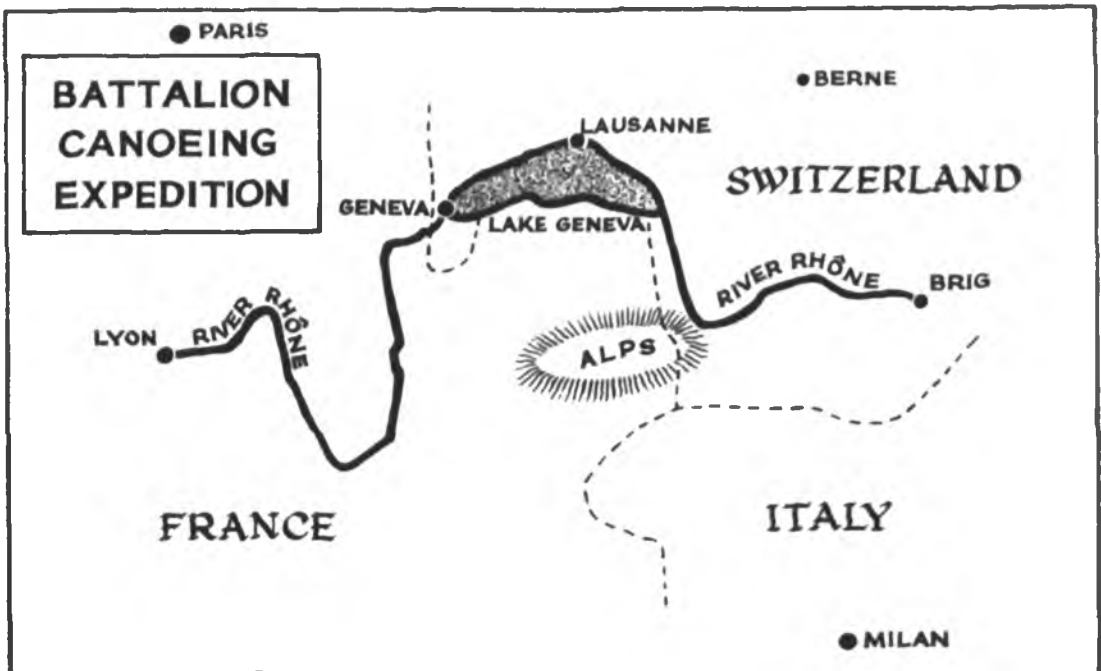
Another recent visitor to Wavell Barracks was the Mayor of Barnet, Alderman K. G. Pamplin, J.P., on September 3. Together with eight councillors, he toured the barracks and met L/Cpl. Coventry, who also comes from Barnet.

**SPORT**

Football training began in mid-July in preparation for the Major and Minor League competitions to be held during the first week of September. The Battalion team has so far suffered three defeats, but it is hoped that we will improve once the German coach begins training the team on October 14. The Battalion is due to play in the first round of 1st Division, B.A.O.R., and the Army Cup in late October against 7th Armoured Workshops, R.E.M.E. The Companies are doing well in the Minor League, and L/Cpl. Musicka is to be congratulated on being selected to play for the Combined Services Team against the West Berlin Police at the British Military Tattoo.



General Sir J. Cassels, accompanied by the Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. P. J. H. Leng, speaking to Pte. B. Aylott during his visit to Wavell Barracks.







*Sgt. B. Upson, L/Cpl. S. Frost, Pte. A. Jones and Pte. R. Bishop in their canoes during the Rhône Canoeing Expedition.*

#### CANOING EXPEDITION

During early September eight members of the Battalion set off on a fortnight's canoeing expedition down the River Rhône. The team, consisting of Lt. T. D. A. Veitch, Sgt. M. Howard, Sgt. B. Upson, L/Cpl. S. Frost and Ptes. R. Bishop, D. O'Brien, L. Lyons and A. Jones left Berlin on September 4 in the French Military Train. Lt. T. D. A. Veitch sent us the following interesting account of his trip.

We made a start at Brig, not far from the Italian border, having brought three canoes with us and one rather bulbous inflatable recce-boat. The recce-boat went well over the faster stretches but was very difficult to handle against the high wind, and required someone to stand up precariously every hour to pump up the front two air-pockets. We were immediately shown the potential danger of the swiftly flowing current—two canoes turning over within the first two hours!

We took four days to cover the 69 miles from Brig to Lake Geneva, although we were held up by two dams. One complete day was devoted to a climb up to 6,000 feet and also carrying out vital repairs on the skin and structure of the three canoes and the recce-boat.

The pattern of our days on the water soon evolved. We would spend about six hours paddling each day, this ranging from pure grind against the wind or a tedious carry around a hydroelectric dam, to the faster stretches where we just hoped for the best and bounded from rock to rock—somehow surviving with nothing worse than a boatful of water. The scenery was breathtaking, changing from snow-capped mountains in Switzerland to the rolling vineyards of France. Each night we endeavoured to find a roof against the rain, and the facility to buy fresh food and build a fire.

On the fifth day we began the battle to cross

Lake Geneva. No longer did we get assistance from the current, and at times the wind made progress extremely difficult. Near the end of our second day on the Lake a storm rose and, having shipped a great deal of water and exhausted ourselves in keeping our canoes going through the waves, we decided to cover the final 10 miles into Geneva by hired lorry.

Lake Geneva also defeated any further usefulness in the recce-boat. It had hindered our daily progress to such an extent that we finally decided that it should be sent to Lyon by rail, Sgt. M. Howard and Pte. D. O'Brien travelling the remaining 100 miles by road.

A day's rest in Geneva gave us time to recover from the lake and to enjoy such luxuries as food, sleep and wine. So, fortified, we set off to cover the last 125 miles into Lyon in four days. The river sped up once more, and the only hindrance came in the shape of four vast hydroelectric dams, which not only stopped the current, but demanded considerable portages each time.

After our twelfth day on the river we covered our 232nd mile on entering Lyon. Here we met the two who had travelled by road, found the recce-boat, and packed the canoes and our personal belongings.

So ended a most enjoyable trip and we returned to Berlin on September 20, having travelled through some of the most delightful scenery in Switzerland and France.

#### SOLTAU

The main body moved down to Reinschlen Camp on September 21 by road and rail. Having settled in, the Battalion concentrated for the first week on company training under perfect weather conditions. A party of 24 members of 3rd Bn. U.S. Infantry, at present stationed



*Pfc. J. Krpicak, 3rd Bn. 6th U.S. Infantry, and Sgt. M. Osborne prepare to repulse an attack during a Battalion Exercise at Soltau.*

in Berlin, was attached to us for the duration of the exercises, and took an active part in all aspects of our training. On September 24 the Minister of Defence for the Army, The Right Honourable Fred Mulley, M.P., visited the Battalion at Soltau together with Lieut.-General Sir Richard Goodwin, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., G.O.C.-in-C. 1 Brigade Corps. The Minister watched the Battalion training and had lunch in the Officers' Mess with the General.

The training continued for three weeks, and culminated with an Infiltration exercise, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Two Battalion exercises finishing on October 13 brought our annual training to a close, and we returned to Berlin on October 15 and 16 to hastily prepare for our role as Duty Battalion.

#### VISITORS TO BERLIN

Soltau over, the Battalion now looks forward to the arrival of Bigadier and Mrs. C. M. Paton, who are visiting us from October 25 to

28. This will be followed shortly by the arrival of the Lord Lieutenants of Essex and Bedfordshire, Colonel Sir J. Ruggles-Brise and Major S. Whitbread, from November 2 to 5.

Preparation for the Battalion's Christmas Programme is already under way and there is every indication that our last Christmas in Berlin will be a very lively one.

As is customary, we include the names of the Officers, Warrant Officers and Sergeants who have recently arrived or left the Battalion.

Since our last Battalion notes we have welcomed Major J. R. Oldfield, Capt. R. J. Sibley, Capt. M. J. Lewis and Sgt. G. Offord back to the Battalion.

We also welcome 2/Lt. M. H. Bland, 2/Lt. P. Shervington and 2/Lt. T. J. Weall, as well as a number of newcomers from the Regimental Depot.

However we have said goodbye with regret to Major J. F. Bushell, Lt. C. A. Styles, Sgt. V. L. White and Sgt. P. H. Franklin.



*A platoon from "D" Company mount their tank in preparation for an attack at Soltau.*



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

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The most important event in a very full programme since the last issue, was the honour bestowed on the Regiment by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, on the occasion of her visit to the Battalion at Watford on July 3, 1965, when the Regiment exercised its privilege of the Freedom of Entry into the Borough.

The parade was held in Cassiobury Park, Watford; the setting was delightful, being a natural amphitheatre, surrounded by trees on three sides, under which the guests and public were seated, and by the time the troops arrived a crowd of several thousands guests and public had gathered to watch the ceremony.

At 11 a.m. the troops, under the command of Major G. H. Hickinbottom, T.D., marched into the arena. They consisted of a guard of honour of 100, and the Band and Drums of the Battalion, with two companies of A.C.F. and C.C.F. affiliated to the Battalion. The C.C.F. were represented by detachments from Bedford Modern School and Berkhamsted School and the A.C.F. from detachments from the counties of Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire.

As preliminaries to the arrival of Her Majesty there was the arrival of the V.I.P.s. First of all the Honorary Colonel and the Commanding Officer who, at 11.15, received His Worship the Mayor of Watford (Councillor Leslie C. Wright). At 11.20 the Colonel of the Regiment, Lieut.-General Sir Reginald F. S. Denning, K.B.E., C.B., D.L., arrived and received a general salute from the parade. At 11.25 Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant of Hertfordshire, Major-General Sir George Burns, K.C.V.O., C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., arrived. At 11.30 those watching the parade knew that Her Majesty was getting close, as we could hear the cheers, and just after 11.30 the royal car arrived in Cassiobury Park.

Her Majesty mounted the dais, attended by the Colonel of the Regiment, the Honorary Colonel, the Commanding Officer, and Sir Martin Gilliatt, and was received by the parade with a royal salute, after which she inspected the guard of honour and also the cadets who were on parade. She was conducted round the parade by the Parade Commander, Major G. H. Hickinbottom, and was attended by the Colonel of the Regiment, the Honorary Colonel, the Commanding Officer and Sir Martin Gilliatt.



[Photograph: Graphic Photos.]

*Her Majesty inspects the parade.*

After the inspection, Her Majesty presented decorations and medals to members of the Regiment and Battalion. W.O.II P. Watson, who was the P.S.I. at 1 Company, received the Long Service and Good Conduct Medal; Cpl. R. Day, the Royal Anglian Regiment received the Queen's Commendation for Gallantry, which he earned in Aden when serving with the 1st Battalion. Territorial Efficiency Medals were presented to W.O.II D. Sharpe (4 Company), C/Sgt. E. A. D. Baines (H.Q. Company), Sgt. J. E. Taylor, Cpl. S. D. H. Mayger and Sgt. W. Wassell (the Band) and Cpl. R. R. Adams (the Drums).

After the presentation of medals Her Majesty addressed the parade. She said that it was the first visit to Watford since the Freedom of the Borough had been bestowed on the Regiment, and said "this Battalion has always been an integral part of the Regiment, and I take the opportunity, as Colonel-in-Chief, of express-

**The Regimental Officers seated with Her Majesty, Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment  
Watford, July 3, 1965**



**Back Row (left to right) : O/Cdt. D. J. W. Browne, 2/Lt. M. D. Pell, 2/Lt. R. A. Hall, Lt. P. N. King, Lt. F. Gilfedder, Lt. J. E. O. Screen, Lt. P. J. Source, Lt. (Q.M.) P. E. Jones, 2/Lt. B. P. Holt, 2/Lt. T. R. P. Moore, O/Cdt. E. Rogers.**

**Middle Row : Capt. B. C. Wicks, Capt. S. J. Durston-West, Capt. S. F. N. Humbert, Capt. B. J. Townshend, Capt. D. M. Lusty, Capt. D. A. E. Finch, Maj. J. D. Blumson, 2/Lt. R. P. James, Capt. J. M. Sambrook, Captain P. S. Dodson, Capt. P. Barthorpe, Capt. (Q.M.) L. C. V. McKean.**

**Front Row : Maj. H. E. D. Griffiths, R.A.M.C., Maj. E. J. Lancaster, Maj. B. J. Elliott, Capt. D. J. Thorogood, Brigadier G. W. H. Peters, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C. (Honorary Colonel, Lt. General Sir Reginald F. S. Denning, K.B.E., C.B., D.L. (Colonel of the Regiment), Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother (Colonel-in-Chief), Lt. Col. D. W. Browne, M.C. (Commanding Officer), Maj. G. H. Hickinbottom, T.D., Maj. D. W. F. Willard, T.D., Maj. R. B. Kentley, Maj. A. S. McCraw, Maj. (Rev.) J. E. Bowers, R.A.Ch.D.**

ing on behalf of the whole Regiment our pleasure and pride at this high honour." Her Majesty also drew attention to the close ties of the Battalion with the town, and the support the Old Comrades had given in the past and she hoped would continue to do in the future. She congratulated the parade on its smartness: "I congratulate you all who are on parade, and not least the Cadets, who performed so valuable a part of the Regiment, on the high standard of your drill, and I offer to each one of you my warmest good wishes for the years ahead."

The Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. D. W. Browne, M.C., in his reply of thanks, assured Her Majesty of the loyalty and devotion of all ranks, and expressed their grateful appreciation of the honour which had been bestowed on them by Her Majesty's visit.

His Worship the Mayor of Watford, Councillor Leslie Wright, also made an address of welcome to Her Majesty on behalf of the Borough.

At the conclusion of the parade, military and civic dignitaries and their ladies were presented to Her Majesty, who then proceeded to the saluting base, opposite the Town Hall, to review the march past of the Battalion with bayonets fixed and Colours flying.

Further presentations followed, and at 1.15 Her Majesty and party arrived in the main hall to a civic luncheon provided by the Mayor and Corporation of Watford. Present were all the officers of the Battalion and their wives, and also the ex-Commanding Officers and other Regular personnel connected with the Regiment. The Band of the 4th Bn. The Royal Anglian Regiment played during the meal.

After lunch Her Majesty visited the Regiment and Old Comrades at the new T.A. Centre at Tolpits Lane. A royal salute was given and the music was played by the Junior Band and Drummers from the Depot, Royal Anglian Regiment, conducted by Bandmaster Smythe.

Her Majesty, accompanied by the Colonel of The Regiment, the Commanding Officer, the Secretary, The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association and the Mayor, inspected the Old Comrades and then entered the Drill Hall and met the officers and members of the Battalion and their wives, and also the Cadets who had been on parade. Photographs were then taken, after which Mrs. Charlesworth, wife of R.S.M. Charlesworth, presented a bouquet to Her Majesty, who took her departure to the sounds of a hearty cheer from all present.

It is regretted that owing to pressure on space, our training and other notes have had to be held over.

## Parade State

### *Commanding Officer :*

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL D. W. BROWNE, M.C.

### *Adjutant :*

CAPTAIN D. J. THOROGOOD

### *Parade Commander :*

MAJOR G. H. HICKINBOTTOM, T.D.

### *Lieutenant of the Guard of Honour :*

CAPTAIN S. F. N. HUMBERT

### *The Colour Officers :*

CAPTAIN D. A. E. FINCH

SECOND-LIEUTENANT R. P. JAMES

### *Staff Officer to the Colonel of the Regiment :*

MAJOR R. B. KEATLEY

### *Officers for the March Past :*

MAJOR B. J. ELLIOTT

LIEUTENANT F. GILFEDDER

LIEUTENANT P. J. SOURCE

LIEUTENANT P. N. KING

LIEUTENANT J. E. O. SCREEN

### *Regimental Chaplain :*

REV. J. E. BOWERS

### *Battalion Quartermaster :*

CAPTAIN (Q.M.) L. C. V. MCKEAN

### *Regimental Sergeant Major*

W.O.I. A. F. CHARLESWORTH

### *Regimental Officers in Attendance :*

MAJORS J. D. BLUMSON AND E. J. LANCASTER

CAPTAINS D. M. LUSTY, J. M. SHAMROCK, P. S.

DODSON, P. BARTHORPE, R. H. J. COLSEY,

R.A.P.C., AND S. J. DURSTON-WEST.

LIEUTENANT (Q.M.) P. E. JONES

SECOND-LIEUTENANTS R. A. HALL & B. P. HOLT

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

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### ANNUAL CAMP

The Battalion, in good strength and spirits, journeyed to Camp at Folkestone on Whit Saturday—an interesting problem in this age of the highly mechanised unit and volunteer. We were quickly established under canvas, and training by Companies and Cadres produced by the end of the first week a fairly efficient Battalion. A fitting climax to this basic training was the "Gaza" Cup Competition, a tactical and endurance event which is the highlight of the year. A meticulous inspection of all the Company teams, each consisting of 11 men of varying rank and experience, a tactical shooting competition and a forced march on a compass bearing followed by some energetic handling of an assault craft on the Hythe Canal, taxed all the teams, who showed a very high degree of enthusiasm and ability. One team aggrieved at losing valuable points through an error in compass reading found the opportunity presented by the canal too tempting, and vented their good humoured indignation on their Team Captain, thus giving the rescue launch a little practice.

The competition was watched by our Honorary Colonel, Colonel Arthur Noble, who, to the Battalion's pleasure, had that morning been awarded the C.B. in the Birthday Honours List.

At a parade on Sunday, when the Battalion was joined by the Band of Drums, who had

come down for the weekend, the Honorary Colonel presented the Lord Lieutenant's Certificates for Meritorious Service to W.O.II C. H. Brickstock, C/Sgt. S. W. G. Bolt, Sgts. G. R. MacNally, S. A. Shoat and S. A. Smith (A.C.C.) and Cpl. S. Ashdown. The camera, given by Messrs. Ilford Ltd., went to Cpl. R. J. Cullum, "B" Company, who had been judged in competition the best all-round junior rank of the year, and the "Gaza" Cup to "B" Company.

The remainder of Camp was devoted to Company Group and Battalion Exercises in preparation for the Brigade two-day exercise. The latter comprised a surprise move by night and a dawn attack some seven miles away conducted in mist and pouring rain, which adequately proved the value of the training and the adaptability of the Territorial.

Camp 1965 ended with morale high, despite doubts as to the future and genuine sorrow in the impending departure of our Regular Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. R. J. Randall, who was warmly cheered after his final address.

The Band and Drums went to a separate Camp at Colchester this year, together with their counterparts from the other battalions in the Brigade. The Massed Bands Competition in which they took part was, despite the poor weather, a most impressive performance.

The Divisional Band and Drums Competition was held on Sunday, October 3, and the results were most gratifying, the Band gaining second place and the Drums third place, especially in

The Honorary Colonel presenting the Gaza Cup to 2/Lt. A. R. Dann, "B" Company.





*"B" Company Shooting Team, winners of the Battalion Rifle Meeting.*

view of the fact that the Corps of Drums had only a very limited amount of time for practice under their new Drum Major, Sgt. D. S. East. Particularly praiseworthy was the Band's rendering of the set piece, "The Overture to the Merry Wives of Windsor" which gained them by far the highest marks in this section of the competition.

Apart from Camp, much of our attention in the past few months has been focussed on

shooting. In the National Small Bore Rifle Association T.A. match, "B" and "H.Q." Companies got into the final stage. The results of this have not yet been received. In the 54 East Anglian Div./District League, "H.Q." Company, "B" Company and "D" Company were each top of their respective divisions, "C" Company were second and "A" Company fifth. Altogether a most satisfying small bore season.

The Battalion Rifle Meeting was held at Pur-

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*The Old Colours of 4th and 5th Territorial Battalions The Essex Regiment on their final parade. From left: W.O.II C. H. Brickstock, Lt. I. M. Kennard, Lt. P. J. Brisbane, C/Sgt. D. C. Halls, Sgt. H. Mildren, Lt. G. E. T. Green, 2/Lt. A. E. Davis, Sgt. P. J. Perish.*



fleet on September 4 and 5. We were extremely fortunate with the weather and the shooting was of a good standard.

At the Divisional Rifle Meeting, the Battalion Team won the Yorke Cup for the best rifle team in the Brigade and our Young Soldiers were 3rd in the China Cup Competition. W.O.II P. A. Stokes was runner-up in the Veterans' Match, and W.O.II Potton won the Divisional Championship having won the Regular Rifle Match, Pistol Match and been runner-up in the S.M.C. Match. We congratulate all who took part in these two meetings, and especially those who succeeded in obtaining prizes.

In the 161 Infantry Brigade Inter-Battalion Competition, which took place on Sunday, October 10, we were narrowly beaten by the Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Regiment, the final placing being dependent upon the last result to be announced. The Signals and M.T. won their sections, the Mortars, Recce, Anti-Tank and Fighting Patrol were each second in theirs. The Assault Pioneer and First Aid Sections, which were composed mainly of scratch teams from "A" Company, entered fully into the spirit of the competition, and the great deal of training and preparation which had been carried out was well reflected on the day.

A party of 12 volunteers under Lt. T. A. Nightingale took part in Exercise "Getaway III," an adventure training exercise in the Peak District over the August Holiday, during which

they went out rock climbing and abseiling daily at Coombes Edge. Strong winds and frequent showers made conditions difficult for beginners but it proved possible to train the party in the rudiments of both techniques.

#### LAYING UP OF THE 4th AND 5th BATTALION COLOURS

The Laying-Up of the old Colours of the 4th Battalion, presented at Gordon Fields, Ilford, on June 11, 1910, and the 5th Battalion presented 21 days later at Chelmsford, was combined with the annual Service of Remembrance held at the Regimental Chapel in July. The large congregation, which included the Mayor and Mayoress of Redbridge (formerly Ilford), the Divisional Commander, and men who had served with the Colours since their presentation, as well as serving members of the Battalion, saw a worthy Colour Party deliver the Colours of the 4th Battalion to the Colonel of the Regiment, Lieut.-General Sir Reginald Denning, and of the 5th Battalion to the Deputy Colonel, Brigadier C. M. Paton, from whom they were received into the Chapel by the Chaplain General to the Forces, assisted by our own Padre. Following the Ceremony, there was a March Past of Comrades led by the Band and Drums, and thereafter everyone adjourned to the gardens of the Regimental Headquarters for tea, and a chance to renew friendships in the summer sunlight.

## REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATIONS

### The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment Association

The visit by the Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment to inspect the 1st Bn. The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment (T.A.) at Watford, on Saturday, July 3, is reported elsewhere in this issue. This occasion, however, provided an opportunity for branches and members of the Regimental Association to give their support on yet another memorable day in the Regiment's history.

We had been privileged to watch the morning ceremonies as spectators, but in the afternoon we were honoured to parade as Old Comrades of The Regiment for inspection by Her Majesty. The stong parade filled the forecourt of the T.A. Centre as it formed up in two ranks, with the Branch Standards proudly massed on the right of the line. The arrival of Her Majesty was greeted by the royal salute played by the Junior Drummers of The Regimental Depot. The Colonel-in-Chief, accompanied by the Colonel of The Regiment, The Mayor of Watford, and the Secretary of The Regimental Association, then walked slowly down the ranks, stopping to talk to each be-medalled old soldier on parade. It was indeed a proud moment for them all. The accompanying photographs recapture this pride as well as the happiness inspired by the gracious charm of our Colonel-in-Chief.

We very much appreciated all the trouble taken by Lt.-Col. D. W. Browne, M.C., Officer Commanding 1st Bn. The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment (T.A.) and his staff to

ensure that we were well provided for. As a result, once formal ceremonies were over, we were able to make this also an occasion for a happy and memorable reunion of old friends.

The Inter-Branch Shoot took place on Barton Road Range, Cambridge, on Sunday, August 8, during the Battalion Rifle Meeting. It being the holiday period, there were fewer teams than usual, but, thanks to the arrangements made by the Commanding Officer, those who were able to attend, enjoyed a sunny day's outing. Bedford Branch were again the winners, but by a narrow margin; the runners-up, Hertford Branch, being only one point behind.

1st/5th BEDFORDS (1914-1918)  
("YELLOW DEVILS") O.C.A.

For many years, on the nearest Sunday to August 15, our branch has paid tribute at the Luton War Memorial to those who fell at Gallipoli and during the First World War. On Sunday, August 15, 1965, it was 50 years to the day since we first went into action and earned the immortal title of "The Yellow Devils."

In view of this historic date, our President, Mr. C. W. Gilder, invited all ex-Servicemen who had been at Gallipoli with other units to join us in our act of homage. Over forty of these were able to be with us for the wreath-laying ceremony at the War Memorial. This was followed by a Memorial Service at Luton Parish Church. Many of us had poignant memories of the Service held in that same



The Colonel-in-Chief inspects the Old Comrades at Watford on 3rd July, 1965. In the foreground is the late In-Pensioner C. C. Waterman.

[Photograph: The Watford Post]



*Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother pauses to talk to a group of members of Bedford Branch during her inspection at Watford on 3rd July.*

*[Photograph The Watford Post*

Church fifty years ago, the Battalion parading at full strength before its departure overseas.

Our other Branch activities have continued during the summer months, a highlight being our annual outing to Brighton. Mr. J. Ward was responsible for the arrangements and, needless to say, it was another successful day.

It is with deep regret that we record the death of Mr. Percy Anderson. We were represented at the funeral in October by Mr. C. W. Gilder, President, Mr. J. Ward, Secretary, and Mr. J. Land.

#### BEDFORD BRANCH

The sudden death of Capt. F. W. Boutwood, M.B.E., on September 15 has overshadowed all other news since our last report. Frank Boutwood served his Regiment in many capacities, from regular soldier to Quartermaster, with the Army Cadet Force and the Territorial and Auxiliary Forces Association; in addition we have lost a staunch friend who was a well-beloved Vice-President of the Branch. Together with so many of his friends from afar, the Branch provided a guard of honour at the funeral service at Biddenham Parish Church on September 21, and later that same afternoon when his ashes were laid to rest in the Garden of Remembrance at our Regimental Memorial.

A team consisting of the late Capt. F. W. Boutwood, M.B.E., Capt. W. D. Folds, Mr. J. Willmott and Mr. C. C. Wells represented us in the Inter-Branch Shoot on August 8. Our expectations proved justified when they again brought the trophy back to Bedford. Congratulations to our secretary, "Buster" Wells, on winning the Bronze Medal for the runner-up in the Individual Score.

#### HERTFORD BRANCH

It is with deep regret that we have to report the death of Mr. W. C. See after the long and painful illness which he had borne so bravely. "Jack" was taken prisoner with the 5th Battalion at Singapore. After the war he served as the Regular P.S.I. at Cheshunt and on his discharge he joined the Territorial Army, rising



*[Photograph by The Hertfordshire Mercury*

*Mr. and Mrs. C. Mansfield, taken on their Golden Wedding Anniversary, 25th May, 1965.*

to the rank of R.Q.M.S. At the time of his death he was employed in the Q.M.'s Department at Hertford. He had served as a Committee Member of the Branch for the past fourteen years and had taken an active part in all our affairs. He will be greatly missed by us all.

On Sunday, August 8, we sent a team to Cambridge to represent us in the Inter-Branch Shoot. After a keen and exciting contest, we lost by one point to Bedford Branch. In consolation, however, we were able to congratulate Mr. Game on being presented with the Silver Medal for the highest individual score.

Our Small Bore Rifle Team is still doing

well and is maintaining its place amongst the leaders in its division of the Hertfordshire County League. We are only too willing to accept a challenge from other Branches or interested teams.

On May 25, 1965, our popular secretary, "Charlie" Mansfield, and his wife reached their Golden Wedding Anniversary. At a celebration party held at the St. Andrew Street Headquarters on Saturday, May 29, his family, many friends and Old Comrades were present to offer their congratulations and to pay tribute to a grand couple who have done so much for the Branch.

## The Essex Regiment Association

BRIGADIER C. M. PATON,  
C.V.O., C.B.E., D.L.

PRESIDENT, THE ESSEX REGIMENT ASSOCIATION  
AN APPRECIATION

Brigadier Charles Paton relinquished the Presidency of The Essex Regiment Association in November. He first became President in 1950 when he was appointed Colonel of The Essex Regiment, and since that time he has worked unceasingly to further the interests of the Association. His experienced guidance and wise counsel have been of inestimable value during a period which has seen great changes in the military structure, and his efforts have ensured that despite the many difficulties the affairs of the Association have continued to prosper.

Although far from fit, Brigadier Paton has for many years now combined the duties of Deputy Colonel with those of President of the Association, and The Regiment owes to him and Mrs. Paton who is always by his side, a great debt of gratitude.

It is with appreciation and pleasure that we record that the Brigadier is to continue as Deputy Colonel, The Royal Anglian Regiment.

We extend a very warm welcome to Colonel Peter Franklin, D.L., our new President.

### THE REGIMENTAL CHAPEL WARLEY

The future of the Regimental Chapel at Warley has been under earnest consideration by the Regiment, and after long and very full investigation certain proposals have been put forward for approval.

Any Members of the former Essex Regiment who are interested may obtain further details of these proposals from the Regimental Secretary, 16th/44th Foot Headquarters, Warley, Brentwood, Essex.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WARLEY JULY 4, 1965

#### SUMMARY OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING

The Annual General Meeting for 1965 was held at Regimental Headquarters, Warley, at 5.30 p.m. on July 4, during the Regimental Reunion celebrations.

The President of the Association, Brigadier C. M. Paton, C.V.O., C.B.E., D.L., took the chair, and 94 members were in attendance.

During the Meeting, Brigadier Paton announced that Lieut.-General Sir Reginald F. S. Denning, K.B.E., C.B., D.L., would relinquish the appointment of Colonel of The Royal Anglian Regiment, probably early in 1966, and that it was likely that Lieut.-General Sir Richard E. Goodwin, K.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., would succeed him. Brigadier Paton referred to the great services rendered to the Regiment by General Denning. No Colonel of a Regiment could have shown greater understanding of difficulties encountered during amalgamation and the subsequent formation of The Royal Anglian Regiment, and it is under his skilful and inspired leadership that all obstacles have been successfully overcome.

The members present were unanimous in expressing their appreciation of General Denning's great work as Colonel of The Regiment, and requested the Brigadier to convey to the General the most sincere gratitude of The Essex Regiment Association for the way in

which he had always guarded the interests of The Essex Regiment, and for his successful preservation of "Warley," in spite of all difficulties.

Brigadier Paton next referred to his own position as President of The Essex Regiment Association, and said that he felt the time was now approaching when he should hand over the reins to a new President. He had accordingly approached Colonel Peter Franklin, T.D., the present County Cadet Commandant, who was prepared to take over in the near future, at a time to be agreed. Members received with regret the news that Brigadier Paton wished to retire from the Presidency, but unanimously endorsed his proposal that Colonel Franklin should succeed him. Brigadier Paton stated that he would shortly seek the final approval of the Colonel of The Regiment for Colonel Franklin to be officially appointed.

#### WARLEY REUNION

The 1965 Annual Reunion of the Essex Regiment was held on July 4, and the Service of Remembrance was on this occasion combined with that of the Laying Up of the old 4th and 5th Territorial Battalion Colours.

The joint ceremony caused considerable administrative problems, but the impressive Service and the Reunion which followed all went off very smoothly. A total of some 600 were seated in the Regimental Chapel and the "annexe" erected at the West End, probably the largest congregation ever, and the majority stayed after the Service to watch the March Past of old comrades, and to enjoy tea and refreshments in the R.H.Q. gardens.

A very happy Reunion for all present. The Laying Up of the Colours is reported in the 4th/5th Battalion notes.

#### SAFFRON WALDEN BRANCH

The Branch continues to flourish, and fortunately we have been able to help a number of our members who have fallen on hard times.

We never lose an opportunity of building up our funds, and on August Bank holiday we held a very successful fête on the ground of the Saffron Walden Town Football Club, when we made a profit of £60. We are most grateful to the Committee and supporters of the Club for the use of their ground.

On September 18 we held our annual social which, as always, was a great success, thanks to our President, Major J. Lipscombe, and his wife, and all our Committee members. We also wish to thank the ladies' section, whose services always prove invaluable.

It is hoped to run a Christmas fair and rummage sale on November 27.

#### CHELMSFORD AND DISTRICT BRANCH

The past year has been a very successful one for the Chelmsford Branch. A Families' Day was held on September 12 at Pointwell Mill, Coggeshall, the home of our President, Major D. J. Jarvis, T.D. In an atmosphere of old-world charm, children were able to enjoy the pleasure of fishing in a private stretch of river, where one fortunate youngster landed a roach well over a pound, or a swim in the pool. There was also a bar and a barbeque.

The A.G.M. was held the following day on September 13. Members welcomed Major D. J. Jarvis, T.D., as the new President of the Branch and paid tribute to the retiring President, Lt.-Col. C. A. Southey. Colonel Southey who was the founder President now becomes Vice-President. Membership of the Branch is still increasing and is steadily approaching the 300 mark.

On October 2 a dance was held in the Social Club Hall at the works of Crompton Parkinson Ltd. Dancing was from 8 p.m. to midnight to the music of the Phil Scott five. Among the 300 dancers were members of Crompton Parkinson's management, including Mr. Budd and Mr. Dancer and their wives. Jack English was an excellent M.C., who really kept things moving, and a special thanks must go to Bill Bridgeman for all the work he put in and for organising such a splendid raffle.

Our first Annual Dinner and Dance was held at the County Hotel, Chelmsford, on Friday, October 15, when a party of 75 members and their wives enjoyed a very happy evening. Our new President, Major D. Jarvis, was present and the Guest of Honour was Colonel Arthur Noble, the Honorary Colonel of 4th/5th Bn. The Essex Regiment (T.A.).

Finally, we would like to thank 4th/5th Bn. The Essex Regiment (T.A.) for the interest that they take in the Branch and for all the help they are always willing to give when it is required.

#### 10th (1914-18) BN. THE ESSEX REGIMENT

The "Talbot" London Wall was again invaded by the old 10th Essex on September 25, when close on 50 old soldiers met at the Annual Dinner. Members came from many parts of the country and spent their customary happy evening under the Chairmanship of Colonel Randall Chell, their old C.O.

The date was that of the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Loos, and 11th Essex, who suffered so badly at that time, were remembered during the toasts.

Commencing with 1966, The Tenth is to extend an invitation to welcome to its Annual Dinner on September 24 all members of the other (1914-18) Service Battalions of The Essex Regiment. Any member wishing to attend

should write to the Honorary Secretary of The Tenth—Mr. L. W. Bird, M.C., F.C.A., 38, Worrin Road, Shenfield, Essex.

### 29th DIVISION ASSOCIATION

#### FAREWELL PARADE

The final Reunion of the 29th Division Association took place on Saturday and Sunday, April 24 and 25 last, and once again the weather was good. As the date coincided with the official Anzac Day celebrations, the Parade on Sunday, April 25, was a joint one, and it was particularly fitting that this 50th Anniversary should be marked in this way.

A loyal message was sent to H.M. The Queen conveying assurances of our loyalty and affection, and the following reply was received:

*Please convey my warm thanks to all Members of the Twenty-Ninth Division Association for their kind message of loyal assurances which I deeply appreciate. On the 50th Anniversary of the Gallipoli landings and their final Reunion I send them all my warm good wishes.*

ELIZABETH R.

The Parade was a first-class event in every way and the impressive turn-out and bearing of the Members was well in keeping with the tradition of The Twenty-Ninth. Despite the lapse of half a century we had between 200 and 300 on parade, whose red triangles and medals made a great impression on all present. The Australian and New Zealand contingents of ex-Servicemen marched with us and the whole parade was led by the Band of the Royal Artillery. Wreaths were laid on the Cenotaph by the President for the 29th Division Association and others representing Regiments and Units. Buglers of the R.A.F. Band sounded Last Post and Reveille. We much appreciated and were grateful for the friendly co-operation of the Anzac authorities at the Cenotaph.

On returning to the Horse Guards Parade ground, the 29th Division Association advanced in Review Order and dismissed, whereupon the Anzacs called for "Three Cheers for the 29th Division," to which we responded. This spontaneous and moving exchange of cheers provided a most fitting end to a memorable parade.

Some 200 members then assembled for lunch at Lyons Corner House, the Roll of Honour was read, and during this final party we sang the famous song of the 29th Division. This was followed by the Annual General Meeting.

Though we had regretfully lost a number of the old Essex Regiment who had previously regularly attended this annual parade we managed a fair muster for this final day. Those who attended were: Major S. H. Andrew, Major H. J. Staff, Mr. A. S. M. Prideaux, Mr.

J. E. Fuller, Mr. A. E. Wain, Mr. F. Vere, Mr. A. E. Mount, Mr. E. Palmer, Mr. F. Turner, Mr. J. J. Steele and Mr. T. R. Usherwood.

Major Andrew also attended the Officers' Dinner on the Saturday evening.

## Essex Army Cadet Force

#### ANNUAL CAMP

Annual Camp this year took place in August at Dibgate, near Folkestone. The weather was for the most part excellent and the morale and training was of a high standard. Each Regiment did their period of day and night exercises involving sleeping out in bivouacs and doing their own messing away from the permanent camp. Varied training included watermanship with assault craft at Hythe and shooting on the Hythe ranges. Army demonstrations were enjoyed, as were the visits to Hythe Military Museum and Dover Tattoo.

The Tetrathlon Competition, a strenuous test, was won by 2nd Essex Cadet Regiment. The Guard Mounting Contest for the Waller Trophy was won by 3rd Essex Cadet Regiment.

#### SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Essex Army Cadet Force revived its Individual and Inter-Regimental Swimming Championships in the Hornchurch Baths on Saturday, July 31.

The prizes were presented by Colonel P. H. A. L. Franklin, D.L., County Cadet Commandant.

The results of the Team Competition were as follows:—

- 1st 3rd Essex Cadet Regiment (R.H.Q. Brentwood), 28 points
- 2nd 7th Essex Cadet Regiment (R.H.Q. Southend), 21½ points.
- 3rd 2nd Essex Cadet Regiment (R.H.Q. Dagenham), 18½ points.

#### .303 RIFLE MEETING

The annual .303 Rifle Meeting was held on Middlewick ranges, Colchester, on Sunday July 11. A strong gusty wind made shooting difficult.

Six Regiments took part and the results were close. The trophies and prizes were presented by Colonel P. H. A. L. Franklin, D.L., County Cadet Commandant.

The results for the Inter-Regimental Trophy were as follows:—

- 1st 6th Essex Cadet Regiment (R.H.Q. Chelmsford), 445 points.
- 2nd 8th Essex Cadet Regiment (R.H.Q. Colchester), 433 points.
- 3rd 7th Essex Cadet Regiment (R.H.Q. Southend), 421 points.

5th Cadet Regiment won the Falling Plate Competition.



## 4th (Leicestershire) Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment

### GOODBYE TO ADEN

Our last notes took us two-thirds of the way through our tour in Aden. The remaining few months were to be no less busy than the first four, with one or two outstanding incidents perhaps worth noting. With the 1st Battalion living a very similar life to ourselves, a recital of conditions and operations in Aden would be superfluous and probably dull, so we shall try to deal broadly with one or two particular events which affected the 4th Battalion.

Although our camps were only a few miles apart we did not see half as much of the 1st Battalion as we would have liked. But we were both in the same Brigade, and it was soon very clear that everyone else in Aden knew what the Large Regiment stood for. In conversations we were always referred to simple as "The 1st Battalion," or "The 4th Battalion." There was no need to mention the Regiment; to talk merely of "The First Battalion" in Aden could not possibly have referred to 1 Royal Sussex, 1 K.S.L.I., or anyone else.

At the same time we all got on extremely well with 1 Royal Sussex, who came to share our camp towards the end of April, and we are looking forward to serving alongside them again in Malta.

Perhaps one of the most noteworthy events during this time was the incident in which Pte. Ryder of "B" Company was severely wounded. Shortly after 22.00 hours on June 11

a "B" Company ambush based on Monks Field, in the Radfan, opened fire on four dissidents who were laying a mine. In the first fight which followed Pte. Ryder was severely wounded in the chest and abdomen by grenade fragments. Helped by a carrying party from the Company base the remainder of the patrol carried Ryder back under cover of mortar and artillery fire to Monks Field. Here Ryder was undoubtedly kept alive by the skill of the R.A.M.C. Lance-Corporal attached to "B" Company, and it was not until first light the next morning that a helicopter was able to reach Monks Field and evacuate Ryder to Aden where he was operated on at about 07.30 hours.

Despite the very serious nature of his wounds Ryder was on his feet in five days and finally evacuated to England after three weeks. During this time his mother had been flown from England to be with him, and had lived with Cpl. and Mrs. Goodfield of the 1st Battalion, to whom we were very grateful.

"B" Company returned to Aden on June 23 from Monks Field, where they had had a very exciting time under command 2 Coldstream Guards. They were not to be left alone for very long, for three days later they took part in a very successful cordon and search of a house in Aden, which resulted in the recovery of a pistol, ammunition, gelignite, and other terrorist equipment. The official Secrets Act prevents us saying in detail where the information on

*The Commander - in - Chief, Middle East, Lieut. - General Sir Charles Harington, talking to Pte. Berry of "C" Company. The Commanding Officer and the Second - in - Command listen attentively.*





*C/Sgt. "Doc" Hobday and his son, Cfn. Bruce Hobday, R.E.M.E., both serving with the Battalion.*



*Sgt. Brenner and Pte. Williamson, of "B" Company during a cordon and search.*

which this operation was based, came from, but an officer of the 1st Battalion was directly concerned, and so with some justification perhaps we reckoned this was very much a Royal Anglian "family affair."

Although "B" Company had returned to Radfan Camp it was now the turn of "A" Company to be detached. Their Support Platoon was sent to Al Milah, a Camp on the road to the Radfan, where they remained until the end of July, supporting the Sappers who were based there for road maintenance. They had their share of excitement, notably when a white phosphorous shell landed on Lt. Davenport's tent, which he had left only minutes earlier. Unfortunately it did not destroy his stock of long playing, always playing, "Pop" records. 2 Platoon was sent to Perim Island, some 200 miles west of Aden, but on the same day 1 Platoon returned from Mukayras, an up-country station.

During this period we continued to develop our road block organisation and methods. Road blocks, either of a semi-permanent nature or "anap" from vehicles, had become a major part of the Aden Brigade campaign against the terrorists. A number of good ideas and refinements to our blocks came from those private soldiers whose job it was to man them night after night. Those who remember our two or three coils of dannett wire which made a road block in Cyprus would be amazed at the lights, notices, fluorescent sleeves, and battery operated aircraft handlers' wands which became standard equipment of a road block in Aden. Arab soldiers from the Federal Regular Army took over some of them from us on one or two occasions, and we were impressed by their smartness and the way in which they carried out this, to them, strange task.

And so July came, and with it the beginning

of our last six weeks in Aden. It is interesting to reflect a little on what we had achieved since January. As we found in Borneo, the young soldiers and junior N.C.O.s in particular grew up quickly. The days were very long and usually monotonous, but morale remained high. Everyone made the best of the not very good conditions in Radfan Camp, and learned to live with those restrictions on movement and life in general which IS operations always bring. "Flexibility" had become our watchword. Platoons and Companies learned to react to the unexpected (which became the rule rather than the exception!) with great speed, energy and enthusiasm. "C" Company proved this perhaps as well as any on August 16, as the following story shows:

The Commanding Officer had handed over operational command to 1 KOYLI, and 9 Platoon was in camp with no planned operational duties, and at no degree of notice. It was due to fly out to the U.K. on August 17 and therefore had packed all its uniform. It had no weapons or equipment, these all having been handed over to 1 KOYLI. At 19.30 hours, after a series of three incidents in Aden town, the Brigade Commander asked for this Platoon to be put at immediate notice. Within about 45 minutes the whole Platoon was fully dressed in uniform, had drawn weapons, ammunition and radios, and was sitting in a vehicle ready to move. Everybody regarded this as a perfectly reasonable hazard of military life in the Battalion in Aden.

#### RETURN TO WATCHET

From the beginning of July, starting with the Advance Party which had left Aden on June 29, as they were relieved by Companies of 1 KOYLI, Companies began to return to England.

Everyone was given eight weeks' leave, with





*Lt. Martin Romilly briefs a patrol from "A" Company.*

the Advance Party assembling again in Watchet at the end of September. With the help of the Rear Party already there Company Offices, Stores and Messes were opened and preparations for our move to Malta in November begun. During this 'staging' period we hope to fit in three weeks shooting, education and fitness training. We also hope to get sport going again in the Battalion. This has rather lapsed during the last three years.

As always after a major move there is a considerable amount of reorganisation to be carried out. The Battalion Order of Battle, published in this issue shows how different the 'Management' in Malta will be from that which came back from Aden.

It would be wrong to continue without some appreciation of the work done by the Rear Party under Major Dick Graveston, Major Peter Philcox and C/Sgt. Welch. Nor should

*The last parade in Aden, with some in civilian clothes, ready for the flight home. Brigadier R. L. Hægroves, Commander, Aden Brigade, presented the Battalion with a plaque as a memento of their six months' tour, and Lt.-Col. Cowan presents him with a Battalion one.*



the efforts of those officers' and soldiers' wives who stayed in Watchet to visit, advise and generally look after those families who needed help be forgotten. It is easy to record the deeds of the soldiers of the Battalion in Borneo and Aden. We do not, however, remember so readily the wife, on her own, who apart from her own house and children to look after, is probably running around caring for some less fortunate family. This Battalion has good cause to remember with gratitude the efforts of so many of its wives during the past three years. Happily too, in Watchet we have always found the local doctors, SSAFA and other welfare agencies ready to give their help and advice.

Major Graveston is now on a GLO's Course and will not be coming to Malta with us, but his welfare work in Watchet during the last six months will not be readily forgotten.

#### COMINGS AND GOINGS

Major Peter Philcox is fit again, and will be going to Malta before any of us, as Families Liaison Officer. He has bought a cottage in Dunster, and I suspect, a new hat to go with it.

Capt. David Hickman has gone to Malaysia; Capt. John Heggs goes there later in the year, and with Major Bill Brown already there, we shall be well represented in the Far East. From Malaysia we welcome Major Bob Godfrey who is to command "C" Company.

Capt. Neil Crumby goes to Shrivenham and then on to Camberley very soon, and Capt. Dick Robinson is leaving "C" Company to become Adjutant.

From the Sergeants' Mess R.Q.M.S. Veitch has gone, as have C.S.M. Murray, Sgt. Taylor, S.I. Carr, A.P.T.C., and Sgt. Stewart, and, almost difficult to believe, Sgt. Simms. L/Cpl. McKenna liked Aden so much that he stayed behind for a tour with the Federal Regular Army. Cpl. Halford has left the Regimental Police for the Depot, and Pte. Eustace has at last left "A" Company, also for the Depot.

We welcome, amongst many others, Capt. Tony Amos and Lt. Terry Hutley, and in the Sergeants' Mess, R.Q.M.S. Sprason, C.S.M. Buxton, C.S.M. Collins, C/Sgt. Freakley, Sgts. Spalding, Wilson, Higgins and Sutton, and Sgt. Stoves of the A.P.T.C.

Our next notes will come from Malta. This is a completely new sort of station for the Battalion since before the war, and we look forward to having something interesting to say about it in the next issue of *The Castle*. For now, we wish all our friends in the Regiment a Very Happy 1966.

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### ORDER OF BATTLE

#### 4TH (LEICESTERSHIRE) BATTALION

##### BATTALION HEADQUARTERS

*Commanding Officer* : Lt.-Col. J. A. C. Cowan,  
M.B.E.  
*Second-in-Command* : Major T. Holloway  
*Adjutant* : Capt. R. H. Robinson  
*Assistant Adjutant* : Capt. A. T. Amos  
*Regimental Sergeant-Major* : R.S.M. N. Jenks, M.M.  
*Orderly Room Quartermaster Sergeant* : W.O.II M. J. Rigley

##### HEADQUARTER COMPANY

*Officer Commanding* : Major R. E. J. Gerrard-  
Wright, M.B.E.  
*Battalion Paymaster* : Lt. P. B. J. Carr  
*Quartermaster* : Capt. (Q.M.) N. McColl  
*Tech. Quartermaster* : 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 R. E. Sprason  
*Company Sergeant-Major* : W.O.II L. Grant  
*Weapon Training Warrant Officer* : W.O.II L. MacDonald

##### "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* : Lt. A. T. Hutley  
2/Lt. M. K. Goldschmidt  
*Company Sergeant-Major* : W.O.II G. Wood

##### "B" COMPANY

*Officer Commanding* : Capt. J. C. D. Heggs  
*Second-in-Command* : Capt. F. A. H. Swallow  
*Support Platoon Commander* : Lt. D. W. James  
*Platoon Commanders* : Lt. A. Fisher  
2/Lt. A. C. Taylor  
*Company Sergeant-Major* : W.O.II A. Buxton

##### "C" COMPANY

*Officer Commanding* : Major F. A. Godfrey, M.C.  
*Support Platoon Commander* : Lt. D. E. A. Michael  
*Platoon Commanders* : 2/Lt. A. W. C. Dexter  
2/Lt. C. P. B. Keeble  
2/Lt. B. R. Cornish  
*Company Sergeant-Major* : W.O.II J. Pearce

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## 4th/5th Battalion

### The Royal Leicestershire Regiment (TA)

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Our annual camp, spent at the Army Home Defence Centre, Devizes, ended in torrential rain, which caused the cancellation of the main exercise, not, however, before the Battalion had immersed itself waist deep in the grey chalk mud of Wiltshire. Righteous disappointment was soon washed away with the mud in the efficient washrooms of the centre, and by the following Sunday the transformation from soldier back to civilian was complete. Thus ended a camp which will long be remembered for the excellence of both instruction and accommodation.

Amongst our distinguished visitors at camp were Major-General J. M. K. Spurling, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., now Deputy-Colonel, Lieut.-General Sir Colin Callander, K.C.B., K.B.E., M.C., and the Divisional Commander, Major-General C. M. M. Man, O.B.E., M.C. Colonel Guy German, our Honorary Colonel, as always, spent several days with us, and we were delighted to entertain Colonel R. A. St.G. Martin, O.B.E., J.P., the Lord Lieutenant of Leicestershire.

Although the climax of any training year is camp, several events of great importance have maintained a high interest throughout the Battalion. The annual rifle meeting at Kibworth, in August, was preceded by intensive range work by all the Company teams, and the resulting high standard was clearly visible. H.Q. Company, as Champion Company, won the Burnaby Shield, and Cpl. Burton, of "A" Company, became Champion Shot, after a good last practice. Although the weather was not perfect, many families enjoyed the fun of the fair, which included Pte. Gurdial Singh, of "A" Company performing oriental magic, to the astonishment of many.

The Divisional Rifle Meeting followed our own, and again the greatly-improved standard was evident, when we gained fourth place. Pte. Bozzoni, H.Q. Company, firing in the Young Soldiers' Competition, led all the way, but was beaten on the last practice. To R.S.M. Benham must go much of the credit for training the team, among whom C.S.M. Brunskill ("D" Company), Cpl. Hall (H.Q. Company) were the highest scorers.

The Battalion M.T. Rally, held on October 2 and 3, was a realistic test of driving skill, H.Q. Company again being the winners, with "D" Company placed second.

At the time of going to press, Lt. Trevor Holroyd and 24 N.C.O.s and men of the



*(Courtesy: Territorial Magazine)*

*Cpl. C. Burrows and Sgt. S. Copland at Aden.*

Battalion are in B.A.O.R., where they are undergoing a fortnight's training with 1 R.N.F. The selection of men for B.A.O.R. was conducted over several week-ends' training, and the end-product was a smart, well-drilled platoon, which paraded at Proteus Camp before leaving for Germany, via Harwich. On arrival, the men were posted to their various employments within the host unit, where they took part in a Divisional exercise as well as undergoing the normal day-to-day training in a regular Battalion.

An event of some significance was the Command Selection Board in September, at which six officer cadets were granted provisional commissions. We would like to congratulate 2/Lts. Cole, Cronin, Frost, Hampton, Kelly and Lane.

Personalities within a T.A. unit are for ever changing, and to the Battalion we welcome W.O.II Murray, Sgt. Morris and Sgt. Stewart, who, respectively, took over as P.S.I.s to "B" and "C" Companies and the M.T. Platoon. Sgt. Cook took over as P.S.I. of "A" Company in early October. As a result of the

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changes we now lose W.O.II Buxton, C/Sgt. Grice and Sgt. Freakley. While the others return to 4th Royal Anglian with our best wishes; unfortunately, C/Sgt. Grice has left the Army, and we sincerely hope that he soon recovers his good health.

Other changes include Capt. Jeremy North, recently granted a T.A. commission, who takes over the Intelligence and Recce Platoon from Capt. Brian Lodge, who undertakes the rigours of the P.R.I.'s calling.

The training year is now drawing to a close, and preparation for the Northern Command Night March is much on everyone's mind. "A" Company march the highways of Leicestershire, while it is rumoured that "D" Company, also hard at training, intend to win both the Battalion and the Command Competitions. Let us hope that the strenuous training programmes which all the teams have set themselves are fully rewarded.

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## ORDER OF BATTLE

### 4th/5th ROYAL LEICESTERS (T.A.)

#### BATTALION HEADQUARTERS

<i>Commanding Officer :</i>	Lt.-Col. J. P. N. Creagh
<i>Second-in-Command :</i>	Major R. G. Wilkes, T.D.
<i>Training Officer :</i>	Major J. Hartley
<i>Adjutant :</i>	Capt. A. J. G. Pollard
<i>Intelligence Officer :</i>	Capt. J. G. M. North
<i>Assistant I.O.:</i>	2/Lt. R. C. Lane
<i>R.S.M.:</i>	W.O.I Benham
<i>O.R.Q.M.S.:</i>	W.O.II Agar

#### H.Q. COMPANY

<i>Officer Commanding :</i>	Major G. W. E. Wootton
<i>P.R.I.:</i>	Capt. G. B. Lodge
<i>Officer-in-Charge Establishment Grant :</i>	Major J. F. M. Wilkes
<i>U.P.M.:</i>	Major J. T. Dudley, R.A.P.C.
<i>Quartermaster :</i>	Major (Q.M.) J. M. F. Leeson
<i>M.T.O.:</i>	Lt. J. Underwood
<i>R.S.O.:</i>	Capt. J. F. Hampson
<i>Assistant R.S.O.:</i>	2/Lt. C. H. Cole
<i>C. of E. Padre :</i>	Capt. I. J. Phelps
<i>R.C. Padre :</i>	Capt. J. T. Jones
<i>Assault Pnr. Platoon :</i>	Lt. R. H. Must
<i>C.S.M.:</i>	W.O.II Botting
<i>P.S.I.:</i>	W.O.II Clarke
<i>P.S.I. (M.T.):</i>	Sgt. Stewart

#### "A" COMPANY

<i>Officer Commanding :</i>	Capt. W. G. Wallace
<i>Second-in-Command :</i>	Capt. M. I. M. Joule
<i>Platoon Commanders :</i>	Lt. A. A. J. Pryce-Howells
	2/Lt. W. E. Cronin
	2/Lt. J. A. Kelly
<i>C.S.M.:</i>	W.O.II Rowlatt
<i>P.S.I.:</i>	Sgt. Cook

#### "B" COMPANY

<i>Officer Commanding :</i>	Capt. M. A. N. Clarke
<i>Platoon Commanders :</i>	Lt. T. M. Holroyd
	2/Lt. G. J. Morgan
	2/Lt. C. W. Hampton
<i>C.S.M.:</i>	W.O.II Parker
<i>P.S.I.:</i>	W.O.II Murray

#### "C" COMPANY

<i>Officer Commanding :</i>	Major W. G. Dawson
<i>Second-in-Command :</i>	Capt. A. A. J. Wilson T.D.
<i>Platoon Commanders :</i>	Lt. T. J. Lant
	2/Lt. J. E. Daly
	2/Lt. P. R. S. Frost
<i>C.S.M.:</i>	W.O.II Sowter, M.M.
<i>P.S.I.:</i>	Sgt. Morris, M.M.

#### "D" COMPANY

<i>Officer Commanding :</i>	Major R. D. F. Bream
<i>Platoon Commanders :</i>	Lt. W. G. Lewis
	2/Lt. J. R. Ward
<i>C.S.M.:</i>	W.O.II Brunskill
<i>P.S.I.:</i>	C/Sgt. Hill

## Royal Tigers' Association

Capt. "Bill" Knight, who has served at Regimental Headquarters for the last twelve years, photographed at a recent reunion with Capt. Harold Schuldi, M.B.E., M.M., E.D.

It was good to see Capt. Schuldi over here again and in such good form.

Many will remember his last visit in 1958, when he presented a clock for the pavilion of the Regimental Depot at Glen Parva Barracks from many Old Comrades of the 32nd Battalion City of Footscray Regiment, Victoria, Australia, which became 5832 Infantry Battalion The City of Essendon Regiment, which was affiliated to The Royal Leicestershire Regiment.

We are so very sorry that this fine Regiment is now no more and also our affiliation with it.

(By courtesy of The Leicester Mercury).



We are all so very sorry that Major-General Sir Douglas Kendrew has resigned as our President and Deputy Colonel of The Royal Anglian Regiment. As Governor of Western Australia, he has not been able to get home as often as he had hoped, and has actually not been back for over two years. We are, however, delighted that Major-General John Spurling, who represented General Kendrew at Royal Tigers' Week-End this year, has agreed to succeed him.

This is a period of reunions. The 7th Battalion are holding one on October 9; the 5th Battalion on October 16; and the 8th Battalion, that became the 1st Battalion, on October 30.

The programme for next year's Royal Tigers

Week-End will be similar to this year's event, and will be on June 25 and 26.

Next year's annual sweepstake in aid of Royal Tigers' Association funds, will be run on the Derby.

We congratulate Mr. A. Arnold on his new job at Taunton. We are, however, sorry that he will have to resign as a member of the General Committee. We are also sorry to hear that the London Banch will not be seeing Mr. C. S. Stevens for a year or two, as he is joining his daughter in America.

The best of luck for 1966 to all serving and retired Tigers and all members of the Royal Anglian Regiment Association.



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