



CASTLE

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT





How do you feel about leaving the Army?

As you're well aware, serving in the Forces isn't just a job. It's a way of life. So, it's no surprise, that after leaving, many people feel as though they're high and dry, like a fish out of water.

But there's no need for you to feel this way. It's perfectly possible for you to keep up with old friends, make use of the unique skills you've acquired, and make a vital contribution to the nation's defence into the bargain.

How? Simply by becoming a member of the Volunteer Forces, which make up a third of our Army and represent a significant part of our commitment to peace.

There are two options open to you.

Firstly, you can join one of the Territorial Army Independent Units based in the TAVRA region in which you have decided to settle. An ideal route for those leaving Infantry or Cavalry regiments.

Secondly, if you are leaving a Corps, you could retain your capbadge and become a member of either an Independent Unit or a TA Specialist Unit. In either, you can maintain and extend the special skills that you have learned.

You can contribute as much time as you want in any one year. The minimum that we ask is that as a member of the Independent TA you complete 6 weekends, a two-week Summer Camp and some weekday evenings. As a Specialist we ask only 15 days training and two weekends.



In return you will receive payment equivalent to the rates paid to Regular Army soldiers plus an annual tax-free bonus.

If you would like more information about how you can stay in the swim of things, write to the address below, giving details of which option you are interested in, your current age and address, your intended county of residence, and of the regiment you have left or are leaving.



Editor : Lt Col T D A Veitch

Contents

Colonel of the Regiment	5	Regimental Museum	56
Honours and Awards	6	Royal Visitors	58
Personalia	8	Regimental Chapels	60
Regimental Matters	10	The Associations	61
Mainly about People	15	News from the Cadets	74
Letters	17	ORBATs	80
News from the Vikings	18	Marriages, Births, and Deaths	85
News from the Poachers	24	Obituaries	86
News from 6th Battalion	32	Notices	88
News from the Tigers	36	Association Branches	90
Regimental Sports	47	Regimental Shop	91
Special Features	48		

Front Cover: The 6th (Volunteer) Battalion's Drums, public duties 24 May 1997. One Drummer dressed in London Regiment headdress to balance a joint display.

Rear Cover: The 2nd Battalion's victorious team in the Army Novice Boxing Championship, 3 April 1997.

© Crown Copyright. This publication contains official information and should be treated with discretion by the recipient

The views expressed in the articles in this journal are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the policy and views, official or otherwise of The Regiment or Ministry of Defence. No responsibility for the goods or services advertised in this journal can be accepted by the publishers, printers or The Regiment and the advertisements are included in good faith.



The journal is published on behalf of the Regiment by
 Crest Publications, Moulton Park Centre, Redhouse Road, Northampton NN3 6AQ.
 Tel: 01604 497565. Fax : 01604 497688

 Member of the Association of Service Newspapers



Elizabeth R
1995

*The Colonel - in - Chief, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth
The Queen Mother*



The Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon.



The Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester.

From the Colonel of the Regiment



General Sir Michael Walker KCB CMG CBE Colonel of The Royal Anglian Regiment

For the last five years the Foreword has been written by Major General Patrick Stone CB CBE, the then Colonel of the Regiment. Whilst I was able to pay tribute to him at our annual officers' club dinner, it would be remiss of me not to do so for the wider audience that The Castle reaches.

General Patrick succeeded General Sir John Akehurst as Colonel in November 1991. It was baptism by fire - for he assumed the appointment just as the Army was to embark upon as major a set of changes as most of us serving have known; changes to both our Regular and Territorial structures that were beset with emotion, frustration and uncertainty. In General Patrick we could not have asked for a better champion for our cause. His own Herculean efforts were reinforced by the support he mobilised from our counties. He brought sanity, clarity of vision and dignity to the debate so that, in the aftermath of such change, we were back where we belong - with our loyalty undiminished, our reputation untarnished and our pride intact.

But there has been much more that The Regiment owes to its Colonel of the last five years. The presentation of new Colours, the opening of the Museum at Duxford, the reinforcement of our county, school and territorial links and a continuing lively interest in, and frequent visits to, the Battalions and Associations are all a tribute to the personal tenacity and determination of General Patrick. In particular we have a very worthy focus for our Regimental History at Duxford and we must now be the custodians of its well-being. We owe an enormous debt to General Patrick and Christine and we wish them well for the future.

Our Battalions prosper and their reputations are as high as ever. The 1st Battalion has focused on its Belfast tour, which has been impressive by any standards - by now they have enjoyed some well earned rest and are back to routine life in Oakington. The 2nd Battalion has established a reputation second to none at Warminster and won the Army Novices Boxing. The 6th Battalion won the Brigade Inter-Company Competition and the 7th Battalion continues to make its mark in the region: both Battalions remaining at the forefront of the Territorial Infantry.

The health of the Regiment remains contingent upon - as has ever been the case - its ability to recruit and retain high quality officers and soldiers. Although comparatively Regimental recruiting is buoyant, at a time when the Army as a whole is not meeting its targets, we cannot be complacent. We need to attend to our image and although the traditional activities such as Freedom Marches help (we have a series of these in the offing) they are not a solution in themselves. There are many facets to our image ranging from the care we demonstrate for our old comrades through the interest we show in potential recruits, to the perceptions others have of equal opportunities within the Regiment. I will be developing a campaign plan.



Colonel-in-Chief

HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH THE QUEEN MOTHER

Deputy Colonels-in-Chief

Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon

Her Royal Highness Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester

Colonel of the Regiment

General Sir Michael Walker KCB CMG CBE

Honorary Chaplain to the Regiment

The Reverend T B F Hiney MC

Deputy Colonels of the Regiment

1st and 6th(V) Battalions:

Brigadier J C B Sutherell CBE

2nd & 7th(V) Battalions:

Brigadier P P Rawlins MBE

Colonel D K Harris OBE TD DL

President of the Regimental Association

Major General Sir David Thorne KBE CVO

Deputy Honorary Colonels TA

Norfolk

Suffolk

Cambridgeshire

Lincolnshire

Leicestershire

Northamptonshire

Bedfordshire

Hertfordshire

Essex

Colonel P J S Child

Brigadier A J K Calder OBE

Colonel P G R Horrell TD

Colonel R J M Drummond OBE

Colonel J C D Heggs DL

Colonel F A H Swallow OBE

Colonel M Adkin

Colonel N G Halsey TD

Colonel R A Shervington TD

Alliances

Australia

Barbados

Belize

Bermuda

Canada

The Royal Tasmania Regiment

The Barbados Regiment

The Belize Defence Force

The Bermuda Regiment

Sherbrooke Hussars

The Lincoln and Welland Regiment

The Essex and Kent Scottish

The Lake Superior Scottish Regiment

The Gibraltar Regiment

1st Battalion The Royal Malay Regiment

3rd Battalion (Auckland {Countess of Ranfurly's Own}
and Northland) Royal New Zealand Infantry Regiment

5th Battalion The Frontier Force Regiment

First City Regiment

Regiment de la Rey

Gibraltar

Malaysia

New Zealand

Pakistan

South Africa

Civic Honours

THE REGIMENT HAS BEEN GRANTED THE HONOUR OF THE FREEDOM OF:

Bedford, Boston, Brentwood, Bury St. Edmunds, Cambridge, Chelmsford,
Cleethorpes, Colchester, Dunstable, Ely, Grantham, Grimsby,
Grays and Thurrock, Hertford, Hinckley and Bosworth, Ilford, Ipswich,
King's Lynn, Leicester, Lincoln, Lowestoft, Newham, Northampton,
Norwich, Peterborough, Romford, Southend, Sudbury, Watford,
Wellingborough, Wisbech, Great Yarmouth, and the
The Colours of the Borough of Barking and Dagenham.
The 1st Battalion has a Bond of Friendship with HMS Norfolk

REGIMENTAL LOCATIONS

Regimental Headquarters:

The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3RN
(Tel: 01284 752394 Fax: 752026/Colchester Military 5124)

Regimental Secretary: Lieutenant Colonel T D A Veitch

Assistant Regimental Secretary: Major M Jones

Regimental Careers Officer: Major R C Gould

Area Office Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire

Britannia House TA Centre,
325 Aylsham Road, Norwich NR3 2AD

(Tel: 01603 400290)

Area Secretary: Major W H Reeve

Area Office Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire and Essex

Blenheim House, Eagle Way, Warley, Essex CM13 3BN

(Tel: 01277 213051)

Area Secretary: Major D J Thorogood

Area Office Leicestershire and Northamptonshire

Gibraltar Barracks, Northampton NN1 3RE (Tel: 01604
35412)

Area Secretary: Colonel F A H Swallow OBE

Regimental Information Team

Army Training Regiment, Bassingbourn (Tel: 01763 242271)
WO2 M Minns

Area Office Lincoln

Sobraon Barracks, Lincoln LN1 3PY (Tel: 01522 525444)

Area Secretary: Captain D J Lee BEM

Regimental Museum

Imperial Museum, Duxford, Cambs CB2 4QR.

(Tel: 01223 835000 Extn 313)

Regimental Attendant: Mr G A Boss

BATTALION LOCATIONS

1st Battalion,
Oakington Barracks,
Longstanton, Cambridge CB4 5EJ

Lieutenant Colonel R E Harrold OBE

2nd Battalion,
Battlesbury Barracks,
Warminster, Wilts BA12 OAZ (to Cyprus Mar 98)

Lieutenant Colonel S L Porter

6th(V) Battalion,
TA Centre, Blenheim Camp, Newmarket Road,
Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3SW

Lieutenant Colonel H N D Gill (V)

7th(V) Battalion,
TA Centre, Ulverscroft Road, Leicester LE4 6BY

Lieutenant Colonel P M Holme

Regimental Representatives

Army Training Regiment, Bassingbourn: Major C J Pearce

Infantry Training Centre, Catterick: Major A W Price

RMA Sandhurst: Captain R L Gerrard-Wright

Honours and Awards

We congratulate the following on their awards during the past six months:

Brig J C McColl OBE
Maj R J Ladley
WO1 P D Woodcock
Lt Col C A F Thomas TD
LCpl D P McLatchley(V)

SSgt T H Wesley BEM
WO2 A D Ralph
Sgt P Almond
Sgt V J Walker
Cpl R J Selby
Cpl R J Thorpe
WO2 C A Hitchings(V)
WO2 R J Hammond(V)
CSgt C M Prewer(V)
Sgt R Havard(V)

CBE, Former Yugoslavia List, May 97
MBE, Jun 97
MBE, Jun 97
Bar to TD
GOC 2 Div's Commendation "For his considerable courage in treating and extracting a driver from a car in a road traffic accident in Hemel Hempstead on 1 Aug 96"
Clasp to LSGC (Mil), 12 Sep 96
LSGC (Mil), 17 Sep 96
LSGC (Mil), 4 May 96
LSGC (Mil), 6 Apr 96
LSGC (Mil), 9 Dec 96
LSGC (Mil), 29 Sep 94
Bar to TEM
TEM
TEM
TEM

Promotions

Col J C McColl OBE	To Brig,	31 Dec 96
Maj A N Duff (V)	To Lt Col,	1 Jan 97
Maj N A Fitch (V)	To Lt Col,	1 Apr 97
Capt(A/Maj) F M G de Planta de Wildenburg (V)	To Maj,	19 Sep 96
Flt Lt (RAF) S G Hudson(V)	To Capt,	1 Oct 96
Lt M L Elphee	To Capt,	11 Aug 96
Lt P A Foster(V)	To Capt,	1 Sep 96
Lt G B Shaw(V)	To Capt,	1 Sep 96
Lt G Toyn	To Capt,	13 Dec 96

Lt P M Gotobed(V)	To Capt,	Sep 96
Lt M Goodge(V)	To Capt,	1 Nov 96
Lt P M Birch	To Capt,	13 Dec 96
Lt A P R Bowman	To Capt,	13 Dec 96
2Lt A S Davies(V)	To Lt,	4 Dec 96
2Lt T C Thompson(V)	To Lt,	9 Jan 97
2Lt(A/Capt) T M B Smith(V)	To Lt,	9 Mar 97
2 Lt D S J Biddick	To Lt,	22 Oct 96
2Lt E J M Osborne	To Lt,	8 Mar 97

Commissions

The Regiment welcomes the following newly commissioned officers:

Lt G A Hitchings(V)	3 Dec 96
Lt S N Pallant, 2nd Bn	1 Apr 97
Lt C D Hoyles, 1st Bn	1 Apr 97
2Lt J G Nicholls, SSLC to 2nd Bn	13 Oct 96
2Lt J Adams, SSLC to 2nd Bn	13 Oct 96
2Lt N F Faint, 2nd Bn	14 Dec 96
2Lt C B K Barry, 2nd Bn	12 Apr 96
2Lt N D Haden(V)	1 Aug 96

OCdt A F Hawley is to be commissioned from RMAS, for the 2nd Bn, in Jul 97.

Regimental Appointments

The following are congratulated on their assuming senior Regimental appointments:

Col R J M Drummond OBE as Deputy Honorary Colonel TA for Lincolnshire in succession to Col D K Harris OBE TD DL, 31 Mar 97.
Col P J S Child as Deputy Honorary Colonel TA for Norfolk in succession to Col P B D Long OBE, 31 Mar 97.
Col F A H Swallow OBE as Deputy Honorary Colonel TA for Northamptonshire in succession to Col P Worthy, 17 May 97.
Col M Adkin as Deputy Honorary Colonel TA for Bedfordshire in succession to Col T A Winton OBE, 1 Jul 97.
Col R A Shervington TD as Deputy Honorary Colonel TA for Essex in succession to Col R C Tomkins OBE TD DL, 31 Mar 97.
Lt Col P M Holme as CO the 7th (V) Bn in succession to Lt Col J B C Prescott, 27 Apr 97.

Left the Army

The following have left, or are leaving, the Army:

Col G I G Brett 8 Aug 97	Capt A D Martin, 31 Mar 97
Col A E Thompson MBE MC, 12 Jun 97	Capt R M Blades, 12 Jan 97
Lt Col B H M Davenport, 31 Mar 97	Capt D W Spalding (V), 2 Nov 96 (in rank of Maj)
Maj D Whitehead, 31 Jan 97	Lt S Melides(V), 15 Nov 96
Maj B A Foster, 1 May 97	

We wish them well for the future and hope to see them from time to time at Regimental Functions.

Transfers

Maj J A B Borthwick from RAMC to The Royal Anglian Regiment, 21 Feb 97; Capt P V Lennon(V) from RWF(V) to The Royal Anglian Regiment(V), 18 Jul 96; 2Lt N D Haden(V) from CUOTC to 6th Bn, Nov 96; 2Lt O D M Philpott(V) from CUOTC to 6th Bn, Jan 97. Capt N A Baker transferred from The Regiment into the Intelligence Corps, 20 May 97.

Congratulatory

Pte S J Allen, RAMC(V), 6th Bn, for her Distinction on the Combat Medical Technician Class 3(V) Course.

Postings

RHQ has been told of the following postings:

A/Col P R C Dixon OBE from DNBC to HQ 4 Div, 2 Jun 97	Maj W O'Driscoll from 2nd Bn to QM 7th Bn, 14 Jul 97
Lt Col M D Chambers from HQ LAND to Comdt Stanford Training Area, 7 Apr 97	Maj G F Tomlin from Abu Dhabi UAE to 602 TACP(FAC), 1 Jul 97
Lt Col J G Ross from ARCC Sp Bn to RMCS Shrivenham, 17 Feb 97	Maj S B Brunt from BMATT South Africa to HQ Salisbury Plain Trg Area, 25 Mar 97
Lt Col A P Domeisen from BLO Inf School FRG to MOD FRG, 1 Apr 97	Maj J A B Borthwick from 24 Armd Fd Amb to 2 RGJ as 2IC, 8 Apr 97
Lt Col R M Chisnall OBE from MOD to SOI Liaison Paris JHQ, Oct 97	Maj R F A Knox from 1st Bn to MOD, May 97
Maj (for Lt Col) R J Kemp MBE for AITAT UKSC(G) to MOD (as A/Lt Col), 1 May 97	Capt C V Trott(V) from No 2 CTT to 6th Bn, 13 Mar 97
Maj A C Wiles from Indian Services Staff College to 2nd Bn, 9 Jul 97	Capt P M Gotobed(V) from 1st Bn to 6th Bn, 28 Feb 97
Maj J M Davidson(V) from 6th Bn to HQ MND, Dec 96	Capt M A L Lyne from 2nd Bn to 1st Bn, Nov 96
Maj R W Potter MBE from 1st Bn to 6th Bn, 27 Jan 97	Capt M B Dicker from ATR Bassingbourn to HQ 4 Div, 16 Dec 96
Maj I R Hall from FG&IMRO(N) to 2nd Bn, 30 Jun 97	Capt P Chilvers(V) from 6th Bn to HQ MND SW, Apr 97
Maj N G Burrell from 1st Bn to MA to COS HQ QMG, 16 Jun 97	Lt I E Moran(V) from 2nd Bn to 6th Bn, 1 Jul 97
	Lt D J Moss from ITC Catterick to 1st Bn, 8 Sep 97
	Lt C P D M McLay from 1st Bn to OC 2 CTT, Jun 97
	2Lt E J Osborne from 7 R IRISH to ATR Bassingbourn, 8 Sep 97

Staff Qualification/Selection

Lt Col A Powell	Qualified at Staff (sq),	1 Jul 96
Capt D J Ward	Passed Staff,	Mar 97
Capt B M Down	Passed Staff,	Mar 97

Sports Achievements

Cpl P J Ramm
2nd Bn Boxing Team

Capt A D Grinonneau

Infantry Sports Colours
Army Novice Boxing Champions:
Semi Final 6-3 v 7 Tpt Regt RLC
Final 6-3 v 1 STAFFORDS
Army Cricket Colours 96 and Army Cricket Trial 97

Princess Alice's 60 years

Her Royal Highness Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, celebrates 60 years as Deputy Colonel-in-Chief The Royal Anglian Regiment and Colonel-in-Chief of the Northamptonshire Regiment.

On 11 May 1997 we celebrated the 60 years association of HRH Princess Alice with the Regiment and with its predecessor The Northamptonshire Regiment. This was a momentous land-mark which was recognised by a letter from the Colonel of the Regiment expressing the Regiment's Loyal Greetings and congratulations and by audiences with senior members of the Regiment.

On 11 May 1937 HRH The Duchess of Gloucester honoured The Northamptonshire Regiment by becoming its first Colonel-in-Chief since it was raised in 1741. She was also the last as the Regiment amalgamated with The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment on 1 June 1960 to become The 2nd (Duchess of Gloucester's Own Royal Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire) East Anglian Regiment of which she continued as Colonel-in-Chief. In 1964 she became Deputy Colonel of The Royal Anglian Regiment, an appointment which she has continued to hold until the present day, at the age of 96; she is associated with the 2nd and 7th(V) Battalions.

In the Colonel of the Regiment's letter he expressed the Regiment's gratitude for 60 years dedicated service and close, personal association with its members. When she lived at Barnwell, near Oundle in Northamptonshire, she hosted parties and officers were welcomed in an informal way as members of the family. She has attended formal parades, presentations and Band Concerts and the Regiment's memories of her are as a very charming, very human member of the Royal Family who has played a magnificent part as Colonel-in-Chief and now Deputy Colonel-in-Chief.

We again offer Her Royal Highness Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, our Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, our Loyal Greetings and congratulations on her 60 years association with The Royal Anglian Regiment and its predecessor The Northamptonshire Regiment.

In reply to the Regiment's greetings, Princess Alice wrote: "Thank you for your kind message of loyal greetings on the 60th Anniversary of my association with The Northamptonshire Regiment and The Royal Anglian Regiment, which I much appreciate". Her Lady-in-Waiting sent the following additional message: "Princess Alice has asked me to write a personal thank you for your very special letter to Her Royal Highness. She said she was both touched and moved by what you said and that she, too, has very happy memories of her 60 years association with the Regiment - from the grand and serious occasions to the Balls and the gumboots! Her Royal Highness is very proud of being Deputy Colonel-in-Chief and of having been Colonel-in-Chief and directs me to send you all the very warmest good wishes for the future".

Our Colonel-in-Chief and Her Deputies

It is relevant at the time of the 60th Anniversary of Her Royal Highness Princess Alice's association with the Regiment as a Deputy Colonel-in-Chief to recognise the many years association we have enjoyed with our Colonel-in-Chief, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, and with her Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother's association with the Regiment's predecessors began in 1938 when she was appointed, when Queen, as Honorary Colonel of the Hertfordshire Regiment (TA). She continued as its Honorary Colonel until 1961. In 1949 she was additionally appointed Colonel-in-Chief of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment, a unique dual association with one Regiment. On formation of the 3rd East Anglian Regiment in 1958 she remained as Colonel-in-Chief of the new Regiment and subsequently of The Royal Anglian Regiment on its formation in 1964. A mark of the close association of the Colonel-in-Chief with her Regiment was the presentation to the Officers', WOs' and Sergeants'

Messes and Other Ranks of a vast number of Christmas puddings at Christmas time. This tradition continued for many years.

Her Royal Highness The Princess Margaret's association with the Regiment goes back to 1953. The Suffolk Regiment, seeking recognition for long and honourable service and in particular for considerable distinction on operations in Malaya at that time, were honoured with her appointment as Colonel-in-Chief. Over the six remaining years before amalgamation the Regiment's Colonel-in-Chief visited her Regiment on six occasions and continued as Colonel-in-Chief of the 1st East Anglian Regiment. In 1964 she became Deputy Colonel-in-Chief of The Royal Anglian Regiment and is now associated with the 1st and 6th(V) Battalions.

The highly valued association that the Regiment enjoys with our Colonel-in-Chief and her Deputies is well illustrated by a list of visits they have made to the Regiment over the past 35 years which is given on page 58.

Audiences With Her Royal Highness Princess Alice

Our Deputy-Colonel-in-Chief, Her Royal Highness Princess Alice, has honoured the Regiment with the following audiences at Kensington Palace:

Brigadier P P Rawlins MBE and Lieutenant Colonel S L Porter, 19 Feb 1997

Major General P P D Stone CB CBE, 21 May 1997

Colonel P Worthy and Colonel F A H Swallow OBE, representing the Northamptonshire Regiment Association, 22 May 1997.

Presentation Of Colour By Barking And Dagenham, 7 March 1997

On 7 March the Regiment and The Essex Regiment were honoured by the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham by being presented with the Borough's Colour. The Colour is the equivalent of a Civic Freedom. The Colour was accepted by Colonel G C P Morgan DL, President of the Essex Regiment Association. Attending were 36 members of the 6th(V) Battalion and the 4th Battalion The Essex Regiment Association.

FAREWELL AS COLONEL OF THE REGIMENT

Major General P P D Stone CB CBE's farewell message to the Regiment on handing over as its Colonel to General Sir Michael Walker KCB CMG CBE was printed in the last Castle. The following is part of a letter sent to General Walker by General Stone and reproduced with his permission:

"As you know as well as I do, working for the Regiment is not really work - it is something which we all want to do and which all too few of us get a chance to. Being thanked for it is a wonderful bonus and makes me doubly aware of how much willing help and support has always emerged from all levels of the Regiment whenever needed. I have loved the last five years. It has allowed me to keep in touch with all the parts of the Army that I enjoy and, I hope, put something back into the Regiment in exchange for all it has given to me over the years.

I know I am going to miss the real involvement. There is nothing much I can say which adequately expresses what I feel at this moment - which is an overwhelming gratitude for having been given the chance to do something for our Regiment which will always be much bigger than the lot of us".

Deputy Honorary Colonels TA

The Regiment is well served by some distinguished retired officers in the appointment of Deputy Honorary Colonel TA. The role is not symbolic but a key link in each County between the TA and the local community, in particular with Regimental Associations, the Lord Lieutenant, local authorities and employers. For those who are not familiar with the background of the current Deputy Honorary Colonels TA, who serve in the hierarchy of the Regiment for a term of 5 years, they are:

Norfolk

Colonel P J S Child was commissioned into 1 E ANGLIAN in 1962 and ultimately served with 1, 2 and 3 R ANGLIAN in Aden, Borneo, N Ireland and in Hong Kong and Nepal with 10 Gurkha Rifles. He retired in 1992 and is now the Director of the Norfolk and Norwich Association for the Blind.

Suffolk

Brigadier A J K Calder OBE was commissioned into 1 E ANGLIAN in 1963 and deployed straight away to Aden. He remained with 1 E ANGLIAN and 1 R ANGLIAN, except for a tour at the Regimental Depot, until commanding the Battalion from 1982-85 in Oakington and Londonderry. His last appointment was as Commander 54 (East Anglia) Brigade and Colchester Garrison from 1992. Since retiring in 1995 he has led the In-House Bid Team at Colchester as a Civil Servant. The Regiment is a family business as his father had a full career with the Suffolk Regiment and 1 E and 1 R ANGLIAN and his son is in 1 R ANGLIAN.

Cambridgeshire

Colonel P G R Horrell TD was commissioned from the first TA Officers Course at Sandhurst in 1972. He served with 5(V) R ANGLIAN in Peterborough, Wellingborough and Leicester, was 2IC in 1985 and CO 5(V) R ANGLIAN from 1992-95. He was appointed Deputy Lieutenant for Cambridgeshire in 1995. He is a dairy farmer, involved in agricultural organisation and in the East of England Show.

Lincolnshire

Colonel R J M Drummond OBE was commissioned into The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment in 1956 and served in Malaya and at the Depot; subsequently with 2 E ANGLIAN in BAOR and in Sarawak with the Malaysia Rangers. He served with 2 R ANGLIAN and then commanded 3 R ANGLIAN from 1979-81. He was the BLO at Fort Benning, Georgia, DA Damascus and Beirut and DA Prague. Since retiring in 1990 he has been Deputy Secretary East Midlands TAVRA.

Bedfordshire

Colonel M Adkin was commissioned into The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment in 1956 and served with them, and later with 3 E and 3 R ANGLIAN, in BAOR and Malaya. On retiring in 1968 he served with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. Since retiring again he has become a successful military author with titles such as "Goose Green", "Last Eleven" on VC winners, "The Charge" on Balaclava and "Urgent Fury" on the US invasion of Grenada in 1983. His "Sharpe's Companion", the historical background to the television series, will be published next year.

Hertfordshire

Colonel N G Halsey TD was commissioned in 1972 into 5 Company 5(V) R ANGLIAN, serving in Hertford and Hemel Hempstead. In 1977 he transferred to 4 RGJ and commanded D Company in Aylesbury before joining CVHQ RA as a watchkeeper with 19 Brigade. Colonel Halsey farms in Hertfordshire and served as High Sheriff from 1995-96.

Leicestershire

Colonel J C D Heggs DL was commissioned into The Royal Leicestershire Regiment in 1955 with whom he served in Cyprus, Hong Kong and Borneo; then with 4 R ANGLIAN in Aden and the Radfan and in Borneo with the 2nd Malaysian Rangers. He commanded 8 UDR in N Ireland, was an instructor at the Nigerian Staff College and commanded the British Army Training Team in Kenya. On retirement he became Director of the Leicestershire Rural Community Council from which he retires in July 1997.

Essex

Colonel R A Shervington TD joined The Essex Regiment in 1955 for National Service and was commissioned into the 1st Battalion in Dortmund. He served in the TA from 1957 and later formed the Cambridge Royal Anglian Company as part of the 6th Battalion. He was Deputy Honorary Colonel TA for Cambridgeshire from 1984-89 and has chaired or been a member of the TAVRA County Committee since 1975. Colonel Shervington was Director of Recruitment for Price Waterhouse and retired in 1992 to read for a Social and Political Science Degree at Cambridge. He continues to row competitively and to work as a Consultant.

Northamptonshire

Colonel F A H Swallow OBE joined The Royal Leicestershire Regiment in 1956, commanded 5(V) R ANGLIAN from 1977-80 and was Military Attache in Mexico City. On retirement he worked for three years for the Chartered Insurance Institute in London before becoming Area Regimental Secretary for Leicestershire and Northamptonshire in May 1996.

The Regiment's Image

The Colonel of the Regiment in his Foreword writes of the Regiment's image and the perception others have of us. Our recruiting and information material need a catch-phrase or slogan, one that encapsulates the Regiment's spirit and character. Ideas are sought by RHQ.

Field of Remembrance

6 November 1966

Members of RHQ, the Area Secretaries, serving members of the Regiment working in London and several retired members of the Regiment and Former Regiments attended the Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey on 6 November 1996. The Field of Remembrance is organised annually by The Royal British Legion Poppy Factory and takes place at Westminster Abbey by kind permission of the Dean and Chapter. The First Field of Remembrance was opened in 1928. It was the inspiration of the late Major George Howson MC, Founder-Chairman of the Poppy Factory Appeal from 1922 until his death. The Field is opened normally by HM The Queen Mother on the Thursday before Remembrance Sunday and, following a Service of Dedication in the Abbey, HM The Queen Mother tours the plots.

The Field is laid out on the grassed area flanked by Victoria Street, the West and East Gates of the Abbey grounds and St Margaret's Church. Each present and former Regiment is allocated a plot at which a Badge Cross is placed showing the Regimental Badge and numerous Leaf and Poppy Crosses are displayed. The opening Ceremony in the Abbey is by invitation only but the subsequent tour by HM The Queen Mother is open to the public and always very well attended by former members of the many Regiments and Corps represented.

The proceeds of sales of Crosses and Poppies are passed to The Poppy Appeal to help The Royal British Legion's benevolent work. The Poppy Factory provides paid work for ex-servicemen and women (particularly disabled), their widows and disabled dependants. Retired or serving members of the Regiment are welcome to attend the public event at the Field of Remembrance on the Thursday before Remembrance Sunday each year.

The Officers' Club Dinner

7 November 1997

The Officers' Club Dinner at the Army and Navy Club on 7 November this year will see a new seating format. Instead of a large top table and long spines off it, there will be a small top table for the Colonel of the Regiment and a few guests, with some 10 other separate tables seating 10 each. At each table there will be a senior host. This is an attempt to allow those attending to sit with these they chose, while being able to more easily converse among smaller groups. Only the top table and table hosts will be seated according to a plan.

Regiment Magazine

The Regiment featured in the February/March 1997 edition of Regiment Magazine. All 65 full colour pages are dedicated to the history, uniforms and customs of the Regiment and the Former Regiments. Copies may be obtained from Battalion PRIs or from the Museum and RHQ at £2.75 per copy plus postage.

Regimental Matters

3rd Battalion Cocktail Party, 18 April 1997

The 3rd Battalion Cocktail Party was attended by 90 members of the 3rd Battalion Officers' Dinner Club at the Army and Navy Club on 18 April. Senior members of the Regiment attending were the Colonel of the Regiment, Major General M W Holme CBE MC and Brigadier C Groves, with Colonel J D Lacey OBE hosting as Chairman of the Dinner Club. Serving and retired officers who served with the 3rd Battalion who wish to join should contact Major Thorogood at RHQ Warley. The next event is a luncheon at Warley on 3 October.

THE REGIMENTAL REUNION 20 JULY 1997

The Regimental Reunion will be held at Oakington Barracks on Sunday 20 July 1997. The format will be:

0900	Gates open at Barracks
1130	Drumhead Service
1215	March Past
1230	Bars, kiosks and stalls open
1330	Static display, side shows, shooting competition
1500	Band display by the Minden Band
1730	Bars close
1800	Barracks close

We hope that even more serving and retired members of the Regiment and Association Branches with their Standards will attend this year.

To order tickets and packed lunches see page 92.

Regimental Events This Summer

There are many occasions during the Summer other than the Regimental Reunion when the Regiment is in the public eye and when its members and their families can meet old friends or take pride in displays of equipment or ceremonial by bodies of serving soldiers. Events well worth supporting in the Regimental area this Summer include:

The Freedoms of Lincoln, Luton, Watford, Bury St Edmunds, Cambridge, Kings Lynn and Chelmsford.

The Regimental Reunion at Oakington on 20 July.

The Minden Reunion at Bury St Edmunds on 3 August. This is traditionally a Suffolk Regiment Association event, but Minden Day is a Royal Anglian Regiment Day and the Reunion is open to all serving and former members of the Regiment and their families. Please arrive at the Keep by 1045 am for the Service. Activities continue into the afternoon.

Regimental golf, tennis and cricket matches (see page 47).

The Regimental Information Team will be present at most of the major County events.

1st Battalion KAPE tour in early July.

Diary Dates

July

- 2 Freedom of Lincoln
- 3 Freedom of Luton
- 4 Freedom of Watford
- 5 Freedom of Bury St Edmunds
- 5-6 Northamptonshire Regiment Reunion, Northampton
- 11 Freedom of Cambridge
- 16 Freedom of King's Lynn
- 18 Freedom of Chelmsford
- 19 Essex Regiment Association Annual Dinner & Dance
- 20 Regimental Reunion, Oakington
- 22 Salamanca Day, 1st Battalion
Salamanca Dinner
- 27 Talavera Day, 2nd Battalion

August

- 1 Minden Day, all Battalions
- 2 Summer Ball, 2nd Battalion
- 3 Suffolk Regiment Minden Day Reunion, Bury St Edmunds
- 13 Blenheim Day, 2nd Battalion
- 17 6th Foot Officers' Goslar Reunion

September

- 1 Royal Anglian Regiment Foundation Day
- 15 Re-Dedication of Leicestershire Branch BKVA Standard, Leicester
- 21 Cambridgeshire Regiment Association AGM, Ely
- 27 Royal Norfolk Regiment Association Dinner, Norwich
1st Battalion Royal Leicestershire Regiment Reunion, Leicester
Royal Lincolnshire Regiment Officers Dinner, Lincoln
- 28 Royal Norfolk Regiment Association Commemoration Service, Norwich
Royal Lincolnshire Regiment Association Reunion, Lincoln

October

- 3 3rd Battalion Dinner Club Luncheon
- 3-4 70th Battalion Northamptonshire Regiment Reunion, Kettering
- 18 Peterborough Branch Northamptonshire Regiment Reunion
- 25 Poachers Reunion, Felixstowe

November

- 7 Regimental Dinner, Army & Navy Club

December

- 6 Royal Leicestershire Regiment Officers' Dinner Club Luncheon, Army & Navy Club

The Regiment as a Family

The Regimental Secretary writes:

Correspondence with a former member of the Regiment who is going through difficult times reminded me of the duty we in the Regiment have to all our members even when they move on to civilian life. It may not be obvious that help is needed, or in what form, because old soldiers are often unwilling to discuss worries about health, family or employment. Nevertheless we must try to keep contact with our old comrades and offer any advice or practical help that is needed. Sometimes that will involve seeking assistance from professional welfare organisations.

The case of ex-WO2 Michael Draper, who served with the 2nd Battalion and who will be well known to many is a typical case. He agreed that his case be written up in Castle. Mr Draper had difficulty in adapting to civilian life. Worse, when he suffered considerable pain over some 6 years in his left leg he was told he would have to wait for another 5 years for a hip and knee replacement. At a really low point he was contacted by Major Gordon Halewood, Quartermaster of the 7th Battalion and an old friend, who was sufficiently concerned to see what Regimental and professional help was available. Part of his letter to me speaks for itself:

"I try to keep the pain at bay with anti-inflammatory drugs and painkillers while at work and sleeping tablets at night. I have always been an all-round sportsman but for most of the past 6 years have been unable to exercise at all. This was a really big change in my life and one I found hard to cope with. Leaving the Army and all the friends made during the time has also taken its toll on my willpower, confidence and ability to live life to the full. There must be many old soldiers like me, too proud to admit we have a problem and that we need help.

When Gordon came to see me I was in tears, not because of the pain but sheer delight to see an old and lifelong friend, more like a brother really. All my troubles seemed to go away while he was here. I think it is a bond we all share, not just as Poachers.

I have been given a lease of life for which I thank you dearly. You are right - I must get involved with things that are dear to me - The Regiment.

To this end I am joining the Branch of the Regimental Association at Northampton, together with Joe Heffernan. I plan to see George Boss at Duxford, another old friend, to see if I can help the Museum in any way. I have also been to see the local SSAFA representative and have been offered the chance to be a representative in the area - I look forward to the challenge.

If you know of any old soldiers in my area who need any sort of help whatsoever, I promise to do all I can, as I have learnt it is good to talk. Above all I don't want others to make the same mistakes that I did over 5 years that could and should have been a lot more enjoyable and fulfilling.

Once again, many thanks. Just seeing the capbadge on the letterhead was a lift in itself".

Mr Draper is at 56 Miswell Lane, Tring, Herts HP23 4DD (Tel: 01442 381590). Former members of the Regiment are welcome to contact him. We wish him well for the future, but with his voluntary involvement with SSAFA and the Regimental Museum, and contact with old friends, it surely looks brighter already.

The Royal Anglian Regiment Benevolent Fund

The Royal Anglian Regiment Benevolent Fund is established to help former members of the Regiment and their dependants who are in need of financial help to ease distress. Cases are referred to RHQ by SSAFA, The Royal British Legion, the DSS, BLESMA, BEWSA, Combat Stress and other similar organisations that look after the welfare of our former soldiers.

In the period since the last Castle we have been asked to help 35 cases. The needs vary and include assistance with wheelchairs, home decoration for those unable to help themselves, infirmity and removal expenses from houses to bungalows for those no longer able to climb stairs. The aim of the Fund is to help those who are now genuinely unable to help themselves. The income for the Fund comes from the Day's Pay Scheme and profits from investments which are reinvested.

Your contribution is essential to the running of the Fund and will ensure that should you ever need the fund then there will be sufficient help available.

HAVE YOU JOINED THE DAY'S PAY SCHEME? IF NOT, YOUR ORDERLY ROOM HAS DETAILS.

Regimental Tailor

Officers should be aware that G D Golding Tailors Ltd have joined Stones of Norwich as Regimental Tailors. Goldings have premises in St Albans and Camberley.

From the Padre

"Come unto me, all you that are heavily laden, and I will refresh you".

This is one of God's promises that no one could call irrelevant. From 18 year old recruits to 90 year old Chelsea Pensioners, this promise can fulfil a need.

It doesn't refer to yomping across the Brecon Beacons although this writer can testify that it can help there too. It refers chiefly to those times in life when we really need extra reserves of mental strength and when we really believe that we can't manage by ourselves.

In believing that, we're right. We aren't meant to. Just as no man or woman is an island and we all need help of other people, so we all need God's help. This is called "grace". We don't know how, but at this point some form of spiritual chemistry operates when we ask God's help. Quite simply he gives it, even if the answer doesn't correspond to our first wish. Water is turned into wine. We can be transformed.

Afterwards we can see the hidden truth behind the assertion that all things work together for good, to those who trust God.



Rev Tom Hiney
Royal Hospital, Chelsea

Captain (Retd) Malcolm Taylor MC

who served between 1955 - 67 with The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment, 1 E ANGLIAN and 1 R ANGLIAN, has written from PO Box 22, Ramsgate 4205, Republic of South Africa (Telephone: 03931 20156) to say that if any of his friends or indeed serving members of the Regiment visit South Africa he would be very happy to see them. He is now retired and both he and Jo find life more busy than ever.

Colonel Gordon Brett retires on 8 August and wrote from Brussels to say he moves straight into a civilian job in NATO as policy adviser to the Secretary General. His principle job will be to staff NATO posts in Bosnia.

Major David Napier wrote from The Bermuda Regiment. He had been to Belize, the Regiment had undergone a Fitness for Role Inspection, which they had passed with flying colours, and was preparing for overseas camp in North Carolina. He reported that WO2 Prime left in May, to be replaced by WO2 Stollery.

"I am doing my bit for the Regiment on the recruiting front here and have spoken to some of the local schools and their Careers Masters concerning a career in The Royal Anglian

Regiment both as Officers and Soldiers. I would be grateful if the Regiment could let me have some recruiting information, posters, slides, etc. There is considerable interest and I am hopeful of some recruits soon. Life here is good, the job is quite fascinating and a real challenge. I can honestly say it is a far more demanding one than being 2IC of a Battalion. While the weather, beaches, etc, are all very nice, the novelty soon wears off and the job is left. I am thoroughly enjoying both the Regimental role and the people".

Major (Retd) David Clarke,
The Royal Norfolk Regiment, 1E ANGLIAN and 1R ANGLIAN, wrote to describe his business travels in the Middle and Far East promoting and selling tank gunnery simulators. He visited several war cemeteries and wrote:

"Many from the Regiment have visited Kanchanaburi in Thailand which has the graves of many Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire men. I have been able to visit two cemeteries in Baghdad. A small one in Rashid Camp (an armoured training centre) has only about fifty graves and about half these are Royal Norfolk Regiment. The other cemetery is in Baghdad itself and is massive. Many were killed during the siege of Kut or on the march North after the surrender. A large number of Norfolks are included in the rolls. Both cemeteries are respected by the Iraqis but are very poorly maintained".

Mainly About People

Mrs Joan Bithray has retired after 18 years service in RHQ. Joan started in 1965 shortly after the Regiment formed and after a gap served from 1979 for 6 Colonels of the Regiment and 4 Regimental Secretaries, chiefly as a typist and in charge of the Regimental Shop. We wish Joan and Peter a happy retirement, with thanks for long and loyal service.



Possibly the longest serving member of the Regiment, **Major Alan Petch**, retired from 158 (Royal Anglian) Regiment RLC(V) on 1 June. Major Petch served with the Northamptonshire, Suffolk and Royal Norfolk Regiment between 1952-55 (perhaps if he had had a full regular career he might have served with all Former Regiments). He joined the TA in 1958 and served with 5 (later 4/5) Northamptons, the Northamptonshire Regiment (TA) and 5 R ANGLIAN. In 1980 he started his first permanent staff appointment with the TA in Wellingborough and Peterborough, where he served in 158 Regiment up to retirement. Major Petch was awarded the MBE in 1988. His daughter has been a member of the Royal Anglian Regiment TA Band for the last 11 years. We wish Alan and Gillian the very best for the future.

Major Brian Cornish, who served with the 4th, 2nd and 3rd Bns between 1965-87 and went on to a second career as a London socialite (with occasional employment in the insurance industry) stunned his friends recently by announcing his engagement to Diana Ellis and a wedding on 30 August. We congratulate them both and wish them well for the future. His successor as the Regiment's most eligible batchelor will be announced in the next Castle.



The new Miss Poacher, page 3 sensation Melinda Messenger, on her first visit to the Battalion.

As Castle goes to print we warmly welcome **Miss Melinda Messenger** into the Regiment as Miss Poacher. We hope to see more of her during the year.

G.D. Golding Tailors Ltd.

MILITARY AND CIVILIAN TAYLORS

ARE PLEASED TO BE
REGIMENTAL TAILORS
BY APPOINTMENT TO

The Royal Anglian Regiment



220 Hatfield Road • St Albans • Hertfordshire AL1 4LW
Telephone: St Albans (01727) 841321 Fax: (01727) 831462

The following letter was sent to RHQ, who had offered a rifle to the Minden and Normandy Bands for use as a "musical instrument". It was ultimately accepted by the Minden Band.

Normandy Band.
The Queen's Division
Somme Barracks
Catterick
14 March 1997

Dear Colonel,

RIFLE FOR NORMANDY BAND

Just a bullet comment to thank you for targetting us as possible end user of the No 4 rifle. Bands of the calibre of the Normandy Band do have such items in stock but as I am not conversant with the range of this instrument, and can find it in no trade magazine, I will thank you but decline the offer. It may have been a useful addition to the armoury of our instruments, possibly vital to the attrition of our audience, but I suspect better in a museum.

Yours faithfully,
Captain J W Taylor
Director of Music

In response, the Regimental Secretary wrote:

RHQ

Dear Jim,

I am pleased my letter triggered a reply with such velocity. It was a shot in the dark but sadly it failed in its aim and drew a blank. The rifle was offered you at no charge, but perhaps you

felt, having rifled through your collection, that one more would be a bore and not suitable even for chamber music with percussion. The Minden Band, with greater foresight, have accepted it.

Yours sincerely,

Trevor

From: Lt Col J Garcia ED, RNZIR
Headquarters 3rd Battalion (Auckland (Countess of Ranfurly's Own) and Northland)
RNZIRPO
Box 78031 Grey Lynn
Auckland
New Zealand
21 Feb 97

Sir,

ASSOCIATION WITH NEW ZEALAND

I write to advise that I have succeeded Lieutenant Colonel Grant Ellis as Commanding Officer of the Battalion with effect 21 February 1997. I am well aware of the past alliances and association this unit has had with The Royal Anglian Regiment and wish to ensure that it is maintained. As you may well know, there is a standing invitation for any members of your Regiment who happen to pass this way to come and visit our Headquarters. Best wishes to the Regiment.

Jack Garcia

SPAR RETAIL

Spar is the partner that has been chosen by Naafi as its retail partner to convert its 200 UK shops.

The contract is worth nearly £500 million over the next five years and was awarded after extensive trials which also involved Londis and Costcutter.

Making the announcement Geoffrey Dart, Chief Executive of Naafi, said: 'Naafi is embarking on a major restructuring programme to return it to profitability and provide a world class value for money service to its customers.'

The turnover in Spar's four trial site stores was 50 per cent up on the same period last year and profitability was also improved significantly.

Now Naafi intends to invest over £10 million in modernising its UK stores which will continue to be staffed and managed by Naafi personnel.

Meanwhile Spar will provide staff training and development, distribution and logistics and information technology support services, as well as a range of products including Spar branded goods.

'We foresee this partnership lasting well into the next millennium. It is part of Naafi's new approach of using leaders in particular business areas to help provide support and welfare services to the Armed Forces,' said Mr Dart.

All UK shops are expected to be modernised by April 1998.

Naafinews

The Vikings

Introduction

Since the last issue of Castle magazine the Vikings have been deployed on operations as the Belfast Roulement Battalion (BRB). The Battalion took over command on 13 Nov 96 from The Scots Guards and handed over to 1 RHF on 13 May 97.

The intervening period was busy to say the least. The Battalion deployed in the aftermath of the Thiepval Barracks bomb and the return to military patrols on the streets. Soon after our arrival PIRA made it clear that they had returned to 'Estate Level' activity. This was signified by 12 attacks or attempted attacks on the Battalion and/or the RUC in the period from 29 Nov to the end of March; an average of one attack per week. This was followed by a lull in the run up to the election and a period of uncertainty thereafter.

Throughout the whole 6 months the Battalion maintained a high tempo of operations. At platoon level this meant long working hours and high levels of patrol activity. It was to the great credit of all that throughout this time the highest standards were maintained and that patrols resisted the temptation to fall into Public Relations traps, in spite of extreme provocation.

Deployment

As the BRB we deployed with 3 rifle companies and a surveillance platoon. The Grosvenor Company, which comprised A Company under the command of Major Nigel Burrell, worked out of Fort Whiterock. They also provided a platoon at RUC Springfield Road and one at RUC New Barnsley. Meanwhile B Company were the Woodbourne North Company based in Fort Whiterock under the command of Maj Robert Knox. C Company under Maj Dennis Vincent were based at RUC Woodbourne.

The Surveillance Platoon commanded by Capt Freddie Grounds carried out overt surveillance tasks from a number of locations including the top of the Divis and Broadway tower blocks. Tactical Headquarters was based at Musgrave Park Hospital under the watchful eyes of Major Tony Marinos, OC HQ Company. Last, but by no means least, Echelon was based at Moscow Camp commanded by the Quartermaster.

The RUC Woodbourne Surveillance Tower.



Sgt Buxton of B Coy briefs his multiple prior to a patrol.

Tasks

Patrol taskings were driven by the requirement to assist the police in dealing with ordinary crime, which occasionally led to routine tasks such as covering RUC shift changeovers. In the battle against the terrorist the companies were often involved in large searches of occupied and unoccupied houses in support of the RUC, which occasionally bore fruit.

At all times foot patrols were supported with either helicopter top cover or mobile patrols. Patrols were further enhanced with the deployment of an Operations Company from the Resident Battalion at Palace Barracks. The Battalion were also under remit to provide platoons to act as Military Escorts (MEs) for the RUC mobile patrols. Added to this was the military requirement to protect our own bases.

WO2 Knights, A Coy, takes time out at RUC Springfield Road





The Officers' Mess football team at the annual Christmas match against the Sergeants' Mess at Moscow Camp



The WOs' and Sgts' Mess Team

Christmas In Belfast

The pace of activity of the first part of the tour was relieved by the advent of Christmas. As usual the Vikings made the best of it and the 'Christmas Spirit' was much enhanced by the provision of a beer per man from The Regimental Association. On Christmas Eve the Padre, Geoff Sussex, held a carol service by candlelight in the gymnasium at Fort Whitehead for the whole Battalion which got everyone in a festive mood.

With no patrols out on 25 Dec we were able to celebrate a traditional Christmas in all locations from the larger bases at Fort Whitehead and Woodbourne to the observation towers at Broadway and Divis. Gunfire was served at reveille and the Officers and SNCOs served Christmas lunch to the soldiers in the normal way. Both the Bde Comd and the CO visited all locations and all soldiers on duty to dispense 'Christmas Cheer'.

On Boxing Day the WOs' and Sergeants' Mess were able to reap their revenge in the Officers' versus Sergeants' Mess football. The match was played at Moscow Camp and despite a promising start the Officers' Mess lost 3-1. Certainly the busiest man on the pitch was the Officers' Mess goalkeeper, Capt Simon Browne, who had more contact with the ball than anyone else.

Incidents

As already mentioned the period between 29 Nov 96 and the end of March saw PIRA in West Belfast attempt to attack Army and police targets at an average rate of once per week. A summary of incidents is shown below:

29 Nov 96 House takeover in the Poleglass Estate.

05 Dec 96 Find of 3 Mk 16 Mortars, 34 cassette incendiaries, a PRIG firing assembly and a quantity of ammunition during a planned house search in the Ballymurphy Estate.

20 Dec 96 2 plain clothes policemen engaged by gunmen at the Royal Victoria Hospital.

27 Dec 96 Recovery of a detonator and other items associated with a Mk 16 mortar from New Barnsley Estate.

10 Jan 97 Day of disruption in Belfast. Hoax proxy bomb left outside RUC Woodbourne.

13 Jan 97 IED cleared outside a bar on the Stewartstown Road.

13 Jan 97 Mk 16 Mortar fire at a joint RUC/Army patrol. No casualties or damage to vehicles.

18 Jan 97 Find of a SIG sniper rifle.

28 Jan 97 2 PRIGs fired at a mobile patrol from A Coy. One PRIG detonated on the second vehicle. There were no casualties.

12 Feb 97 House takeover in the Twinbrooks Estate. Long command wire found in subsequent search.

15 Feb 97 Shots fired at new RUC station at Glenravel.

27 Feb 97 Telephone warning led to subsequent find of a Mk 16 Mortar outside RUC Andersonstown.

02 Mar 97 House takeover and shoot at RUC Woodbourne.

06 Mar 97 Command wire IED attack in the Ballymurphy Estate. Subsequent follow up led to the arrest of 3 suspects.

14 Mar 97 Find of 2 Mk 15 Coffee Jar grenades which had been thrown at RUC patrols but had not detonated.

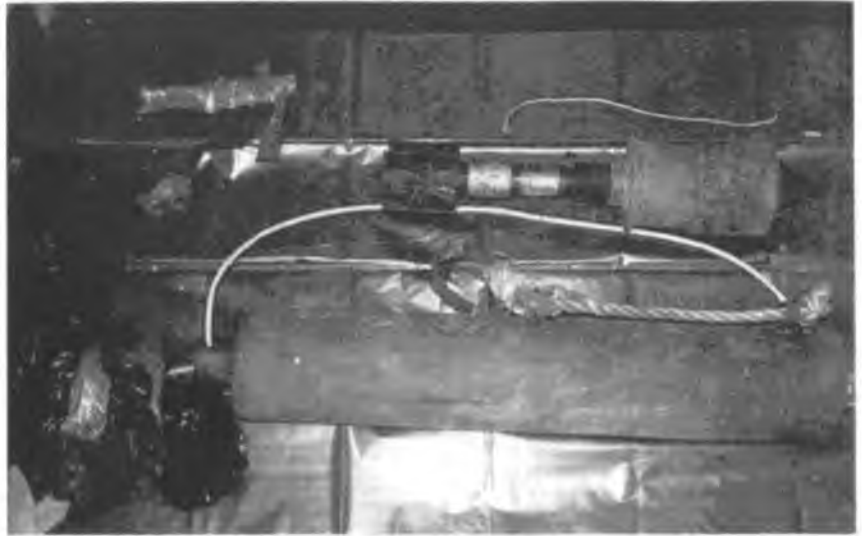
14 Mar 97 Sectarian murder of Mr J Slane on the Iveagh Estate.

Throughout these incidents soldiers on the ground reacted firmly and decisively. Particular note should be taken of Cpl Newton's team, who by their quick reactions in the Command Wire IED attack on 6 Mar managed to effect the arrest of a suspect who has since been charged with attempted murder. Not to be forgotten, however, are the swift reactions of Capt Howden and LCpl Eccles in the Mk 16 incident on 13 Jan or the leadership displayed by Cpl Riley and LCpl Oldenberg in the double PRIG attack on 28 Jan.

Due credit should also be given to LCpl Doherty who saved the life of an RUC

constable who was having a heart attack at RUC Woodbourne. Furthermore LCpl Kimble of B Coy saved a civilian who was attempting to commit suicide. The man was sitting in a pool of petrol attempting to set light to himself, when LCpl Kimble ran out of Fort Whiterock with a fire extinguisher and put out the flames.

On top of the list of incidents should be superimposed the continuous under-current of 'Paramilitary Assaults' or punishment beatings as they used to be known, which were carried out on a regular basis in the estates. Furthermore the level of petty harassment and stoning that the soldiers on the ground put up with without reacting was a great credit to the self discipline and steadiness of the Royal Anglian soldier.



A MK16 mortar found during the tour.

Visits

The BRB is a mecca for visitors due to its close proximity to Headquarters Northern Ireland at Lisburn. During the course of the tour the Battalion fielded a large number of senior officers which included CGS, AG, GOC NI, DMO, DPR(A), DInf, Comd 39 Bde, Comd 49 Bde as well as the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland. We were also lucky enough to receive a visit from the Deputy Colonel of the Regiment, Brig John Sutherell.



The GOC, Lt Gen Sir Rupert Smith, with Maj Knox and Capt Howden



The Secretary of State, Sir Patrick Mayhew, with soldiers at Musgrave Park Hospital.



The CGS, General Sir Roger Wheeler, talks to B Coy soldiers

Sport

Despite the workload the Battalion still managed to take part in some of the sporting events in Northern Ireland. The Battalion Cross Country Team under the leadership of the QM (Maj Bob Potter followed by Maj Tony Jones) competed in the Northern Ireland League competition. The team finished a creditable 4th out of 14 teams which was an excellent result for a roulement unit, especially as the average age of the Battalion runners was 32!

The Battalion also entered the Infantry Football Competition but were unfortunately knocked out by 1 RWF. This was partly due to their better skills and partly to the fact that our star players were unavailable due to a search operation. The orienteering squad also managed to get together for a day out and competed in the NI Orienteering Championships at Ballykinler. The team finished in the top 5. Major Dennis Vincent finished 7th overall on the A course.

On Easter Saturday the Battalion Rugby side had a run out against 2 LI at Palace Barracks. Under the Captain Freddie Grounds and the coaching of the self styled 'Director of Rugby', W02 Cooper, the end result was a gratifying 8-0 win.



Shooting

The Battalion competed in the 39 Inf Bde Skill at Arms Meeting which took place from 20-22 Mar. Despite having to compete straight from the line of march and with many soldiers only having zeroed on the pipe range the company teams performed extremely well. In the end the teams were placed 5th, 6th, 7th and 9th out of 29. The honours for the day, however, went to Capt Martin Elphee who finished as the top shot in the Brigade; close on his heels was Cpl McHenry who finished second in the individual order of merit.

With only 2 days available for training the Battalion Shooting team under Capt Martin Elphee competed in the Northern Ireland SAAM. They finished in 4th place overall, winning the shotgun match and coming runner up in the team snap and 3rd in the pistol match. On the individual front the best shot in Northern Ireland was LCpl McMillen of the Surveillance Platoon and the runner up was Cpl Watts of the MT Platoon. In addition Cpl Plumpton of B Coy won the shotgun match.

Rear Party

The Rear Party formed up back in October initially under the command of Maj Tony Jones, followed by Capt Ian Couch and Maj Simon Andrews. Under the supervision of the Rear Party Sergeant-Major, W02 Stimpson, they have performed their often thankless task with good grace and good humour. However it hasn't all been guards and duties. In the early part of the tour the maintenance party prepared for and passed the unit PRE. Furthermore they have hosted a number of 'Look at Life' visits for schools within our recruiting area, and have managed to send a number of soldiers to AFCOs as part of the satisfied soldier scheme.

West Belfast

A Commander's Perspective

Capt Alan Bowman writes:

1 R ANGLIAN Main deployed to West Belfast between 12 and 14 November 1996. At the surprisingly short and efficient MCCP there was an air of anticipation, confidence and more than a little nervousness given the recent escalation in violence. Commanders and men alike had been thoroughly trained in the comprehensive and testing NITAT package and although there was a sense of entering the unknown, the general feeling was that we were more than capable of maintaining the Regiments' reputation in Northern Ireland.

One thing the training did not prepare the multiple commanders for was the flexibility and patience required to work with the RUC. It is easy to forget that some have been in the same place for up to 15 years, while we would be gone in 6 months. The Battalion was fortunate in that it had an excellent rapport with the RUC which made introducing our weird and wonderful methods of deceptive patrolling less of a bitter pill for them to swallow. If we could persuade a 45 year old, 15 stone constable to climb over a 12 foot high spiked fence on a set of ladders

(we do have photographs) then there is hope for us all.

Taking C Company's TAOR as an example, multiple commanders had 3 different jobs. First was planning, leading and debriefing foot patrols, consisting of anything from 1 to 4 hour patrols up to 10 times a day. Second was commanding military vehicle support for RUC mobile patrols. The third task, which became every commander's nightmare, was watchkeeping duty. In order to counter the boredom of the 'doom stag' many

Vikings



Sgt Buxton of B Coy briefs his multiple patrol prior to a patrol.



On patrol in the Beechmounts



Lt Bowman (Rt) being congratulated on his promotion to Capt by his OC, Maj Vincent.



Sgt Markham in the Colinvale Estate.



The nursing officer, Capt Alison Bonfield, demonstrates her skills with her team at Fort Whiterock



The occupants of Divis Tower on top of the OP

turned to subjects non-military, much to the disgust of our OC. I, for reasons I could not begin to explain, undertook an A Level in English Literature. Meanwhile Sgt Garvie took a GCSE in French and Sgt Markham a PhD in winding everyone up.

As we discovered to our amazement the rest of the world continued to function, despite our deployment. This manifested itself in a number of welfare problems which had to be dealt with. The most disconcerting problem for commanders in this department was stamping out rumour control at the earliest point. This problem came to a head when soldiers began putting in requests to be part of a composite Viking Platoon flying directly from Belfast to Albania!

The learning curve for Platoon Commanders on their first tour of NI, and Platoon Sergeants on their first tour as multiple commanders, was steep all the way to the end. Without a doubt, after 8 months of urban training and operations, making the transition back to conventional operations will be difficult; but I believe we have all learnt lessons that can be taken back with us.

Six Months At The Top Of Belfast

Sgt S Hale writes:

The Surveillance Platoon deployed to Belfast in stages, with the commanders arriving a month prior to the main body of the Battalion and the remainder safely tucked away in one of the seven OPs, in the West and North of the city, a week before the Battalion took over Opcon of the BRB. The Platoon were responsible for conducting the 39 Infantry Brigade surveillance operation. Three of the OPs are located at the top of residential tower blocks and what follows is an account from a tower commander of six months living in one of these locations.

Quite a formidable thought, standing at the bottom of a 19 storey tower block in the Lower Falls area of West Belfast with my bags and rifle, knowing that I had six months of living on the roof. It's quite an awesome sight from the ground (normally known as the "Base" to the occupants of the upper level) towering off into the sky and disappearing into the clouds on the days when the weather is inclement, which is quite regular in Belfast.

Upon arrival in the OP I soon started to find my feet and my head, as I soon discovered that all of the structural beams fitted in the roof of the OP stood at an intolerable height of 5'6", and considering that most of the OP team are above that height the first week was spent walking around with heads like John Merrick. But it proved entertaining lying in bed at night listening to the night-stag bump and bang their way around the corridors, and of course the colourful language that followed. The roof OP was not that spacious and the men spent all their time off in the very cramped accommodation rooms - 4 or 5 to each room. The OP has been on the roof for the best part of 24 years and was showing signs of wear and tear. The kitchen was small to say the least for 16 men to prepare their daily delights and once cooked the meals were normally eaten on their beds. The main OP had a commanding view of West Belfast, but had a ceiling even lower than the rest of the OP.

The kitchen was a no go area at first for some but has now seen some very special culinary delights. With no chef each man had to fend for himself, which for three of the team (including myself) was not too much of a problem; however the remainder had their first lesson in self survival in the kitchen. Pte "Chip-Boy" Downey was first to find his feet with the masterful use of the chip fryer, and the remainder were soon to follow. Pte Stevenson did excel on one occasion with his stuffed peppers. LCpl "Sleep or Die" Tinkler ventured into the world of trifles, which was such a great success that he took a photo to show his wife and mother. Towards the end of the tour things have come on and a very varied menu is now available (as long as you like chips or shepherds pie).

In mid-January the re-build of the 19th floor (the new OP location) was completed, and a long awaited move down took place. The new OP was luxurious to say the least, with more accommodation rooms, a TV and dining room and a spacious kitchen; not to mention the ceiling was 7' high all round, which meant no more walking around like the hunchback of Notre Dame. The new furniture soon arrived courtesy of the Quartermaster (who was not happy as my room was more spacious than his) and the whole OP really did look the part. It was now to be the jewel in the Brigade's crown which unfortunately meant plenty of visitors.

Access into the OP is by lift which has had its moments over the six months. The one occasion that remains firm in my mind was when I decided to be the liftman and go down to collect the six workers who were arriving to complete the rebuild. On arrival at the base I ushered the workers into the lift and we started our ascent. During the trip to the top the lift decided to stop between the 13th and 14th floors, and it was not until 9 firemen and I hour and 45 minutes later that I was back at the top, deciding that someone else would do the liftman in future.

The routine within the OP was quite simple: either on or off. When the troops were off their time was taken up either cooking or watching TV. I am now an expert in every soap from all corners of the world. Whilst on duty it was a case of "get them binoculars on your nose and get looking". It was certainly a great job for those who thrive on keeping up with the local gossip. After a month this all gets to be quite routine, in fact to such an extent that on returning home I've got a set of empty kitchen rolls stuck together as binoculars, which will be of great use from my spare bedroom window.

The end of the tour now approaches and the team, although working to a very high standard throughout and having enjoyed their rooftop existence, are now looking forward to returning to the mainland and civilisation, to see family and friends. The job itself has been very worth while, and apart from the nausea of the rebuild it has been most enjoyable.

Rear Party

The Families Office under Lt Bunny Nye has been kept busy throughout the tour looking after the wives and families. In conjunction with the Wives Club they have organized a number of trips and events, which have been enjoyed by all those who have taken part.

Conclusion

The Battalion has completed successfully a full 6 month tour on operations in West Belfast, of which everyone who took part can be justifiably proud. On return to the mainland the Vikings are now looking forward to a good bit of leave and a chance to settle in to Oakington properly. The summer will be taken up with a series of Freedom Parades around our recruiting area leading up to a Royal Visit on Minden Day and deployment on the 2 Div concentration, Ex EASTERN HARRIER, thereafter.

The Poachers

The Poachers have been busy in their role as the Combined Arms Training Centre Battlegroup - the CATC(BG). We have however seen a number of changes since the last edition of Castle; primarily the arrival of Lt Col Porter who took over as Commanding Officer on 24 January. His arrival was soon followed by the change of Regimental Sergeant Major. WOI (now Lt) Pallant handed over to WOI Ralph on 1 April. As the Battlegroup is now finding out, this was no joke!

We also welcome D Squadron Royal Dragoon Guards who have replaced B Squadron 9th/12th Lancers as the Cavalry element in the Battlegroup.

With Cyprus looming over the horizon in March 1998, the Battalion has continued in the training cycle here as the CATC(BG). Despite starting what is now our fourth cycle, the BG is in good spirit due mainly to good control of commitments by the Demo Office and rotation of roles by sub-units.

About The Demonstration Office

Major William Wilmott, Demo Officer, writes:

Some extracts from correspondence received by the Demonstration Office:

"We were all most impressed by the enthusiasm and professionalism shown by all throughout."

"The quite excellent conduct and Regimental pride of all ranks shone through and proved that, as always, a unit's best ambassadors are the soldiers."

"The soldiers who supported the training could not have been better ambassadors for your Regiment. They were professional in every sense of the word, extremely wilco and good humoured, and the response to every demand throughout the exercise was excellent."

Within the Poachers Battlegroup is a unique cell that has the crucial role of making things happen. This is the Demonstration Office (Demo Office) that is the link between on one hand the users and, on the other, the suppliers. The users are those that run courses from the Combined Arms Training Centre (CATC), The Infantry Training Centre (ITC), The Army Junior Division of the Staff College and a plethora of other organisations such as the Infantry Trials and Development Unit (ITDU). The suppliers are us, the Poachers Battlegroup. In order to maintain some form of order in the very busy schedule the Battlegroup has, the Demonstration Office is the filter for all of the demands placed upon the Unit. Programming of

courses at Warminster has to be done with a view of what resources are available. Warminster Training Centre (WTC) cannot for example plan to have (strange as it may seem) Exercise PHANTOM BUGLE running at the same time as Exercise COUNTER STERN as these are both large Armoured Exercises that would drain our resources by a factor of two. Thus programming has to be done by WTC with the Demo Office explaining what is possible and what is not.

Once programming is complete and the year's courses are set, normally two years out, inevitable shortfalls are identified. They are usually met by Regular Army Assistance (RAA). If not, we work harder! Once the programme is out then the detailed allocation of resources between

The Multi Role Armoured Vehicle (MRV) is put through initial trials by the Milani Platoon.



the BG sub-units is done by the Demo Officer and his Staff. This detail is laid out in the Commitments Diary (CD) which lists down to the last man and radio what is to be provided. The CD gives around 6 to 7 weeks notice allowing subunits to plan well in advance. The Demo Office then produces the detailed Exercise Instruction at least 2 weeks before the Exercise; after that, it is up to the provider to get on with it.

The BG provides troops and vehicles for 10 different organisations, as well as many outside agencies ranging from the Defence Research Agencies to the production team for 'Soldier Soldier'. Each training cycle has about 110 exercises which range from 1000 men and 300 vehicles to small demos involving 2 men. Repetition is avoided by swapping the commitments within Companies and sharing the more enjoyable ones (those away from Salisbury Plain).

New equipment trials are common. Trials at present include TRIGAT, the



LCpl Headland, C Coy, showing the new cast members of 'Soldier Soldier' the basis of the LSW.

new sock (it bears a strong resemblance to a reinforced bin liner), the new sleeping bag (C Company needless to say!) and a new type of ear defender.

We remain at the forefront of Infantry skills and development. As the quotes

above testify, the Poachers are still the best ambassadors for both the Regiment and the Army. With just under a year to go in Warminster, we will be able to consolidate our position and look forward to providing opposition for the 1st Battalion in December.

Training Around CATC Commitments

Even though we are fully devoted to our clients in terms of our own activities it is still possible to retain a certain degree of conventional normality, as Capt Simon Vincent (2IC C Company) writes:

The role of the Combined Arms Training Centre Battlegroup (formerly known as the Demonstration Battalion) has frequently been seen as something of an 'Elephants Graveyard' for Infantry Battalions. The combination of full commitments, repetition of tasking and a lack of time for units to exercise themselves has often led to lost reputations. Over-committed, bored and unmotivated soldiers are a recipe for disaster. Unfortunately, the first of these is reasonably insoluble. Full commitment is an increasing reality despite the efforts of the Demo Office. Repetition is relatively avoidable with task rotation and change of roles within the BG. Thus we come to training. It is in fact true that much valuable training can be gained from the set exercises which we are called upon to support. Indeed, the series of TESEXs have proved to be an excellent vehicle by which to train our soldiers in all phases of war. However, as the CATC(BG), we are constantly reminded that our role is to support other units and our own training can be the thing that suffers.

Unit and subunit training is an important and vital part of Battalion life. Over

the past year, the Poachers have proved that despite the hectic pace of life in Warminster, much valuable training can still take place. Indeed, given careful operation, persistence and forward planning, it may be difficult to find a posting with so much potential for valuable and interesting training. This is because the BG consists not only of the Poachers but D Squadron RDG, a Close Support Troop RE and the LAD. Therefore, on our doorstep, we have the numerous opportunities for cross-arm training without having to look around to outside agencies or units. Most Infantry units tend to train solely along the ATD style of training to meet specific objectives to the arm. Here in Warminster the BG also learns about other Arms, becoming familiar with the skills and operations of the other sub-units. As well as our in-built assets, we also have a number of the specialist schools over the road in Warminster Training Centre that allows almost limitless training opportunities with the right planning.

The value of this cross-arm training is best illustrated on TESEX. There we do not just 'go through the motions'. All soldiers (including the REME fitter sec-

tions) are taught how to send and correct fire missions, operate a MILAN post whose operators have been 'killed' or guide a tank onto an objective. These skills allow any man to have the power to influence a battle, as has been proven in past TESEX.

The chance to get away from the confines of Warminster and train as a subunit is rare. However with a certain degree of co-operation and close co-ordination in consultation with the CD, a training camp can reap numerous rewards. During the last 12 months, various sub-units have been to such destinations as Castlemartin, Devon, Cornwall, Northampton and Stanford. Not particularly glamorous but just being away from commitments boosts morale.

It is possible therefore to achieve a great deal more diverse and quality training whilst still fulfilling the duties of the CATC(BG). What must prevail is the initiative of commanders to look ahead and plan training that is out of the ordinary, exploiting the assets that we have as the CATC(BG). Being in Warminster is a great opportunity if used to the full.

The WED - Planning And Conduct

By far and away the most high profile commitment that we plan and run is the Weapons Effect Demonstration (WED). Known as the Firepower Demonstration, it is a highly complex event run by the WED officer, Maj Duncan Gregory (OC B Company), who now explains all :

As this article is being written we are gearing ourselves up for the Battalion's fourth Weapons Effect Demonstration since our arrival in Warminster. Whilst it may be imagined that by now we have a tried and tested routine for this and that the only pre-planning required is to dust off the previous instruction, this is far from the truth. In the climate of constant change that we live in the WED has not escaped.

As recently as last month it was identified that the previously cleared traces for the aircraft serials no longer fitted which required the moving and painting of new target hulks. A new type of mortar ammunition meant that the mortar line used for the past eight years was no longer suitable, so an alternative position had to be found and traces submitted.

Then there was the need to meet the wishes of the new Commandant of the Army Junior Division (AJD) of the Staff College (still widely referred to as JDSC) for a more dynamic and punchy spectacle. This required a sizeable re-working of the script and serials.

We have been fortunate that our first three WEDs have gone smoothly and have been enjoyed by visitors ranging from the Mayors of towns and cities in our recruiting area to the French Chief of the Defence Staff. Spectators usually total about 1500 with almost as many turning up on the day prior to the WED, rather euphemistically called a rehearsal.

But such displays do not come cheap. The total cost of ammunition expended on the day itself and rehearsals for it

comes to a staggering £178,000, which, when you consider it takes place three times a year, and all for the benefit of AJD students, gives you some indication of the costs associated with the training of junior Captains.

One word of advice for any future spectators is to ensure they bring warm clothing as, without exception, each of the WEDs we have run, even our first last May, have been very cold affairs. There is little doubt that next week's demonstration will be no different. However, we are confident of avoiding a repeat of the disastrous display held about a mile from Battlesbury Bowl in 1942 when a Hurricane fighter mistook the spectator stand for the target and killed 25 members of the crowd including two Brigadiers.

Life As A Warrior Platoon Commander Within The CATC(BG)

One thing that comes to the fore as the CATC(BG) is the need for lower levels of command to keep a very good record of the activities undertaken by his command. As Lt Stephen Romilly (1 Platoon Commander) shows, it is no place to let life pass you by:

In a year and a bit as a Platoon Commander in the CATC(BG), I have completed both the Platoon Commanders Course and the Armoured Infantry Commanders Course. Following these was duty as a Platoon Commander in the Warrior Company (A Company).

The job as a Platoon Commander is split into a number of areas. Initially is life in camp. When one would expect this to be calmly awaiting the next commitment, it is in fact very busy as the Platoon works at vehicle maintenance to keep the fleet on the road. Immediately this erodes training time for the platoon, or it means only small numbers of men available to do other tasks. Hence the platoon tends to participate in Company training with the numbers that a Platoon Commander would expect to work with.

The reason for small numbers of men being available is the large numbers of commitments that involve a JNCO plus 1 or 2 men. To this end the JNCOs here have become more confident as they are expected to act far more independently

than before without supervision.

Out of camp in the field there are basically 3 types of commitment. These are demonstrations, exercises run for the benefit of CATC courses and TESEX. The demonstrations really have very lit-

tle to do with me. This is because they are very specific about how they are to run and only usually involve small numbers of men. Some such as the static displays of BG equipment allow your views and knowledge to be passed on (although 22 in one day can be somewhat testing!).

Pte Meedley and LCpl Cooley, (both Recce Platoon) redeploy on TESEX.



The main exercises are all run according to serials and comprehensive exercise instructions. This can provide problems as you may have a group of soldiers that have done the serials many times before and know the exercise as well as the DS. The problem we encounter is not one of complacency through familiarity but rather that the soldiers carry out the tasks too fast for the DS or the Students. This is especially true for Warrior and the lack of experience that some students have. This has been largely eradicated by reminding the soldiers that they are there to help the student with professionalism, not short cuts. TESEX is the third type of commitment that faces the Platoon Commander. It is by far the most popular exercise with the troops and something that I would like to do a lot more of. It has greatly enhanced the skills of the Platoon and has forced all commanders to think to a higher level and at greater speed. It is very common to end up as Company Commander.

Life as a Warrior Platoon Commander and especially on TESEX has demonstrated the need for a fast learning curve and thought processes whereas the commitments require careful man management and soldier tasking to avoid repetition and boredom.

As has been said many times, the most popular and satisfying commitment is the TESEX. It is the only time that we operate in 'real' conditions against a fighting enemy. So far you have only seen

the surface of the TESEX. One of the C Company snipers now goes through the realities of TESEX from a viewpoint that has been paid a certain degree of lip-service in previous dry exercises.

A Sniper's View Of TESEX

The role of the sniper, ignored for so long, has experienced something of a renaissance with the introduction of TESEX. On previous exercises it has been difficult, if not impossible, to combine the many skills that we learn and then practise them together. We can practise our fieldcraft and communication skills on a normal dry firing exercise, but then have to wait for a live firing range to practise accuracy. Also on dry firing exercise, the damage that a sniper can cause is misleading as casualties are rarely awarded. Most commanders in particular feel that they are 'bulletproof' as they conduct their troops and in so doing are obvious targets. Plus, in general, the more senior the commander the less likely that he will be either nominated as a casualty or accept the fact that he is one!

TESEX has re-written the rulebook.

The sniper now comes into his own, practising all the facets of the art of sniping. The use of sniper by the Poachers as OPFOR has been a major facet in the many 'victories' over the BLUEFOR Battlegroups. Most OPFOR snipers are motorbike trained. This may sometimes

sacrifice stealth, but it means that a pair can quickly redeploy to another area of the battlefield. Once on the ground, a sniper provides two key assets to the commander. The first is observation. From a good position, he can advise his commander, call in indirect fire and harass BLUEFOR troops. The second is selective 'killing' of the enemy. This has proved time and again to be devastating. As mentioned, commanders rarely attempt to conceal themselves or seek proper cover from fire. This makes them an easy target to a sniper. Recently on TESEX two sniper pairs had the entire BLUEFOR BG hard targetting around Copehill Down village for 24 hrs, taking numerous casualties before the battle even started. Vehicle commanders and signallers also make effective targets to add to BLUEFOR confusion. The panic caused by the realisation that a sniper is operating in your area has been felt on both sides of TESEX. In one TESEX the BLUEFOR CO and most of his O Group were taken out during orders and the BG ground to a halt.

TESEX is truly a superb vehicle to practise the sniper's art. It has demonstrated how a well trained pair can prove to be a battletwinner even when facing a numerically superior force. It has also given our snipers a real sense of pride in recording 'kills' and ranges of hits as well as focusing commanders to their true value.

A Platoon Commander's View As Enemy On Exercise GRIM REAPER

There are of course a vast number of exercises that are undertaken by the BG. Most have been introduced in the previous edition of Castle. Lt Simon Worthy now gives an account of one of the smaller commitments. Exercise GRIM REAPER is a platoon sized commitment acting as enemy for the Platoon Commanders Battle Course. This is typical of the way that we operate as an enemy for the agencies that we assist.

Ex GRIM REAPER is based mainly at Sennybridge Training Area and is the final exercise of the Platoon Commanders Battle Course. The Poachers provide a rifle platoon as enemy for this exercise which happens three times a year. It is generally seen by Poacher subalterns as the most rewarding of all our commitments, allowing as it does for a certain amount of "free play" within the framework of the exercise.

After a number of reces and briefings, 6 Platoon finally left Warminster in late November 1996, weighed down with

stores and around three hundred ration boxes. The weather forecast was not encouraging but we departed in beautiful sunshine. However, on arrival in Lulworth for the first part of the exercise we were greeted by the Royal Marines with a severe weather warning. We were told that timings would have to be brought forward as one of the worst storms since 1987 was in-bound. At 2200 hrs we were still enjoying a clear starlit sky with no sign of a deterioration, but within an hour all this changed and a horrific storm hit us with freezing horizontal rain straight off the sea.

Fortunately we all survived the night with only one case of mild hypothermia, and, as the students completed their beach landings, we set off for the next phase of the exercise in Wales.

As we crossed the cattle grid marking the start of the Sennybridge Training Area we were faced with two feet of snow and treacherous road conditions. The weather improved only slightly over the next ten days making any movement by road to say the least hazardous.

Ex GRIM REAPER is described as a flexible exercise and as such tasks for

Poachers

the enemy, ourselves, come in at very short notice. One such task was to "bounce" a patrol harbour at night. During the attack we launched twelve schermulies and assaulted noisily through the wood, only to be challenged with the immortal words "Halt. Advance one and be recognised". At other times we fought through student ambushes before they had been initiated and my Section Commanders were amused to observe hapless student patrol commanders trying to trigger ambushes by torch light or even schermuly.

The exercise is a great opportunity for the students, who have yet to join their

Battalions, to see how a rifle platoon works. The enemy platoon commander is required to debrief the students on their actions and this requires, on occasions, harsh words of criticism. Having been a student on the previous course I found it useful to see the exercise from the other side and can now appreciate the huge effort that is put in for the student's benefit. As a platoon commander the chance to command a fully manned platoon away from the constraints of Warminster is an excellent opportunity. It is a real chance to do some valuable training at the expense of a course of junior officers.

The BG does not only function to serve the agencies who organize the large exercises. As the Demo Officer showed we have fulfilled some very strange tasks to say the least. We recently hosted the latest batch of 'Soldier Soldier' actors and actresses. These included the new CO's driver, the Regimental Admin Officer and a Company Sergeant Major. They were placed with the relevant appointment within the BG for a day to see the job. The outcome of the attachment resulted in a request to go on exercise for a week! We do however take no responsibility at all for the standard of drill. There are only 24 hours in one day!

Boxing Notes

Without doubt the sporting high point of the year was the winning of the Army Novice Boxing Championship. A huge amount of effort was put in from the Inter Company Competition through to the Army Final. It is a credit to the Poachers and Capt Richard Brown (QM Tech), the boxing officer, and his team. He now talks through the competition:

Following the Inter Company Competition, where C Company took the Shield that A Company had dominated in recent years, the team, with a mix of seasoned veterans and bright prospects, was selected and went into full time training.

On 19 December, the Poachers took on 3 (UK) Div HQ and Signals Regt at Bulford, powering to an 8 bouts to 1 victory. The Poachers were back with a bang: LCpls Allen, David, Groom and Harris and Ptes Hancock and Newland stopping opponents in the first round; Cpl Batty and LCpl Sherrin in the second; Pte Hardy also knocked out his opponent in the first, but was very harshly disqualified for reasons still unclear. (Hitting his opponent too hard is all that he seemed to be doing).

The next round was against 1 LI after Christmas leave. At the post-leave weigh in it happened - turkey and mince pies meant LCpl Sherrin had put on 12 Kg (2 stone !!). Training started and as the fight date closed in, everyone weighed in lighter and the team was ready. Our only home fixture started perfectly with LCpl Sherrin, Pte Hancock and Tpr Edwards (RDG) winning in the first round. Cpl Farrell then won on points after 4 years

out of the ring. At the interval, we were 4 - 0 up. After the break, Cpls Batty and Lewis, LCpls Groom and Harris all won, booking our place in the next round. LCpl Atlen lost the last fight, a gruelling 3 round contest against a boxer with seemingly unlimited energy, on points. Another 8 - 1 victory.

Training then commenced for the Semi-Final against 7 Tpt Regt RLC to be fought in Germany. It all went extremely well, including a sub 7 minute BFT by Cpls Farrell and Lewis, LCpl Sherrin and Pte Palmas 5 days before the fight! The move to Germany, 16 hours on an Army bus, was not ideal two days before the contest, especially with Capt Brown patrolling the bus for contraband food and drink that may have threatened the diet plan. As usual the Poachers' talking was done in the ring with a 6 - 3 win. Cpl Batty, LCpls Allen, Groom and Sherrin, Pte Hancock and Tpr Edwards winning. Cpl Farrell and LCpl Harris losing very unlucky majority points decisions.

The Army Final was versus 1 Staffords at Ternhill. As the BG went on leave, the Boxers were physically and mentally pushed to the limit. Considered underdogs, the Poachers again showed true class. Pte Hancock and Cpl Farrell won

with first and second round stoppages respectively. LCpl Sherrin fought at his best and was unlucky to lose a points decision. Tpr Edwards was merciless and stopped his opponent in the second. Cpl Batty left it until the third to get going but the Staffords boxer just held on to win on points. At Middleweight, LCpl Groom threw quick, accurate and powerful punches forcing a stoppage by the referee in his favour. Cpl Lewis (8Kg lighter at Light Heavy) produced his best of the season to stop a previously unbeaten opponent. With the Championship won, the pressure was off. LCpl Harris showing great maturity dominated and forced the referee to stop the fight to save his opponent from further injury. In the final bout of the night, LCpl Allen impressed the crowd but not the judges, losing on points.

The Poachers Battle Group won 6 - 3 to become Army Champions for the fourth time.

Although the glory goes to the 9 boxers on the night, praise goes to LCpls David and Riseborough and Ptes Chester, George, Hardy, Newland, Palmas and Sweetland who always pushed for places and sparred harder than most opposition boxers!

The Drums Platoon At Warminster

Training and life for the specialist Platoons is considerably different in this role in Warminster. The Drums in particular, whose primary role is as Sustained Fire Machine Gun Platoon, prove that variety is certainly the spice of life. Drum Major Embleton tells all:

Without time for the Christmas turkey to settle, the Drums Platoon returned to life as the CATC(BG) and got stuck into the 1997 commitments. The first of the year was a WED. This involves the whole platoon in both a live firing role and demonstrating the equipment to the spectators. It is a week of rehearsals, kit preparation and split second timing to make sure that the WED goes without a hitch. This is crucial as the WED is so high profile with a large number of important guests present.

In February, the platoon also sent a detachment to Otterburn to assist with the Milan live firing. It gave us the opportunity to do some small arms work and field firing. We help with all of the big exercises carried out by the BG. These usually involve one detachment going on attachment to one of the Rifle Companies, which gives the chance for

the JNCOs to site guns, plan their own engagements and work with FOOs and Company Commanders. This ensures the best employment of SF assets.

Support has also been given to the Platoon Commanders Battle Course that allows them to use a live firing SF Detachment. Often destroying the targets long before the students get close, they all return with a very good idea of the capabilities of the weapon system.

Not only does the Platoon provide valuable firepower to the BG by being involved in the commitments, we also have a busy ceremonial role that we have to work hard at to promote the name of the Poachers. Since January, we have provided Drummers to the National Association of Boys Clubs boxing finals in London. The Drummers met Barry McGuigan, Henry Cooper, Jimmy Hill

and Harry Carpenter to name but a few (without wishing to drop too many names); We have also played for a VE celebration and ANZAC Day and carried out ceremonial functions for the messes such as dinner nights and dinings in of new Officers.

The Drums were at the forefront of support for the boxing team by drumming the boxers to the ring for each bout.

As the year continues, we are preparing for the next WED, followed by the KAPE Tour the following day where we will promote the name of the Battalion and Corps of Drums. Sadly we bid farewell to Drum Major Bulbeck who is replaced by Drum Major Embleton. We wish him well for the future and his fishing. We also say farewell to Cpl Weller and Dmr Attridge who depart in July.

Milan Platoon

Similarly, the Milan Platoon has been involved in many out of the ordinary activities.

In February, the Milan Platoon embarked on the first live firing undertaken since the return from Germany. Otterburn Training Area was selected as the sunny venue from a cast of two Ranges (the other being Salisbury Plain). The week package was split into 4 days of small arms field firing with the Drums Platoon followed by Milan live firing.

Needless to say, the crunch is the Milan firing. We have a training allocation of 24 missiles per year, which we were to fire in one day. As is the way with all high pressure ranges, the weather decided to cause problems. The target run is 1400m away.

When we started firing, visibility was around 800m. Fortunately the fog cleared at intervals and we were able to shoot at better ranges. Of the 24 missiles that were fired, 2 went 'rogue' climbing straight up with no intention of obeying the Firing Post. Of the remaining 22, 19 were 'K' kills and three firers owe the taxpayers a year's pay. The hit rate of 86.3% is an excellent reflection on the firers, who were working in appalling conditions, and far higher than the Army average. Another unit (which will remain nameless) that fired the day before us missed 5 of 12 missiles in identical conditions.

Returning from live firing the Platoon was approached by ITDU with the offer of becoming the trial unit for Medium Range TRIGAT, the replacement for MILAN. The prospect of a six week trial in Canberra Australia meant that volunteers were not too difficult to find. As this goes to press, the six men are being converted to use the system in preparation for the first trials in Otterburn in August.

The Platoon is already training with one eye looking towards Cyprus, where we will be conventional and dismounted for the first time in over ten years.

KAPE Tour

As Castle goes to print, the Battalion has also embarked on a KAPE Tour under Maj Nanson (OC D Support Company) and Capt Johnson (OC Mortar Platoon). Concentrating upon the Beds and Herts

areas at first, the KAPE team enlisted the help of Melinda Messenger to become the new Miss Poacher. Her visit to Warminster on 29 April was oddly enough very popular with all ranks. By

now, the resulting media exposure will hopefully be a real recruiting boost for the Battalion. There will be a more comprehensive KAPE report in the next edition of Castle.

Sport

Regardless of the workload, the BG has managed to run a comprehensive inter subunit sports competition throughout the training year. The culmination of a great deal of effort from all the subunits came down to the Rugby ten-a-side tour-

namment with any one of four possible winners. Training was as keen as many have ever seen for an inter subunit competition. In the end, however, the weather triumphed. Having had no rain for weeks, the pitches were unplayable and so it had

to be cancelled. This meant that D (Support) Company, who were leading into this final event, became Champion Company.

Royal Anglians Support Infantry Football Success

Being back in the UK has also allowed members of the unit to pursue places in representative teams. Sgt Mutch (HQ Company) explains how the Regiment has provided a boost to the Infantry Football team:

The strongest ever representation from the Regiment has helped the Infantry Football Team to another good year. As holders of the Inter - Corps Championship, the Infantry needed to be much improved to retain the title. This was accomplished with 8 wins from 9 matches..

The Regimental standard has been carried in recent years by Cpl Ramm (1st Bn), now at ITC Catterick, who had another outstanding season. He has remained consistent throughout, playing in 8 matches, scoring 3 goals and earning his Infantry Colours. He also scored in the Infantry Cup Final.

Breaking into the Infantry this season has been Cpl Phillips (2nd Bn) playing 3 times and scoring once and Cpl Guppy, who made the Subs bench twice in his first season. Pte Picton (2nd Bn) was also selected for the Army Youth Team to play against the Scottish F.A. and is in the Army Youth Squad for next season..

Behind the Infantry Team, Sgt Mutch (2nd Bn) has been introduced to the administration, providing coaching and medical support to the Team and assisting him was Cpl Oxby also from the 2nd Bn.

The future looks promising for the Royal Anglians within the Infantry Football Association, in a sport that the Infantry still dominates despite commitments. Hopefully the Battalions will benefit from their players' involvement if they continue to allow maximum participation by those who are selected.



LCpl Pilgrim, 'The Groom', Pte Baird, 'The Bride', and Mr Jackson 'Bridesmaid' Winners of the Red Nose Day fancy dress Fun Run.



2Lt Adams and the 'Runner Beans,' third in the fancy dress Fun Run.

The Commanding Officer presents the Steve Wormald Trophy to WO2 Cousins following the Sgts' Mess 15 - 8 football win over the Officers' Mess.

Pte Midgeley, Milan Platoon, accepts the Champion Company trophy from the Commanding Officer.



Scared of what's out there?

TeleAdapt will keep you covered



If you travel abroad with a laptop and a fax/modem, you'll know how frustrating it can be when you can't connect. TeleAdapt are specialists in the field of modem connectivity to any form of telephone network, allowing data and fax communication anywhere around the world.

No matter where you are, TeleAdapt is only a phone call away. Our experienced technical team is available to help you round-the-clock, through our global support network, via TeleAdapt offices in the UK, US and Australia.

Managing Director, Gordon Brown (ex-Pompadour), is pleased to offer Castle readers a 10 per cent discount when they order any TeleAdapt product.

TeleAdapt Ltd • The Technology Park • Colindeep Lane • London NW9 6TA • UK
Tel: +44 (0)181 233 3000 • Fax: +44 (0) 181 233 3132 • CompuServe: 104047,76
Internet: info@teleadapt.com

TeleAdapt Inc • 2151 O'Toole Avenue • Suite H • San Jose • CA 95131 • USA
Tel: +1 408 965 1400 • Fax: +1 408 965 1414 • CompuServe: 104706,1756
Internet: info@us.teleadapt.com

TeleAdapt Pty Ltd • Locked Bag 5340 • Artarmon • Sydney • NSW 2064 • Australia
Tel: +61 (0) 2 9433 8363 • Fax: +61 (0) 2 9433 8369 • CompuServe: 104125,577
Internet: info@us.teleadapt.com

<http://www.teleadapt.com>



6th Battalion

Introduction

The 6th Battalion has been extremely busy over the winter months with field training, recruiting and bounty qualifications the main focus. Hard work and determination have also brought success in the 49(E) Bde Military Skills Competition and the Match 83 SF Machine Gun Competition.

Major Exercises And Training

Over the weekend 22-24 November 1996 the 6th Battalion deployed to Salisbury Plain in its entirety for a live firing exercise. Building on the range experience gained at camp the three rifle Coys rotated through some exciting Section and Platoon attack ranges, all of which incorporated tactical grenade throwing and bunker clearing. As background activity the Platoons completed Fighting in Built Up Areas (FIBUA) training in Imber Village. The evening saw the Coys' navigation put to the test by an approach march across the many hills and gulleys to a line of departure marked by the Recce Pl. Each Coy in turn then assaulted South Down Farm accompanied by flanking fire from the MG Pl. Throughout the weekend 2 R ANGLIAN's Mortar Pl provided some interesting background activity, displaying their equipment and the various drills and giving our soldiers a chance to drive their 432s. The Poachers also gave up their Saturday night to show off their night vision aids. Dawn on Sunday morning saw the Battalion on the receiving end of a Locating the Enemy display coordinated by the Training Major, Maj Shelmerdine-Hare, and Sgt Wilkins, MG PSI. With the Snipers and the MG Pl demonstrating "crack and thump" the valuable lesson on how to identify the enemy position when on the receiving end of real bullets was reinforced.

The 6th Battalion's training directive from Commander 49(E) Bde was to become experts in Fighting in Woods and Forests (FIWAF) and FIBUA. As a result each Coy has spent time honing their skills in the Eastmere Village on STANTA and the various woods and copses on the training area. A (Norfolk and Suffolk) and D (Cambridgeshire) Coys joined together in December for a combined exercise in the FIBUA Village while C (Essex) Coy practised their defensive drills against East Midlands OTC in March. FIWAF has been covered extensively by all the Coys. For example, D Coy fought a defensive battle using a series of prepared positions followed by swift counter attacks, while C Coy used reactive OPs to identify the enemy. This led on to hasty ambushes and mopping up



The Combined Corps of Drums for the Lord Mayor's Show on 2 November 1996.

operations. All Coys have used the long dark nights to their advantage practising recce and fighting patrol exercises and harbour occupation drills.

As well as military activities C Coy have participated in adventure training in the Peak District. In early December Maj Baker and his PSI, CSgt Garner, put 6 teams through an arduous competition consisting mainly of timed hill walking. Nevertheless, a first aid and navigation test, an assault course and some hair-raising mountain biking helped to increase the mental and physical pressure. LCpl Tibble's team were the overall winners and celebrated in true Essex Coy style with an all ranks party at their hotel in Hathersage.

HQ (Suffolk) Coy have been training hard to further improve their excellent service to the Battalion. Under the command of Maj Allcock they have practised their role in a number of Echelon exercises. As well as being proficient at running replens, convoy drills (by day and night and also off road) and resupply, the Coy revised their infantry skills in a dismounted exercise in December. This experience came in useful when in April the Echelon successfully fought off an attack by the Recce Pl, proving that their "actions on" were up to scratch.

The new Training Major, Maj Lucas, has made his presence felt within the Battalion with a Doctrine and Combined Arms Study Weekend for the Officers and some WO2s. Held in Bury St Edmunds over 19/20 April the "headshed" were extracted from the Coys to receive a number of presentations. Lectures from the School of Army Doctrine on Manoeuvre Warfare and Mission Analysis and all arms warfare from 202 Bty RA, 9/12L and Capt Googe (our own OC MG Pl) were extremely informative. These were supplemented by lectures on the intelligence preparation of the battlefield by Capt Gotobed, the IO, and the Echelon system by Maj Allcock. After a night out in the hostels of Bury St Edmunds (designed to simulate the effects of battle fatigue!) the Officers' understanding of manoeuvre warfare was put to the test with a FIBUA TEWT. Conducted in a village to the north of Bury, the realistic terrain was both challenging and a welcome deviation from purpose built fighting villages.

6th Battalion



C Coy team negotiate the barbed wire entanglement.



MG Pl lay onto a target



Hide and seek in the FIBUA village C Coy soldiers avoid the RSM



Cpl Instance, MG Pl live firing at Warcop



C Coy assault



WO2 Callaghan, SPSI

Bounty 96/97

The TA Training and Bounty year came to a close at the end of March. Although there is a significant financial incentive for individuals to ensure that they have qualified for Bounty by passing all their ATDs, it is also an efficient way to guarantee that the skills level of the Battalion remains high. As a result, much training has been focused on NBC testing, the physical assessments of CFTs and BFTs and shooting. Rather than the training being mundane and routine, Coys have made attempts to liven up their activities. For example, C Coy deployed to Ash Ranges in Aldershot in January to shoot the APWT. Although bad weather frustrated their attempt to fire the Central Bore Competition, the Essex boys used some dodgy "family" contacts to arrange some enjoyable clay pigeon shooting and familiarisation with other unconventional firearms (such as Magnum pistols, HK22 variants and a "black powder" Colt rifle).

49(E) Bde Military Skills Competition

The 49(E) Bde Military Skills Competition, another important annual event, was held in early March. After minimum preparation with only one weekend devoted to centralised build-up training, each Rifle Coy provided a 30 man strong Platoon. Competing against 11 other teams from across East Anglia and the East Midlands (from as far apart as Chelmsford and Mansfield!) each team was assessed by a series of stands. These ranged from clearing a wood of enemy to assaulting two houses in a break in battle and giving first aid to civilians after a helicopter crash to Live Firing in defence. The Commander's final stand on Sunday morning involved a two mile dash to build a Casualty Collection Point and evacuate a casualty to it.



In the FUP

After a nail biting finish the 6th Battalion won both first and second places. D (Cambridgeshire) Coy led by Sgt Brannigan won the Competition for the second year running. The team were also awarded the Veal Trophy for the third year in succession for the best effort in the forced march, considered by the Commander as the Competition's most arduous event. C (Essex) Coy team commanded by Lt Davies should also be congratulated for achieving second place. A (Norfolk and Suffolk) Coy worked hard

and certainly gave the other teams a run for their money.

As well as competing in the Exercise the Battalion was heavily involved in its administration too. Maj Fradley, OC A Coy, and Maj Cook, OC D Coy, ran the forced march and FIBUA Stands with staff from their Coys while HQ Coy provided the logistic support. Signals Pl under Capt Harrison also established a complicated rebro system to ensure that communications between the stands

bypassed the many "deadspots" unique to this part of Norfolk. As a result WO2 Syms, RSWO, and his trusted band of signallers, spent all weekend monitoring these sets from the backs of their Land Rovers. Although certainly not a glamorous job it was absolutely essential for the running of the Competition and much appreciated. Overall the weekend was a great success with not only high scores but fault free administration.

Match 83 And MG PI Training

The MG PI has also had a rewarding 6 months with competition success in Match 83 and some dynamic training. On 7-8 December the PI, commanded by newly promoted Capt Googe, participated in the annual SF Competition in Otterburn. Their experience on Camp in Belgium and the team's dedication to their training ensured the position of 1st place in the TA entrants in the Division and 2nd place in the TA nation-wide, beating nearly 40 other teams. The team scored an average of 200 points per gun with an overall total of 800 points.

On a completely different note the MG PI "dominated the high ground" in January with an adventure training expedition in Wales. Over two days the gunners braved the Winter weather and navigated across the Brecon Beacons assisted by Sgt Wilkins, their PSI. No strangers to travelling long distances, the PI also ventured up to Warcop from their Chelmsford base in March to revise live firing section attacks, pairs CQB and tactical grenade throwing.

Recruiting

The 6th Battalion's emphasis on recruiting has remained constant with all Coys working hard to maintain the steady flow of soldiers through their doors. All subunits have planned and executed their own strategies with significant results. In November D Coy opened its doors to the public in Cambridge and up to 75 visitors were treated to various stands including a weapons display, armoured car rides and a demonstration on living in the field. The local MP for Cambridge, Mrs Anne Campbell, also attended, ensuring some good publicity. HQ Coy invited the Mayor and Mayoress of St Edmundsbury to their open evening in February and entertained them with a woodwind quartet from the Regimental TA Band. A Coy's efforts at recruiting have also paid dividends as the Norwich and Lowestoft based unit stands at 110% of its establishment. The Battalion has also continued to nurture its links with the ACF with Coys lecturing to the Uniformed Services Courses in the region and inviting Cadets to join us on exercise. Overall the Battalion's manpower is now at 94% of its establishment, a growth of over 25% in the past 12 months! With the purchase of a recruiting trailer to boost our success in the region it is hoped that the Battalion will be over the 100% recruited mark by the next edition of Castle.

Social News And Visits

Since the last edition of Castle the Battalion has been very busy socially. November saw D Coy holding its annual party with its Deputy Honorary Colonel, Col Peter Horrell TD DL (ex CO 5 R ANGLIAN), as its guest of honour. The Officers' Mess marked Christmas with a Ladies Dinner Night with music provided by the RAF Honington Band, while all Coys also celebrated the festive season in December. January saw a very well attended meeting of the Officers' Dinner Club in Bury St Edmunds TA Centre, where the CO gave a resume of the past year to the past and present officers of the Battalion.

The New Year also brought a visit by Brigadier Hurrell CBE (late 17/211.), the new Commander 49(E) Bde, who ventured down to Bury St Edmunds on a drill night in February to see Battalion HQ and HQ Coy in action. After a curry supper in the Mess, the Commander toured the evening's lessons by the Recce Platoon and a demonstration of resuscitation techniques by Sgt Smith.

C Coy's Deputy Honorary Colonel for Essex, Col Roger Tomkins OBE TD DL, made a farewell visit to the Essex Coy on their open evening in February and took the opportunity to present a Regimental Signaller's Badge to Pte Butler and promoted Pte Blower to LCpl. The Battalion thanks him for his great efforts on behalf of the Coy and wish him and Adrianne all the best for their retirement. The CO and the Essex officers also attended the annual 4th/5th Essex Regimental Dinner in March, emphasising their strong links with their predecessors. March saw the Lord Lieutenant of Suffolk, Lord Belstead, present Lord Lieutenant's Certificates to CSgt Prewer

for her services to recruiting and Mr King for his work in the QM's Department.

Also in March CSgt Hipperson, Sgt Mills and RQMS Debenham were awarded Lord Lieutenant's Certificates by Sir Timothy Coleman KG, Lord Lieutenant of Norfolk. Finally, Captain David Spalding was dined out of the Battalion at a Ladies Dinner Night in April. After nearly 40 years of service in the Regiment and its predecessors we wish him good luck for the future and success on the golf course!

The Battalion's permanent staff has seen much movement over the past 6 months. CSgt Tilley has returned to the Poachers after two enjoyable years with D Coy. He has been replaced by CSgt Thumwood

from the Vikings. Capt Davidson has retired after many years as PSAO D Coy and has handed over to Capt Allen. Maj Potter has finally arrived after the Battalion gapped QMs for 6 months (owing to the early retirement of Maj Coe to the post of PSAO HQ Coy). Maj Shelmerdine-Hare has completed his second tour with 6 R ANGLIAN and has been posted to STRIKE Command at High Wycombe. Taking over the challenge of Training Major is Maj Lucas, yet another Viking returning to the fold of East Anglia. Finally, CSgt McGroarty has retired from the post of NRPS APSI with C Coy to be replaced by CSgt Anderson, ex 2 R ANGLIAN and previously PSI with this Battalion. We wish all leaving success in their future appointments and a hearty welcome to those arriving or returning.

C (Essex) Coy bid farewell to their Deputy Honorary Colonel, Col Tomkins OBE TD DL.



6th Battalion

Serving With The Regular Army

At present the Battalion has a number of officers and soldiers away supporting the Regular Army. Maj Davidson has recently volunteered for his third tour of duty in the Former Republic of Yugoslavia as an LO for HQ MND SW, while Capt Chilvers was mobilised for a second time in April. Serving alongside them are LCpl Palmer, Pte Halls and Pte Scott who is now on his second tour too. With 1 R ANGLIAN in Belfast are Pte Shropshire, Pte Brown, Pte Carter and Pte Lindsay while Lt Gothard is on an SSVC with 9 R IRISH. Cpl Hodgson has just returned after 6 winter months in BATUS with the QM's Department, while Lt Lincoln has deployed to Bosnia with 2 RRF. Finally, Lt Moran is serving an SSVC with 2 R ANGLIAN in Warminster.

Conclusion

The 6th Battalion now looks forward to the challenge of Ex "EASTERN HARRIER", the 2 Div Concentration, and our annual camp in Sennybridge in August. With preparation for this major live firing and Battle Group exercise well under way the Battalion will be practising its procedures with CPXs and FTXs and range work over the next few months. It is hoped that we will have another six months as successful as these.



D Coy react to effective enemy fire.



Platoon attack stand: D Coy cross the line of departure



D Coy carry off one of the spoils of war casualty evacuation on the First Aid Stand



"Don't forget to wipe your feet!" The break in battle.



Preparing to enter the enemy house



A 1 R ANGLIAN march and shoot team take a trip down memory lane. Do you recognise the young Pl Comd on the right?



Pte Shropshire after a savage trip to the barber while on attachment to 1 R ANGLIAN in Belfast.

6 Battalion



LCpl Antill makes a splash.



D Coy go over the top on the assault on Eastmere Village.



Pte McDonald and LCpl De Kretser;
A Coy, find FIWAF thirsty work.



Sgt Brannigan receives the Polar Bear Trophy from Brig Hurrell CBE, Comd 49 (E) Bde.



Cpl Whiting relaxes safe in the knowledge that Maj de Planta cannot fax him in the wood.



The Champions: D Coy team with Mrs Veal, the Veal Trophy and the Polar Bear Trophy.

Vikings



Saxon Patrols on the Falls Road



OC HQ Maj Marinos chatting to children in the Clonard.



Cpl Newton supervises his team at the loading bay.



Pte Guy in the back of an APV.



Keeping a watchful eye on patrol in West Belfast.



Sgt 'Geordie' Pattison with the RSM's vehicle... "Are you sure it's big enough, RSM?"

Poachers



WOI Pallant (right) hands over as RSM to WOI Ralph.



The CO presents Rugby Colours to CSgt Cox (Mortar Platoon, D(Sp) Coy.



Miss Poacher joins members of the Battalion on one of A Company's Warriors.



Capt Copland leads A Company into Copehill Down Village.



The Barrett 50 Sniper Rifle on trial.



Cpl Carter and his section in action from the MRV.

Tigers



SF Platoon deploying by helicopter on Ex Eastern Tiger.



Ptes Kanes and Wearmouth patrolling on Ex Staunch Defender.



C Coy crossing obstacle during patrol competition.



WPte Vilbro, C Coy, takes it out on an innocent dummy.



Pte Thompson realises he is not going to make it.



Pte's Bellham's lighter than air boots cause problems.



Pte Binham studies his next move.

Tigers

The winter months have seen the Battalion concentrate on Field Exercises in preparation for Exercise EASTERN HARRIER. In addition to this soldiers have been away to support the Regular Army and the Battalion has done well in the Army Catering Competition. The Battalion Skill at Arms Meet proved to be an exciting climax to the Champion Company Competition.

Exercises

Annual Camp marked the end of the cadre training period for the Battalion. The majority of training from October onwards was geared towards collective training and Exercise EASTERN HARRIER in particular. Throughout the period there have been a series of Battalion and Company level exercises designed to get the Battalion ready for the types of operations we will be conducting on EASTERN HARRIER.

Exercise Eastern Tiger

Exercise EASTERN TIGER was the first field exercise of the New Year. The exercise went from platoon level operations up to Battalion operations. Using a peace enforcement scenario platoons and companies attempted to bring peace to war torn Stanford. Vigorous patrolling identified renegade forces' positions and intentions. Company and Battalion attacks were conducted to destroy pockets of resistance. The exercise was enhanced by helicopter support in the shape of an RAF Puma. As well as using it throughout the exercise, recruits and potential recruits were also given a ride around STANTA.



SF Platoon await pick up during Ex Eastern Tiger

Exercise Tiger Challenge

The next exercise was a patrol exercise in February. Each company provided a stand and a platoon. The stands included Fighting in Woods and Forests (FIWAF), platoon attack and Operations in Built Up Areas (OBUA). All these skills were to be tested on Exercise POLAR CHALLENGE the following month. Each of the stands was designed to practise operations at platoon level. Battle procedure and Quick Battle Orders (QBOs) were thoroughly practised. Also included in the weekend were night navigation and a forced march with assault course. For the night navigation platoons were split into teams of 3 and set off across Stanford by Maj John Rooney and 2IC Capt Nigel Brown. CSM Hanafan was on hand to ensure that teams at least set off in the right direction. The forced march and assault course got rid of any stiffness from the previous night's exertion. The assault course produced some interesting obstacle crossing drills especially as the platoons were hampered by several sand filled ammunition boxes. The event certainly proved there is more than one way to skin a cat but only one way to cross a 12 ft wall.



Sgt Askew, LCpl Bevin, LCpl O'Toole and Pte Day had forgotten the assault course after the forced march



Cpl Whiting relaxes safe in the knowledge that Maj de Planta cannot lax him in the wood



Ops Oftr Capt Tucker wonders where his rifle is



Maj Rickards snatches what could be his last meal for 5 minutes

Field Firing In The Frozen North

In addition to dry exercises the Battalion deployed to Warcop for the first of its field firing weekends. Despite dire weather warnings the Battalion made its way to Warcop in Cumbria for its live firing weekend. The travelling time was considerable for all subunits but none more so than B (Hertford) Company who did not arrive until 0400 hrs Saturday morning. Dawn on Saturday morning brought bright clear weather and with the Battalion complete everyone dispersed to their various ranges.

All platoon weapons were fired and live firing up to section level was completed. Sgt Limb, PSI A Company, ran a section attack range with 51mm mortar support and GPMG effects gun. The attack involved 2 positions and a casevac withdrawal. Some good attacks went in with a section from Signals Platoon putting in one of the best attacks of the day. At a lower level CSgt Brown, SPSI B Company, ran a pairs CQB range that involved the inevitable wet ditch. CSgt Brudenel, C Company, ran an IBSR range and CSgt Keen ran a section in defence range using a UN-operations battle picture. A grenade range and 94m HEAT/Outdoor Trainer range were also run. In the evening Capt Lennon, newly arrived from 3 RRW, ran a demanding section in defence shoot requiring tight fire control from the commanders. By the end of the weekend some 100 soldiers had fired or seen fired all the platoon weapons and completed up to section level live firing both in daylight and at night.

Christmas At Beckenham

The Beckenham weekend saw a combination of many different events to make a hectic but enjoyable training weekend. The Saturday consisted of section level training. Subjects included FIWAF, Relief in Place, a CASEVAC Battle Exercise, Logistics and OBUA. The aim was to prepare sections for the Bde Competition in March 97, Exercise POLAR CHALLENGE. Although extremely cold important lessons were learnt in areas that are the Battalion's priorities for the next training year.

Whilst the sections were learning the practice of various operations, Officers and SNCOs were involved in a Study Day covering the same areas but with the focus on the All Arms Battle Group. The programme included lectures and syndicate discussions with the aim of highlighting methods of operations the Battalion could follow on Exercise EASTERN HARRIER.

Christmas was celebrated in traditional style starting with the Officers hosting the Sergeants' Mess prior to going to the cookhouse to serve the soldiers Christmas Dinner. Also invited to the Officers' Mess were the family of Pte Duane Lockwood who was murdered earlier this year whilst on Exercise MARBLE TOR. The occasion provided the opportunity for Lt Col Prescott to present a replica of the Lockwood Memorial

Trophy to Mr Lockwood on behalf of the Battalion. During the soldiers' dinner the Lockwoods ate with Pte Lockwood's platoon, the MG Platoon. Dinner proved to be the usual lively affair with A Company staking a claim as the loudest Company. Immediately after dinner the Christmas show started in the cinema to which the soldiers made a quick exit.

All those who had over indulged the previous night received their comeuppance on Sunday morning. The first item on the agenda was a security exercise to practise camp evacuation drills, naturally at 0630 hrs. This meant that the Battalion was present and correct for the inter company cross country competition at 0830 hours. A long muddy 4 mile course certainly woke the Battalion up. B Company were the winning company and they also provided the first individual.

Tigers In Competition

Major Gordon Halewood writes:

A Battalion team had high hopes of doing well in the UK finals of Combat Caterer having qualified by coming third in the 2 Div Competition, Exercise Grebes Grey. The team consisted of Sgt Taylor, LCpl Botting, Pte Percival and Pte Willey. The team gained the fastest time over the assault course and scored well in all disciplines including cooking, driving and camouflage.

A catering team from the Bn produced excellent results in achieving third place on Ex Combat Caterer, the UK Army (TA) Field Catering Competition.

En route they had managed a very good third spot in the 2 Div competition, Ex Grebes Grey. This qualified them for the Army finals. In doing so they were the best turned out team and were also the fastest on the assault course.

The team travelled to Grantham for the finals on 26 April looking forward to gaining experience for future years. The third spot they achieved exceeded all expectations. They were again the best turned out and L/Cpl Botting really produced the goods and took the best driver award. To round it off the team were again easily the quickest on the assault course. This was the sweeter as it was achieved in front of Lt Gen Sir Hugh Pike who later presented the prizes.

The team has worked extremely hard to achieve these results, giving a lot of time and effort to training. They and the Staff who helped them train can feel very satisfied with a job well done. The team look forward to winning next year.

*First step to Ex Combat Caterer
3rd place in Ex Grebes Grey*



Inter Company Competition Produces Close Run Thing

The competition that has caused the most interest (and controversy) is the Champion Company Competition. It is worked for throughout the year but the deciding events have been in the last 6 months. This year the competition was not decided until the last event of the year, the Battalion Skill At Arms Meet. After the patrol competition, MECHANICAL and TASTEFUL TIGER, B Company were leading with HQ Company second. Following points awarded for Battalion Cross Country, media coverage, recruiting and BFT passes all companies went to the BNSAAM with a chance of becoming Champion Company.

As usual the internal competitions were very strongly fought for. Exercises TASTEFUL TIGER and MECHANICAL TIGER are the annual catering and driving competitions held by the Battalion. Exercise TASTEFUL TIGER was held at Bassingbourn and tested not only cooking skills but NBC, First Aid, shooting and fitness. After a testing weekend C Company came out on top with A Company second.

Exercise MECHANICAL TIGER's aim was to promote driver safety throughout the Battalion. Each Company fielded a 12 man team that had to demonstrate a variety of driving skills in different vehicles. HQ Company captained by Cpl Brotherton almost swept the board winning Best Young Landrover Crew, Best Bedford Crew, Best Young Bedford Crew and Best Combined Company Team. A Company did however win Best Landrover Crew with LCpl Horrey and Pte Scott.



Winning Team Tasteful Tiger. L to R Cpl Merrill, WPlt Reid, Sgt Taylor, Pte Tutty



Runners Up Tasteful Tiger. L to R Cpl Finlay, Cpl Metcalf, Pte Willey, WPlt Bannor

Scott's up Pte Willey, Pte Percival, LCpl Botting and Sgt Taylor



LCpl Botting receives Best Driver Ex Combat Caterer from General Pike



BNSAAM Decider For Champion Company

The Company Commanders could barely contain themselves as the BNSAAM competition unfolded. Cpl Brecken was awarded the Commanding Officer's Champion Shot and amongst other awards Pte Horner was awarded Champion Shot LSW. The Officers' versus Sergeants' Mess falling plate competition was another victory for the Sergeants after the Officers' plates mysteriously refused to fall despite a barrage of well directed fire. Although A Company won the BNSAAM the other companies had given them a run for their money during an enjoyable weekend's shooting. A Company's BNSAAM victory gave them victory in the Champion Company Competition with B Company coming second. The Brigade Commander, Brig W J Hurrell CBE, awarded the prizes at the end of the competition. As well as awarding shooting prizes and the Champion Company Shield, Brig Hurrell also awarded TEMs to Cpls Hodgkinson and Day. CSM Shand received a bar to his TEM.

Presentation Of The Lockwood Trophy

The BNSAAM prize-giving ceremony was an opportunity for the Commanding Officer to present the Lockwood Trophy for the first time. The trophy is in memory of Pte Duane Lockwood who was murdered last year whilst on Exercise MARBLE TOR in Gibraltar. It is awarded to the Pte soldier who has served less than 18 months but shown the most commitment. This year's trophy was awarded to WPte Clayton.



Sgt George prepares to head butt the target.



CSgt ODell avoids Brig Hurrell's piercing look



B Coy Spice Girls meet Boyzone.



Brig Hurrell with LT Col Prescott meets (L to R) WPtes Clark-Tunnicliff, Burke and Teye-Otum.



WPte Warrington receives Best Female Shot Award from the CO.



WPte Clayton is the first recipient of the Lockwood Trophy.



Lt Somerville receives Champion Platoon Award from the CO.



Cpl Brecken receives Champion Shot Award from the CO.

Remembrance Day

Each of the Battalion's TA Centres involved themselves in the local Remembrance Day Services. The Leicester City Council Service was attended by a guard from HQ Company in a parade marshalled by Sgt Maj Templeton. Heading the parade were the local Old Comrades with representation from the civil uniformed services and many youth organisations. The Lord Mayor of Leicester, Councillor Culdip Batty, and Col Heggs DL laid wreaths with the Commanding Officer laying a wreath on behalf of the Battalion. After the Service a Curry Lunch was held in the Officers' Mess Ulverscroft Road to host the Lord Mayor and other guests.

Services occurred throughout the Battalion's area. They ranged from small services of an Officer and Guard laying a wreath as at Boston, to the large parades as at Leicester, Lincoln, Hertford and Northampton. Each of the Rifle Company TA Centres laid on lunch for the Old Comrades' Associations after the services.

Operational Tiger

The past year has seen several Tigers providing support to the Regular Army. Tigers deployed in Bosnia with SFOR include the Battalion 2IC, Maj Rod Burns, as SO2 G4 (Real Estate) and Capt Terry Dance as a watchkeeper. Maj Burns has overseen the return of much of the accommodation that both 1 and 2 R ANGLIAN came to know and love on previous tours. Pte Coleman is still with SFOR, having deployed with the Recce Platoon of the Green Howards. CSgt Pickett and LCpl Lock returned from Bosnia in January having completed 6 month tours. 1 R ANGLIAN has 3 Tigers in their midst, namely WO2 Ford, LCpl Sharpe and Pte Jackson. Non operational support included Pte McCarthy on Exercise MEDICINE MAN in Canada.

Pte Coleman (Right Rear) with Recce Pl 1 Green Howards



Leicester Employers Meet The TA

On 25 March the Battalion held an employers evening on behalf of all local TA units. As well as 7 R ANGLIAN several local units put their wares on display including 158 (Royal Anglian) Regiment RLC, B Sqn LDY and 222 Field Ambulance. The aim of the evening was to demonstrate to employers the wide variety of training and skills soldiers can gain in the TA. It also demonstrated to employers the benefits they gain from having a better trained work force. Capt Alex Wong described how he combined his civilian and military careers. CSgt Pickett talked on his experiences as a mobilised TA soldier on duty in Former Yugoslavia. Employers left with a better understanding of the TA, its role and its training. Most important, they left feeling it would benefit them and their company to have TA soldiers as employees.



Sgt Goodrich tries to explain where the rest of the Land Rover has gone.



Sgt Nagra explains assault pioneering to local employers

Tigers Help Out

As well as training and competitions the Battalion has been involved in a variety of charity events and assistance to the community.

Medal Hunt Through The Rubble

The most unusual task of the year fell to B Company. Mrs Carolyn Welsh, whose house had been destroyed in a gas explosion, requested assistance to help find her father's medals awarded for service in World War Two. Lt Thurley with a team of 12 soldiers from B Company sifted through a mountain of rubble and recovered the medals and other lost possessions.

B Coy hunt through the rubble for an old soldier's medals



Charity Abseils

In late October soldiers from HQ Company helped the Leicestershire Royal British Legion launch their annual Poppy Appeal. Members of the Recce Platoon abseiled down the side of the Holiday Inn Hotel in Leicester to unveil a 60ft poppy. Assisted by Sgt Maj Templeton, SPSI HQ Company, Capt Alex Wong, Sgt Warren, Cpl Marriott and Cpl Brotherton set up the abseil. In a strong wind they then carried poppies down the abseil which they presented to John Peters, the Tornado Pilot shot down in the Gulf War.

Abseiling was also used to raise money for the Mayor of Hinckley's Charity in April. Capt Sunderland, Lt Sommerville and Cpl Marriott set up an abseil from St Mary's Church in Hinckley. On a cold Saturday morning 6 local Mayors, a Chief Constable and several Council workers abseiled down the 100m spire in order to raise sponsorship money.



Sgt Warren and Cpl Brotherton unveil the Royal British Legion Poppy

Social Events

As is tradition the Officers' Mess held its annual Black Tie Dinner during the SAAM. Guests included Brig Hurrell, Col Deed, COS 2 Div, Col Drummond, East Midlands TAVRA, Maj Dennis, COS 49 Bde, and Maj Connell, 49 Bde. The Master Chef and his chefs laid on a tremendous meal that ensured guests would not have to eat for several weeks.

The Dinner Night was also an opportunity for the Officers' Mess to dine out Lt Col Prescott. The PMC, Maj Beech, presented the CO with a bronze figure and thanked him for all his work over the last 2½ years. Lt Col Prescott took the opportunity to present the Battalion with an album commemorating the granting of the Freedom of Entry to Leicester in June 1996.



Lt Col Prescott receives the Leicester Tiger from RSM West

The Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess held their Regimental Dinner in March. The night provided the chance for the CO to be dined out and presented with a Leicester Tiger. Also dined out were Mr Wright, former TA Chief Clerk, and WO2 Wilcox, former RQMS(TA) now with the BSTT.

Comings And Goings

The last 6 months have seen several important changes to the staff at 7 R ANGLIAN. In January the new Training Major arrived in the shape of Maj Andrew Wadman. Maj Rodney Harward has now been reunited with his Fusilier Hackle and moved off to HQ LAND. Sgt Maj Templeton also left the Battalion on retirement from the Army. His departure was short lived and after a short period of leave he took up the post of QPSI with B Company. His replacement, Sgt Maj Ralph, is now well established in HQ Company.

On the TA side of the house Maj Petar Starcevic has handed over to Maj Mike Rickards as Officer Commanding C Company. Maj Starcevic has now moved to East Midlands University OTC for a punishing 2 year tour. Capt Chris Pook could not stay away from the Army on his retirement and is joining 7 R ANGLIAN as OC Recruit Training.

Bravery And Long Service Rewarded

LCpl McClatchy's bravery in rescuing a man from a burning car was recognised by GOC 2 Division this month. He has been awarded a GOC's Commendation for his actions in removing the man from the car and organising first aid prior to the arrival of the emergency services.

Finally our congratulations go to Mr Wright, our former TA Chief Clerk, who has been awarded a Lord Lieutenant's Certificate for Meritorious Service having completed 22 years service with the Tigers.

Regimental Sport

Regimental Cricket Club

The list of fixtures for Summer 1997 is somewhat abbreviated from previous years, but more matches may be added. The confirmed fixtures are as follows:

Wednesday 25 June	v	Gresham's School,	at Holt,	11.30am
Sunday 29 June	v	Brentwood School,	at Brentwood,	2pm
Monday 30 June	v	Framlingham College,	at Framlingham,	2pm
Tuesday 1 July	v	Woodbridge School,	at Oakington,	2pm
Friday 18 July	v	Perse Pelicans,	at Cambridge,	2pm

Anyone wishing to play in any of the matches should contact the Secretary, Captain F J R Grounds, 1 R ANGLIAN.

The Royal Anglian Regiment Tennis Tournament

This new event for schools affiliated to the Regiment took place at Kimbolton School on 7 June 1997 and was won by Kimbolton School. A report will follow in the next Castle.

The Regimental Golfing Society

The Spring Meeting of the Regimental Golfing Society was held on Friday 25 April 1997 at Richmond Park Golf Club, Watton.

This is a new and exciting venue for the Society where we were made very welcome and where the members enjoyed the well maintained 18 holes course and the friendly atmosphere of the Club House.

All those who attended enjoyed a very good day, with excellent and exacting golf not marred by the cold and wet conditions that were reminiscent of exercises in BAOR.

Those who attended were: G A Boss, H S Bullock, D R Curtis, M Eggleton, J Fisk, P Fox, L Greenaway, J P Growse, G P Halewood, S Horton, J S Houchin, R Jenns, M Jones, J Kett, T C S Knox, E Leyland, B C Lambe, J P Macdonald, S McAnally, F N Matthews, J Perry, A R Richardson, S Shailes, M Smith, G N Taylor, R F Templeman, A T Thompson, R Travis, T Wesley, D J Wharton, P Woodcock and our scorer Mrs D J Meddings.

Those who were unable to attend were:

Sir John Akehurst, V Anderson, E G Barber, I M Cox, C J V Fisher-Hock, C Groves, C H Hardie, B C Henderson, D F Knight, C A Mallett, K W Taylor, Sir Michael Walker and J L Wilson.

Prize Winners:

The Medal

1st: Dave Wharton; 2nd: Ev Leyland; 3rd: Chris Kett

The Stableford

1st: John Perry; 2nd: Graham Taylor; 3rd: Steve Horton

The Greensome

1st: Messrs Taylor and Fisk; 2nd: Messrs Jenns and Kett;
3rd: Messrs Fox and Leyland

Army Novice Boxing

The Poachers' outstanding win in the Army Novice Boxing Championship, the major recent Regimental sporting success, is reported elsewhere. Well done!

Special Features

Pilgrimage To Aden



Maalla Cemetery, Aden.

Mr John Walker, who served in 1 E ANGLIAN, 1 R ANGLIAN and the Depot from 1962-68, visited Aden with a RBL tour last year in order to visit the graves of comrades and the scene of his operational tour with the 1st Battalion. Mr Walker writes:

My service with the Regiment has always had a major influence on my life, in particular the 1st Battalion's tour in Waterloo Lines, Little Aden, and Thumier Camp, Radfan, which I had experienced as a 20 year old between January 1964 and September 1965. This was my only active service and the one place that I wanted to see again.

In 1996 the RBL arranged its first pilgrimage to Aden and I was delighted to join the party with my wife. We joined widows, sisters and parents visiting relatives' graves as well as old soldiers like me. We arrived at Khormaksar airport and, although the smell was no longer evident, the place had not changed. The road to our hotel crossed the causeway that was familiar, as were the discarded vehicles everywhere - but now they were Russian guns and tank transporters. The hotel was luxurious but there was poverty everywhere outside.

On the first day we visited the cemeteries, first at Maalla then Silent Valley, which were emotional occasions. We were able to photograph each of the Regimental graves. The photographs bear witness that all are in good condition.

On the second day we travelled the local area and for me the clock was turned back 30 years. The small shops and bars are no longer open but they are still there, bullet ridden from more recent conflicts. At Steamer Point we saw a run-down Rock Hotel and on to the Sailors Club for lunch (not the fish and chip van, though the van is still there). The hospital was under armed guard and although still used is in a horrific state. In Crater we visited the bazaar, which is now in Crater Square. The poverty and appalling state of the kutchas, still occupied, shocked us. Onto the Officers' beach at Tarshine and off to Elephant Bay. This was a beautiful area.

The next day some of the party went up country to Taiz. Two former Northumberland Fusiliers and I, and a Coldstreamer, remained and set off to find Waterloo Lines. Like many other public buildings the barracks were bombed, largely derelict and under armed guard. It turned out they are now used by the Ministry of Planning. There we were temporarily arrested, but eventually released and escorted to see the now derelict former married quarters, the swimming-pool and the NAAFI. The cinema has gone. Singapore Barracks is now used by the Yemen Army.

On the final day we took part in a most moving ceremony at the

cemeteries. To conclude, this was a memorable trip that I would recommend to any old Aden hand, made even more worthwhile by the excellent and sensitive administration of the RBL.

Silent Valley Cemetery, Little Aden





Family swimming pool at Waterloo Barracks, Aden.

The Regiment and Aden

Lt Col Trevor Veitch writes:

Aden and the Radfan were where the Regiment gained its first baptism of fire in the 1960s, with operational tours by the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th Battalions, the 2nd at Company strength only. A Republican regime had been established in the Yemen, supported by Egypt, and Arab nationalism was aroused in the Arabian Peninsula. Serious trouble first broke out in the Radfan Mountains and the 1st Battalion was largely instrumental in clearing the area of rebel tribesmen in 1964. When the British Government announced independence for South Arabia by 1968 nationalist passions were further encouraged, resulting in the Regiment's deployment almost up to the last days before withdrawal in 1967 with involvement in fierce fighting. Perhaps someone involved in these operational tours might offer an article for a later *Castle*.

After the 3rd Battalion left in May 1967 the two main terrorist organisations, NLF and FLOSY, engaged in open warfare to gain power for their party on independence. Readers will also be familiar with the ambushes on 20 June 1967 when 22 men of the RCT, Royal Northumberland Fusiliers and the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders were killed. Crater was lost and later regained by Lt Col Mitchell and the Argylls. Withdrawal took place on 28 November 1967. The NLF founded the independent state of The Peoples Democratic Republic of the Yemen (PDRY), which had a brief and violent life leading up to an 11 day civil war in early 1986 which devastated Aden. The PDRY was unified with North Yemen in 1990 to become the Republic of Yemen of today. There was another civil war in 1994. Aden is currently seeking to recover from several decades of trauma and find its former economic position.

Mr Walker, and Mrs Mason, who joined the RBL pilgrimage to visit the grave of her brother Private Frazer of the Regiment, went to great trouble recording the Regiment's graves they found in the two cemeteries. Readers of *Castle* are asked to locate the families of the following, whose graves Mr Walker photographed, and ask them to contact RHQ:

2Lt R P Barclay, 1 E ANGLIAN, killed in the Radfan in a fall, 12 April 1964. Buried in Maalla. The Regiment is in touch with the family.

Pte J R Shopland, 1 E ANGLIAN, killed in a grenade accident in the Radfan, 4 June 1964. Buried in Maalla.

Cpl R Watson, 3 R ANGLIAN, killed in action from gunshot wounds in Aden, 24 October 1966. Buried in Silent Valley.

Pte C Rogers, 3 R ANGLIAN, died of a heart attack in the Radfan, 4 March 1967. Buried in Silent Valley.

Pte B T Fox, 1 E ANGLIAN, killed in action in a helicopter accident, in the Radfan, 10 June 1964. Buried in Maalla.

Cpl J E Herbert, 3 R ANGLIAN, killed in a road traffic accident in Aden, 3 March 1967. His body was returned to UK.

Pte L E J Wallace, 1 R ANGLIAN, drowned in Aden, 4 July 1965. No grave found.

Pte W F Frazer, 1 R ANGLIAN, killed in action on a mine in Aden, 31 December 1964. Buried in Maalla.

All the above graves are in good condition and are visited from time to time by the Defence Attache from Riyadh. The graves however have not been recognised by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and finance for their further maintenance is of concern. The Regiment, with others, is investigating their long term maintenance. Mr Walker plans to erect a plaque in memory of the Regiment's service in South Arabia in Christ Church, Aden, which is being renovated by a New Zealand Missionary and is still used by the small expatriate population for Services and community work.

On Attachment with 2 RRF

Lt P M Lincoln writes:

Bank Holiday Monday 26 August was to be my first day with the 2nd Battalion Royal Regiment of Fusiliers as an attached SSVF Officer. I arrived that evening in Celle, Germany, with some trepidation, not even knowing what job I would be doing, or which Company I would be joining.

These fears were soon put to rest as I met the rest of the subalterns, who were recounting tales of wine, women and song from their block leave from which they had just returned. I soon settled in, and had to make rapid preparations to deploy to Poland on Exercise "Ulan Eagle". This was to be the largest British mobilisation since the Gulf and the first time British troops had been in Poland since World War II. I spent three weeks "on the job training" in the art of the Armoured Infantry Platoon Commander. Luckily for me I had a good Platoon Sergeant who was more than happy to impart his knowledge to me. The exercise proved both fun and challenging with 2RRF playing OPFOR against the rest of the Brigade. It was certainly an opportunity not to be missed.

My initiation to the Battalion was nearly complete, having been to Poland and then having completed the Warrior Commanders and Gunnery Cadre. All that was left was my first Regimental Dinner Night with the Fusiliers. I was obviously chosen as Mr Vice, and later found myself handcuffed to a radiator for half the evening. At least I kept warm.

The next golden opportunity that presented itself to me was the chance to attend the International Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol (ILRRP) Leaders Course. This is a course that some wait years to get on. Before I arrived, my mind was filled with stories of huge marches with massive bergens in very mountainous areas. The course was three weeks long and tested your command of a small six man patrol inserted behind enemy lines. The whole course was fairly "Bravo-Two-Zeroesque" in nature, with many of the instructors being from the SAS or other countries' special forces. The international feel was continued by using equipment from many armies; American SF helicopters, British TACBEs, Dutch crypto devices and German assault rifles. The main features of the course were the emphasis on plan-



Lt Lincoln (left) finally admits defeat and wears the Fusilier Hackle

ning and orders, contingency planning (especially escape and evasion), patrol tactics and construction of sub-surface OPs. It also appeared to most that it included a fair amount of tabbing around large Bavarian mountains with heavy bergens!

The period before Christmas leave saw me travelling back to the UK to complete the TA Platoon Commanders Battle Course. Undoubtedly the experience I had gained in the previous months with a regular Battalion helped enormously.

The New Year brought with it the start of the Battalion's pre-Bosnia training package. This was to last from January through April. It consisted of a series of study days and presentations by SOTAT combined with military skills live firing exercises. Also carried out was a great deal of in-barracks training. It all culminated with Exercise "Green Star" organised by AITAT. This started with Companies deploying to base locations in

the training area, before commencing two days Warrior live firing. The final three days saw approximately six months worth of Bosnia type scenarios thrown at the troops in quick succession. It was a good job no one wanted to sleep anyway!

The Battalion is now ready to deploy and anxious to get out there to test our new skills. The following four months will probably be the most challenging period that I will have faced, commanding a platoon on an operational tour in Gornj Vakuf and Prozor. It is, however, something that I am looking forward to greatly. The thought of a medal is kind of appealing too.

I would thoroughly recommend to any TA Officer who has got the inclination, as well as an understanding employer, to take a year out and test what you think you might be made of. It has certainly been an opportunity that I will never forget, and certainly one which I will not regret.

The Hong Kong Military Service Corps

Major (Retd) Donald Girdwood, who was a founder member of the HKMSC and attended the disbandment parade in Hong Kong on 14 December 1996, produced this interesting history of the Corps:

The Hong Kong Military Service Corps was formed in 1962, but the tradition of recruiting local Chinese regular soldiers into the British Army was already long established.

Indirectly the HKMSC can trace its ancestry back to the Canton Chinese Regiment Commissariat Corps (Second Opium War 1856-1860), the 1st Chinese Regiment (Boxer Rebellion 1889-1906), the artisan soldiers of 40 Fortress Company Royal Engineers (1880-1941) and the Chinese Labour Corps (1914-1918 Western Front).

Its direct forebears were the local soldiers serving in the Royal Engineers, Royal Artillery and the Hong Kong Chinese Regiment in 1941 at the time of the Japanese invasion of Hong Kong. After the surrender a number of these men escaped from Hong Kong into China. Some joined the British Army Aid Group, which was responsible for assisting escapees from Hong Kong, and others subsequently made their way to India to form the Hong Kong Volunteer Company. This Company was attached to the Chindits and served with 77 Indian Infantry Brigade throughout the 2nd Chindit Campaign in Burma. It finished the war in Singapore.

In 1946 the Volunteer Company returned to Hong Kong to join the Hong Kong Pioneer Company, which had been formed from former Hong Kong Chinese soldiers, some POWs, on the liberation of the Colony. Collectively they were known as the Hong Kong Chinese Cadre Company and were employed on guard duties, border patrols, anti-smuggling operations and supervision of Japanese prisoners. Gradually demobilisation weakened these units, but the continuing demand for local soldiers led to the formation in 1948 of a new replacement unit called the Hong Kong Chinese Training Unit. The unit was based at Lyemun Barracks, tasked with training local recruits for service with the units of the Garrison in a wide range of employments from gunners to drivers, muleteers and maritime engineers. Initially the number of local soldiers required was some 800 to 1000 but the end of National

Service in the UK saw demand further increased and by 1960 the HKCTU was meeting a manning target of 1718 soldiers. Hong Kong Chinese soldiers were now serving alongside their British counterparts in most units of the Garrison.

With such a significant, local presence in the Garrison it was felt that an independent, self-administering unit, with its own Depot and Headquarters, would best foster the Chinese soldiers' sense of identity and Regimental pride. Thus the Hong Kong Military Service Corps came into being in September 1962. For the first time Hong Kong Chinese soldiers were offered a full career with the opportunity of promotion up to and including commissioned rank. The Corps flourished and the Depot produced a steady stream of trained recruits from then on, recruits destined for service with virtually every unit in the Garrison and encompassing some 27 trades in all.

In 1993, with the transfer of Hong Kong's sovereignty to China drawing closer, it was decided to cease recruit training and finalise drawdown plans. It had already been decided that the Corps would disband on 31 March 1997 and the decision was now made to effect the accompanying drawdown in a 2-phase programme.

The Corps' disbandment parade was held at its HQ and Depot on Stonecutters Island on 14 December 1996 in the presence of its Commander-in-Chief, and the last Governor of Hong Kong, The Right Honourable Christopher Patten. It was a very poignant occasion, as are all disbandment ceremonies, but particularly so as it marked the departure of the last locally raised regular unit in the Army and encompassed many of the Chinese elements which had given

this unique Corps its very own, particular style. The Corps Dragon and Lion Dance teams performed and elements of the motorcycle display team drove past, delighting spectators as they had done audiences both in Hong Kong and worldwide over the years. A march past of Corps representatives from all those units in which the Corps was then serving highlighted the extent of its involvement in the Garrison and illustrated the truth of the description of the Corps as "a golden thread running through the fabric of the Garrison".

In his speech the Governor paid tribute to the outstanding contribution that the Corps had made to the Garrison and, most importantly, to the people of Hong Kong. They had helped to ensure the peace and stability of the Colony and had thereby made a major contribution to its position in the world today. He expressed his admiration for the way in which the Corps had maintained its standards to the end, noting that its shooting teams had won both the Army Pistol and the Minor Units Skill-at-Arms Championships in this its last year of Service: a considerable achievement and a continuation of the Corps' notable record in these the most fundamental of the Army's professional skills.

The demise of any great organisation is a time for sadness and regret. The only consolation in this instance is that whilst the Corps has disbanded its memory and reputation will live on.

Galina International Battlefield Tours

Regimental, Association, TEWT, TA, Small Group, Self Drive or Individual Travel

Pilgrimages & Battlefield Tours to:
Ypres, Somme, Cambrai, Arras, Dunkirk,
Normandy & Arnhem.

3 day tour £89

1 Tokenspire Business Park Beverley HU17 0TB
Tel: 01482 880602 / 806020



On Attachment With 9 R Irish

Lt Mark Gothard, 6 R ANGLIAN, currently on an SSVC with 9 R IRISH in Lisburn, writes:

One afternoon last October I was sitting at home, watching the early evening news, when the Adjutant rang to let me know the posting arrangements for my SSVC. I was going to F Company 9 R IRISH at Thiepval Barracks, Lisburn. The news item at that moment was announcing that Thiepval Barracks had just been blown up. What a start!

I arrived at Belfast Docks two weeks later and was met by the Company 2IC, Capt Mark Stickland (late of the Vikings). He ensured that I took the right roads through Belfast and arrived at Thiepval Barracks in one piece and introduced me to Belfast's night life that night. I then spent a week in Thiepval, meeting my platoon (who were in training at the time), a week on Guard at Antrim (but not allowed out of the gate) and then went on NIRT (Northern Ireland Reinforcement Training). NIRT was an interesting experience. I had no previous knowledge of internal security ops and found it very eye opening (although I hope I didn't shock the instructors too much by some of the circumstances in

which I would open fire!). Having passed the course I returned to my platoon. From this point on I was allowed out on the ground.

Since then I have been settling into the routine. Our Ops comprise three weeks in Tactical Area North (Antrim, Randalstown and Toone), three weeks in TAOR South (Lisburn and Hillsborough) and the high country to the West of Belfast) and three weeks in reserve.

On a recent Ops North cycle my multiple went by boat from Lough Neagh into the Toone/ Randlestown area and then patrolled up through the countryside. This proved to be an enjoyable patrol, though trying to crawl through the same gaps in hedges as the soldier on point, who is a foot smaller than me, was a bit like hard work. However I think the RUC Constable, who accompanied the patrol, had the greatest disappointment as he had been told that he was only going on a boat patrol on the Lough! On another occasion I led an eight man patrol to search for weapons to the rear

of a street in Toone. This was particularly "mind focussing" as the street has a reputation for attacks on security forces and the locals once took on an entire Company during a riot. I left the vehicles in the RUC Station and patrolled down to the search area on foot. After initially covering the area with a search dog we then conducted a rummage. Although the briefing was full of promise sadly all we found was the top of an old washing machine. Never mind!

Although not so exciting or eventful, other ops have included Company level searches for weapons and route clearances for VIP visits, notably Prince Edward in November and John Major in December.

Overall, my attachment is proving very busy but good fun and I would recommend a tour with the R IRISH to any young officer both TA or Regular. Last but not least the night life is brilliant around here so with the permission of CO 6 R ANGLIAN I might stay a bit longer!

British Military Advisory Training Team - South Africa

Major Stephen Brunt, having completed two and a half years with BMATT South Africa, writes:

In an earlier report published in Castle I asked the question, "Why are the British getting themselves involved in South Africa again?" Almost two and a half years later I feel that I can now understand not only the sentiments that prompted the question but also answer the question with conviction.

There has been a long history of British involvement in South Africa. Sadly for me, and I suspect many others, it was not something that was covered in any detail, if at all, at school. But to most Afrikaner (ie those of Dutch descent) British involvement has equalled British suppression and what they regard as the deliberate policy to murder around 20,000 women and children in British run concentration camps towards the end of the Boer War. The whole history of that time I found to be fascinating and Thomas Pakenham's account of the conflict in his book "The Boer War" is very

readable (even for an infantry officer) so Warrant Officers and JNCOs should enjoy it. The earlier conflict between the British and the Zulus as portrayed in the film "Zulu" again I found of great interest. To be able to have visited so many battlefields over the last two years was not only a privilege but also humbling and informative.

But what of the task of BMATT South Africa? The start of it all goes back to April 1994 when South Africa issued a formal invitation to the UK government to assist in the integration process of the seven (later to become eight) forces that were to form the new SA National Defence Force. It was in response to this request that a British Army team was despatched to South Africa. As stated in an earlier report there were three main tasks: validation of standards for the SANDF; to monitor the selection, train-

ing and assessment of troops that were being integrated; and lastly to adjudicate in times of dispute. The first task was quickly achieved and whilst the last two tasks may appear straight forward enough, things rarely turn out to be simple.

To put things into perspective, many readers may be unaware that integration meant that former opposing forces were to come together to form the new SANDF. These forces comprised of the (mainly white officered) old SA Defence Force of about 100,000 men, the four former defence forces of the (nominally) independent "homelands" of Transkei, Ciskei, Venda and Bophuthatswana along with the non-statutory forces of the MK and APLA. Later, Zulus from the Kwa Zulu Special Protection Force (KZSPF) also came into the process.

The basic structure of the SANDF is, unlike our armed forces, based on four

Special Features



Major Stephen Brunt trying out SANDF's light machine gun in the standing unsupported position

Arms of Service: the SA Army, the SA Air Force, the SA Navy and the SA Medical Services. The SA Army has within it all the main "corps" (pronounced corpsis) that you would expect. Corps wear different coloured berets; dark green for infantry, black for armoured, blue for Personal Service Corps (ie AGC). It is a more static army than ours with tour lengths frequently in excess of five years. One day I gave a lift to a black soldier aged around 26 years of age. I asked when he joined the army, to which he replied 1989. He told me that he was a dog handler and that he (and his ageing dog) had been guarding the same remote signals compound without a break (other than for leave) since the date he joined! I am not sure who was more crazy, the soldier or the dog. Similarly soldiers are posted to guard camps on a permanent basis.

All SANDF members join as soldiers. The top element of the intake gets promoted to lieutenant, others are appointed as corporals whilst the bulk pass out as rank and file and are paid around 14,000 rands per year (around £2000). There are three elements to the SANDF: the Permanent Force (regulars), the Citizen Force (TA) and the Commandos (a type of "farm watch" militia). The army identifies with divisional and brigade structures with which we are all familiar. You will however not see such formations on the ground as they tend to operate on an ad hoc basis. You could not ask a soldier in which brigade he is because neither he or anybody else knows. At unit level their organisation is very similar to ours. The British Army influence and many of

our traditions are evident even down to 1947 fieldcraft pamphlets!

Training takes place throughout the year but mainly at quite a low level, normally at subunit and below. The units as such only train as a whole once a year at the main training area of LOHATLHA in the Northern Cape. This is a vast area which is very hot in summer and freezing in the winter. It is a boulder strewn area of scrub and red earth with large rocky outcrops and, in the summer, frequent and violent thunderstorms. The SA Army is very course orientated. In many ways the failing of a course is the main method of stopping an individual from being promoted. A striking difference between our two armies at Regimental level is that we tend to send someone on a course to enable him to attain certain skills. In the SA Army individuals are sent on courses to qualify them as instructors. For example recruits who, on completion of their training, are promoted to corporal, will then instruct on the next course. There is no opportunity to practice the skills learned or to gain experience before becoming an NCO or instructor. Taking this into account it is generally most surprising that the standard of instruction is as high as it is!

When one considers the lack of communication and trust that was evident in 1994 the progress that has been made is quite remarkable. Some of the many problems that were originally faced stemmed from distrust, fear and mass strikes, even brutality. There were many such incidents especially in the early days of integration. Now the system operates much more efficiently and more awareness of the situation is evident. I firmly believe that although on occasions my time in South Africa was frustrating



Colonel Frikkie Schoeman (Ex South African Defence Force) integrates with Colonel Nkonyeni (Ex Azanian Peoples Liberation Army)

it was a very worthwhile task to be involved in. Civil war has not broken out, integration is taking place, former enemies are working together to make not only the SANDF but also the whole country a success. South Africa is a wonderful country and its people are friendly and welcoming. There may be problems in the next few years but there is a significant number who believe in a strong and prosperous South Africa. Their efforts must succeed as failure could have disastrous consequences. Whatever happens to the country, in the words of a tourist brochure, "Remember it's sunny today in South Africa" - and they're damn right 'cos I've been there! As for the BMATT, its original strength of 30 has been reduced to 24 all ranks RN, RAF and predominately Army personnel. It is believed the unit will continue in place until at least 1999.

Integration Troops taking a break.



Operations In Bosnia With French, German, Spanish Et Al

Maj John Davidson, a 6 R ANGLIAN officer and SFOR's Multi National Division South West's Liaison Officer based in Mostar, writes:

In the valley of Neretva in Southern Bosnia Herzegovina, large mountains straddle the principal city of Mostar where once tourists flocked to view the picturesque 600 years old Turkish bridge. The bridge is now a pile of rubble lying beneath the turquoise waters of the Neretva river, while the town centre is reminiscent of Berlin after World War 2. Mostar witnessed some of the most brutal fighting between Bosniacs (Muslim) and Bosno Croats during the civil war of 1993-1994, when the front line during 11 months of combat was the main boulevard through the city. Today Mostar is the headquarters of Multi National Division South East, a French led Division responsible for Southern Bosnia Herzegovina. The Neretva valley is now patrolled daily by Ukrainian BTR 70s and 80s, Spanish BMR 600s, French and Moroccan VBLs and VABs and German Luchs and Fuchs armoured vehicles. My appointment as Divisional Liaison Officer from the British led MND SW to MND SE commenced after the re-deployment of the ARRC in November 1996 (where I received an excellent grounding and instruction in the duties of a staff officer from CO 2nd Battalion designate Lt Col Simon Porter).

Working in this truly multi national atmosphere where the Division is commanded by a French cavalry general, with an Italian deputy and two COS (German and French), and where the respective staff cells (G1 - G6), are headed by French, Italian, Spanish and German officers, is truly unique. Although France is not a member of NATO, the doctrine and structures are in keeping with a common standard in

this NATO led operation. Despite the efforts by all in this multi language HQ to abide by this common framework, it can at times prove difficult. The reports from the Brigades arrive in the Divisional HQ in Italian, French, German or Spanish and are then translated into French by the watch officers, who represent each of the above four nations. Onward transmission to HQ SFOR is in English so further translation is necessary and the exact message at times becomes clouded due to multifarious interpretation. The reverse, of course, applies for passage of information downwards.

It was decreed and agreed upon by all the contributors to the Dayton Peace Agreement that a Federation of Bosniacs and Bosno Croats would be formed. Mostar is seen as the model for this Federation so aggressive action and posturing here by either entity may have a direct impact upon other municipalities with a similar ethnic balance and, ultimately, the peace agreement. Many of these municipalities are situated in MND SW area of operations, eg Travnik, Jajce, Bugojno, etc, and therefore my function as liaison officer is vital in maintaining an accurate flow of information to my Division on activities within MND SE, particular Mostar. In January this year there was a concern within MND SE about the number of illegal police checkpoints springing up in and around Mostar, the nightly grenade attacks, sporadic acts of violence and ill disciplined firing. Together with two German staff



Maj John Davidson

ed) and weapons confiscations from Croat Special Police were just some of the activities we were involved in. We were also the sole SFOR representatives on the scene when a UNHCR convoy attempted to return Bosniac DPs to Stolac, a town some 20 kms South of Mostar, and were turned back by a crowd of some 400 angry Bosno Croats. Other duties that are now part of my remit is liaison officer to Mostar region OSCE, OHR and UNHCR. This is because the aforementioned civilian organisations do not follow the Divisional boundaries and all have an interest in some sectors of MND SW AO. Therefore some coordination is necessary.

officers and my driver we mounted regular patrols and became the eyes and ears of the Division for these nocturnal, nefarious activities, such as a deliberate attack against two Spanish APCs by M80 rocket launchers. The shooting of unarmed civilians by Croat special police (which resulted in one death and some twenty-five wound-

However, it is not all work and no play. After communicating, translating and becoming familiar with nine different nationalities, languages and military customs, there are (or were at the last count) some 18 different Messes to choose from where I can relax and enjoy my favourite night-cap whilst listening to endless stories on how XYZ nation lost the war or why ABC nation won a famous battle. Et maintenant, au revoir a tout a l'heure!

**FREE
SAMPLE
SHIRT**
U.K. MADE OLIVE
GREEN T-SHIRTS
HUNDREDS OF
EMBROIDERED
STOCK DESIGNS
AVAILABLE.

**PRINTED OR EMBROIDERED
TO YOUR OWN DESIGN**
• T-SHIRTS
• SWEATSHIRTS
• POLOSHIRTS
• RUGBY SHIRTS
• SWEATERS
• BASEBALL CAPS
FOR FREE COLOUR BROCHURES CONTACT:
TEES TOTAL
High St, Wootton Bassett,
Swindon, Wilts SN4 7AB
TEL: (01793) 849888
FAX: (01793) 849890
CREDIT TERMS FOR H.M. FORCES

10,000 Miles In 10 Days

CSgt Langley-Stevens, a PSI with A Coy 6 R ANGLIAN, invited to visit the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada in April, writes:

I was fortunate enough recently to have had the opportunity to visit the Commonwealth country of Canada and to visit some of our affiliated units. The duration of the visit was for 10 days and I had the privilege of being the first Royal Anglian in over a decade to observe the training conducted by the Canadian Reserve Forces.

To reach the various units from Toronto City meant long road journeys covering some 10,000 miles over the whole period. On my arrival I was quickly whisked away to the City of Hamilton to carry out a courtesy visit to 23 Service Bn (linked with 158 Regt RLC in Peterborough). This was my first impression of the Canadian Reserve Forces and I found them to be very professional with the resources that they had available to them. The drill night was scheduled for 1900 - 2300hrs. As a result the training did not have to be rushed and there was adequate time for administration.

Moving back to Toronto I was deployed to Meaford, the largest field firing complex in the central province of Ontario. The large training complex enabled the Queen's Own Rifles to conduct field firing with fire support from the 60mm Mortar and also Artillery support. Whilst spending the weekend in the field, the weather conditions fluctuated from 15c to - 15c. The Canadian reservists performed very well and conducted the field firing to a very high standard. It was also interesting to see the wildlife such as porcupines and ground hogs; the occasional bear has been seen, too (but fortunately not during my visit).

On returning to Toronto after a 5 hour drive, I was taken off to St Catherines in the region of Lake Niagra to visit the Lincoln and Welland Regiment. This unit is currently operating the Co-Op programme, giving the opportunity to pupils of school age (whilst still in full time education) to experience 6 months with Reserve Forces. This appeared to be a very productive and cheap option to train future potential Reserves.

The afternoon was spent visiting Niagra Falls, which is also used to provide a power supply to the various nearby

regions. During the evening we moved on to the City of Buffalo to observe ancient Reservations areas where numerous tribes used to live.

On my return to Toronto we headed West to the City of Windsor and attended the Essex, Kent and Scottish Regiment Drill Night to observe the Reserves during evening training. After a stop over we then moved back east to Downtown Toronto to meet the Queen's Own Rifles on their evening training. This comprised drill and weekend admin preparation.

Thursday was spent moving back to the Niagra area to meet Ron Dale who is the Director of Fort George, the site of the famous Battle of 1812. The Fortress is of wooden construction and contains a lot of history where the British and Canadians fought against the Americans over a century and half ago.

On the Friday we departed for Kingston to visit the Fort Henry Installation, which is situated close to the Canadian Military Academy for Officers. The fortification of Fort Henry is a concrete construction where the 9th of Foot were based in the 1800s. The Fort's Director, Steve McCredy, informed me that to resupply the forts from England in the 1800s with uniforms and gunpowder often took over 12 months at a time (we think we have problems with admin and resupply!). I found out throughout the duration of my stay that Canada is steeped in history even though it is a remarkably young nation and that the Canadians are very proud of their culture.

During the evening I attended a Concert by the Queen's Own Rifles (the Band has been given the award of excellence by the Director of Music from Kneller Hall) at the St Paul's Anglican Regimental Church. The Band were on tour in England from 24 May to 4 June 1997.

On my final day I was invited to the Queen's Own Rifles Regimental Birthday



CSgt Langley-Stevens at Niagra Falls

Celebrations, where I met 6 D-Day Normandy veterans. One of the veterans called Charlie Martin was the CSM throughout the conflict until 1945 and has received numerous decorations for bravery. He told me that he arrived in Normandy with 200 riflemen in his Coy and, by the end of the war, he had seen some 500 replacements come through his subunit due to sustaining heavy casualties on their way through to Germany by 1945.

I found the visit to be both informative and interesting as I was able to compare the differences between the TA and the Reservists of Canada. As I left, 100 men were deployed operationally to assist the evacuation and rescue of the civilian population of Alberta made homeless during the flood season. My thanks go to Mike King, a former Rifleman with the Queen's Own Rifles and brother of Major Pat King of the Regiment for making this trip possible.

Throughout my visit numerous enquiries were made as to how to promote our links with the affiliated units that I visited, with both cross-training and potential recruit enquiries to join the Royal Anglian Regiment. I hope that now the links have been established we can promote and enhance our friendship to its full potential.

The Regimental Museum

Regimental Museum

The Museum has been visited by most of the Regiment since it opened last June and by many thousands of the public who visit Duxford. It is already proving an important addition to the projection of the Regiment's image. It is also a focus for information on the traditions and history of the Former Regiments and The Royal Anglian Regiment for the general public and for those in the region who have family links with the Regiment. Enquiries and requests for information from the Regimental Attendant, Mr George Boss, increase daily.

Mr Boss now has an office at Duxford where visitors may view film or video and research photographic and document records. Help is needed, if visitors have time, to caption photographs and sort out the many documents that are arriving for Regimental Archives. Mr Boss is on 01233 835000, Ext 313.

The Collection

Items continue to arrive at Duxford, both for display or for the reserve store or archives. The Trustees express their thanks for the following significant donations:

Maj B A R Harrington-Spier MBE - Aden terrorist flags, maps and documents.

Maj S A Watts - 3rd Bn Band banner prototype.

Maj C J C Kett - 1 E ANGLIAN flag. (To whom the Trustees also give belated thanks for earlier work when setting up).

Maj C W Byham - Royal Leicestershire Regiment accoutrements.

Lt Col M Davies RA - Framed photograph of Essex Regiment Memorial in Chelmsford Cathedral.

Capt J W Steele - Shoulder titles, UN Cravat.

Voluntary Attendants Still Sought

Only two retired members of the Regiment have so far offered their time to serve as voluntary attendants in the Museum. As a result the Museum is unmanned on two days each week as well as at times when the Regimental Attendant takes leave. There are also busy times at Duxford when Mr Boss needs assistance with sales or with guiding visitors. If you live in the Royston or Cambridge area, please consider helping the Regiment as a Voluntary Attendant. Bring your family and enjoy a day at the Imperial War Museum at the same time. If you can help, please contact Mr Boss or the Regimental Secretary. The Trustees thank the following for working as Voluntary Attendants:

Mr Nigel Cracknell
Mr Michael Draper
Miss Susannah Veitch
Mr Jamie Betts

Wanted

Film Copies of all film made of the Regiment are sought. One such item sought is "Encircled Force", made in 1961 in Berlin by Anglia TV with 1 E ANGLIAN. Film of the Regiment's early NI tours is also wanted.

Radfan Little is displayed covering some significant tours in the Radfan in the mid 1960s. Notes, maps and other personal memorabilia are sought.

Archive Material Any significant archive material, particularly covering early operational tours in British Guiana, Aden, the Radfan and the earliest Northern Ireland tours, is sought. Complete photograph albums, properly captioned, would be most welcome. Also programmes, nominal rolls, ORBATs and operational orders.

Weapons IWS; a wooden butt for early L67A3 1.5 riot gun; sniperscope for .303 sniper rifle.

Accoutrements Field Marshal's rank badge
E ANGLIAN Regimental Association lapel badge
1 E ANGLIAN hose-top and flash
2 E ANGLIAN hose-top
1st Bn hose-top flash
2nd Bn hose-top flash

Miscellaneous Arctic SLR sling, AMF(L) grey cap cold weather; Commonwealth Monitoring Force plaque, Rhodesia; Early NI leg-guards, earliest flak jacket (without plastic butt supports).

Museum Sales

Postcards of Historic Uniforms The uniformed figures which form the main feature of the Museum's history wall have been reproduced as postcards. The originals by Alix Baker are hung in RHQ. Postcards of these uniforms are on sale in the Museum or from RHQ as follows:

Set of 16 cards £5.00
(plus post and packing).

Museum Brochure The new Museum Brochure is now on sale in the Museum or from RHQ, price £2.50. More than a brochure describing the Museum only, it covers the Regiment's history, its customs, dress, ceremonial and operations. Every member of the Regiment should have one.

Our Regimental Museums

All the Former Regiments maintain excellent Museums which should be visited by all those interested in the history of our Regiment. As with The Royal Anglian Regiment Museum at Duxford, which links with the Former Regiments, all illustrate their link with the present Regiment.

The Royal Norfolk Regiment Museum

is at the Shirehall in Norwich. Having moved from the Castle, the Museum was opened by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother in 1990. The Museum's attractions include a World War 1 trench with sound effects, a video of life in India pre-World War 2 and a computerised interactive Battle of Vittoria. Open every day except Sunday, 10 am - 5 pm.

The Suffolk Regiment Museum

is currently closed and is to move from The Keep into Moyse's Hall in the centre of Bury St Edmunds in 1999. This involves complete reconstruction funded by a Lottery grant.

The Cambridgeshire Regiment Collection

is in the Land Warfare Hall at Duxford, next to The Royal Anglian Regiment Museum. It includes memorabilia from members of this proud Volunteer Regiment whose two Battalions were captured in Singapore by the Japanese in 1942. There is also a small collection of Regimental items in the Ely Museum in the Old Gaol House.

Duxford: Open daily except 24, 25, 26 Dec. 10am - 4pm
Winter, 10am - 6pm Summer.

Ely: Open weekdays.

The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment Museum

is located in the award-winning Museum of Lincolnshire Life, Burton Road, Lincoln. The principal items on display are a magnificent medal collection, a Boer War encampment and a World War 1 trench system.

Open daily 10am - 5.30pm May - Sep; Mon-Sat 10am - 5.30pm, Sun 2pm - 5.30pm Oct - Apr. Closed Good Friday, 24-27 Dec and New Year's Day.

The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Museum

is located in a separate room at the Luton Museum in Wardown Park, Luton. The collection includes an impressive display of medals (7 of the Regiment's 9 VCs) and a selection of former 3rd Battalion silver.

Open daily 10am - 5 pm, Sundays 1 - 5pm. Closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

The Royal Leicestershire Regiment Museum

is located in the Magazine, The Newark, in Leicester. The Museum is currently closed awaiting major reconstruction funded by the Lottery and re-opens in 1999.

The Essex Regiment Museum

is located in a separate wing of the Chelmsford and Essex Museum in Oaklands Park, Chelmsford. Its displays include the French 62nd Regiment's Eagle captured at Salamanca in 1812, VCs and a selection of former 3rd Battalion silver.

Open weekdays 10am - 5pm, Sundays 2 - 5pm. Closed on Good Friday, Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

The Northamptonshire Regiment Museum

is located in the Northampton Museum in Abington Park, Northampton. Its medal collection is a major feature, as are the Colours of the 58th Regiment of Foot, the last Colours to be carried into action at Laings Nek, South Africa, in 1881.

Open Tue - Sun 1 - 5pm.

Royal Visits

Royal Visits To The Regiment

Mr George Boss writes:

I was asked how often Her Majesty The Queen, our Colonel in Chief, and her Deputies had visited the Regiment. The astonishing list below indicates how fortunate we are with our Royal patronage.

30 May 59	Queen Mother	3 E ANGLIAN	Warley	7 Jul 68	Princess Alice	4th/5th Bn Northants Regt (TA)	Northampton	Church Parade
1 Jun 60	Princess Alice	2 E ANGLIAN	Watchet	13 Jul 68	Queen Mother	Regtl Depot	Bury St Edmunds	Regimental Weekend
8 Jul 62	Princess Margaret	4th Bn R	Norfolk Regt	1 Aug 68	Princess Margaret	1st Bn	Catterick	Minden Day
30 Oct 63	Queen Mother	3 E ANGLIAN	Ballykinlar	12 Oct 68	Princess Alice	Royal Tigers Assn	Leicester	General Visit
30 Jun 63	Princess Margaret	Felixstowe	Presentation of Colours	5 Jun 69	Princess Margaret	3rd Bn	Tidworth	General Visit
25 Nov 64	Queen Mother	Princess Alice	Regtl visit to Col in Chief	28 Sep 69	Princess Alice	R Lincolnshire Regt Assn	Cleethorpes	General Visit
8 May 65	Princess Alice	4th/6th Bn R Lincs Regt	TA Lincoln	6 Jul 69	Princess Alice	2nd Bn	Peterborough	KAPE TOUR
27 May 65	HM The Queen	Allied Forces Day Parade	Berlin attended by 3rd Bn	21 Oct 69	Princess Alice	2nd Bn	Colchester	General Visit
2/3 Jun 65	Queen Mother	4th Bn (Band)	Ipswich County Show	12 Jun 70	Queen Mother	3rd Bn Dining Club	Drapers' Hall London	General Visit
22 Jun 65	Queen Mother	Regtl Depot	Bury St Edmunds	5 Jul 70	Princess Alice	Northants Regt Assn	Northampton	Church Service
3 Jul 65	Queen Mother	Beds & Herts Regt (TA)	Watford	14 Oct 71	Princess Alice	Tiger Company	Aldershot	Mons Demonstration Company
28 Jun 66	Queen Mother	5th Bn Beds & Herts Regt (TA)	Bedford	14 Oct 72	Princess Alice	Tiger Company	Gibraltar	General Visit
17 Jul 66	Princess Alice	4th/5th Bn Northants Regt (TA)	Northampton	11 Apr 73	Queen Mother	7th Bn	Corby	Guard of Honour
22 Jul 66	Princess Alice	Regtl Depot	Bury St Edmunds	24 Apr 73	Princess Margaret	Essex Regt Assn	Guard of Honour	Chelmsford Opening of Museum
12 Mar 67	Princess Alice	4th/5th Bn Northants Regt (TA)	Northampton	12 Jul 73	Queen Mother	5th, 6th, 7th Bns	Bassingbourn	General Visit
1 Jul 67	Queen Mother	Beds & Herts Regt (TA)	Hertford	24 Jan 74	Princess Margaret	1st Bn	Cyprus	General Visit
26 Apr 68	Princess Alice	2nd Bn	Felixstowe	18 May 74	Princess Alice	5th Bn	Peterborough	Cocktail Party
14 May 68	Princess Alice	4th Bn	Malta	May 74	Princess Alice	2nd Bn	Germany	General Visit
				12 Jul 74	Queen Mother	1st, 2nd, 3rd Bns	Tidworth	Presentation of Colours

Royal Visits

11 Nov 75	Princess Alice	Leics & Northants ACF	
	Oundle	Church Parade/ Service	
3 Oct 76	Princess Alice	10th R Lincolnshire Regt	
	Assn	Beachholme Church Service	
10 Nov 76	Princess Margaret	3rd Bn	Cyprus
	General Visit		
11 Jul 77	HM The Queen	6th Bn	Norwich
	Guard of Honour		
5 Jun 78	Queen Mother	3rd Bn	Tidworth
	Regtl Reunion		
28 May 78	Princess Alice	2nd Bn	Hinkley
	&Bosworth	Freedom Parade	
1 May 79	Princess Alice	2nd Bn	Berlin
	General Visit		
24 Jun 79	Princess Margaret	6th Bn	Bury St
	Edmunds	Presentation of Colours	
9 Jul 79	Queen Mother	Depot Queen's Div	
	Bassingbourn	Guard of Honour	
21 Oct 79	Princess Alice	5th Hunts Bn	
	Peterborough	Laying up of Colours	
14 Apr 80	Princess Margaret	7th Bn	Leicester
	Presentation of	Colours	
11 Jun 81	Princess Alice	Massed Bands	London
	Horse Guards		
20 Jun 81	Princess Alice	2nd & 7th Bns	Boston
	Freedom Parade		
22 Jun 82	Princess Alice	2nd Bn	N Ireland
	Presentation of Awards		
10 May 83	Queen Mother	1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th, 7th Bns	
	Colchester	Regtl Reunion	
4 Oct 83	Princess Alice	2nd Bn	Colchester
	Trooping of the Colour		
19 Jun 83	Princess Alice	Royal Tigers Assn	Leicester
	General visit		
1 Aug 84	Princess Margaret	1st Bn	Cambridge
	Minden Day		
Jun 84	HM The Queen	Suffolk Regt Assn	
	Normandy Veterans		
1984	Princess Margaret	Bermuda Regt	Bermuda
	Presentation of awards to LS pers		
16 Dec 84	Princess Alice	5th Bn	Peterborough
	Cocktail Party		
13 May 85	Queen Mother	2nd Bn	London
	Naming of Train		
13 Jun 85	Queen Mother	Massed Band	London
	Beating of Retreat		
28 Jul 85	Princess Alice	1st & 2nd Bns	Colchester
	Trooping the Colour		
8 May 87	Princess Alice	5th Bn	Peterborough
	Guard of Honour		
Jul 87	Princess Alice	2nd Bn	Celle
	50th Anniversary of association of Princess Alice with Regt		
9 May 87	Princess Alice	Northamptonshire Regt	
	Assn	Barnwell Manor	Tree planting
5 Jul 87	Princess Alice	Northamptonshire Regt	
	Assn	Church March Past	
15 May 88	Princess Alice	7th Bn C Coy	Loughborough
	Opening TA Centre		
31 Jul 89	Princess Margaret	1st Bn	NITAT Trg
	General Visit		
9 Nov 89	Queen Mother	Suffolk Regt Assn	Bury St
	Edmunds	General visit	
16 Jul 90	Queen Mother	1st & 3rd Bns	Colchester
	90th Birthday		
20 Jul 90	Queen Mother	R Norfolk Regt Assn	
	Norwich	Opening of Museum	
29 Mar 92	Princess Alice	5th Bn	
	Peterborough	25th Anniversary	
29 Apr 95	Princess Margaret	1st & 2nd Bns	
	Duxford	Presentation of Colours	

Our Regimental Chapels

Lt Col Trevor Veitch writes:

Many of the Regiment are not aware that the Regiment has three Regimental Chapels. They are St Saviour's Chapel Norwich Cathedral, St Mary's Bury St Edmunds and in Warley.

St Saviour's Chapel, Norwich Cathedral, is the spiritual home of The Royal Norfolk Regiment adopted by the Regiment after World War 2. It is a beautiful Chapel and is used for a Regimental Service to commemorate the Battle of Almanza on the Sunday closest to 25 April and also for an annual Association Service. The Chapel is now also associated with The Royal Anglian Regiment. It contains Colours dating back to the 9th Foot's service in Holland in 1800 through to the Regimental Colour recently carried by the 1st Battalion and laid up in 1996.

St Mary's, Bury St Edmunds, is the spiritual home of The Suffolk Regiment and holds The Suffolk and Royal Anglian Regiment Chapel. It contains a fine ceiling embossed with Battle Honours and old Colours of the 12th Foot and The Suffolk Regiment. The Chapel is used for Regimental family services. The 1st Battalion's Regimental Colour is being laid up in the Chapel on 5 July 1997.

The Chapel of the Royal Anglian Regiment and Essex Regiment at Warley, near Brentwood, is unique in that The Essex Regiment was the only single

Regiment in the British Army to have its own free-standing Chapel. Other

Regiments have Chapels in Cathedrals or share Chapels with others. The Chapel was originally built for the East India Company in 1857 and subsequently taken over by The Essex Regiment. It is richly panelled in oak, with beautiful choir stalls, screen work, stained glass, a bell tower and many Regimental memorials, much provided by the people of Essex. Among the Colours hung in the Chapel is a remnant of the Regimental Colour saved by Lieutenant Souter at the massacre at Gundamuk in 1842 and the Colours of the 3rd Battalion laid up in 1992. The Chapel is used for monthly Services and on other Regimental Association occasions.

In addition to the three Regimental Chapels the following Churches, Chapels and Cathedrals are associated with the



The Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Northampton

Regiment and hold important memorials and Colours: St Paul's, Bedford; the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Northampton; the Chapel of St George, Leicester Cathedral; All Saints, Hertford; St Alban's Abbey; the Soldiers' Chapel, Lincoln Cathedral and St George's Chapel, Ely Cathedral.

Test your knowledge of the Regiment.

The following questions can all be answered by inquisitive visitors to the Regimental Museum

1. What is the origin of the Tiger and the unbroken Laurel Leaf on the Regiment's buttons?
2. When were Colours last carried in battle?
3. On which side are the Queen's and Regimental Colours carried on parade? How are they hung when off parade?
4. Which is the highest medal won by a member of the Regiment for gallantry in an operational theatre? How many of these medals have been won?
5. Some members of the Regiment wear the former Royal Norfolk Regiment tie with the stripe going in the opposite direction. Why should this be?
6. What was the key role played by the Regiment in Libya as it moved to Independence?
7. What is the origin of the Regiment's cap badge?
8. What are Territorial Decorations and Territorial Efficiency Medals awarded for?
9. When are Minden roses worn by members of the Regiment, and why?
10. To which Central American country did one of the East Anglian Regiments deploy in the early 1960s to restore law and order?

Should you need it, the answers can be found on page 92

The Associations

Royal Norfolk Regiment Association

And

The Royal Anglian Regiment Association (Norfolk)



Secretary's Report

Benevolent Work

I would like to describe how a case is handled so that those who so regularly subscribe their well saved pounds can see how this gift is ultimately put to use.

More often than not, the client's needs are notified to my area Headquarters at the TA Centre, Aylsham Road, Norwich, by post, with the receipt of an Application Form for Assistance. We then check if we have any record of the client having received assistance in the previous five years and also ascertain whether he joined the Regimental Association. The case is then brought forward to me using a pink cover sheet which shows the case number, what the request is for and the welfare agency, which is usually SSAFA or the RBL. In addition, the contact name and address together with any previous case is also brought forward for comparison purposes. The case is then read through and if there are no queries then I can write out a cheque for up to £250. The case is then returned to the orderly room where a standard covering letter is produced for my signature. This is then photocopied for the file and the account holder and the original is then posted first class. The target is to get the case in and out in a day if at all possible.

Any case that requires more than £250 is considered for "almonising" with other charities on whom I can call. This means, providing the case is accepted, I will be able to help even if it involves going to the Army Benevolent Fund for the bulk of the money - such as for a wheelchair.

Last year £8,847 was spent from Royal Norfolk funds and in addition £26,969 was given by other charities for these 84 cases; the total granted for assistance being £35,816.

Chapel

The Chapel Committee would like to report that the Old Regimental Colour of 1st Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment has now been hung where it can be clearly seen. Plans are in hand to produce a new notice to hang on a pillar in the Chapel. Mrs J Raybould continues to provide her usual high standard of floral arrangements.

War Memorial Homes

The members continue to enjoy the sanctuary which these homes give them, both on the Ring Road in Norwich and at Gaywood in King's Lynn. Mrs Gotts, the last surviving original resident, died recently, so vacancies do occur for couples. Any ex-member of the Regiment wishing to be put on the waiting list should write to the Regimental Area Secretary at RHQ Britannia House, TA Centre, 325 Aylsham Road, Norwich NR3 2AD, requesting an application form.

In Pensioner "Ringo" Starrs (Ex Royal Norfolk Regiment) meets The Princess Royal at Founders Day 1966 at The Royal Hospital Chelsea



Regimental Museum

The documentation onto the database of the archives and photographs is now well in hand. Once completed, this will allow far greater access to be available with a larger range of options for their future use. On 17 May a new exhibition entitled "Hidden Treasures" opens which covers the use of archives in the search of family forebears.

Gorleston And Great Yarmouth Branch

Over the last year the Branch has had a busy time, with monthly meetings and days out. The visit to Oakington was thoroughly enjoyed by all members, especially the shooting team who look forward to defending their title this year. The only problem we have is, how do you split an ice-bucket between four? The Branch would like to thank the 1st Battalion and all those involved for a great day out. Our visit to Bury on Minden Day was much enjoyed. Excellent weather, a good bar tent, lots to watch, what more can you say! Many of the members attended the Regimental Dinner at Norwich and once again were among the winners in the draw.

For those of you who know Ben Turner, I am pleased to report that he is making good progress and seems to be on the road to recovery. In August, Reg Underwood, one of our loyal founder members, died. He was a National Serviceman, who was proud to have served his time with The Royal Norfolk Regiment. Reg's hobby was collecting memorabilia relating to The Royal Norfolk Regiment and the Army. He eventually turned his garage into a private museum, such was the extent of his collection. Since his death Dorothy, his wife, has con-

tacted the Muckleburgh Collection with a view to donating Reg's memorabilia to them. Their representative was only too pleased to accept the complete collection, which they intend to display in 1998. It will be dedicated to the memory of Reg Underwood.

Our Annual Dinner and Draw this year was held at a new venue for us, the Pier Hotel. We were not disappointed. 76 members and friends sat down to a very enjoyable meal. Many thanks go to our Dinner Chairman Maj 'Stan the Man' Bullock. (Didn't he do well!). The draw went very well, with over seventy prizes being eventually distributed. The evening concluded with a good time of dancing and much fun.

We meet on the last Wednesday of each month at the White Lion Hotel, Cliff Hill, Gorleston, at 8pm. If any ex-member of the Regiment or members of other Branches are in the area, they would be most welcome to join us. Our Dinner and Draw for 1997 will be held once again at the Pier Hotel, Gorleston, on 29 Nov. Any friends who would like to attend should contact Ray Pillar on 01493 601131 nearer the time.

The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment Association



Grimsby Branch

The Chairman reported that owing to problems in obtaining a suitable venue the annual Christmas Social, which is a very popular event, had to be cancelled and instead a Christmas Lunch was arranged. Those members who were able to attend had a most enjoyable time.

No such problems were forthcoming with the Annual Reunion Luncheon held on 19 April at the Beacholme in Cleethorpes where 141 sat down to lunch, including 41 of our members. Following a very enjoyable meal the guest of honour, Major General R E J Gerrard-Wright CB CBE, proposed the toast to "The Regiment".

Once again we extend our grateful thanks

and appreciation to the generosity of the Grimsby Rotary who covered the costs of purchasing two seats of Remembrance: one located at the Crater of La Boisselle on the Somme and the other facing the Cenotaph in Grimsby, which were dedicated on Remembrance Day in memory of the "Chums" of the 10th Battalion The Lincolnshire Regiment.

Midland and District Branch

The Branch continues to meet regularly on the first Tuesday of every month but reports that membership is slightly down

on last year. However, organised functions, such as the Christmas Buffet and the New Year's Luncheon, continue to be strongly supported by the Members and their guests, which can be partly attributed to the Committee's sound administration and organisation.

Stamford and District Branch

Branch Secretary, Captain Bill Simpson, reports that membership has remained constant at 40 members with an average of 15 attending the Tuesday meetings held in the RAFA Headquarters in Stamford.

On 8 Nov the Committee organised what has now become an annual event, the Remembrance Dinner, where many members enjoyed a very formal but memorable evening. The following Sunday the Branch took their place on parade joining many other ex-service organisations taking part in the Remembrance Sunday Service. It was pleasing to see the public turning out in such large numbers to give their support to the Old Comrades on parade.

The Sobraon Day supper was this year held at the local sports club and, although the numbers were slightly disappointing, those who did attend were very well catered for.

The future programme includes another visit to the Sacrewell Farm and Country

Centre for a tour of the Museum and a farmhouse supper and an outing to the first rehearsal of the Welsh Guards' Trooping of the Colour followed by lunch at Wellington Barracks.

Lincoln and District Branch

The Lincoln Branch continues to attract new members and now has over 120 members, which keeps the Committee fully occupied organising social events and outings throughout the year.

November saw the Branch Standard, carried by Mick Reams, on parade at the

Menin Gate, Ypres. He took part in the Remembrance Day Parade before swiftly returning to Lincoln to join other members of the Lincoln Branch attending the Remembrance Sunday Service held in Lincoln Cathedral.

Veterans of The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment formed a Guard of Honour to welcome Mr Walter Foley into Sobraon Barracks to celebrate his 100th Birthday. Mr Foley, who was 100 years old on 10 Dec, was a member of the 8th Battalion during the First World War and saw action at the Somme, Loos, Arras and Lys. Sadly Walter died earlier this year. His funeral was held at the Lincoln Crematorium where he was honoured by Standard Bearers from the Association and a lone bugler playing Last Post.

The Cambridgeshire Regiment Association



Whittlesey And Peterborough

The Branch woke from its Winter slumber when it held its AGM on 12 March at the ACF HQ. We are grateful to the ACF for providing us with a meeting place and the support they give the Branch, without which we could not carry on. Jess Matthews will be handing over as Secretary to Brian Whitwell at the AGM in 1998, when he will have completed fifty years working with Old Comrades Associations, RBL and SSAFA, on medical advice.

The Branch is in good heart with attendance averaging 20. The finances are sound, but there are no new members coming in.

We look forward to seeing our Old Comrades and friends at various Association functions in 1997 and send greetings to all our sister Branches and all Old Cambridgeshires.

Officers' Dinner

Mr James Crowden, Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, was the guest of honour at the Annual Dinner held on 12 April 1997 at the Cadet Training Centre, Waterbeach. Colonel W F Page presided. The event was well attended and 57 officers, wives and guests sat down to a magnificent meal provided by SSgt Hubbard and his helpers. Local cadets were congratulated on the service under the eagle eye of CSgt Taylor who was also thanked

for the silver display. Mrs Taylor of course helped with the cleaning and thanks should also go out to her for her support. Colonel Page welcomed the guests and also the Deputy Honorary Colonel TA, Colonel Peter Horrell. Captain Rodney Allen, the new PSAO at 'D' Coy, gave an interesting talk on the activities and strengths of 'D' Coy.

A Camp On The River Kwai Called "Tomajoa"

by Ernest Warwick is now available as a paperback and can be obtained from the author at 94 Clifton Road, Ashingdon, Rochford, Essex SS4 3HJ (Tel 01702 54457) at £5.70 including postage and packing.

The Cambridgeshire Regiment Collection, Duxford

Our collection is a living one and it needs to be nurtured continually. It has proved very popular among visitors to Duxford. We have paid our main bill to the Imperial War Museum of just over £19,000 with a little left over to spare, thanks to the many colleagues and friends who responded so generously to our June 1995 Appeal. But - it does not end there. There are continuing costs and expenses which we assess at not less than £700 a year. In addition, we need to be able to improve/modify the content of the Collection. At present we are putting together an Appeal to the world of commerce for sponsorships. This is the way we hope that we may raise enough money to cover and guarantee our future costs. We are staunchly supported by our Lord Lieutenant and Patron, Mr James Crowden.

That said, there is still a way in which readers may help, if they wish. Our searches for WWI gallantry medals put us in touch with the family of the late RSM Harry Clarke DCM. (His medals, which include a Territorial TEM, have been loaned to the Collection). His family have found a 1917 Christmas Card printed by the 19th Division in France. We are reproducing this in time for Christmas this year - 80 years later - to raise funds for the Collection. Here is what it will look like; it will be in colour. Please buy some! They will cost 25p each, including envelopes, and come in packs of 10. The cards may be obtained (cash with order, please) from either:

The Hon Secretary
The Cambridgeshire Regiment OCA
c/o County Cadet HQ
Denny End Road TA Centre,
CAMBRIDGE CB5 0QU



The Admin Officer
D (Cambridgeshire) Coy
6(V) R ANGLIAN
Coldhams Lane
CAMBRIDGE CB1 3HT



RSM HC Clarke DCM (left) with CSM J Mansfield DCM
MSM, France 1918.

Kranji Commonwealth Cemetery, Singapore

Lt Col Colin Norman writes:

While I was at Kranji two coach loads of Japanese High School youngsters arrived and assembled in front of the Memorial. They were aged about 16-18 and accompanied by their teachers. A young Australian gave them a brief address in which he described World War Two events in that theatre. He emphasised to them the awfulness inflicted by the Japanese on Allied Prisoners of War, many of whom had died at their hands in captivity.

These young people listened in respectful silence. Their bugler played an excellent Last Post. There was the Silence, then "Reveille" followed by their piper making a most respectable rendition of "Amazing Grace". I felt the whole ceremony was carried through with the very proper respect that was due.

Afterwards, the young Australian explained to me his strong belief the Japanese need to be told of those dreadful events that their Government try to ignore, events that are omitted from their recent history as taught in Japanese Schools. I told him where I was from, of the Cambridgeshire connection, and I thanked him.

He handed out copies of the Japanese Surrender Document to the Japanese. Kranji Cemetery is beautifully kept, but sadly there is increasing building development encroaching on the immediately surrounding area.

Ely Museum

This opens at its new location in the Old Gaol House during April. Our display will be smaller than before and there is some doubt as to what will be displayed.

St George's Day, 1997

Some 15 Members and Wives attended the Anniversary of St George's Day with a celebration of Holy Communion at Ely Cathedral. The Service was conducted by the Precentor. Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant, Mr James Crowden, and the President, Colonel W F Page, were in attendance.

The Suffolk Regiment Association



Branches generally report a full programme of activities during the Winter months and expect to be busy during the Summer with the usual round of events they are looking forward to attending.

Beccles and District Branch has been busy celebrating the 10th anniversary of its formation in several ways. The most significant is probably the provision of an album of photographs for permanent inclusion in Beccles Museum. The photographs offer a pictorial record of The Suffolk Regiment and its local connections from 1910 to the last operational tour in 1959. Photographs featuring the Regular and Territorial Battalions are included, many of them 'action pictures' from operations enlarged from personal photographs which perhaps are unfamiliar to many. Home Guard and Army Cadet Force units have not been forgotten. All original photos have been laser copied to a standard A4 size and placed in an album approved by the Museum Trustees. Funding was met from a sponsored weight lifting event raising over £400. The Beccles Branch has also staged a three month exhibition of Suffolk Regiment memorabilia at Beccles Museum. Opening was to be by the Branch Honorary Vice-President Martin Bell, who maintains close contact with Branch members.



Martin Bell, Hon. Vice President Beccles and District Branch, with Frank Fitch (front), Branch Chairman, Mac Read and, at the back, 'Home Miller' Minden Day 1996

Most Branches report successful Draws and well attended Christmas Parties and Dances. Hemel Hempstead did well as usual on Poppy Day raising nearly £24,000. Ipswich has welcomed six members of the Suffolk Concert Band as Associate Members. Leiston has got a new President - John Richardson OBE, grandson of Colonel Sir Frank Garrett CBE TD JP, who commanded H Company 4 Suffolk in 1908 on its formation, taking it to France in 1914 and later commanding the 4th Battalion. John Perrett is standing down after serving a number of years from its early days but is continuing to play an active role.

One unusual but pleasant contribution this year has been from those who keep alive memories of their service with the wartime 8th Battalion. They have recorded their satisfaction on visiting the Regimental Chapel in St Mary's Church, Bury St Edmunds, for the first time. They recommend a visit.

The Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment Association



Lieutenant Colonel Sir Derek Milman Bt MC, having completed his five year term of office, handed over the Presidency of the Association to Major General J A Ward-Booth OBE DL on 1 May 1997.

At a meeting of The Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment Museum Trust, which was held on 22 January 1997 at Luton, Major Richard Dinnin was elected Chairman of the Trust in place of Lieutenant Colonel Michael Bagstaff, who has resigned.

Annual Reunion and Remembrance Parade, Kempston

Sunday 17 November was a cold and miserable day with a slight drizzle when members of the Association started to arrive at the TA Centre, Kempston, at around 1030 am. 210 (Bedford) Squadron 158 RLC(V) had laid on coffee and the bar was open for members and their wives to fortify themselves for the parade. There were again this year several new faces among the familiar ones trying to find old comrades of years gone by.

Although there was still a little dampness in the air the detachments fell in at 1145 ready to march on. As in previous years the Association's marching contingent seemed to be ever bigger and so was divided into two detachments. The Association Standards had with them three additional Standards on parade: two from Bedfordshire ACF and the Standard of the Hemel Hempstead Branch of the Korean Veterans' Association. At 1150 the 'Advance' was sounded and, with the Corps of Drums of the 6th Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment leading, the Standards and Wreath Laying parties marched to their positions on and in front of the Memorial.

Five minutes later the main body of the parade with the Royal Anglian Regiment TA Band leading marched on parade. The Association's President and Chairman laid their wreaths together with the Mayor of Bedford. This was followed by the Act of Remembrance, the reading of the Exhortation and the laying of wreaths on behalf of the Battalions of the 16th Foot, Association Branches, Cadets and widows.

The Last Post and the silence was followed by Reveille and the Regimental Collects of both The Royal Anglian Regiment and the 16th Foot and the playing of 'Mandolinata' and The National Anthem. With the Standards at the head of the Association's marching detachments the parade marched past the saluting dais. On dismissal members either went to the Keep (the old barracks of the 16th Foot, which is now a Masonic Hall) or to the Drill Hall for lunch. In both venues friends of former years renewed old friendships before departing, promising to meet again next year.

2nd Battalion War Time Officers' Reunion

Glyn Lloyd arranged a gathering at the Victory Service Club on 4 November of officers who had served in the 2nd Battalion The Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment during the war. In all 13 of the 18 who have attended in the past made the day and enjoyed reminiscing and catching up on current news. Members came from as far afield as Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear, North Yorkshire, Devon, Somerset, Wiltshire as well as South Wales. Toasts were drunk to The Regiment and Absent Friends and a vote of thanks was given to Glyn for organising this event for over forty years. All present agreed that every effort should be made to attend the function next year which will be the 50th Reunion.

The Association Standard

The Association's Union Standard was presented to the London Branch at Kempston Barracks on Sunday 21 June 1942 and then consecrated at the Church of The Transfiguration, Kempston. From that day the Standard was carried by the London Branch until it stood down in 1989, when the Standard was handed over to the Bedford Branch for safe keeping. Over the years the Standard became well worn and was repaired, and it was used until last year when it became too fragile to parade. The Standard has now been restored and cased and the Association Management Committee has decided the most appropriate place for it to be displayed would be the church where it was originally consecrated. The Vicar of the Church of the Configuration has applied to the Church Authority at St Albans and, provided permission is granted, a Service will take place on Sunday 15 June at 1000 hrs (55 years after the original Consecration), when the Standard will be unveiled. It is proposed that after the Service members of the Association will be invited back to the Keep, where light refreshments will be served.

The Regimental Museum, Luton

The Regimental Museum includes displays of uniforms, equipment, weapons, medals and memorabilia from Blenheim and Boer War campaigns, and from the First and Second World Wars. Improvements to the displays are always being considered. Recently, more medals were added to the displays; more silverware and some weapons acquired after the recent arms amnesty will be added soon. The latest development at the Museum will be the computerisation of photographs. An interactive computer will be installed so that visitors can then study these photographic images. Initially, it is hoped to include over 100 photographs that show the activities of the Regiment between the wars and also during the post-war period when many of the Regiment were on National Service.

News from the Branches

The Bedford Branch visit to the Charles Wells Brewery went off very well and the Branch cannot think of a better venue! Staff levels at the brewery are a quarter of what they used to be as beer production is now computerised. It was interesting to watch hundreds of tins of beer come off the conveyor belt. The Branch were entertained with free beer which was first class although one must not enjoy life too much. On 15 August members attended a 'Peace Day' at the Bedford United Servicemen Association's Club and this is now to become an annual event. There was a short service followed by a buffet and reduced price drinks. Who could fault that! On 18 August the Branch attended a VJ Remembrance Service at St Michael's Church, Woburn Sands, with their Standard. This was organised by the local branch of the Far East Prisoners of War Association. It was a good Service, complete with choir and the Woburn Sands Band. What grand weather there was for The Royal Anglian Regimental Gathering at Oakington; Comrades who did not attend missed a good event. The day was of course marred by the sudden death of Tom Bullock. In the same month, September, the Branch held its Dinner at the Keep at Kempston, when 73 attended thanks to members who brought along a large number of guests. The setting at the Keep is first class, as a lot of money has been spent there on improvements. The meal was excellent with music to suit the occasion from a quartet of former members of the 5th Battalion. This year the Branch Dinner is to be at the same location on the second Saturday in September. The Remembrance Day Parade in Bedford was run by the Royal British Legion, with the Salvation Army Band in attendance. On it Russell Smith carried the Branch Standard and Percy Pike laid a wreath on behalf of the Branch. On 17 November at the Association's Wreath Laying Parade and Reunion at Kempston it was rather damp weather, but our skin is waterproof and so the Parade went ahead as per usual. Thanks to Hugh at the Keep we were able to get further refreshments after the RLC had had enough of us! The Branch Christmas function went off very well with 50 or so present. There were two ladies to entertain us and a great sing-along, jokes, buffet and raffle. Thanks to all who helped to make it such a success.

At the Branch AGM on 7 February 1997 there were 28 members present. John Baggaridge decided not to put his name forward as Honorary Branch Secretary but will still remain a member of the Branch Committee. John joined the Branch in 1988 after finishing his service with the Regiment and very shortly afterwards took on the post of Branch Secretary. The Branch thanked John for all the effort he has put in to help and support the membership, constantly with The Regiment at the back of his mind. There is little doubt he has saved the Branch a lot of money. The new Secretary Ted Roberts is a local man who resides at Kempston. He was a Sergeant in the 5th Battalion The Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment TA in the 1950s.

The Hertford Branch is at this time busy making preparations for the Association's Annual Dinner and Dance which is being held at the Castle Hall on Saturday 12 April. Members attended the Wreath Laying and Reunion at Kempston, but unfortunately the Branch Standard Bearer could not make the day. Branch meetings are now held at the White Lion at Bengoe, not at the TA Centre.

The Watford & Hemel Hempstead Branch have arranged for a new Hertfordshire Standard for the Branch, to be completed in May. A Service of Dedication for the new Standard will be held later in the year when the Branch will be inviting all the Association's Branch Standards as well as the Standards of Dacorum Combined Ex-Service Associations. The Branch strength has changed greatly over the past 5 years and now there is a nucleus of about 40 members who regularly attend the monthly meetings and support functions. At the September meeting a cheque for £280 was presented to Mrs Beryl Langley of the St Francis Hospice, who gave an interesting talk about the work they do for the terminally ill. Later in the evening she graciously consented to present the shooting prize to Peter Kyne. Members of the Branch attended the Remembrance Day Parade in Hemel Hempstead and each year the number of members wishing to attend the Annual Reunion at Kempston increases. Other successful events have been the dance on 23 November, with the band 'Reflections', and our Annual Dinner and Dance, which was very popular as usual, at which we were privileged to welcome the new Branch Padre and his wife.

The St Albans Branch attended the Association Reunion at Kempston, meeting up with many old comrades. One thing that was noticed is how the numbers of National Service comrades are increasing. This is good to see because it keeps our Regimental Association alive. Since these events, and owing to the hard winter, things have been quiet with a lot of illness among the Branch members, so the monthly meetings have been small. We are looking forward to the Association Dinner at Hertford.

The Hitchin Branch has also been hit by illness and at the moment has its longest sick list of members on record. Because of this a smaller party from the Branch attended the Reunion.

The Branch had their usual trip to Thursford on 15 December and had their Christmas Dinner at the Firs in Hitchin on 21 December when members and their wives sat down to a five course meal that proved a great success and was enjoyed by all. The Branch meetings are held on the last Tuesday of each month at the Ratcliffe Arms, Hitchin.

The Luton & Dunstable Branch had their second coffee morning of the year on 5 October which went well after a shaky start, raising £100 towards Branch funds. The Branch was represented at the Luton Town Memorial on Remembrance Sunday. Selwyn Chapman carried the Standard and Charlie Bachus laid the Branch wreath. Most members attended the Association Wreath Laying Parade and Reunion at Kempston; Selwyn again carried the Standard and John Russell laid the wreath. The Branch Annual Dinner took place at the Royal Naval Club on 20 November 1996, when over 40 members sat down to an excellent meal and had a very enjoyable evening. Over the last few years the Branch has established close ties with the Gorleston & Great Yarmouth Branch of the Royal Norfolk and Royal Anglian Regiment Association. On 30 November 1996, Selwyn Chapman and John Russell with their wives were guests at a very enjoyable dinner and dance held by this Branch. The Bedfords had their own table as there are four members in this Branch. The last social function of 1996 took place after the December meeting, this being the Annual Raffle. Our thanks to the ladies of the Branch for providing their usual substantial buffet and also for collecting the raffle monies throughout the year and organising the event on the night.

The Royal Leicestershire Regiment Association



Benevolence 1996

56 cases for Benevolence were considered by the General Committee of the Association during 1996. A total of £4,578 was given in grants during the year. In addition grants totalling £6,840 given by the Army Benevolent Fund to ex-Tigers and their families were disbursed by the Association. Benevolence continues to remain the most important part of the work of the Association. Both the Army Benevolent Fund and the Royal Anglian Regiment Benevolent Fund give considerable financial help to the Association and we are most grateful to both organisations.

Royal Tigers' Wood

The bulk of the trees are in extremely good shape and are growing well. We lost a few of the 17 trees representing Battle Honours of the Regiment that were planted early in 1995, but replacements were planted in December 1996 and are now looking healthy. In view of the extremely dry weather in February and March 1997, they and the two Mercer Oaks were watered in early April by members of the General Committee. Our thanks to 7 R ANGLIAN for the water bowser and to all those who helped on the day. One more culvert is going to be put in this year to ease access across, to and from the area of the special trees. The Wood account is now in credit, thanks to the continuing generosity of Association members. However, there will be a continuing need for maintenance, replacement trees, wooden benches and ongoing improvements which will require limited financial support. Any donations would continue to be more than welcome.

The Wood is now well on its way and is a major feature of the National Forest in Leicestershire. The success of the enterprise reflects the work of Colonel Bill Dawson, Colonel John Higgs and Lieutenant Colonel John Wilson and members of the General Committee who have driven the progress of the Wood since its conception in May 1992.

The Royal Leicestershire Regiment Museum

As reported last year, the Regimental Museum at the Magazine has been granted a Heritage Lottery award of £64,500 for refurbishment. Implementation of the plans for the refurbishment was started, the Museum closed and stripped of its contents which have been stored. It then became apparent that further conservation work on the building would be required and, whilst plans were being redrawn, the Government decided to make Leicester City Council a unitary authority. As a result the Magazine, and the staff supervising the work, were transferred on 1 April 1997 from Leicestershire County Council to Leicester City Council and this has inevitably caused further delay. The new work is being recosted and it is understood that the Heritage Lottery money is still safe. The Trustees have been in touch with the Leader of Leicester City Council, who has assured the President of the Association that the refurbishment will be pursued as quickly as can be arranged.

Reunion of The 1st Battalion of The Royal Leicestershire Regiment

At the Reunion on 28 September 1996, there were 24 members of the Battalion present, most of them familiar faces from previous Reunions. We had an excellent evening, but it was noticeable that age is taking its toll. Two of our frequent attenders, although crippled with arthritis and having difficulty in walking, were again present. Transport to and from the Reunion is always arranged and friends are ready to step in to help with this.

Our sincere thanks from all those present to the Commanding Officer of 7 R ANGLIAN for allowing us the use of the facilities of the TA Centre, also to the barman and the caretaker Mrs K Nyszczoła who arranged the excellent buffet, both of whom contributed to the success of the evening.

It was hoped by all present that this Reunion will continue for the foreseeable future on the last Saturday in September. This year's Reunion will be on 27 September 1997.

The Essex Regiment Association



It was unfortunate that the Autumn contribution became mislaid somewhere along the line, maybe the pigeon was shot en-route! However one or two items from it will bear repetition especially regarding our Reunion which took place at the end of June last year. There were two points that were outstanding; firstly that we were proud to see Major General D A Beckett CB DSO OBE taking the salute, and that once again the address was given by The Reverend Tom Hiney MC.

Our dinner and dance, which was organised by Major John Hutchings, took place at the County Hotel Chelmsford. We shall be having a similar event in July of this year and it is hoped that as many Old Comrades as possible will turn up to swell the numbers. It was good to see some of the younger members from the 6th Battalion enjoying themselves.

The 1997 'Eagle' journal has now been distributed and copies sent to all Senior NCOs and Commanding and Press Officers of the Battalions. Once again we have been fortunate to have some really excellent contributions and we are grateful to the 1st Battalion and 'C' (Essex) Company from the 6th Battalion for their input. It is a vital part of 'keeping in touch' to have these reports. We were fortunate to have our 'Profile' this year on one of our most distinguished officers, Major Jack Watt DSO MC. Jack died on New Year's Eve and his funeral was attended by many members of the Association and also by a choir and a large representation from his old school, Christ's Hospital, Horsham.

We were also sad to lose Captain Tom Bullock MBE, who died shortly after arriving for the Regimental Gathering at Oakington in September. Tom was a much respected member of the Association and always cheerful and helpful. Even more he always found time for his Old Comrades. He will be sadly missed.

On 1 March the Essex Regiment Museum was re-opened, even if only on a temporary basis. It had been closed for some time to improve certain security features. Later in the year it is hoped that further major improvements will be made together with completely new displays. Congratulations are due to the museum staff led by Ian Hook for their dedicated work, and especially to Leanne for producing such a wonderful cake immaculately decorated with the Regimental badge. It tasted good as well!

Also in March the Borough of Barking and Dagenham presented their Colour to The Royal Anglian Regiment and The Essex Regiment Association. This is a singular honour and the Colour itself now resides at HQ Warley having been accepted, on behalf of the Regiment, by Colonel Geoffrey Morgan DL, our President. A number of our 4th Battalion Comrades, including Captain George Green, attended along with officers of The Royal Anglian Regiment.

We were very pleased to make our annual visit to the Royal Hospital Chelsea where some 14 members of the Association, accompanied by wives and friends, attended morning prayer with the In-Pensioners. Afterwards we were entertained to refreshments in the Ives Lounge.

We are looking forward to our Reunion at the end of June where it is hoped that our new Deputy Colonel, Brigadier JCB Sutherland CBE, will be taking the salute.

4th Battalion Comrades

The Comrades Association again enjoyed a most successful year with increased membership and successful events and functions.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held in April at Warley, attended by 42 members and 6 guests. Colonel GCP Morgan DL was also present together with our President, Major General DA Beckett CB DSO OBE.

Garden Party

The Garden Party was held in July at Warley with tea being served in the TA Centre. Again we were blessed with fine weather which contributed to a most successful afternoon. There were 240 members, guests and friends present and the afternoon's entertainment was provided by the Essex Corps of Drums and the Jazz and Orchestral Bands of the Ursuline Girls High School. Members, wives and families provided an excellent array of food and goodies for tea. A bar was organised by Harry Conn. The finale of the afternoon was Beating Retreat by the Essex Corps of Drums with the salute being taken by Major General DA Beckett accompanied by the Chairman, Captain George Green.

November Remembrance Service

Once again the Service was held at St Mary's Church, Ilford, where the 4th Battalion's WW2 War Memorial is located. The Reverend D Barnes again conducted the Service as he has done for all the post war Services. A wreath was laid and the Buglers of the Essex Corps of Drums sounded the Last Post and Rouse with the Remembrance and Exhortation recited by Mr E Hazle DCM. The lesson was read by Major General DA Beckett. Some 60 members attended and after the service those who were able to marched back in column behind the Band to Gordon Road TA Centre which was the Battalion's HQ both pre-war and post-

war until it was finally disbanded. A march past took place in the grounds of the Centre with the salute being taken by our President accompanied by the ACF OC. The Comrades were invited to use the WOs' and Sgts' Mess where they were given a very friendly reception and lunch at no cost.

Annual Remembrance Service

Held in March, the anniversary of the battles of Gaza and Cassino, the Service commemorates the Comrades who fell during the 1914-18 and 1939-45 wars. The Service was held at the Regimental Chapel Warley and was attended by 175 members and guests. During the Service a *Pew End Memorial* was dedicated to Lieutenant Colonel LWG Chappell MC TD, who died in 1996. Lieutenant Colonel Chappell served with the Battalion from 1937 until he was invalided out through war wounds. He served as Adjutant, Company Commander, Second in Command and finally as Commanding Officer during the Italian campaign until he was wounded. After the Service the congregation proceeded to the TA Centre for tea provided once again by very generous members' wives and families.

Presentation Of Colour By Barking And Dagenham

35 Branch members were invited to represent The Royal Anglian Regiment and the Essex Regiment Association at a ceremony held in the Town Hall Barking in which the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham presented their Colour to The Royal Anglian Regiment and The Essex Regiment Association.

Greek Commemoration Medal

A number of members were invited to the Greek Embassy in London to be presented with the Greek Medal by the Greek Government for service in Greece during World War 2. The presentation was carried out on behalf of the Greek Government by the Greek Ambassador, Mr Vassilis Zafiropoulos.

Thurrock Branch

We are fortunate in Thurrock in that all the different Associations in our area

keep in good contact with one another, as Old Comrades should do. This means that we have the opportunity to attend a number of dinner and buffet dances and at the same time it makes it easier to contact personnel when organising our own Branch functions. With regard to our social events we would be very pleased to welcome members from any of the Associations of The Royal Anglian Regiment, especially to our Dinner and Dance!

We are lucky to get new members occasionally. If any reader of *Castle* knows of any Comrades of The Essex Regiment please give them a reminder that we do exist. Our Reunion is always in June and it is great to meet up with Old Comrades.

We spent a very enjoyable day at the Royal Hospital in March parading with the In-Pensioners and attending their chapel. The Padre, The Reverend Tom Hiney MC, certainly knew the history of the Essex Regiment badge and the Salamanca Eagle, both mentioned in his sermon. Our thanks to him and also to Gordon Wren for arranging the visit.

Also in March we attended the 4th Battalion Comrades Memorial Service at Warley. This again was an excellent Service and a good turnout.

The Northamptonshire Regiment Association



Field Of Remembrance 1996

Her Majesty The Queen Mother, Colonel-In-Chief of The Royal Anglian Regiment, stopped during her walk round the Field of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey on 7 November 1996 at The Northamptonshire Regiment plot. She shook hands with and talked to Mr A Culling and Mr A E Drinkwater. Also present at the service were Colonel P Worthy, Lieutenant Colonel F A H Swallow OBE and Mr V C Earl.

Officers' Lunch Party

The Officers' Dining Club held their annual lunch on 2 May 1997. The same venue as last year was used, the magnificent and most interesting Officers' Mess of the Royal Army Medical Corps, Millbank, London, thanks to the kind hospitality of Colonel John Richardson who, when a young officer, served in the 1st Battalion The Northamptonshire Regiment. A pleasant menu, impressive wines from the Mess Cellar and the happy atmosphere made it a particularly memorable occasion. We hope to be allowed to use the Mess again in 1998.

Associations

History Of The Fifth Battalion - North Africa And Sicily 1942-43

A really splendid 36-page booklet about the history of the 5th Battalion The Northamptonshire Regiment in North Africa and Sicily (November 1942 - August 1943), edited by Col T A Buchanan DSO OBE MC ERD TD DL, has been published. It is dedicated to all members of the 5th Battalion who served in North Africa and Sicily and particularly those who did not return.

This is not an attempt to write a history of the 5th Battalion in North Africa and Sicily but is a compilation of official history with personal anecdotes and graphic details. It will stir memories of those members of the Battalion who served in those countries and will it is hoped give much pleasure to their families. It should be of interest to all those who seek a close understanding of soldiers in battle. It also serves as a tribute to Brigadier A A Crooke DSO who did so much to make the 5th Battalion such a splendid unit. All who served under him were proud to have done so; he was a great soldier.

Anyone who would like a copy should contact the Area Regimental Secretary (or telephone 01604-35412). The booklet has not been produced to make money but, if you would be prepared to make a small contribution towards its production costs and postage, it would be welcome; half would go towards Association funds and half towards its production. £2 might be reasonable.

Peterborough Branch President's Report 1996/97

I am very pleased to report that, on the 25th anniversary of my Presidency of the Branch, it is in very good spirit. When I look back over the years and see that, for instance, attendance at our Annual General Meetings has sometimes been reduced to single figures, we must be encouraged that so many are now actively involved in the Branch and its activities.

The pattern of events for the Branch has not changed over the year. We had our meeting in Huntingdon in April. As usual this was an enjoyable evening although not as well attended as previously. The Regimental Reunion in Northampton was attended by Branch Members and the Summer barbeque with our friends from the Cambridgeshire Regiment turned out to be a very good evening and we shall repeat the event on 17 July 1997, possibly involving the Burma Star Association. Several members of the Branch attended the most enjoyable Battleaxe Dinner at Barnsdale in the Summer which was an excellent gathering, although a very wet afternoon, and we were well represented at the Royal Anglian Day at Oakington.

An excellent Annual Dinner was held and, from comments of members given at

the December meeting, we felt that the performance of the Band and Drums was the best we had had on this occasion. The Dinner is planned, as you know, for 18 October 1997 at the Drill Hall and we hope that there will be no problems with the venue bearing in mind the tremendous new works that are being carried out. The final event of the year was a very well attended Branch Meeting when Colonel David Baylis addressed us on the progress with the Royal Logistic Corps and presented us with the very fine Steelback plaque which we have hung up in our meeting place at The Woolpack. Our Vice-Chairman organised a visit to the Royal Anglian Regiment Museum at Duxford, which was attended by several members of the Branch and their ladies. It proved to be a most enjoyable visit to what is a very fine Museum, adjacent to the Museum for the Cambridgeshire Regiment.

Our Branch Standard, which has been so proudly carried during the year, has recently been refurbished. I would wish to thank the Branch Officers, particularly the Secretary and his wife and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, for the hard work they put in to ensure the successful running of the Branch and I trust

they will agree to continue carrying us forward in the years ahead.

Our thanks to Lt Col Baylis and his RSM Peter Woodcock for letting us hold our Annual General Meeting in the fine Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess at London Road, which has been so much part of our Regimental home over many, many years. It was a resounding success with over 30 people attending. Terry Edge who served for many years with Headquarters 5 R ANGLIAN was appointed our Branch Chairman and is very enthusiastic for the future. There is a 5 R ANGLIAN 'Family Day' during the day on 5 July 1997 at the TA Centre, Peterborough.

We held our fifteenth Reunion at Huntingdon in mid April 1997. We had a good meeting with the two Pallash Brothers in attendance and Buckle Fordham an ever popular figure, the last CSM from the Huntingdon Drill Hall. The Branch in Peterborough is essentially the Branch of the Members, and I urge and encourage you to continue your support and enthusiasm in the years ahead.

70th Northamptons 5th Annual Reunion Dinner

The 5th Annual Reunion Dinner took place on Friday 4 October 1996 at the Conservative and Unionist Club, Montagu Street, Kettering. Fifty-eight persons sat down to an excellent meal and a very pleasant evening ensued. Mr Jeffrey Brown chaired the proceedings.

The Battalion was pleased and honoured to entertain as its principal guests the Mayor and Mayoress of Kettering, Councillor Mr Bryn Morgan and Mrs Morgan; Colonel Peter Worthy, Chairman of the Comrades Association, and Mrs Worthy; Lt Col Anthony Swallow OBE, Area Secretary, and Mrs Swallow, and Major Peter Scopes.

Apologies and good wishes for a successful evening were received from Major Victor Harding (Oasby, Lincs); Lt Col Carr (Rotherham, Yorks); Ivor Cutler (Little Sutton, S Wirral); Raymond Hales (Kettering), and Ernie Pratt (Grantham, Lincs). Members were informed of the death on 10 August 1996 of Francis Moore (Chaddesden, Derby) who served with the 1st Battalion after leaving the 70th in Cornwall. A letter of condolence was sent to his widow Joan

who had attended earlier Dinners with Francis. The following people attended the Dinner:

Lt Col W W Holland (Upper Brailes, Oxon); Capt D Berridge (Soham, Cambs); J Archer (Wellingborough); A Blakestone (Kingston-upon-Hull); F Bond (Grantham, Lincs); A Booth (Ilkeston, Derby); J Brown, Chairman (Kettering); L Carr (Irthlingborough); M C Clamping (Warmington); W Clayton (Finedon); D Cockshoot (Kettering); L Cotton (Kettering); N Garfield (Corby); L Golding (Higham Ferrers); G Gore (Finedon); R Hall (Kingston-upon-Hull); B Haynes (Mansfield Woodhouse, Notts); A Lambert (Norwich); R Liggins (Kettering); P Linnell (Newquay, Cornwall); F Mallard (Kettering); K Marchant (Wellingborough); D Price (Barton Seagrave); J Price (Allenton, Derby); G Stafford (Long Buckby); N Thrall (Newark, Notts); D R Walden (Leicester); T Wright (Luton, Beds).

On Saturday 5 October 1996 the Major of Kettering, Councillor Mr Bryn Morgan,

kindly entertained comrades and their ladies to a Buffet Luncheon in his Parlour at the Municipal Offices. A raffle held during the Luncheon in aid of the Mayor's nominated charity, the NSPCC, was magnificently supported, enabling £105 to be handed over to His Worship.

Lt Col W W Holland, 70th Northamptons Comrades Association's senior officer, most ably thanked the Mayor for inviting comrades and their ladies to the Luncheon.

The 6th Reunion Dinner will be held at Kettering on Friday 3 October 1997. The Chairman and members extend an invitation to members of the Regimental Association (especially former members of the 4th Battalion), their ladies and friends to join them on this occasion. Tickets at £7.50 each may be obtained from Denis Walden, 27 South Kingsmead Road, Leicester, LE2 3YN. Please make cheques payable to 70 Northamptons CA. No tickets will be issued after Friday 19 September 1997 in order to confirm the number of persons attending the Dinner to the caterers.

Trip To Warminster, 30 April 1997

I am grateful for the persuasion of Colonel Anthony Swallow in allowing six of us to be cajoled into joining the Regimental Association coach trip to see the Poachers in Warminster. Being set on a weekday, unfortunately several National Service friends could not participate because of work commitments, but Gordon and Coreen Jackson, Denis and Betty Smith from near St Neots and Denis Yardy from Harpole were able to come. We boarded the luxury coach at Gibraltar Barracks, Northampton, on a beautiful sunny morning at 0730 hrs for Warminster.

Other members of the Association who had made their own way were already at Warminster when we arrived. These included the ever genial Chairman of the Association, Colonel Peter Worthy, and Mrs Worthy, David Knight and others from East Anglia.

We were ushered into the Officers' Mess, Battlesbury Barracks, for refreshments and the day's briefing.

Back into the coach for the short trip to a training area to become acquainted with the Warrior tracked vehicles and how to drive them. Most of us took up the invitation and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves at the controls. How time flies when at play!

Next we were shown the latest combat rations. No more thick tack biscuits, they have now become quite ladylike and genteel in size and texture! Lunch followed with boil-in-the-bag rations, really quite pleasant.

Back on the coach for the Weapons Demonstration Area. Imagine our surprise as our coach party was allocated the front row seats overlooking the whole area before us without any obstruction. We were shown the latest weapons and the results were truly stunning. The climax we felt was the RAF attack by two Buccaneers firing rockets and two Jaguars firing shells at vehicle targets by laser. What with the noise, speed and

smoke, and the target area literally erupting, it all left a great impression.

We joked we must have seen the most expensive firework display for many a day, but, seriously, we were grateful for the vast progress made since our time with Lee Enfields and Sten guns!

On to the hospitality of the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess for tea. The bar was opened and sandwiches were taken before boarding the coach for Northampton.

I express thanks to all those at Warminster responsible for making our visit such a pleasure, which we shall not forget in a hurry. Also thanks to Colonel Swallow and his team for the organisation of our party of comrades, friends and wives. Even the day was the hottest so far this year.

Perfect. When is the next one?

2nd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment Dinner at Felixstowe, 26 October 1996

On Saturday 26 October 1996 the 11th annual gathering of ex 2nd Battalion The Royal Anglian Regiment (The Poachers) was held as in previous years at the Marlborough Hotel in Felixstowe. This year's reunion was attended in record numbers, and was, as always, wonderfully arranged by David and Pat Knight, ably assisted by Amanda and Henry King, David's daughter and son-in-law.

The number attending this year was in excess of three hundred ex-Poachers and their ladies, who came from all corners of the country. It was nice to see Senior NCOs and men from the Battalion in Warminster.

The evening commenced at 8pm when all ex-Poachers and their ladies were greeted by David and Pat in the reception suite in

the hotel and, as ever, in a very short time the evening simply "came alive" with the meeting and greeting of old friends.

In his speech Mr Knight reminded us of those who had passed away since the last meeting and a silent tribute was paid to them. He named Mick Coulson, Phil Towns and Ken Thorne. Flowers were arranged and a representative from the Poachers attended. For the first time since the Gathering started Brian and Janet Neave did not attend, due to Janet's ill health. Sadly Janet passed away shortly after the Gathering.

The guest of honour was Major General Dick Gerrard Wright CB CBE DL, and in his speech Mr Knight paid tribute to him and the wonderful contribution he had made to the Battalion, especially as

Commanding Officer in the early 1970s, particularly in Northern Ireland. The General was then seen to be swapping stories until the early hours.

Mr Knight proposed toasts to the Colonel-in-Chief and Deputy Colonel-in-Chief. The General then proposed a toast to The Regiment.

Many thanks must go to ex Sgt "Danny" Donaldson who laid on a display of Regimental memorabilia. Thanks also to the hotel owner Suresh Mahindra, his good lady and staff for the excellent buffet supper which was served later in the evening, and also for the drinks which were still being served with breakfast.

The next Gathering will be on 25 October 1997 when we shall look forward to another successful evening.

The Royal Anglian Regiment Association Warminster Branch



The Branch held its Annual Dinner and Dedication of Standard Service on 16 and 17 November 1996. 52 Members and guests attended the Dinner which was held in the WO's and Sgts' Mess of the 2nd Battalion by kind permission of the RSM. Good food and a good time was enjoyed by all and many new friendships were formed. During the course of the evening a 'fun' auction was held with goods donated by those attending. A total of £168 was raised for Branch

Funds. On Sunday the Branch held its Annual Dedication of Standard Service in the Warminster Training Centre Church. We were fortunate to have The Reverend Tom Hiney MC officiating.

For future dates, the Branch will be holding a Bar-B-Que in July 1997 (exact date to be confirmed). The next Annual Dinner and Dedication Service will be held in February 1998. All are welcome to attend both functions and further details are obtainable from the Branch Secretary.

The Branch meets on the first Monday of every month at 2000 hrs at a venue to be decided at the previous meeting. The venue will be in one of three places: The Warminster Conservative Club, The WO's and Sgts' Messes of either the 2nd Battalion in Battlesbury Barracks or the Warminster Training Centre. New members are very welcome and encouraged to attend and details of meetings can be obtained from the Branch Secretary.



The Rev Tom Hiney MC with Association Members of the Warminster Branch at the Dedication of the Branch Standard on 17 November 1996

News from The Cadets

Woodbridge CCF Impress On Ex Combat Cadet - Again!

WO1 Brett writes:

The highlight of this reporting year has to be the outstanding result at Exercise Combat Cadet where the Boys team beat off competition from 17 other teams of both CCFs and ACFs and won the competition outright. After winning the CCF half of the competition last year, it was difficult to imagine doing so well again but they came up trumps and won with style. The competition although not so physical was more mentally demanding on day one with the physical side coming on day two. However everyone put the two together and got it right. Obviously they all enjoyed the competition and cannot wait to defend the title next year.

We must not forget the Girls team who once again did extremely well putting a few all male teams in their place. Ably led by the CSM Anna Edgar and CSgt Sarah Cleland-Smith, Woodbridge School CCF were the only Contingent to put in both male and female teams.

The Senior NCOs exercise was held at Oakington Barracks airfield where seventeen Cadets had an extremely interesting time which involved being captured by the enemy, escaping from them, carrying out recce patrols, ambushes and, after catching them, interrogating the enemy. Needless to say, led by the CSM, Anna Edgar, they all thoroughly enjoyed the latter! The enemy were from the Ipswich Squadron of 158 Tpt Regt, as was the enemy vehicle, which almost became a permanent fixture there when it got bogged in. Luckily the 1 Royal Anglian recovery vehicle came to the rescue. Thanks go to both units for their help.

The junior .22 shooting team (U 14's) have enjoyed success in the B.S.S.R.A. League coming second and earning promotion in September. Cadet Lizzie Bailey was the best shot overall.

The Headmaster invited Captain T Le Marchand, an ex-Submariner, to carry out our non review Inspection on 25

April. On an awful wet and windy afternoon the Cadets showed him what goes on on a typical Friday afternoon programme consisting of fieldcraft, assault courses, shooting, abseiling and flight simulation to name but a few. At the final parade he congratulated everyone on their enthusiasm and said how impressed he was. That evening he was also the Guest of Honour at the Senior NCOs Dining Out. A superb evening was had by all including the Regimental Careers Officer, who was thoroughly entertained throughout the evening. Anna Edgar gave a speech reminding the Staff of some of their most embarrassing moments and presenting the odd gift to remind them of these in the future. Thanks Anna! !

Summer Camp is at Penhale with 63 cadets attending, whilst a party of the Lower Sixth are going to Sennelager for a week with a Regular unit. Watch this space for details.

Kimbolton School CCF

The Devizes to Westminster Canoe and Kayak Race 1997

Lt David Ward, Kimbolton School CCF, writes:

"It's an awfully long way, isn't it?" is usually the response I get when describing the 125 mile Devizes to Westminster Canoe and Kayak Race. Like many silly things we end up doing, it all started in 1948 as a bet over a pint of beer in a pub at Devizes. From its humble beginnings of two scouts crews, it has grown into an international marathon canoe race involving people from all walks of life; from youngsters from schools, the services and adventure units to people old enough to be their grandparents.

For everyone the race presents a different challenge. For many it is the challenge of just completing the gruelling course, but, for those with a couple of races "under their belt", racing against the clock becomes an obsession. Senior crews paddle straight through, stopping if and when they want. The junior, veteran-junior and senior singles stop every 35 miles and continue the next day. All the crews start on Good Friday from Devizes where you can see two groups of people: those smiling and laughing, eager to start their chase down the canal, and those looking green and nervous, wishing they were still lying under a warm duvet! The success or otherwise of a crew depends on their "support team", who follow their crew down the course feeding them and



Kimbolton School CCF Canoe Team
Winners, Devizes - Westminster Schools Trophy 1997

changing their drinks bottles every 20-40 minutes. Supporting is a demanding job, especially for the senior race where the support crew are often as tired as the crew they are helping.

The course winds its way through Wiltshire and Berkshire on the Kennet and Avon Canal and, at Reading, the paddlers eventually join the Thames finishing at Westminster. At each and every lock the crew have to jump out and run their boat around the lock. This is known as a 'portage' and there are 76 of them ranging from 20 metres to half a mile. The sight of the bridge at Westminster is such a welcome sight and the feeling is hard to describe; as well as relief you feel such a sense of achievement. Most people won't remember being helped up the steps by the faithful team at County Hall, there is too much to experience.

People often ask what makes us tackle the race. At first it is the challenge, but it then becomes an addiction. 'Never again' is the phrase you hear uttered by so many, but this feeling quickly disappears and you feel yourself on an elated high when you realise just what has been achieved. The race provides a tough challenge for juniors which gives them not only increased self-confidence and will power but also an experience they will never forget. The junior entry normally consists of 50 or so crews, many of them competing for the Schools and the CCF Trophy. For the third year running Kimbolton School CCF Canoe Team have won the HMS Alacrity McKaig Cup for the fastest CCF Team with times between 19 hours 42 minutes and 23 hours 50 minutes. This year was the 50th Anniversary of the race with a large military entry.



Major Dick Gould, Regimental Careers Officer, presents the Meltis Cup, sponsored by the Regiment, as winner of the Southern Zone at Bisley, to Cadet WO2 William Follett

Kimbolton School CCF at Thetford

Major Susan Camp writes:

7 April 1997 saw the deployment of 16 Senior Cadets from Kimbolton School CCF to Stanford Training Area for Ex Turkey Trot. Their mission was to act as a security force for the planned visit to Thetford of the Minister of Defence for a Central African Nation, Solomon Njunga, who, as a young Officer at Sandhurst, had trained on the area. They were tasked to secure a base, recce the area of operations, locate and defend suitable helicopter landing sites, engage in aggressive patrolling and mount military operations against selected targets. The enemy force was supplied by 7 very enthusiastic Officer Cadets from Cambridge University OTC. The troops arrived by mid morning on 7 April, occupied Mousehall Cottages and moved immediately into 24 hour routine, the first patrols going out soon after. Reports were soon coming back in, as a very active enemy force engaged our patrols. A picture of the area was soon built up and a noisy and active night was spent with various engagements.

On 8 April the Cadets spent the day at the training village, learning the skills needed for an assault on the enemy position just after first light the next morning. They assimilated a great number of new ideas and skills, tackled the confidence course - yes the maze is easy once you know how - and were amused that even a strapping Officer Cadet has difficulty throwing a

grappling hook through an upstairs window. The night was spent in Westmere Barn and the dawn attack went ahead accompanied by explosives, fire and incredibly realistic effects laid on by WO1 K C Jones and his staff.

The enemy position having been cleared, the force withdrew to base location and prepared for another day's training and rehearsals in fire team tactics and extraction of casualties under fire. During the afternoon an OP, undetected by the enemy, was set up on their base location at Oakwood Farm, in preparation for an

assault planned for 0100 hours on Thursday. An enthusiastic and successful assault duly went in, which inevitably led to recriminations and constant harassment to the Cadets' base location during the rest of a very long night. The hostilities were brought to a close after the retaliatory assault on Mousehall Cottages just before stand to on Thursday morning.

All the Kimbolton Cadets, mainly from the Army Section, thoroughly enjoyed the exercise, which stretched them both mentally and physically. Some have even said they'll go again!

Kimbolton School CCF at Thetford



Brentwood School CCF

OC, Major Nigel Carr, writes:

The 37 Brentwood School Cadets, male and female, who completed their Easter adventure training in Snowdonia this year are not likely to retain fond memories of the experience. The group, whose ages ranged from 13 to 18, suffered almost a week of non stop rain. They yomped across the Welsh mountain terrain in mud, slush and biting cold winds.

The Cadets were soaked, their tents were soaked, everything was soaked, but there was not a single whinge. The senior group, who had to carry their equipment for three days on a 25 mile trek over the Nantle Ridge, must have been pushed to the limit. Not to have a single pull-out was surprising but even more amazing was the high morale that marked the week's training. The girls remained as cheerful as the boys and just as determined. The Cadets were drawn from the 440-strong CCF at the School, the largest voluntary school contingent in the UK.



Soaking wet but still smiling. Cadets from Brentwood School take a break from a 25-mile yomp across the Nantle Ridge in Snowdonia.

Comprising Army, Navy and RAF Sections, the CCF is run by 21 officers and a full time School Staff Instructor, John White, who saw service in the Falklands with The Parachute Regiment.

Felsted School CCF

Major Bartlett writes:

This year's final of the British Short Range small-bore Championships at Birmingham produced one of the most remarkable results in recent shooting history. David Crisp (age 16) of Felsted School CCF, the only junior to qualify for the final, became by far the youngest shooter ever to win the British Championship, collecting the England Championship trophy in the process and defeating a number of senior international competitors. David's score was 397 out of 400.

Stamford School CCF

Man's Best Friend

A piece of Polish military history was recreated at Stamford School on 9 May thanks to a little dog called Smokey.

Cadet Cpl David Fairbairn writes:

In 1943 Medical Officer Captain W J Mozdzierz, whilst visiting London, rescued a thoroughbred Scottish sheep-dog during an air-raid after it was seen whining in the ruins of a bombed house. He took Smokey back to his company and from then on the dog shared life with the Polish Paratroopers. The dog became the mascot of the Brigade which was stationed at Clapton House in St. Paul's Street, Stamford, sharing their life

and even taking part in training flights and jumps - wearing his own tiny parachute! He stood at attention next to the Doctor and even marched past President Raczkiwicz.

When the Brigade was scrambled for action in Arnhem in August 1944, a turning point in the Second World War, Smokey sensed a problem - it was his

canine instinct. From then on he was morbid; not touching his food but howling as he watched the manoeuvring aeroplanes overhead, with his tail tucked between his legs. His heart was broken and he unfortunately died. A vet later confirmed that it was 'heart trouble'.

Smokey was laid to rest with full military honours and the Military Band played

Chopin's Funeral March. A tombstone was erected and lasted until last year in the grounds of Stamford School. It showed the Paratrooper's Eagle, the head of Smokey and the following inscription;

*"Polish Parafag of Arnhem. Dearest dog
Smokey.
8 May 1943-29 August 1944"*

The headstone had decayed in 1996 and the Cadets at Stamford School wished to refurbish the headstone, so requested permission from the Polish Airborne Association. The President of the Association, Mr Gasowski, immediately gave approval and the work was carried out resulting in May's re-dedication ceremony.

The event was a moving experience for all who attended. Surviving members of

the battalion who were stationed at the school during the Second World War were brought together for the first time in 50 years. Amazingly the Doctor who found Smokey, now aged 85, travelled from Doncaster to see the ceremony.

The Polish Ambassador Ryszard Stemplowski also attended the service when the tombstone was unveiled by Major General John Drewienkiewicz, a former Stamford School pupil and presently commanding SFOR troops in Sarajevo.

Later in the day the Polish visitors took part in the annual inspection of the school's Combined Cadet Force, which was outstanding by all accounts. The afternoon saw the Cadets perform a variety of tasks for the visitors including drill, command tasks and campcraft. The

programme also included the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight and a display by the RAF Red Devils parachute team, which was spectacular.

No less than eight television transmissions of the event were broadcast along with radio interviews and press coverage. I know the day was very special, not only with respect to the CCF. My heart goes to the Polish veterans who were so appreciative of the day. The feelings which overcame them they found hard to put into words.

My thanks goes to Colonel Woolf, CCF CO, whose dedication and effort made this such a historic day.

Essex ACF

Capt(ACF) M K Davis, writes:

You will be delighted to know that the Army Cadets of Essex that are badged Royal Anglian wear the Regiment's cap badge with great pride. There are approximately 800 cadets spread through 34 detachments in the County - this includes about 100 female Cadets.

The County is split into 4 companies: A and D are badged Royal Anglian, B and C Coys are badged Royal Signals. The County HQ Staff are all badged Royal Anglian and the County Commandant, Lt Col C A F Thomas, was CO 6 R ANGLIAN before taking command of Essex ACF a year ago. A Coy HQ is situated at Brentwood and has 8 detachments, from Grays in the South to Waltham Abbey in the North. It is commanded by Major A A Fisher who has been in A Coy for all his Cadet life. They spent their Easter Camp at Napier Barracks, near Folkestone, where the Cadets had an extremely busy time preparing and taking part in a number of competitions. They were also able to take time off from their busy schedule and have a free evening in Folkestone. D Coy HQ is situated in Colchester and is commanded by Captain B Lowe, who has been a loyal member of D Coy since he was a Cadet.

Like all youth organisations, the Cadets have undergone a great deal of change recently which should result in a much better profile for the Essex Cadets. Our sporting achievements have been a source of great joy to the Cadets involved, particularly with the recent Cross Country event. In this our Cadets won through from County to Eastern Region, where we won three Gold Medals, progressing right through to the

Nationals, which were held in Lancaster. In these our 3 Cadets won 2 Silver Medals and a Gold. We are looking forward to our County Athletic Meeting at Colchester in May. This should produce some good results for our Cadets which will stand us in good stead for both the Eastern Region and National Athletics Meetings. At shooting we have had some success with various County and Regional Competitions in the past and

F/Cadet Holsgrave, LCpl Bennett and F/Cpl Nunn, Essex ACF, with their ACF Eastern Region XCcountry medals.



are now preparing for the 4 Division Shoot at Aldershot in May. Cadet SSgt Rowley distinguished himself recently by coming 8th in the Cadet Hundred small bore competition. Our football team have done well in the Eastern Region Knockout contest. We played well enough to find ourselves in the final against Lincolnshire ACF at Thetford. We look forward to a good game and victory. Our military achievements are something that we can feel quite pleased about. We have had a substantial number of Star passes this year and some 40 Cadets with Duke of Edinburgh awards ranging from Bronze to Gold. Each year we have 2 Senior Cadets who are granted the title of Lord Lieutenant's Cadet. This is a great honour for the Cadets in question and allows them to be present at various functions attended by the Lord

Braybrooke. In the community our Cadets do a great job each year raising a lot of money for the Royal British Legion. They also have a large presence at the Essex County Show, where they are of great assistance to the organisers. Both events show our Cadets to the general public and are of positive PR value.

Each year Essex ACF participates in two Falklands events - our own and the Tri-Service event between the ATC, SCC and ACF. The Falklands competition is a contest based originally on the yomp taken by our soldiers during the Falklands conflict. For Essex Cadets it is a most keenly fought contest. Our own Falklands contest was held in April. The result was 1st South Woodham Ferrers, 2nd Rayleigh and 3rd Witham Detachment. It was an exciting weekend

with all 7 Cadet detachments taking part doing their best. These three top teams will represent the County in the Tri-Service event to be held at the end of May. The contests include map reading, first aid, command tasks, physical fitness, shooting and team spirit. The Falklands Shield for the Tri-Service event was presented as a prize by a group of Essex businessmen.

Our Cadets are looking forward to some interesting experiences during annual camp this Summer at Cwrt Y Gollen South Wales, where we will be joined by a party of Cadets from Canada. We are looking forward to working with them, comparing our system to theirs. We hope it will be an enjoyable time for all of us.

Leicestershire and Northamptonshire ACF

The following biography of Major (ACF) J R Ward TD is an impressive example of the many members of the Regimental family who give long and loyal voluntary service to the TA and ACF:

Major John Ward TD, who retired from the TA in April 1994, was presented with the third Bar to his TD for 30 years' service by the Lord Lieutenant of Northamptonshire, Colonel J L Lowther CBE JP, at the Leicestershire and Northamptonshire ACF Sunday Parade and Open Day held at Yardley Chase Weekend Training Camp in June 1996.

Major Ward joined D Coy 4th/5th Royal Leicestershire Regiment (TA) in 1962 as Training Officer covering Loughborough and Coalville until transfer to The Royal Anglian Regiment in 1969, where he eventually commanded 4 Coy 5 R ANGLIAN in Leicester. In 1974 he transferred to the newly formed 3 WFR based in Derby and then to the new Drill Hall at Sinfen Lane as OC C Coy. Whilst serving with C Coy he was selected to take a composite Company of 5 and 6 R ANGLIAN and 2 WFR on the first USA exchange visit to Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania, in 1978. In 1982 he was attached to 54 Bde at Grantham and was given command of the East Midlands Training Team, the team transferring two years later to Chilwell and covering TA units over 5 counties. He was responsible for specialist training as well as holding weekend 'in house' training courses.

Following this Major Ward moved to East Midlands University as Training



Major J R Ward being presented with a third bar to his TD by The Lord Lieutenant of Northamptonshire

Officer and Company Commander and spent the next 6 years training Undergraduates for either Regular or TA Commissions.

On retiring from the TA he was invited to join the ACF to assist with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award training and was appointed County D of E Officer for Leicestershire and Northamptonshire, a post which he continues to hold. In addition he is now an active member of the Training Support Wing, which assists 6 Companies and 50 other

Detachments. He has currently completed 35 years' service.

Major John Ward has two sons who have both been influenced by their father's long association with the TA. David is a Captain with the 1st Battalion and Nicholas, who recently graduated in Medicine from the University of Leeds where he held a Cadetship in the RAMC and who will be going to Sandhurst in September 1997 on a Short Service Commission.

Norfolk ACF

Major J Doughty, OC Britannia Company, Norfolk ACF writes :

It is some years since a report has been published from that unique organisation for young men and women, the Norfolk Army Cadet Force. Aged between 13 and 18, they have presented a quiet and dignified uniformed attendance at many Regimental functions over the years.

Familiar names have been appointed as Cadet County Commandant: Colonels Reg Cousins, Dick Flower, Paul Raywood and Paul Long.

Norfolk ACF formerly consisted of 3 Cadet Companies badged Royal Anglian and a Battery of the Cadet Norfolk Artillery. Reorganisation resulted in its reduction to 3 subunits: Cadet Norfolk Artillery, sponsored by the Royal Artillery; Cadet Norfolk Engineers, sponsored by the Royal Engineers and Britannia Company, who continue to wear the Royal Anglian cap badge. County HQ have moved from Cameron House at Britannia Barracks to the TA Centre in Dereham. The very small team of Permanent Staff have a mix of former service: County Executive Officer Major Dave Whitehead and QM Captain Jack Dallimore, both Royal Anglian, and Captain David Marshall, Royal Navy.

The Cadet Detachment remains the cornerstone of the ACF with Annual Camp a focus for training in military skills and adventurous pursuits. In 1996 these included archery, hill walking, rock climbing, abseiling and horse riding, organised by the Deputy Commandant, Major Miles Green. For some years there has also been a Spring Bank Holiday Adventurous Training week held in the UK or the Pyrenees. Not just a source of recruits to the Regular Army the ACF offers boys and girls alike the comradeship of soldiering and sound training in citizenship, discipline, responsibility and a pride in service.

Britannia Company, the smallest company of the three, covers the North Norfolk area, with nine detachments spread from Sandringham in the West, to Aylsham in the East. Our size varies month by month as Cadets come and go but it usually hovers around the 130 mark with 36 adults on strength.

The fortnight ACF Annual Camp, costing £35 all-in, was held at Cwrt-Y-Gollen,

Crickhowell, in August and it is pleasing to report that Britannia Company swept the board in the County Competitions comprising archery, drill (thanks to W02 Geoff Fletcher in his third reincarnation, being ex-PARA and ex-F Coy Home Service Force (HSF) 6 R ANGLIAN), march and shoot, obstacle course, orienteering, overall sports and volley ball. They also took the awards for Best Detachment (Sandringham Detachment) and for Outstanding Cadet of the Year Sgt Simons (Sandringham Detachment).

This Spring, Britannia Coy cleaned up at the County rifle meeting taking not only a host of team and individual prizes but also the overall competition cup.

We not only concentrate on team competition but also try to involve our cadets and young adults in achieving for themselves by a variety of means. One of the most important of these is the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, and as if to emphasise that we have just had Cadet Staff Sergeant David Robinson and Staff Sergeant Instructor Annemarie Brown presented with their Gold Badges by the Chief Constable of Norfolk, Mr Ken Williams. The certificates will be presented later by His Royal Highness in person.

In November 1996 the County Cadet Commandant, Col Paul Long OBE, was dined out at the Cadet Centre in Thetford. His successor is a former Royal Marine, Lt Col Mike Mizen, who otherwise wears the uniform of the Norfolk Constabulary. We heard the interesting tale of how Col Paul Long came to be Mentioned in Despatches for his Exemplary Conduct with the 1st Bn in Aden. Also on that occasion was dined out a legend who served in uniform for 57 years - Major Gilbert Banthorpe. He joined the TA in March 1939 aged 21 and was called up in September 1939 with his motor cycle. The motor cycle was commandeered and he never saw it again but by the end of WW2 Gillie was a W02. The stocks of rabbit, pheasant, woodcock and partridge on the Stanford Battle Area were so plentiful and petrol so easily obtained he avoided being demobilised until 1951, mainly serving at Britannia Barracks. Joining the TA as CSM he transferred to the ACF after the cutback in 1968. At 65 ACF retirement

age caught up with Major Gilbert Banthorpe in 1983. But the County Executive Officer, then Major Tim Chatting, indicated that ACF Regulations permitted the holding of a PMC, unpaid, provided he was of Field rank. He has been PMC since 1983 and performed his last official duty at ACF Annual Camp at Cwrt-Y-Gollen, Crickhowell, in August 1996 when he retired again after 57 years in uniform at the age of 78.

Sadly, Gilly was taken ill during the dinner and admitted to hospital, missing a tribute in the form of a speech from Lt Col Mike Mizen and the presentation of gifts arising from a collection at Crickhowell.

Long known as Gillie, he has been a familiar face in a white coat in his other capacity as a caterer at most of the Norfolk Reunions for many years.

Well done thou good and faithful servant.

County Executive Officer Major Jack Hall, Royal Fusiliers, retired in the Spring of 1997 and welcomed in his stead was Major Dave Whitehead, Royal Anglian.

No stranger in recent years to Norfolk ACF Adventurous Training and Annual Camps, and rejoining the ACFA after a gap of 27 years, John Raybould has recently become "Double Hatted", joining Norfolk ACF as Welfare Officer, Camp Adjutant and forming a PRO team with Captain Roy Ames, while retaining his TA hat as a Watchkeeper with 19 Mechanised Brigade. Both hats bear the Royal Anglian cap badge.

Our coming year is as busy as always, with 1997 annual camp at Fremington, Devon, looming large on the horizon and the nicer weather providing the ideal time for Company and Detachment weekend camps. All are these are designed to train the Cadets of today to become the responsible adults of tomorrow. The whole philosophy of the organisation and this Company is summed up by the Army Cadet Force motto "Inspire to Achieve".

The Royal Anglian Regiment

Order of Battle 1 May 1997

1st Battalion

Bn HQ

Lt Col RE Harrold OBE
Maj RCJ Goodin
Capt CS Calder
Capt MAL Lyne
WO1 GJ Webb
LCpl S Rumsey
LCpl DJ Mercer

Company HQ

Capt SJR Browne
Lt CD Hoyles
WO2 BL Eales
SSgt PA Sykes
Sgt D Marsh
Cpl JN Patrick
LCpl DR Sanger
WO2 SC Carey (QMSI) APTC
LCpl L Gyton
LCpl AE Johnson
Cpl GD Smith

RAO

Capt PE Weston
2Lt J Clee
WO2 RA Russell
SSgt G Martin
SSgt RA Shipman
Sgt R Shilton
Sgt PA Potter
Sgt ME Hall
Cpl C Moore
Cpl CM Cooper
LCpl G Tinnion
LCpl C Goulden
LCpl C Buchanan
Pte K McAloon
Pte CJ Walker
Pte KP Firth
Pte LA Bird
Pte N Bailey
Pte J Roy

Int Sect

Capt LSF McGrath
Sgt DCL Jolly
Cpl JJ Patten
LCpl NFJ Mason
Pte DN Goodall

Pro Sect

Sgt K Pattison

Cpl MS Boreham
LCpl RA Dennis
LCpl MJ Turney

Med Section

Sgt PR Carter
Cpl CT Johnson
LCpl L Milne
LCpl LF Doherty (RAMC)
Cpl SC Horn
LCpl IJ Peyton
Pte TD Bark
Cpl MA Bartlett (RAMC)

Trg Wing

Capt APR Bowman
WO2 JR Simmons
Sgt PM Kerton
Sgt RR Gardner
Cpl A Appleton

Sig Platoon

Capt I Couch
WO2 PS Newman
Sgt AJ Dade
Sgt G MacGregor
Cpl MR Rackham
Cpl GB Stringer
Cpl GRG Baxter
Cpl JR Parkhouse
LCpl MJ Heal
Pte BK Cunningham
Pte BA Smith
Pte J Chitty
Pte M Ellis
Pte AB Kendall
Pte S Fosker
Pte DR Edwards
Pte PM Kearney

QM Platoon

Maj A Jones
Capt RP Grenfell
WO2 DJ Stefanetti
WO2 SP Prime
SSgt RC Osborne
SSgt WM Okopskyj
SSgt DJ Swaep
Cpl I White
Cpl JPS Howard
LCpl AB Allen
LCpl P Chalkley
LCpl DA Lennon
Pte T Murton

LCpl S Richardson
Cpl RJ Ransome
Cpl W Scarlett

REME

Cpl S Hadley
Cfn RJ Jennings
Sgt RW Dean
Cpl MJ Garland
Cfn CS Hinch
SSgt M Muir
Cfn WJ Bracewell
Cfn RA Kilcullen
Cfn JE Wilson

Asslt Pnr Platoon

CSgt C Wright
Sgt TM O'Grady
Cpl T Neal
Cpl KM McHenry
LCpl NJ Rix
LCpl PA Harvey
LCpl A Franklin
Pte GM Cartwright
Pte RJE Steel
Pte SCJ Fincham
LCpl AJ Roberts
Pte PW Hudson
Pte D Turner
Pte MJ Dodd
Pte JE Lynch
Pte SP Beeson
Pte GJ Evans 06
Pte IR Fordham
Pte SL Mathews
Pte EJ Frost 28
Pte SJ Bennett

Cat Platoon

Cpl KS Taylor
Sgt S Woods
Sgt M Lemmon
Cpl S Clarke
LCpl AB Allen
Pte DJ Pratt
Pte IR Foreman
Pte JR Harris
Pte DW Chandler
Pte D Butler
WO2 SD Gowans
Sgt DC Hauxwell
Sgt ALM McAuley
Sgt LJ Meiklejohn
Cpl SA Decore

Cpl IJ Johnson
Cpl D Aspinall
Cpl LT Baker
LCpl PM Carrol
LCpl AJ McCrone
LCpl ARD Clarke
LCpl N Wood
LCpl SM Waters
LCpl NJ Turner
Pte DP Sharpe
Pte PJ O'Brien
Pte BS Barber
Pte RP Willemse
Pte CA McCallum

MT Platoon

Lt SJ Nye
Sgt PJ Yarham
Cpl M Watts
Cpl B Thompson
LCpl MW Ball
LCpl B Plant
LCpl W Ward
LCpl P Barrs
LCpl KP Brown
LCpl J McKenna
LCpl A Pierce
LCpl MR Salmon
Pte CJW Branch
Pte G Dellow
Pte RT Gates
Pte AJ Hutchinson
Pte JM Lyons
Pte MA Robinson
Pte JA Griffiths

A Company

Coy HQ

Capt FJR Grounds
WO2 PM O'Nions
SSgt N Skelton
Cpl AJ Magee
Cpl B Buist
Cpl PL Dufosse
Pte DTJ Carpenter
Pte AW Guy
Pte PCJ Lawson-Brown
Pte WE Cole
Pte MG Delisa

1 Platoon

2Lt IM Chance
Sgt GK Watson
Cpl JE Self

LCpl GA Charles
Pte S Anderson
Pte SW Beardsley
Pte DJ Bredemaer
Pte G Cranstown
Pte NW Morris
LCpl MJ McMillen
LCpl CT Penny
Pte JD Foy
Pte NAJ Godley
Pte NJ Harrison
Pte DJ Hemmings
Pte PR Manning
Pte SD Page
Cpl D Fay
LCpl RA Wood
Pte PS Sell
Pte JA Seville
Pte JRM Stapeley
Pte JR Wallbanks
Pte KAB Ward

2 Platoon

Sgt AM Ellis
Cpl Harrod
LCpl A Anderson
Pte A Barker
Pte MJ Blakemore
Pte JE Canning
Pte D Castle
Pte D Collier
Pte SD Martin
LCpl JP Summerson
LCpl PS Browne
Pte PA Fensome
Pte K Flitton
Pte JR Hassan
Pte JLG Rogers
Pte RDJ MacDonald
Cpl TR Newton
Pte A Neal
Pte A Scattergood
Pte PJ Stanton
Pte S Rogers
Pte C Haystead

3 Platoon

Lt DJ Howson
Sgt CA Jewell
LCpl TD Stevenson
Pte S Anderton
Pte LM Cloughton
Pte WR Winstone
Pte DPD Fennell
Pte DR Foster
Cpl D Milton
LCpl RJ Stevens
Pte AM Proctor
Pte BA Jones
Pte JC Bale
Pte RW Hoogendijk
Pte MK Jiles
Cpl GM Keating
Pte ST Knight

Pte NJ Lee
Pte G Stewart
Pte DP Rolls
Pte BJ Skillings
Pte B Ward
Pte SN Wilson

B Company

Coy HQ

Maj STH Andrews
WO2 PG Martin
SSgt ST Jones
Cpl SM Gardner
LCpl JD Kimble
Pte MG Witte
Pte IPT Jenkins
Pte M Walker
Pte PM Forsythe
Pte DP Jones
Pte SR Bee
Pte JJ Medbury

5 Platoon

2Lt DSJ Biddick
Sgt A Buxton
Cpl L Jay
LCpl M Ielden
Pte BSS Mansfield
Pte R Holman
Pte CW Garland
Pte AD Hills
Cpl P Golubovic
Pte GA Pinchen
Pte J Madden
Pte RK Blundell
Pte RCD Norman
Pte AJ Hitchcock
LCpl AP Tinkler
LCpl AJ Pether
Pte PA Payne
Pte DG Challis
Pte DJ Morrison
Pte DS Lidlow
Pte SD Stevens
Pte LA Litchfield

6 Platoon

Capt IKS Howden
Sgt FD Pascal
Cpl J Thorn
LCpl JG Rout
Pte MJ Morcombe
Pte BR Willars
Pte RP Debuc
Pte MJ Moore
Pte EP Field
Cpl RC Plumpton
LCpl JR Eccles
Pte MJK Tuppen
Pte S Hodgson
Pte M Boyle

Pte CA White
Pte M Ellis
Pte DV Jowett
LCpl AC Jones
Pte JM Allen
Pte DS Patterson
Pte PJ Ward
Pte JMH Naylor

7 Platoon

2Lt EL Paden
Sgt D Caesar
Cpl I Snow
LCpl S Hicks
Pte RL Jackson
Pte AR Lewis
Pte MP Petryzn
Pte LS Earl
Pte PD Green
Cpl B French
LCpl RCJ Moller
Pte DLA Woods
Pte DJ Gard
Pte M Luckman
Pte JC MacKinnon
Pte A Weekley
LCpl KJR Merry
Pte AD Thurston
Pte SJ Back
Pte TCC Liddell
Pte DC Brown
Pte DC Frith
Pte N Harris

C Company

Coy HQ

Maj DG Vincent
WO2 SD Robinson
SSgt R Hill
Cpl AA Carter
Pte JD Lorenz
Pte AK Aldred
Pte DL Risi
Pte GJ Scott

9 Platoon

2Lt BM Allen
Sgt AC Garvie
Cpl N Lakey
LCpl P O'Hanlon
Pte DJ Wheddon
Pte J Conlon
Pte CM Douglas
Pte B Myall
Pte MJ Butcher
Cpl G Brooks
LCpl ST Head
Pte SJ Surette
Pte WR Harris
Pte SC Greensmith
Pte AR Martin

Pte AB Allen
Pte DB Meakin
LCpl CR Smith
Pte SJ Glascode
Pte RJ Voigts
Pte RDJ McDonnell
Pte MA Hales
Pte AJ Cooper
Pte A Mullen

10 Platoon

CSgt Marsh
PSgt P Markham
Cpl K Main
LCpl ST Lewis
Pte MA Smith
Pte K Mosley
Pte MJ Collison
Pte MJ Saunders
Pte J Everitt
Pte DS Meakin
Cpl J Attwood
LCpl K Nieves
Pte SJ Pereira
Pte DJ Sullivan
Pte JJ Hipperson
Pte SW Parker
Pte DJ Owen
LCpl D Shaw
LCpl ARC Faupel
Pte AN Pinder
Pte R Hackett
Pte JD Rowley
Pte PA Hazell
Pte SE Akred
Pte G Stewart

11 Platoon

2Lt M Powell
Sgt KJ James
Cpl S Neal
LCpl JJ Hill
Pte AP Rice
Pte CJ Winter
Pte McGrath
Pte LW Craddock
Pte RS Freeman
Cpl G Ayscough
LCpl AR Ives
Pte JR Marsh
Pte RB Jones
Pte NS Baxter
Pte SP Martin
Pte SC Stewart
Cpl D Clark
LCpl A Brown
Pte DA Syer
Pte LW Dack
Pte PS Bygrave
Pte A Meikle
Pte RA Newman

D Company

Coy HQ

Maj ACE Marinos
Capt ML Elphee
WO2 SM Knights
SSgt RV Shaw
LCpl G Mawbey
Cpl P Chamberlain
LCpl I Bloss
LCpl RW White
LCpl IM Rayfield
Pte CJ Corstin
Pte CM Douglas

MG Platoon

Sgt T Lenton
Cpl P Howlett
Cpl ICJ Roach
LCpl MJ Morris
LCpl SI Panter
LCpl N Dungate
LCpl DR Hasnip
Dmr L Baldwin
Dmr GP Brown
Dmr GA Burgess
Pte LW Davies
Pte PJ Daynes
Pte BS Ellarby
Pte DC Gibbs
Pte AD Gibb
Pte NJ Love
Pte LT Odley
Pte ME Tulit
Pte MI Willsher

Pte RS Phair
Pte R Handley
Pte ND Seaman

Mor Platoon

Capt DJ Ward
Sgt R Athroll
CPO Sgt SJ Donnelly
CPO Sgt B Traves
Sgt K Turner
Sgt D Bevan
Cpl J Grice
Cpl RJ Watson
Cpl R Gillbanks
Cpl JC Kitson
Cpl F Freeman
Cpl B Penny
Cpl SJ Wilton
Cpl RL Wood
LCpl ML Woodrow
LCpl MJ Shoesmith
LCpl AM Evans
LCpl JI Pratt
LCpl MN Robinson
LCpl PS Culshaw
Pte AP Rice
Pte TC Fox
Pte JM Brunton
Pte DJ Bishop 36
Pte P Aglae
Pte JL Birchall
Pte SG Brand
Pte AR Buckman
Pte D Buff
Pte K Cuthbert
Pte CJ Molley

Pte TJ Morgan
Pte NW Morris
Pte JL Sully
Pte PJ Thain
Pte R Thompson
LCpl BP Hardy
Pte TB Brown
Pte I Peters
Pte LP Whitelock
Pte MR Gammage
Pte CS Bilsborough
Pte RV Garnham
Pte DL Worley
Pte JR Harris
Pte MJ Wren
Pte Mitchell
Pte L Jolly
Pte DL Gould
Pte TML Tawse

Recce Platoon

Capt AHC Borgnis
Sgt DM De Bretton Gordon
Sgt T Taylor
Cpl S Clark
Cpl A Shepherdson
Cpl PJ Routledge
Cpl DH Riley
Cpl CG Kulkarni
Pte SD Wyatt
Cpl JJ Dennis
Pte MJ Bonham
Pte D Butler
Pte DH Clothier
Pte S Pinner
Pte G Stevenson

Pte AM Anderson
Pte B Copson
Pte BJ McGee
Pte WB Browning
Pte AJ Booth
Pte C Hopkin
Pte MJ Moore
Pte GJ Martin
Pte MJ Gardner

ATK Platoon

WO2 CJ Cooper
Sgt T Collins
Cpl IND Simson
Cpl JJ Patten
Cpl MDA Page
Cpl S Robinson
Cpl MI Woods
LCpl CB Picton
LCpl P Codling
Cpl D Aspinall
LCpl PE Ballard
Pte OF Reid
Pte Price
Pte JR Loates
Pte LL Groves
Pte WA Gomer
LCpl DS Hogston
Pte J Ratten
Pte RJ Harris
Pte NS Brown
Pte RA Huggett
Pte TJ Lockyear
Pte PJ Newson
Pte JS Eggleton
Pte KP Sinclair

2nd Battalion

Bn HQ

Lt Col SL Porter
Maj MJ Beard
Capt RFL Lyne
Lt RJ Cleverly (D&D)
WO1 Ralph FA
WO2 Price AP (AGC (SPS))
Sgt Steel AM (AGC (SPS))
LCpl Gray SJ (AGC (SPS))
LCpl Grove KG (AGC (SPS))
Pte Jones S (AGC (SPS))
Pte Wall A (AGC (SPS))

Company HQ

MAJ TJ Smith MBE
CSgt Tomson PJ
CSgt Hodgkiss MW
Sgt Lade T
Cpl Keeble CD
LCplL Curtis T (PWRR)

LCpl Marston W
Pte Clarke R
Pte Connoly SJ
Pte Kennon DW
Pte Lobley MR

Families Office

Capt TD Smith MBE
Lt SN Pallant
CSgt Bellamy AJ

Demo Office

Maj WA Willmott
WO2 Delara LJ
CPL Randall-Kattner Lt (AGC (SPS))

Trg Wing

Capt SC Russell

2Lt JJ Adams
CSgt Beswick R
Sgt Chambers RRV
Sgt Gray MJ
Sgt Walker VJ
Cpl Mackay PD
Pte Blair DM
Pte Flack NR
Pte Sedman G

Med Sect

Maj SK Mitchell(RAMC)
Sgt Mutch AF
Cpl Hewson G
Cpl Houston GC (RAMC)
Cpl Oxby KD
LCpl Cotgrave ME
LCpl Coupland PC
LCpl McCrindle G (RAMC)
Pte Packham DD

MT Platoon

Capt AE Todd
WO2 Hayton RN
Sgt Hollis PA
Sgt Jones RD
Cpl Abreu JAA
Cpl Bonsall MC
Cpl Piper AD
Cpl Turner SJ
LCpl Bond RM
LCpl Brammer MG
LCpl Brondson SR
LCpl Hunter EC
LCpl Inglis MJ
LCpl Mountain RL
LCpl Smedley IT
LCpl Watret DR
Pte Adams JS
Pte Appleyard A
Pte Crawley NB
Pte Crockett DJ

Pte Elton MJ
Pte Francis D
Pte Gallagher JW
Pte Hardy DB
Pte Heffer MW
Pte Hunt WJ
Pte Hutchinson AJ
Pte JEennings L
Pte Lawrinson CA
Pte Otty AP
Pte Patrick DJ
Pte Saunders S
Pte Tandy DL
Pte Thompson R
Pte Tomlinson CA
Pte Turnell MJ
Pte Walton D
Pte Walton MR
Pte Williamson LJ

QM's Dept

Maj W O'Driscoll
Capt RJ Brown
WO2 Beighton TP
WO2 Thomas PJ
CSgt Hall LF
Sgt Mecklenburgh GC
Sgt Thorpe RJ
Cpl Appleton TD
Cpl Bannon MN
Cpl Harrison G
Cpl Jones MA
Cpl Wale GD
LCpl Barge MJ (AGC (SPS))
LCpl Frisby DM
LCpl Goodman AH
LCpl Revill MA
LCpl Rickman DJ
Pte Gill SE (AGC (SPS))
Pte Green RJ
Pte Selby RJ
Pte Watts EC

Signal Platoon

Capt RW Woodisee
WO2 Good DG
Sgt Charles MA
Sgt Grouse JPT
Sgt Pearce AR
Cpl Baines NA
Cpl Clark NL
Cpl Cross N
Cpl Hugill SM
Cpl Whithead AND
LCpl Correa J
LCpl Rathie CS
LCpl Rawlings DL
LCpl Sumner ADW
Pte Auckland PR
Pte Bush SJ
Pte Coleman PS
Pte Cook SW
Pte Francis CI
Pte Gale JS
Pte Latter AA
Pte Robertson DWG
Pte Taylor KJ
Pte Turner CI

Officers' Mess

Csgt Kretay E
Cpl Marshall LH
Pte Margason R
Pte Oliver JR
Pte Tate CJ
Pte Wingate

Sgts' Mess

Sgt Cole RJ
Cpl Birtwistle R
Pte Clark LTI
Pte Clegg SP
Pte Hart CJ
Pte Westley JJ

Provo Sect

Sgt Urand MR
Cpl Berridge P
LCpl Askew SM
LCpl Elliot KAG
LCpl Gelder CM
LCpl Hack KL
Pte Martin GJ

Int Sect

Sgt Elliott DJ
LCpl Musson AL

Gymnasium

Sgt Cocker PD (APTC)
Cpl Horne DK
LCpl Forman JA
LCpl Sheerin P
Pte Foote DG
Pte Johnson MK

RAO

Maj RAWinchester (AGC (SPS))
WO2 Cross DJ (AGC (SPS))
SSgt Marshall RW (AGC (SPS))
Sgt Elliott MT (AGC (SPS))
Sgt Hurst MSAGC (SPS)
Cpl Brown JPT (AGC (SPS))
Cpl Buchanan SW (AGC (SPS))
Cpl Woodford RJ (AGC (SPS))

Catering Platoon

WO2 Dowson LA RLC
Sgt Barrett PJ RLC
Sgt Bowyer D RLC
Sgt Carlyon I RLC
Cpl Herbert KR RLC
Cpl Hodgson MJ RLC
Cpl Milne A RLC
LCpl Byne NK RLC
LCpl Freeman MJ RLC
LCpl Frodsham JD RLC
LCpl Macphail D RLC
LCpl Norbury GR RLC
LCpl Thorne M RLC
LCpl Whiteley S RLC

Pte Hart RP RLC
Pte Harvey MW RLC
Pte Howitt LC RLC
Pte Lewis LS RLC
Pte Winteringham AB RLC

A Company

HQ

Maj RJ Ladley
Capt KR Copland
WO2 Ibrahim S
CSgt Yeomans KET
CSgt Hazelwood D
Cpl Blayney K
Cpl Nunley BJ
Cpl Pearson NI
LCpl Bavister A
LCpl Bliss N
LCpl Smith J
Pte Bracegirdle NJ
Pte Butts DM
Pte Chapman J
Pte Drew SJ
Pte Ferrand J
Pte Murray DF
Pte Raine AC
Pte Riggs KW

1 Platoon

2 Lt JW Romilly
Sgt Colyer CC
Cpl Farrell DA
Cpl Gibson GV
Cpl Riley SM
LCpl Collins AS
LCpl Ennis PA
LCpl Mayall RC
LCpl Taylor S
Pte Almond S
Pte Arrand RJ
Pte Bignall GK
Pte Cass NJ
Pte Ferrand TC
Pte Haines DA
Pte Kent S
Pte Lang CF
Pte Latham SA
Pte Mackness BD
Pte Morgan JMD
Pte Norris PN
Pte Palmas MT
Pte Parsons AJ
Pte Sheasby BP
Pte Shiels AR
Pte Smart ST
Pte Sutherland A
Pte Thornhill EJT
Pte Waddington WA
Pte Waqairoba PW
Pte Wheatley RJ

2 Platoon

2 Lt MA Dingle
Sgt Rainey MCA
Cpl Batty SK
Cpl Burt IJ

Cpl Richards GC
LCpl Beardsley LM
LCpl Coulbeck I
LCpl Eratt KM
LCpl Harrison GA
LCpl Marshallsay JR
Pte Beardall JK
Pte Browne NL
Pte Cook C
Pte Dale C
Pte George MD
Pte Kaberry R
Pte Mcalindon J
Pte Pankhurst L
Pte Perry AS
Pte Potter ND
Pte Rimmer M
Pte Robb KJ
Pte Robinson LP
Pte Savage AS
Pte Simmons MP
Pte Sizer CC
Pte Smith WT
Pte Steel TJ
Pte Strong GJ
Pte Waters TW

3 Platoon

2Lt WG Nicholls
Sgt Kyffin D
Cpl Adams SN
Cpl Kavanagh TP
LCpl Clarke S
LCpl Dyson RJ
LCpl Hills SP
LCpl Watson M
Pte Boswell PA
Pte Budworth A
Pte Charles SE
Pte Cooper BS
Pte Corstorphine AJ
Pte Dutka RJ
Pte Freeman GC
Pte Gill ME
Pte Hinchcliffe N
Pte Lindsay CN
Pte Morgan DR
Pte Newbury AJ
Pte Rooney PDH
Pte Smith AP
Pte Swallow CM
Pte Tambling MA
Pte Toal S
Pte Trafford D
Pte Tremain MD
Pte Waters MD
Pte Wells GR
Pte Young DJ

B COMPANY

HQ

Maj DJ Gregory
Lt MB Walker
WO2 Tilley P
CSgt Dunn RD
CSgt Humphreys PJ
Cpl Grocock GN

Cpl Singleton S L
Pte Atkins R A
Pte Baxter P T
Pte Cain A
Pte Fleury J T
Pte Latus G
Pte Mahoney I M
Pte Mitchell C
Pte Piper S
Pte Taylor A A

4 Platoon

2Lt N J Haden
Sgt Morson R S
Cpl Jackson P G
Cpl Waghorn L A
LCpl Deakin S A
LCpl Harris A P
LCpl Percival D C
LCpl Rundle T A
LCpl Tams A
Pte Bentley L J
Pte Bonner D W
Pte Clarke A J
Pte Coupland C P
Pte Fleming R J
Pte Green T J A
Pte Lawson M P L
Pte Lockwood T
Pte Metson L E
Pte Newell P C
Pte Oliver L K
Pte Peart S J
Pte Picton R D
Pte Taylor A A
Pte Towe S W
Pte Wells S J
Pte Wood M A
Pte Wroe J D

5 Platoon

Lt I E Moran
Sgt Hopkins N A
Cpl Cole D
Cpl Perry R T
Cpl Phillips J E
LCpl Bennett S A
LCpl Pilgrim G
LCpl Vazquez N
Pte Baird C D
Pte Buckle J D
Pte Chester P J
Pte Eglin D E
Pte Finnie M
Pte George A
Pte Harvey S
Pte Hudson-Bennett L
Pte Jackson M S
Pte Noton D
Pte Payne J L
Pte Riley C S
Pte Snook D J
Pte Stephens D
Pte Wileman M
Pte Woolley J M

6 Platoon

Lt S C Worthy

Sgt Walker A R
Cpl Bartlett A J
Cpl Coupe D J
LCpl Donovan K
LCpl Grice D A
LCpl Kennedy P J
LCpl Styles A G
Pte Broughton K
Pte Clarke S J
Pte Crawford G R C
Pte Elkington A A
Pte Fawcett T R
Pte Hart C J
Pte Ireland M T
Pte Jackson D C
Pte King D W J
Pte Lambert J A
Pte Lawson S P
Pte Manning S J
Pte Mercer R
Pte O'Conner R S
Pte Penrose T
Pte Turner J K
Pte Wilkinson P E W

C COMPANY

HQ

Maj SD Etherington
Capt DG Vincent
WO2 Cousin
CSgtt Heycock
LCpl Morrissey
Pte Walters 71
Pte Foster
Cpl Shaw
Pte White
Cpl Foster
LCpl Edwards
Pte Brawn
Pte Johnson 86
Pte Blanchard
Pte Latif

7 Platoon

2Lt CD Davies
Sgt Penn
Pte Reeder
Pte Sweetland
Pte Farrow
Cpl Cutts
Pte Gage
LCpl Mackness
Pte Butler
Pte Sims
Pte Walters 69
Pte Stow
Pte Paveley
LCpl Groom
Pte Roberts
LCpl Smith
Pte Smith 66
Pte Mortimer
Pte Barfield
Pte Griffin
LCpl Headland
Pte Honeyball
LCpl Alken

Pte McLatchie
Pte Durrant
Pte Spray

8 Platoon

2Lt NDB Charlwood
Sgt Markham
Pte Lawrance
Pte Graham 87
Cpl Creighton
Pte Gray
Pte Gillespie
Pte Smith 17
Pte Black
Pte Thomas
Pte Seniscal
Cpl Roberts
Pte Dakin
Pte Melody
Pte Harvey
Pte Newland
Pte Gedney
Pte Willey
LCpl Pearce
Pte Kirk
LCpl Riseborough
Pte Raynes
Pte Woods
Pte Greenhill
Pte Law

9 Platoon

2Lt NF Faint
Sgt Slater
Pte Ashworth
Pte Crozier
Cpl Winkle
Pte Day
LCpl Harris
Pte Cash
Pte Strachan
Pte Marshall
Pte Lang
Pte Allen
LCpl David
Pte Ranshaw
LCpl Brockelsby
Pte Squibb (NI)
Pte Crabbe
Pte Mactavish
Pte Maskell
Cpl Horne
Pte Hancock
LCpl Siney
Pte Downey
Pte Newman
Pte Sutcliffe
Pte Thronton
Pte Knight.

D Company

HQ

Maj PAE Nanson
WO2 Thorne M
CSgtt Kirk P

CSgt Sinar R
Cpl Addison SJ
LCpl Dunn SM
LCpl Herron C
Pte Gordon JT
Pte Havs RA
Pte Lecke S
Pte Jack JA
Pte Wilson NP

Drums

Sgt Bulbeck SD
Sgt Embleton K
Cpl Sands SJ
LCpl Griffin AJC
Pte Armstrong NQG
Pte Attridge S
Pte Auckland MP
Pte Brawn M
Pte Brown A
Pte Hickman SJ
Pte Hume SA
Pte Jubb PL
Pte Marshall MS
Pte McCrystal S
Pte McEwan IA
Pte McMillan G
Pte Mellay RG
Pte Neilly SJ
Pte Pass R
Pte Pratt N

Mortars

Capt N A Johnson
CSgt Cox PR
Pte Harrison IL
Pte Heeley R
Pte Pickett SL
Cpl Guppy PJ
LCpl Booth DS
Pte Clark S
LCpl King SD
LCpl McCole PA
Pte Day P
LCpl Donovan NR
LCpl Cruddace MA
Pte Broomfield LC
Sgt Matthews JE
LCpl Eaton D
Pte Towler G
Pte Parker MJ
Pte Borril MJ
Pte Geary ST
Pte Seymour A
Pte Wilkinson AM
Sgt Wright MJ
Cpl Doherty MR
Pte Hughes GO
Pte Turner PD
Pte Fuller WC
Pte Robertson MRD
Pte Tomkins DMT
Pte King TL
Sgt Smith A
Cpl Colbourne MJ
LCpl Felstead M
Pte Burgwin DS

Marriages and Births

Pte Beasley JC
Pte Jones AL
Pte Gilbert DG

Milan

Capt AG Grinonneau
Sgt Johnson JE
Cpl Auckland M
Cpl Carter RM
Cpl Kenyon SLO
Cpl. Smith JR
LCpl Brown CF
LCpl Buckman J
LCpl Derbyshire CM
LCpl Franklin SP
LCpl Gallop SI
LCpl Gelsthorpe

LCpl Handforth JC
LCpl Hedge NC
LCpl Mattingly A
Pte Bell CL
Pte Boucher KS
Pte Crafer RD
Pte Day M
Pte Good D
Pte Hare JM
Pte Harrison P
Pte Harrison-Kerr TA
Pte Howard MC
Pte Jack JA
Pte Knowles DP
Pte Mair S
Pte Matthews LS
Pte Midgely DM
Pte Peacock JC
Pte Plummer R

Pte Smith S
Pte Staples LG
Pte Symon T
Pte Terry KJ
Pte Tidswell
Pte Woods

Close Recce

Capt E Reynolds
CSgt Adie D
Sgt Johnson GM
Cpl Blackwell A
Cpl Brownlie CJ
Cpl Clarke M
Cpl Elliott RAA
LCpl Caine AC
LCpl Cooley J I
LCpl Eggleton BJ

LCpl Gray RLA
LCpl Rae SJ
LCpl Rimmer PT
Pte Allen LG
Pte Buttery JS
Pte Goldthorpe S
Pte Martin RD
Pte Owen P
Pte Piesse RF
Pte Presley JR
Pte Rushby PS
Pte Seeley CA
Pte Walker PJ
Pte Wells A

Marriages and Births

Vikings Marriages

Shepherdson On 13 Sep, Cpl Shepherdson to Lynda
McAloon On 18 Mar, Pte McAloon to Diana

Vikings Births

Jones To Pte and Christine Jones a son, Aidan
Meikle To Pte and Sarah Meikle a daughter, Poppy
Reid To Pte and Tracey Reid a daughter, Evalyn
Patten To Cpl and Jackie Patten a daughter, Natasha
Cuthbert To Pte and Kim Cuthbert a daughter, Shannon Lisa
Clarke To LCpl and Sarah Clarke a son, Ryan
Lyne To Capt and Denys Lyne a son, Samuel
Morris To LCpl and Mrs Morris a son, Liam
Lorenz To Pte and Mrs Lorenz a son, Macauley

Poachers Marriages

Rawlings On 27 Mar 97, LCpl Rawlings to Annika
Berridge On 1 Jan 97, Cpl Berridge to Jennifer
Brammer On 12 Apr 97, LCpl Brammer to Debbie
Cole On 29 Mar 97, Cpl Cole to Sarah
Symon On 8 Mar 97, Pte Symon to Debroah
Frisby On 15 Mar 97, LCpl Frisby to Fiona
Saunders On 18 Jan 97, Pte Saunders to Deborah
Good On 4 Apr 97, Pte Good to Andrea
Walton On 5 Apr 97, Pte Walton to Zoe

Allen On 19 Apr 97, Pte Allen to Amanda
Westly On 15 Mar 97, Pte Westly to Kerry
Strong On 1 Feb 97, Pte Strong to Emma
Newland On 8 Feb 97, Pte Newland to Dawn
Mahoney On 8 Mar 97, Pte Mahoney to Gillian
Elton On 22 Feb 97, Pte Elton to Alison
Gilbert On 2 Apr 97, Pte Gilbert to Deborah
Hall On 5 Oct 96, Cpl Hall to Elizabeth

Poachers Births

Willmott To Maj and Mrs Willmott a son, Frederick
Watret To LCpl and Mrs Watret a son, Zachary
Walker To Sgt and Mrs Walker a daughter, Rebecca
Crockett To Pte and Mrs Crockett a daughter, Shannon
Flack To Pte and Mrs Flack a daughter, Georgina
Frisby To LCpl and Mrs Frisby a daughter, Megan
Harvey To Pte and Mrs Harvey a son, Scott

6th Battalion Marriages

Morton On 11 Jan 97, Maj I N Morton RAMC
to Jane Edwards

Other Birth

Fairbanks Weston To Maj and Mrs A D Fairbanks Weston
a son, Benjamin

50th Anniversary - Sandhurst

Sandhurst is celebrating 50 years as the Royal Military Academy on Sunday 6 July. The celebrations will include military displays, an assault course, the Red Devils, massed bands, a horse show and fun fair.

10.30am - 5.00pm

Obituaries

Brigadier J G Starling CBE MC DL

Joe Starling will always be remembered in The Suffolk Regiment for his performance as a platoon commander and patrol leader during the 1st Battalion's tour in Malaya from 1949-53. He was one of the six officers sent ahead to The Jungle Warfare School to prepare to train the Battalion on arrival and after the initial training period one of the first to be deployed against the bandits and the first to be successful. As a Platoon Commander in Major Arthur Campbell's D Company he was sent to Kajang on 20 August 1949 and had his, and the Battalion's, first clash with the enemy on 24 August. In this engagement 3 bandits were killed. After 3 more months of active patrolling Joe's patrol was ambushed on 30 November but by 'dint of his courage, skill and leadership' he turned the tables on his ambushers, put them to flight and captured much of their equipment. The drive, leadership and courage Joe displayed on this occasion won him his MC and were his hallmarks throughout his career. The other story often told is of the time when he came close to decapitating HRH The Princess Margaret with his sword when commanding a guard of honour at The Depot. But then ceremony was never Joe's first interest.

Joe was born in Cambridge on 11 January 1928 and was educated at the Cambridgeshire High School where he gained his HSC and a special Exhibition to St Catherine's College. He also became CSM of the Corps and gained his Certificate B on attachment to the CUOTC then commanded by one Colonel I L Wight, who was to have some

future influence on Joe's career. In August 1946 he was called up to 3 ITC at Bury St Edmunds and while there decided to apply for RMAS and make the Army his career. He joined Intake 1a, ran in the Academy Cross Country team, won the Economics prize and was commissioned into the Regiment in mid-1948. He joined the 1st Battalion in Athens later that year, moved to Salonika with them in 1949 and to Malaya with the advance party. After his outstanding service in Malaya he served at The Depot where his nonstop energy made a great impression on the many who passed through his hands, at the Small Arms Wing at Hythe and again with the 1st Battalion in Cyprus as Company 2IC to Major George Springfield.

In 1958, having gained a competitive entry, he attended Staff College and was subsequently appointed BM of 162 Brigade TA at Bedford. On completion of that job he volunteered for a tour with The Parachute Regiment. He did this because he felt the amalgamated Regiment was perhaps a bit overcrowded and also because he had been impressed with the Parachute Regiment soldiers he had encountered in Cyprus. He knew this was because the Parachute Selection Course allowed them to pick and choose among National Service soldiers but he still wanted the chance to lead these men. The outcome was that he never returned to the Regiment. Their gain was our loss and he commanded 15 Scottish Parachute Battalion TA and eventually became Regimental Colonel.

Towards the end of his service he attended the NATO Defence College in Rome,



Brigadier J G Starling with 1 Para in Aden.

did a tour at SHAPE and on promotion to Brigadier became Deputy Commander at SW District with special responsibility for the TA. Such was his success that Wessex TAVRA 'bought him out' of the Army to be their Secretary where his drive and energy had their usual results. On retirement he remained in Bristol where he was a DL and active with SSAFA, ABF, RBL, BLESSMA and the Parachute Regiment Association. However he never forgot his roots and was a regular attendee at the Minden Reunion and the Suffolk Regimental Council. He was there in 1996 and appeared in good health, although he would have told nobody if he wasn't, and his death therefore came as a shock. He will be greatly missed and fondly remembered.

WCD

Captain (ACF) D (Bomber) Harris

Captain Doug Harris died suddenly at his home on 10 June 1996. He was born at Wicklewood, Norfolk, on 17 August, 1935. His early ambitions centred around being a game keeper on the local country estate.

He served as a cadet in the Norfolk ACF in the late 1940s and early 1950s. In January 1954 he enlisted into The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire

Regiment and after completion of his training joined the 1st Battalion at Gothic Camp, El Ballah, in the Canal Zone. He was posted to Support Company anti-tank platoon and in the next four years was promoted to Platoon Sergeant. At this time Doug, a huge man, was the Battalion heavyweight boxing champion. He also represented the Battalion on the hockey field. In 1958 on amalgamation Doug served with 3 E

ANGLIAN in Germany, then in UK and in Malaya. In 1964 Doug served as a Senior NCO with the 3rd Battalion and in the mid 1960s, as a very young WO2, he was a PSI with 4th/5th Essex Regiment TA.

On promotion to WO1 he was posted as RSM to 11 UDR in Portadown. His second tour as RSM was with the 5th Battalion in Peterborough.

Obituaries

His final service was for nine years as RQMS on the Long Service List, first at Rhine Area HQ at Dusseldorf and then as RQMS of Rheindahlen Garrison. While at Rheindahlen his long and faithful service was recognised by the award of the Meritorious Service Medal.

In 1985 Doug became Quartermaster of the Surrey ACF, a post he held until his death. He was a man of firm, uncompromising

principles, which at times could bring him into conflict with colleagues at all levels. But above all he exemplified loyalty, integrity and service.

He will also be remembered for his generosity. If it was within his powers he would help anyone. During his tour of duty in Germany he was very committed to the Buffalos Association of which he became Chairman of various branches.

This inspired him to become personally involved in charity fund raising; he was particularly interested in the needs of mentally handicapped children.

Above all Doug Harris was a caring, devoted family man who leaves behind him Gertrud, his wife of 37 years, his sons Gordon, Gary and Steven, daughter Tina, and grandchildren Sean, Emma and Dean. He will be sadly missed.

CHP/JB

WO1 R Smith

WO1 Roy Smith died on 22 June 1996. Roy Smith was known as Roy, Rex or Smudge to his friends and family and he was a Norwich man through and through.

Roy enlisted into 1 E ANGLIAN as a Junior Leader in 1961. He was an excellent example and product of that system and after joining the Battalion in Aden was soon selected for promotion. The 60s saw changes in the role and attitudes of the Army and Roy was ideally suited to be a forerunner of these changes. When the Battalion took up post in Northern Ireland at the start of the troubles there was a need for Colour Sergeant Platoon Commanders and Roy was the perfect man to fill one of these important positions. He carried out this role in typical fashion and at the end of the tour was awarded a Mention in Despatches.

Roy was an outstanding shot, representing the Battalion and the Army. He had excellent ability but was always at his absolute best when the pressure was on. Roy served all around the world with the Army and wherever he went he made a lasting impression. He was not only an

excellent leader and teacher of men, but also a loyal follower and his straight forward approach to soldiering made him respected by his peers and contemporaries alike. Roy did not suffer fools gladly but when he made a friend it was for life. That mark of love, friendship and comradeship is indescribable and was displayed by the quality of those present at his funeral service.

In 1973 Roy suffered horrendous injuries in an accident in Kenya. Roy's attitude in recovering from his injuries and continuing in his Army career was an example to all. He not only recovered from what would have defeated most people but went on to continue his career to its peak as RSM. Throughout all this he still managed to represent the Battalion shooting team. Towards the end of his career the effects of these earlier injuries gave him considerable pain, yet he never once complained or allowed anyone to see any signs of weakness.

Upon leaving the Army Roy went into business and what should have been a quieter life. In fact Roy became deeply involved in the Royal Anglian

Regimental Association and took a close interest in linking together the Old Comrades of the various branches of the Regiment. He also got involved in charity work and ten trips to Former Yugoslavia is an incredible record which speaks for itself.

It is very easy to be swept along by this image of a hard man, which indeed he was. But there was another side to the man which his friends and family were privileged to see. He was a man of great compassion and a true friend to many. He was also a great family man and our hearts go out to Marjorie and the children Caleb, Daniel and Hellie; also to his mother Margaret. He was immensely proud of them all and always spoke of them with great affection.

Roy was a one off, the likes of which we will never see again; a great husband, father and friend. A character and a comrade we shall never forget. The world will be a quieter but poorer place without him.

KCJ

Sergeant G Crook

Geoff Crook passed away on Tuesday 22 April 1997 in Paderborn, West Germany, after a lengthy illness. His wife Vicky and family were with him at the end.

Geoff enjoyed a full military career serving with The Royal Norfolk Regiment, 1 E ANGLIAN and 1 R ANGLIAN in

Malaya, Aden, BAOR and many UK posts.

Geoff served in the Signal Platoon. He was always ready to take on a task and more than willing to help anyone either at work or at leisure. He had a happy family life and was very proud of his children. During recent years he and Vicky

lived in Germany, where he worked for an ex-servicemen's organisation until his recent illness. Geoff will be missed on Minden Day but he will not be forgotten by his many friends in the Regiment. A Cremation Service will take place in Germany but his Ashes will be returned to England for Interment at a later date.

HSB

Obituaries

In addition to the Obituaries overleaf, we regret to record the deaths of the following:

The Royal Anglian Regiment

Mrs Joan Fowler, 25 Dec 96. Wife of the late Maj M (Mick) Fowler, 1st Bn.

WO1 K J (Ken) Duke, 28 Dec 96. 3 E ANGLIAN, 3rd Bn.

Maj A J P Grosch, 31 Oct 96. Ex-DLI, PSAO 6th Bn.

Mrs Angela Morris, 16 Mar 97. Wife of Cpl MP Morris (V), 6th Bn.

The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment

Maj C Britten, 21 Jan 97. Age 81. 2nd Bn 1936-42 and 1st Bn 1945-48. Editor of 'The Wasp' until 1986 and a member of the Association's Management Committee until 1995.

Lt A R Bennett TD, 16 Sep 96. Age 83. 5th Bn and a Far East Prisoner of War.

Mr R Durham, 11 Aug 96. 6th Bn during the war.

Capt T Gains, 24 Oct 96.

WO1 M G Hogarty, 21 Oct 96. Age 76, in Auckland, New Zealand. RQMS Hogarty, 'Paddy' to his Army colleagues, served with the 1st Bn in India, Tripoli, Greece, Egypt and Germany. 3 E ANGLIAN in Goslar as CSM B Company, accompanying the Bn to Malaya. He retired as RSM at the Jungle Warfare School at Kota Tinggi, Malaysia, and went to live in New Zealand.

Mr E Lucas, 4 Jan 97. After a long illness. Served with the 2nd Bn in Italy.

Cambridgeshire Regiment

Capt G B W (Godfrey) Kent, 20 Apr 97.

Lt Col K L B (Kerrison) Pipe, 28 Oct 96.

Lt M (Marcus) Bradford, 28 Apr 97. 1st Bn IO and FEPOW. Mayor of Cambridge 1966.

We extend our condolences and sympathy to their family and friends.

Notices

Army & Navy Club.

The free membership of the Army & Navy Club available to four Officers in the Regiment over the age of 29 for two years under The Brigadier Wilkinson Bequest is taken up until March 1998. A separate offer of free membership in the first three years of an Officer's commissioned service followed by reduced membership until the age of 29 has been made by the Club. Details are available from Commanding Officers and RHQ.

Haig Homes.

Unfurnished homes and flats let to ex-servicemen and women on secure assured tenancies by Haig Homes at favourable rents of between £45-£85 per week are advertised periodically. If you can foresee a need for housing apply as early as possible to go on the relevant waiting list. Details from RHQ.

Pontins Holidays.

Holiday Club Pontins have again donated holidays this Summer for Army dependants and children in need, offering preferential rates. Priority is given to widows with children. Details from RHQ.

Military Knights of Windsor and Gentlemen-at-Arms.

The Military Knights of Windsor were advertised in the last "Castle". The Knights, who must join before the age of 65 and would normally be in needy circumstances, are provided with accommodation at Windsor Castle and have certain weekly ceremonial duties at Windsor. Details from RHQ. Gentlemen-at-Arms are similarly employed on ceremonial duties but on 6 days in the year only. Officers must join before the age of 56. Details are available at RHQ.

The Imperial War Museum.

Many members of the Regiment are now familiar with IWM Duxford. IWM's London Museum in Lambeth is also highly worth visiting, in particular a major new permanent exhibition called "Conflicts since 1945". The exhibition covers every conflict since World War 2 including the Cold War, Malaya, Aden, Bosnia and Northern Ireland.

Officers' Pension Society

The Officers' Pension Society exists to look after the retirement conditions of its members and to help and advise them on Service Retired Pay, pensions and related matters. Membership stands at 55,000 and is open to all retired Officers, to wives/husbands of serving and retired Officers and to Officers' widows/widowers and dependants. Serving Officers on reaching 50, Officers in the last 3 years of service and Officers warned for redundancy may also join. Details are held in DCI JS 39-49 1997 by Orderly Rooms and RHQ.

National Memorial Arboretum

A major project to commemorate the war time generations of this century is rapidly taking shape in the form of the National Memorial Arboretum at Croxhall in Staffordshire as part of the National Forest. The Regiment has contributed towards the project and will be represented in the Army Grove with a small-leaved Lime. The Arboretum will open later this year.

Darts at War.

Mr Patrick Chaplin writes:

I am currently undertaking post-graduate research into the social history of darts and have recently turned my attention to the part played by the game during this century's conflicts and particularly, but not exclusively, the Second World War. I would like, through your publication, to ask your readers whether or not they have any particular memories of darts which would be of use to my research. I have already heard of some wonderful stories of how darts provided ideal entertainment for passing long hours 'on watch' and even one or two from ex-POWs where the game helped keep them sane during those desperately difficult times. If a NAAFI set was not available, darts were fashioned out of pins and feathers and dartboards out of trees or rolled corrugated paper. I've heard tales too of raucous darts nights in the desert, under canvas with the dartboard hanging from a tent pole.

No newspapers or magazines can afford me the kind of firsthand information I believe I can obtain from your readers. I would be grateful if you could publish this request in a forthcoming issue. Would readers please send any information they would like to share with me to: *Patrick Chaplin, 50 Norfolk Road, Maldon, Essex CM9 6AT. (Tel. 01621-856040).*

'THE FRONTIER ABLAZE'... Book Review

The North-West Frontier Rising 1897-98, by Michael Barthorp with colour plates by Douglas Anderson. Windrow & Green, £35

Exercising in the Trieste hinterland with the 1st Northampton's in 1951 our Brigadier referred to the scene of our endeavours as "hairy country this!" But as those among us who had served on the North-West Frontier all too frequently reminded us "You ain't seen nothin'!"

With his skill in descriptive writing Michael Barthorp brings this harsh, jagged, mountainous country and its fierce inhabitants, "the wily Pathan", to life. For a hundred years the British and Indian Armies fought to bring these unruly hill tribes to heel, with ephemeral but never lasting success. Fighting was a national pastime and they were masters of their weapons and their terrain. Their efforts became the stuff of history, fiction, film and comic strip. The Khyber Pass, for instance, was a name much more generally known in the United Kingdom than the Grand Canyon or many a national capital. Countless expeditions were mounted and most of them have been covered in various histories, but the author claims this to be the only work that concentrates on all five of the 1897-9 campaigns, when 64 battalions of infantry were engaged, half as many again as the whole British infantry today and 1000 casualties were suffered, including 27 officers. Some of the terrain was unhealthy too; the 3rd Rifle Brigade lost more than half their strength to disease in three months at Sheranni.

Battalions learned their tactical awareness on the Frontier. They had to. Woe betide a commander who made a mistake because the tribesmen were swift to take pitiless advantage. They could be made to run away, but they often "ran back damn quick". Withdrawal therefore, could be particularly haz-

ardous, as the 48th discovered when pulling back at Saran Sar, when they lost 22 killed and 30 wounded through tactical inexperience and lack of coordination. Great benefit came later, in the Boer War, when battalions who had served on the Frontier put expertise learned the hard way in India to good use and were more effective and suffered fewer casualties than battalions fresh from England.

As one would expect from Michael Barthorp there is frequent mention of the 1st Northampton's and many photographs from his own collection, from that of Major Knox, whose grandfather, later General Sir Harry and Colonel of the Regiment, was Signal Officer in this campaign, and from their Museum. When the dissidents were finally beaten into submission the Tirah Field Force commander, Lt General Sir William Lockhart, praised the Force and offered thanks for their "bravery and devotion" when "subjected to great hardship and exposure, harassed at night by assaults at close quarters or by distant rifle fire and engaged in long and trying rearguard actions against enemies unrivalled as skirmishers and marksmen".

Here is an exciting, action-packed thriller of great regimental interest in which the higher purpose (questionable though it was) and the clashes at the sharp end are skilfully blended. Some of the actions and tales of derring-do smack of the Boy's Own Paper, but Michael Barthorp is a meticulous, painstaking researcher who is as accurate as it is possible to be. The book is alarmingly expensive, but you get many photographs and colour plate including one of a 48th Sergeant, for your investment.

J.B.A.

Association Branches

Norfolk

HQ The Royal
Norfolk Regiment Association and
The Norfolk Branch The Royal
Anglian Regiment Association (Norfolk)
Britannia House,
TA Centre, 325 Aylsham Road,
Norwich, Norfolk NR3 2AD
Tel: (01603) 400290
President: Maj Gen Sir David
Thorne KBE CVO

King's Lynn Branch:

Chairman: Capt A A Hammond OBE,
Sandena, Old Mill Road,
Roughton, Norwich NR11 8PE

Social & Welfare Club
Secretary: Mrs C Hudson,
24 Rosebery Avenue,
King's Lynn, Norfolk PO30 4AA
Tel: (01553) 762478

Gt Yarmouth/Gorleston

Branch:
Mr R C Pillar,
16 Alder Close, Bradwell,
Gt Yarmouth, Norfolk NR31 8PD

London Branch:

Mr M J Frances,
4 Kingswood Park,
Hendon Avenue,
Finchley, London N3 LUG

Norwich Branch:

Mr P E Boxall,
31 Breckland Road,
New Costessey,
Norwich NR5 ORW

Suffolk

HQ The Suffolk Regiment Old Comrades
Association and The Royal Anglian
Regiment Association (Suffolk &
Cambridgeshire Branch) The Keep,
Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds,
Suffolk IP33 3RN
Tel: (01284) 752394 (Wednesdays Only)
President: Brig W C Deller OBE

Bury St. Edmunds And District Branch:

Mr J Gargell,
The Willows, Depden,
Bury St. Edmunds,
Suffolk IP29 4BY
Ipawich Branch:
Mr A E Stollery,
12 Cedar House,
2 Heatherhayes,
Ipswich, Suffolk IP14 3CB

Hemel Hempstead Branch:

Mr R G Picton,
45 Paston Road,
Hemel Hempstead,
Hertfordshire HP2 5AZ

Beccles Branch:

Mr M L Martin,
46 Fair Close,
Beccles, Norfolk NR34 9QR

Felixstowe Branch:

Mr N Buckingham,
Marababa, 18 Fairfield Avenue,
Felixstowe, Suffolk IP11 9JN

Stowmarket Branch:

Mr S P Sykes BEM,
27 Broomspath Road,
Stowupland, Stowmarket,
Suffolk IP14 4DB

Leiston Branch:

Mr A A Smith BEM,
95 Abbey Road,
Leiston, Suffolk IP16 4TA

Sudbury Branch:

Mr D Land,
2 Pot Kiln Road,
Gt Cornard,
Sudbury CO10 0DA

Cambridgeshire

HQ The Cambridgeshire Regiment Old
Comrades Association and The
Cambridgeshire Branch The Royal
Anglian Regiment Association
C/O TA Centre, Coldhams Lane,
Cambridge CB1 3HT
Patron: Lt Col E L V Mapey OBE TD
President: Col W F Page MC TD

Cambridge Branch:

Capt J Nelson,
53 Fulhourn Old Drift,
Cherry Hinton,
Cambridge CB1 4NO

Ely Branch:

Mr H R Hitch,
4 Canterbury Avenue,
Ely, Cambridgeshire CB6 3DW
Tel: (01353) 664563

March And District Branch:

Chairman: Mr D W H Cox,
13 Fleming Court,
March, Cambridgeshire,
PE14 9HD
Tel: (01354) 52021

Wisbech Branch:

Major DS Denson TD
107, Drybread Road
Whittlesey
Cambridgeshire PE7 1XL

Whittlesey/Peterborough Branch:

Mr D G I. Matthews,
3 Greengate Court,
Flag Fen Road, Eastfield,
Peterborough PE1 5LA
Tel: (01733) 555394

Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire

HQ The Royal Anglian Regiment
Bedfordshire And Hertfordshire
Association, Blenheim House,
Eagle Way, Warley, Brentwood,
Essex CM13 3BN
Tel: Brentwood (01277) 213051
Chairman: Brig AFFH Robertson CBE

Hertford Branch:

Mr S R Mansfield,
1a Gwynne's Walk,
Hertford SG13 8AD Tel: (01992) 581551

St Albans Branch:

Mr H R Howard,
24 Sherwood Rise, South Down,
Harpenden, Hertfordshire AL5 1LU
Tel: (01582) 621725

Bedford Branch:

Mr E Roberts
3 Manor Close
Kempston
Bedford MK42 7AA
Tel: 01234 854507

Hitchin Branch:

Mr B Read,
12 Habley Drive,
Hitchin,
Herts SG9 4QN
Tel: (01462) 622373

Hertfordshire Regiment Association

Mr C Austin,
97 West Street,
Hertford, Herts SG13 8EH
Tel: (01992) 558757

Watford and Hemel
Hempstead Branch:
Mr E G Owens,
37 Bidshall Crescent,
Dunstable,
Bedfordshire LU6 3NF
Tel: (01582) 665734

Luton and Dunstable Branch:

Mr S Chapman,
86 St Margaret's Avenue,
Luton, Bedfordshire LU3 1PQ
Tel: (01582) 28976

Essex

The Essex and Royal Anglian Regiments
Association HQ The Royal
Anglian Regiment, Blenheim House,
Eagle Way, Warley, Brentwood,
Essex CM13 3BN
Tel: (01277) 213051
President: Col G C P Morgan DL

4th Battalion Comrades Association:

Mr E B Hazle Dcm,
11 Hunter Avenue, Shenfield,
Essex CM15 8Pe
Tel: (01277) 214606

7th Eagle and Gun Regimental Association:

Mr V Foulsham,
62 Armstrong Avenue,
Woodford Green,
Essex IG8 9PT
Tel: (0181) 531 4808

Chelmsford And District Branch:

Miss S Ostler,
St Michael's, 1 Gloucester Avenue
Chelmsford, Essex CM2 9DP
Tel: (01245) 358724

Thurrock And District Branch:

Mr P Giggins,
89 Salisbury Road,
Grays, Essex RM17 6DG

Tel: (01375) 378427

Lincolnshire

HQ The 10th Foot
Royal Lincolnshire Regimental
Association, The Royal Anglian
Regiment, The Keep, Sobraon
Barracks, Lincoln LN1 3PY
Tel: (01522) 525444
President: Maj Gen R E J Gerrard-Wright
CBE

Lincoln Branch:

Mr A Hibbard,
17 Ruckland Avenue,
Lincoln LN1 3TF
Tel: (01522) 530396

Grimsby Branch:

Mr D Carroll,
87 Manor Drive, Waltham,
Grimsby, Lincolnshire DN37 0NS
Tel: (01472) 826953

Grantham Branch:

Mr O Hardy,
29 Premier Court,
Grantham,
Lincolnshire NG31 8FH
Tel: (01476) 66652

Spalding Branch:

Mr A Waterfall,
26 Brewster Road,
Boston, Lincolnshire PE21 0DY
Tel: (01205) 358565

Midlands Branch:

Mr L. Wood,
15 Lanchester Road,
Radford,
Coventry CV6 3EY
Tel: (01203) 597815

Stamford Branch:

Capt W L Simpson,
St Clement, 8 Barn Hill,
Stamford, Lincolnshire PE9 2YG

Scunthorpe Branch:

Mr C Bromby,
85 Southfield Road,
Scunthorpe,
South Humberside DN16 3BT
Tel: (01724) 859253

Northamptonshire

HQ The Northamptonshire Regiment
Association and The Royal Anglian
Regiment Association (Northampton)
Gibraltar Barracks, Barrack Road,
Northampton NN1 3RE
Tel: (01604) 35412
Chairman: Col P Worthy

Corby Branch:

Mr K R Fordyce,
7 Motision Close, Corby,
Northamptonshire

Peterborough Branch:

Maj R K Hill TD DL,
Cherry Orton Farm,
Orton Waterville,
Peterborough PE2 5EQ
Tel: (01733) 231495

Leicestershire

HQ The Royal
Tigers Association and
The Royal Anglian Regiment
Association (Leicester)
TA Centre, Ulverscroft Road,
Leicester LE4 6BY
Tel: (0116) 2622749

President: Maj Gen A J G
Pollard CB CBE

Leicester Branch

Col F A H Swallow OBE,
The Grange,
Barton Seagrave,
Kettering,
Northamptonshire NN15 5JL

Wiltshire:

Warminster Branch:

The Royal Anglian Regiment
Association,
Po Box 123,
Warminster Training Centre,
Wiltshire BA12 0DG
Tel: (01985) 219273 Ext 2211

Regimental Shop

LETTER	ITEM	PRICE £
A	ASH/PIN TRAY	1.80
B1	BADGE Blazer	8.50
B2	BADGE Cloth	0.80
B3	BADGE Collar 1st Bn, 2nd Bn, 3rd Bn	14.50 pr
B4	BADGE Eagle (Arm)	2.50
B5	BADGE Lapel	1.75
B6	BADGE Lapel Boxed Gold	4.70
B7	BADGE Lapel Association	1.30
C1	BELT Stable	8.80
C2	BELT Trousers XL, L, M, S	5.60
D1	BOOKMARK LEATHER Presentation of Colours	1.00
D2	BOOKMARK LEATHER Colours	0.40
D3	BOOKMARK LEATHER Drummer66
E1	BUTTON Blazer Gilt L, S (Star)	1.85
E2	BUTTON Hat/Mess Kit (Tiger)	3.50
F	CHRISTMAS CARD	0.37
G1	COFFEE MUG Presentation of Colours	1.50
G2	COFFEE MUG CHINA Gold Band, Blue Badge	2.50
G3	COFFEE MUG Black/Yellow Badge	1.50
H1	GLASS with Handle, 1 Pint	1.65
H2	GLASS Whisky	1.10
H3	GLASS Straight, 1 Pint	1.10
I	ICE BUCKET DRUM	18.80
J1	KEY RING Leather	0.45
J2	KEY RING Belt Colours	2.10
K	PENDANT on Gold Chain	7.40
L	PEWTER TANKARD, Regimental Crest	19.65
L1	PEWTER TANKARD, Badged 1st Bn (not shown) ..	19.65
	PEWTER TANKARD, Badged 2nd Bn (not shown) ..	19.65
M1	POSTCARD Set of 16	5.00
M2	POSTCARD Single	0.40
N	PRINT Set of Eight Former Regiments	5.20
N	PRINT Single	0.65
N1	PRINT Drummer, Large	0.50
O	RIBBON 1.5" Wide, as Stable Belt	2.60 mtr
P	ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT BROCHURE	2.75
Q	SHIELD REGIMENTAL Hand Painted	22.50
R1	STICKERS 2"	0.80
R2	STICKERS 4"	1.20
R3	STICKERS 6"	1.25
R4	STICKERS 12"	1.80
S	SWEATSHIRT Navy, White Printed Badge XXL	10.40
	XL	10.20
	L, M	9.80
T	T SHIRT Navy, White Printed Badge XXL	5.30
	L, M	5.00
U1	TABLE MATS Former Regiments, Red	33.15
U2	TABLE MATS Former Regiments, Dark Blue	33.15
V	TEA TOWEL Badges of the Army	2.25



LETTER	ITEM	PRICE £
V1	TEA TOWEL Royal Anglian 1st & 2nd Bn	3.40
V2	TEA TOWEL Royal Anglian 1st, 2nd & 3rd Bn	3.40
V3	TEA TOWEL Royal Anglian 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Bn ..	3.40
W	THIMBLES CHINA Regimental Crest Boxed	1.60
X1	TIES Polyester Blue, Red Castles	5.60
X2	TIES Polyester Striped	5.00
X3	TIES Silk Striped	17.50
Y	TIE PIN SWEETHEART BROOCH Gold Boxed	6.90
Z	UMBRELLA	13.50

Note:

- Orders, together with remittance by cheque/postal order made payable to "Royal Anglian Regiment Association", to be posted to RHQ The Royal Anglian Regiment, The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 3RN. Please also include your daytime contact telephone number.
- All prices include VAT and are subject to manufacturer's price increases .
- ALL COSTS WILL BE CHARGED ON PARCELS FOR POSTAGE AND PACKING.** If necessary please contact RHQ for postal charges as orders will NOT be despatched without prior payment.

To order copies of Castle please fill in the form below and return it to RHQ

Bankers Order (Castle Magazine)

To (your Bank)

(Bank Address)

.....

.....

.....

Please pay now to Barclays Bank PLC, 52 Abbeygate Street, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk IP33 1LL, and thereafter annually on the first day of June, the sum of £6.00 for the credit of the Royal Anglian Regiment RHQ Account (Number 30657336)

Date

Signature

A/C No

Name in **BLOCKS**

NB. This Bankers Order cancels any previous Bankers Order for the Royal Anglian Regiment HQ Account (Number 30657336) and/or Royal Anglian Regiment Association Account (Number 50657151)

THE REGIMENTAL REUNION

Oakington Barracks 20 July 1997

(Please complete and return to your OCA Branch or RHQ)

1. **ATTENDANCE.** I / We would like tickets for the Reunion on 20 July 1997.
2. **FOOD.** Please reserve.....box lunches at £6.00 each for which I enclose a cheque for..... made payable to The Royal Anglian Regiment.

Name

Address

.....

.....

Post Code

Please use **BLOCK CAPITALS**

PLEASE RETURN NOT LATER THAN 14TH JULY

Next Castle, December 1997

Entries for the next Castle are required by *end October 1997*

ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS ON PAGE 60

1. The Tiger button was adopted by the Regiment in honour of the 4th Battalion in 1970 when that Battalion was reduced to cadre strength before being disbanded. The symbols had been inherited from their predecessors The Royal Leicestershire Regiment. The 17th of Foot had been awarded the Royal Tiger symbol and title HINDOOSTAN after returning from India and 19 years distinguished garrison duties between 1804-1823. The unbroken Laurel Leaf had been awarded by King George III to the 17th of Foot following the Regiment's bravery in defeat by a vastly superior force under George Washington at the Battle of Princeton in 1777.
2. The last Colours carried into action were those of the 58th Northamptonshire Regiment at Laings Nek in South Africa in 1881. The Colours were in use upto 1962 and are now in the Northamptonshire Regiment Museum in Northampton.
3. The Queen's Colour is carried on the right of the Colour Party, the Regimental Colour on the left. When hung, or mounted on a Colours stand, that again is their position but with the Regimental Colours mounted last with its pole in front (symbolically to protect the Queen's Colour).
4. The highest gallantry award won by the Regiment in an operational theatre is the Military Cross. Two have been awarded: to Captain S M Brogan in Dhofar 1971-72 and to Corporal A J Rainey with the 2nd Battalion in Former Yugoslavia in 1995.
5. The Royal Norfolk Regiment tie and the 1st Battalion tie are identical, the maroon, yellow, red and black stripes going from high left to low right. The 1 E ANGLIAN tie's stripes go in the opposite direction. Look at your neighbour's tie next time - he may be wrong!
6. The 4th Battalion were garrisoned in Malta from 1965-68, one Company being deployed to Benghazi and Tobruk in Libya, then under King Idris and with whom the UK had military assistance arrangements. At the time of tension at the outbreak of the Arab-Israeli War in 1967, with riots on the streets and crowds threatening the British and US Embassies, the 4th Battalion Company assisted in the protection of British and US nationals and in their evacuation. The 4th Battalion were the last British troops to leave Libya in 1968.
7. Following the amalgamations of 1958-60 the East Anglian Brigade adopted as its cap badge the Castle and Key superimposed on a 5-pointed Star of the Garter from the following Former Regiments: The Suffolk Regiment, The Essex Regiment and The Northamptonshire Regiment, who all wore the Castle and Key of Gibraltar from their predecessors' participation in the Great Siege of 1779-83. The Star of the Garter had been worn by the officers of The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment and all ranks of The Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment. The only Former Regiment at this time not represented on the cap badge, The Royal Norfolk Regiment, was represented in the Regiment's uniform by the Britannia button. That symbol was to be replaced by The Royal Anglian star button on formation of The Royal Anglian Regiment in 1964, subsequently to be replaced by the Tiger button (see Question 1).
8. Both are TA awards for 12 years good service (undetected crime); the TD for Officers, the TEM for Other Ranks.
9. At the Battle of Minden in 1759 The 12th Regiment of Foot, later to become The Suffolk Regiment, plucked roses on the field of battle to distinguish themselves from the enemy. There followed a historic victory with 5 other Line Regiments and 6 Hanoverian Battalions, in which the Infantry repelled charge after charge by the French Cavalry. As a result the 12th Foot adopted the tradition of wearing red and yellow roses in their headdress on 1 August, Minden Day. The 1st Battalion continue this custom, also the hanging of rose wreaths on the Colours and with dressed drums on parade that day. This Custom is also followed by the 1st Battalion on the Sovereign's Birthday if there is a parade and at any time when the Sovereign is on parade to commemorate the Battle of Dettingen in 1743, also a 12th Foot Battle Honour, which was the last occasion the Sovereign commanded in the field.
10. Not British Honduras (or Belize) but British Guyana (or BG), now known as Guyana. In 1962 The 1st East Anglian Regiment, reinforced by over 100 men from the 3rd East Anglian Regiment, were deployed to BG to restore law and order during tension between the Afro-Caribbean and Asian communities during the lead up to Independence. The situation was stabilized by patrols and securing of key points.

jolliffes

OF COLCHESTER

**THE
ORIGINAL GARRISON TAILORS**
still providing the
SUPERB TAILORING SERVICE
to which
**THE ARMY IN COLCHESTER HAS
BEEN ACCUSTOMED**

Regimental Ties, Blazer Badges & Plaques,
Buttons, Badges, Crowns, Stars & Chevrons,
Miniature Medals & Mess Kits
Leather bound Berets
14 Crouch Street & 176 Butt Road
Phone (01206) 575617
*Tailors to the Regiments of Royal Anglia
for over 50 Years*

There are a few good
challenges left in this life
... This is one



**Territorial Army
SAS (Volunteers)**

Phone 0171 414 6666

Trained Corp Attached
Personnel also required

F. A. STONE

& Sons

NORWICH

SAVILE ROW

ESTABLISHED 1874

BESPOKE TAILORS & GENTLEMEN'S OUTFITTERS

OFFICIALLY APPOINTED TAILORS TO
THE ROYAL ANGLIAN REGIMENT

SERVICE DRESS NO. 1 DRESS MESS KIT
MILITARY TIES & BADGES ALL MILITARY ACCOUTREMENTS
MEDAL MOUNTING & REPAIR SERVICE

HAND BUILT BESPOKE TAILORING
DISTINCTIVE MADE TO MEASURE VERSATILE READY-TO-WEAR
SPECIAL CORPORATE RATES PRIVILEGE CARD SCHEME VISITING SERVICE
SUBSCRIPTION TERMS AVAILABLE

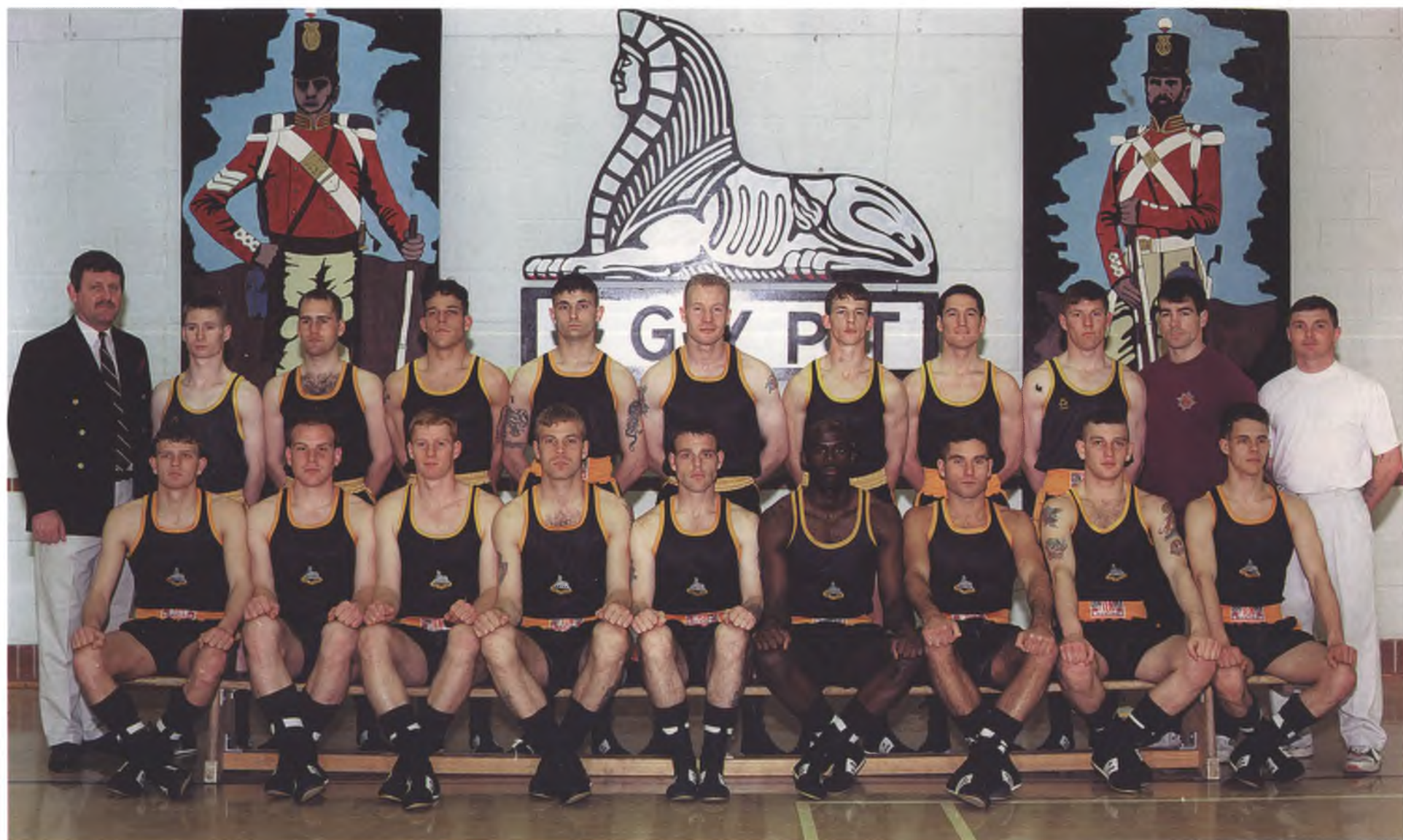
17 TIMBERHILL NORWICH NR1 3JZ

ALSO BY APPOINTMENT AT

12 SAVILE ROW LONDON W1X 1AE

TELEPHONE 01603 488861 FACSIMILE 01603 488862

THE BEST FROM THE PAST TAILORED TO THE PRESENT



The 2nd Battalion - Army Novice Boxing Champions 1997