



2 PLATOON

As time passes in this land of endless sunshine, 2 Pl has been doing pretty much the same sort of things, just as often (although probably better) as everyone else. We enjoyed receiving a letter from the IUC thanking us for our work during 9 - 10 August, and we also enjoyed our two weeks attachment to the Tufty Club and North Howard St.

We reproduce a specimen copy of our daily detail which reflects life in 2 Pl very well:

TWO PLATOON DAILY DETAIL

1. MEDAL PARADE. The CS" apologises for the mix up. All members of the Pl issued with Esso World Cup medallions or Irish half crowns are to report to him.
2. FORTHCOMING MARRIAGES. Of the many members of the Pl who have become engaged, the Padre asks LCpl Bond to remember his fiancées name, Pte Wignall to stop changing his betrothal each week and Pte Leggett to cut the number of engagements down to one.
3. DISCIPLINE. Any member of the Pl found behaving in an aggressive manner to elderly and drunk members of the local population will be severely dealt with by Sgt Dexter.
4. REVEILLE. When not at Ballykinler this will be before lunch.
5. LOST. Anyone finding Cpl Bill Smith is to return him to 2 Pl lines.
6. NECK MARKINGS. All soldiers are reminded that self inflicted social neck marks do not count.



3 PLATOON

Since the last publication of the Pompadour, we have welcomed Sgt Beaumont, and said farewell to Cpl Buckley, who, no doubt, is now diligently working for Fords, and being paid handsomely for it. The Pl Comds dream of a bachelor platoon seems to be on the verge of shattering - despite the Padre's talk! Pte Sonnex has braved the matrimonial ordeal and appears to be none the worse, and Pte Barnes is under starters orders for matrimony when his fiancée decides on the date.

The platoon went with the Coy down to Ballykinler to enjoy a relaxed few days living out under the stars, with shooting and boating being the main pre-occupations whilst we were there. 2Lt Lane demonstrated that he is more capable of navigation when inebriated than sober, and is bearing this in mind for future mapreading exercises (he inadvertently suffered alcoholic poisoning during one of the OC's 'O' Groups late one night!)

We miss Pte's Wade and Johnson who are detached as Felix escorts - sounds like a stud agency but all they flash is their blue light. Finally we would remind the OC that we have still not received the Inter Platoon Challenge Cup, and ask 1 and 2 Pls to remember who the Champions are. OC's Note. The Cup will be presented at the Coy Christmas Party, and a further prize will be awarded to the brick who can drain it the quickest.



BRAVO COMPANY

B COY MOLAR MINUTES

After a long absence from this magazine, once again we have decided to grace this issue with our presence. Much has happened since the last issue, B Company have had half of Belfast on charge with "Tufty" directing operations from North Howard St and Black Bill found out how difficult it is to deal with 3 QM's at once. Still we survived. Pte Jock (I want to drive trucks") Tierney is muttering about his bygone course telling everyone he already rushes enough and Pte Green of Bedding and Pom fame wondering whether his water duties course involves boats or buckets.

The last excursion to be handed Bullets B's way was the Prison Guard - you'll notice I don't name it. I would have, only it was renamed 3 times, first HMP GIRDWOOD, then VICTORIA, then CLIFTON, luckily the RMP's said that they would make a sign for the Prison, I think the trouble stemmed from Bde who obviously had a notice board competition going on "Name that Prison". If so the first prize should have been a reserved place in the afore mentioned Hostelry. Not only the name had a few set backs, word came down that 2 portacabins had been shipped in for our use. Knowing this, Sgt "Grease" Neal and the infamous CSgt "Black Bill" loaded a 4 tonner with men, 32 beds and mattresses and went down to set them up ready for occupation, only to find on arrival at Girdwood, Victoria, Clifton that although both had been delivered one was on 6ft stilts defying us to occupy it and in the wrong position. The other was on wheels still in the wrong place. When asked why, an engineers rep replied "Its the Civvies that deliver them" which really made our night. So, 4 tonner, men, beds, mattersses Grease and Black Bill returned to beautiful downtown Holywood. Ah well - in the end none of the bookings were taken up - Thank God!

And so once again as the sun goes down we sign off, so until the next time keep your heads down.



4 PLATOON

Those people mentioned below have been awarded their "Jim'll fix it" badges since the last issue. Cpl Russell Eggleton has moved to the Training Wing where he can be seen regularly hammering out dents from the rust encrusted exterior of his battered Beetle - how he can attempt to draw comparisons between his car and his old platoon commanders wonderful machine escapes me. Swain has departed for a holiday with the MT platoon, possibly due to having heard how much bus drivers earn. Appleton-Kirk has gone to make Eight platoon 'happy' and Stapleton has also moved to C Company. Cpl 'Tasty' Mills is soon to leave us for the Depot, much to his fiancée's delight, and we look forward to travelling en masse to his wedding in England sometime in the near future(!!) 'Blue' Lloyd is leaving the regiment and hopes to join Securicor next year - we will miss him, and his record collection. Congratulations to Lance Corporal Jock McLintock on his promotion: despite the traumatic shock he is now well on the road to recovery. Corporal 'Steiner' Smith has been away hunting in Warminster but unfortunately Lance Corporal 'Muppet' Hickey was unable to 'con' his way into the course and was soon 'winging' his way back to Belfast. Finally, we welcome Privates Finch and Conopo to the platoon and wish them a long, and a happy stay.

And so the Christmas and the New Year. Several members of the platoon are threatening to get married - an illustration of the different ways people react to pressure? - but deep down we realise that we need a short term solution to the manning problem, not a long term one. Having said that if we put a couple of boxes on the floor of the Alanbrooke Sangar Sgt Barnsdale's soldiers might just be tall enough.

5 PLATOON

In the past few months 5 Pl has had quite a hectic time. It began with a seven week 'holiday' at North Howard Street at the beginning of September. All agreed that it was a change but for better or worse??

At North Howard Street the Pl worked at ground level but spent its rest time in heaven - at least four floors up - many now have strong legs. Our morale was boosted when we learned that one platoon from a different company were 'willing' to spend a short time with us. Whilst at North Howard Street there was a change in the platoon hierarchy. Sgt Alan Orton, an experienced, well-liked and respected old hand in the platoon 'had to go'. He is now passing on his 'war stories' to Cadets in his new job as an instructor in the Cadet Training Team based in Colchester. His place is ably filled by Sgt Tommy Carr who, has already revitalised the platoon with his notorious 'locker inspections' and SUIT hunts. After seven weeks hard work we were pleased to return to Palace for 3 days well-deserved rest. A good chance for the 'pads' to see how well their photographs of their wives matched the real thing.

Now we are back at Palace - how long for you ask - who knows. Has anybody got a crystal ball we can borrow?



"I'M A STAR, I'M A STAR!"



"WE ARE THE SMURFS!"



6 PLATOON

Since the last Pompadour notes Big Six has had a few changes in the rank structure.

2Lt Tansley has retired to a long robe at Exeter University to gain a degree in History and we wish him Bon Voyage. Sticks Neal has worked out that he can get more Hockey practice in by joining VC element and at this time in life is carrying out the duties of Company Seagull and Volar (in his track suit)

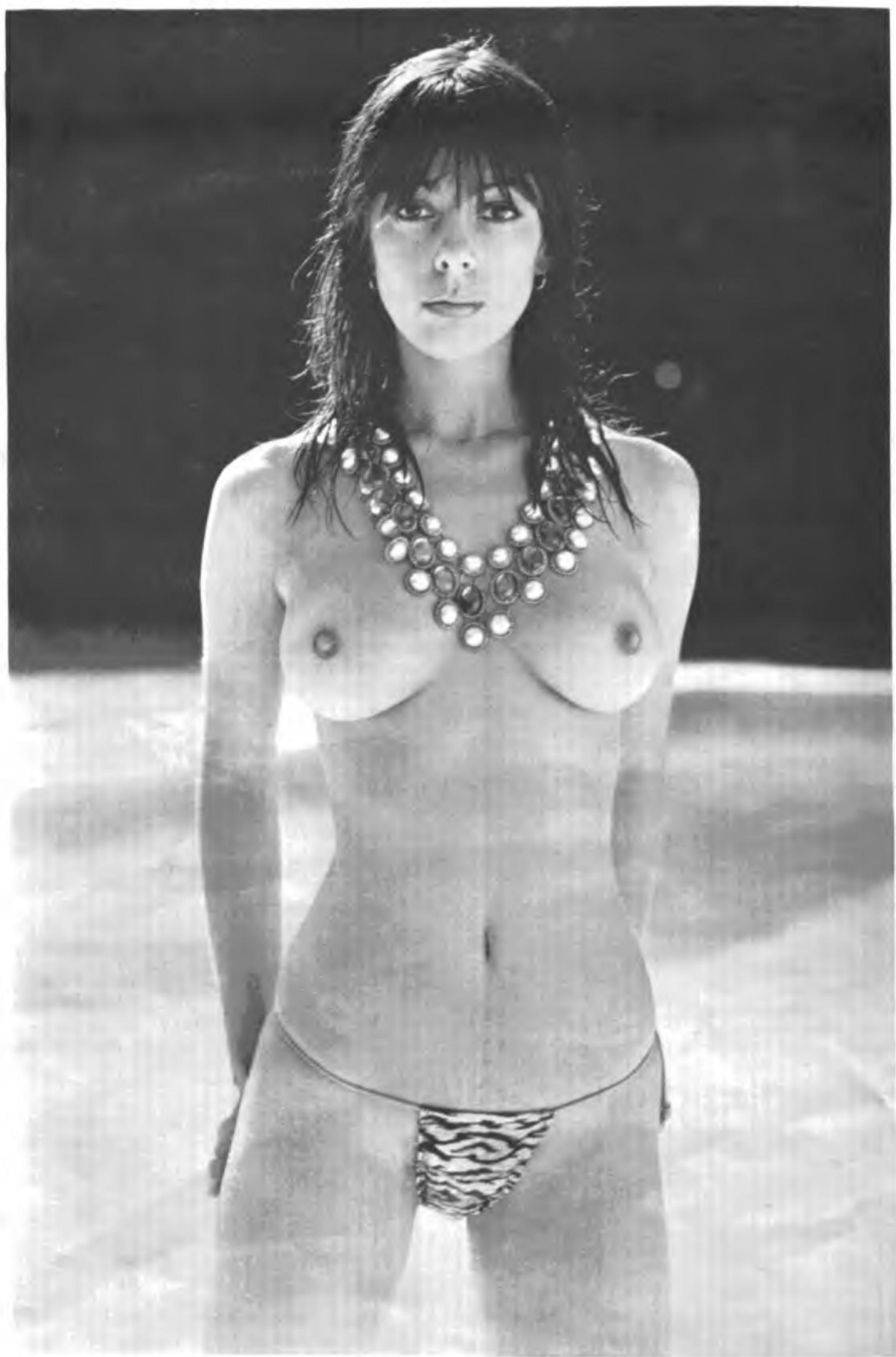
We have also lost the "wease!" alias Tommy Carr who moves his talents to 5 Pl on his promotion to sergeant with our best wishes. Other promotions in the Platoon are LCpl Humphreys alias "Starsky" and LCpl Clarke alias "Gums". Nobby promises to have a full set of chatters by the New Year.

Getting on to Operational notes Big Six with the remainder of shining B Company moved into North Howard Street for a period of 7 weeks. This proved a worthwhile tour in many respects along with quite a few humorous times as you will read in these notes.

"Educated Archie" Wright has decided to further his academic studies by reading Noddy and encounters of the third kind in his spare time.

I'm glad to see that another member of the platoon has decided to join the pad wagon on return to camp. At least Paddy Young will have enough to occupy his mind in the future we wish him the best of luck.

"Lobster" no other than King is trying out his talents on the NCOs Cadre at the time of publishing these notes with next in line for a Pad Pte Palmer. They say that all great leaders have to start somewhere in life





CHARLIE COMPANY



In the last issue we did mention that the new 24 day cycle was designed to solve all our problems. Two consecutive days off would become a reality. Well the cycle came and went or perhaps it's still with us. In any event we will continue to wait for that magic formula in KESTREL'S Programme: "6 DAYS at 6 HOURS - TRG - CONFIRMED". Life is controlled by CSM Eke's Master Chart which covers everything from leave to Sneezing. In making Platoons up to the mandatory sixteen a variety of soldier substitutes have been considered from Fig 11 targets to ventriloquist's dummy.

Our deployment to Londonderry held promise of an interesting day as we saw ourselves defending the Craigavon Bridge against the onslaught of opposing marches. However, the Green Howards and ourselves did detect a slight feeling that the Brigade were reluctant to deploy us. We settled down to play 75 a-side football on Abington Square, but were frequently asked to run down the railway line along the banks of the River Foyle before the score reached 5-0 against. It was not entirely a wasted day as some of the Company veterans managed to get a nostalgic glimpse of Creggan Heights and Piggery Ridge. The RSO, again in his secondary role, was restrained from exploring.



Now is probably a good time to welcome to the Company, Sgt Twill, Sgt Leaman, Cpl Ward, LCpl Leggett, LCpl Pond, Ptes Appleton Kirk, Oran, Ibrahims, Lovelock and Vine. We also welcome LCpl Smith back to the fold. Sadly these impressive additions merely fill the vacuum created by the departure of Cpl Jones, LCpl Dormer, Ptes Hayes and Thornton to civilian life. Cpl Loughton has started his apprenticeship as a cabinet maker and LCpl Southwell has been temporarily attached to the gate section. We also say goodbye to 2Lt McEleny and wish him well at Worthy Down. Congratulations go to SSGT Dolan on his promotion and to Sgt Twill for his efforts in the winning Cyprus Walkabout team.

We are happy to announce the marriage of Cpl Bines to Anne at Watford, on the 16th September and also LCpl Charnley to Margaret at St Georges Church, Palace Barracks, on the 30th September. We hope that the Registrars strike in December will not spoil the plans of some other members of the Company. Several sweep-stakes are being run on who is next to get married. The "Tushroom" is a strong contender.





Despite our manpower problems NCOs and soldiers still get away on courses. Congratulations go to LCpl Elkes in coming top in the Potential NCOs Cadre and to LCpl Marchant on achieving a good result. LCpl Marchant is now muscle building in Aldershot. Well done also to LCpl Charnley and Feehan in passing their Grade 1 Board. LCpl Lee appears to be putting his R III Clerks Course to good use. Letters now appear to have a multitude of stamps on them. Pte Langdale who has returned bronzed from Cyprus, has been released from the Typewriter to join 9 Platoon. Pte Rouse has just returned from his Photographic course and is itching to get his hands on one of the new issue Nikon cameras (providing the PRO lets Coys see them).

The sporting side has not been neglected, LCpl Elkes and Pte White continued their boxing careers with some hard fought bouts at Ballykinler on 26th October. Pte White won his bout with a first round knockout. Pte Walker is our latest keen novice and may well be in next years inter Coy boxing team. C Company have been well represented; in Battalion Teams with CSgt Mallett playing regularly for the Hockey side; Lt Crook, 2Lt Mc Eleny and Cpl's Cavaliero and Rouse in Rugby; and Sgt Twell, LCpl Charnley, Ptes Brooks and Stephenson in the Soccer Team. Our best wishes go to Pte Stephenson who has had to go back to England after having broken his leg in several places. We wish him a speedy recovery.



Each roulement unit introduces its own SOP's and terminology. The LI introduced 'Satellite Patrols', the Marines 'Heads' and now in Lenadoon we have the new 'Cuff Patrol'. The Coldstream Guards have their own peculiarities as well as similar berets. However the one word we have failed to find in the dictionary is 'C-MA-SA-GENT'. The rumour that Brecon fever has led Cpl Rouse to apply for a transfer to the Cavalry must surely be false.

The Guard on HMP Crumlin makes an interesting change to Security Platoon. However, some of the new recruits are frightened by the ghost 'Mac the Dragon' who breathes fire in the night.



Pte Payne has been to the Battalion tailors to see if he can make a reasonable copy of a 'deer stalker' in prep for his stalking holiday in Scotland. His platoon expect him to return with a fine set of antlers to adorn their pig. Its unlikely that Pte Cank's new way of shutting Pig rear doors will be accepted in Bn SOPs, nor is Sgt Leaman happy with his new toy, the GODIVA pump.

As this will be the last issue before the 25th we would like to take this opportunity to wish all members of C Company and their families a very happy Christmas. Due to deployment we cannot forecast the number of shopping days left - they could have already gone.



DELTA COMPANY



A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR

After the "Phoney War" of our first 4 months in Ulster, the pace has recently intensified with a trip to South Armagh and extended deployments down town.

Since the last Pompadour, the Company has found two detonators while rummaging as opposed to planned searches. Well done Cpl's Goodchild and Zielke!

As usual the brunt of the work has fallen on the NCO's and junior ranks in the platoons. Well done and thank you for all your hard work and cheerfulness.



MORTAR PLATOON



Firstly, Captain Mason has been to Norway. Cpl L. D. Dick, D. D. Duncan has been posted to the MT. WO2 Tunstill must look on the bright side - he will now get a RIC flight over his office every day!
Captain Mason has been to Norway!!

Pte Jones 22 (Ex R Signals) joins us to be with his brother in C Coy, after deciding that standing on top of Divis Mountain Semaphoring it all over the place was not for him. Cpl Jones (C) unfortunately PVR'd in October.
Captain Norway has been to Mason!!

LCpl's Tweed, Pottle and Cairney are now among the people that are said to be qualified to find things.

- a. LCpl Chris Tweed will now set about finding a barber.
- b. LCpl Keith Cairney will now set about finding the energy to work.
- c. LCpl Stich Pottle will now set about finding an alarm clock.

Does the Officers Mess know that Captain Mason has been to Norway??

LCpl Junior O'Connor is at present having his brains removed at Brecon. On his return I'm sure he would like to know that the platoon were thinking of him (who said as little as possible).

Our adventure in Armagh was wet and windy with the odd surprise thrown in. Cpl Ballinger was casevaced by helicopter with suspected appendicitis (some unkind mates of his put it down to the weight in his mess tin when he tried to lift it).

All in all a very welcome break from the streets of Belfast.
P.S. Captain Mason has returned from Norway.

ANTI TANKS

It has been a long time since the last Pompadour - a deliberate plot, I suspect, to ensure that there would be lots to write about.

Since the last edition, we seem to have been working flat out - with the exception of Sgt Wilson who has been insisting on long periods of rest in the Bn Ops Room!

Operationally, the first platoon find of the tour was made by Cpl Fred Zielke, who found a detonator in a drying room in Moyard. He claimed later "I only looked there because there was nothing else to do". Well done anyway!

Another first, and one which we didn't need this time, was a contact. (don't use that word on this means!), Ashley Webb and Ralph Green were the target - the gunman must have known that they were "Nigs" (new arrivals in the Battalion), but all credit to them for being so cool about the whole thing. Sgt Wilson says "Unaware would be a better word for it!"

Choggy Quinton has been away for about a year now, or so it seems. We wish his wife a complete and speedy recovery. Mrs Tibble gets our hearty congratulations for producing a baby daughter. To Pte "Dribs" Tibble, nice one Dribs. Mrs Chambers gets a mention for being the only wife to make absolutely sure her husband went to South Armagh.

Finally, we belatedly welcome Pte Walker who will get his hair cut on time in future, and Snorky Webb whose liking for cows in general and young bullocks in particular is most odd!



DRUMS

For the first time in the recent history of the Corps of Drums, the Kneller Hall inspection reared its ugly head. The result, a very busy September for the musical members of the platoon followed by a very successful parade on October 4th. The highlight of the inspection was a most professional display of stick beating, led by Sgt Staples.

In consequence of our trip to Armagh thanks are due to the Catering Corps for producing the new Orrow 48 hr ration pack. This consists of one large 14lb catering pack of Baked Beans. Used entirely on its own, this fed LCpl Orrow for two whole days and nights. Pte Giles who shared the same trench as LCpl Orrow and who forgot his gas mask is still suffering from the after-effects!

On the personality side there has been a lot of activity. We will shortly be saying farewell to Drum Major Howell who leaves the Army after his pre-release course in Brick Laying, a trade in which he held an apprenticeship before joining the Army. We would have thought he had had enough of bricks by now!

Congratulations are due to Sgt Staples on his promotion, on the birth of his daughter and the successful completion of his Drum Major Course.

We welcome two new members to the platoon, Pte Wright joined 'tut' platoon after serving for six years in 'tut' Guards, and Pte Elliott after a period of time in Juniors and 1 Royal Anglian.

'Goon of the month' award goes to Drummer Rainer for his exploits on the Macrory Park intercom system. Rainer discovered a mysterious speaker and button on the wall of the Choggy Shop. Being a curious Drummer, Rainer pressed the button, "Yes?" inquired the speaker. Rainer leapt back in surprise and replied with the first thing which came to mind, "Err, is Drum Major there please?" "No," replied the speaker, "but I will go and get him." Five minutes later the intercom spoke again, "Drum Major here, what do you want?" "Nothing," replied Rainer as he walked away.

H Q COMPANY

A THOUGHT FOR THE COOKS

Casual visitors entering this kitchen other than on official business are urged to come more often and make themselves at home. The cooks only aim in life is to make you happy.

The picking of chips, sausages or any other thing you might fancy is appreciated by the cook who thought he had enough portions ready for lunch! It always helps the cook to burn his meat pies if you can distract his attention by telling him a dirty joke.

Visitors are invited to sit in the SCMS's Office on the corner of his desk, especially if he is busy. Conversation should be as loud as possible and backed up by whistling when he is on the phone. Should you fancy searching the filing cabinet or the drawers in the desk please do so, but do not return the files and papers to their proper place, that would deprive the SCMS the pleasure of searching for them and blaming the duty cook.

The ash-tray in the office is only for paper clips and drawing pins. All cigarette ends should be left on the table edges, or dropped on the floor alight. If the paper bin is full please deposit cigarette ends there as a complete fire engine is on hand with crew in case of an emergency.

Visitors are asked not to leave the kitchen without a complete brew kit i.e. 1lb coffee, 3lb sugar, 4 tins of milk and a bag of tea.

If the cook has been able to help you do not thank him, the shock to his nervous system would probably prove fatal.

PLEASE CALL AGAIN



THE PRONTO TRIBE

We are the men they call Pronto's, boys with Goliath and Leapyear for our toys There are Prontos in the Ops Room and Prontos on crews, Not forgetting the Storemen whose radios we use.

There's Alex Beck, Nick Razey and Jordy Skee, They're attached to us as the signallers three If you haven't a girl and want one found, Contact Jordy he'll get the word around!

The next one in line is the ARSO That's CSgt Gilbert as most of us know, If its telephones you want he's the one to see In the tin hut marked Signals, that's where he'll be.

And last but not least, there's Pronto himself Who for the past two verses has been left on the shelf So any problems with comms..... in camp we'll be, Just pick up your phone and dial 273.



PREPARING THE CHRISTMAS PUD!

TUNSTILL'S TAXIS OR MT PLATOON

0815 Monday morning and the telephone rings - a voice on the other end says "UPO here, don't forget Pompadour notes" - so at last here is our 2p's worth.

Since the last edition of the Pompadour several of our members have left and we welcome our new members Cpl Duncan, Ptes Hunnabl Letch, Aindow and Swain who have all already found out that the MT isn't just driving vehicles and that a lot more than that has to be done.

After the PRE had finished we all thought that life would run nice and easy but life is full of surprises and that just didn't happen and we ended up like all Coys/Depts putting in the hours to help cope with the present situation.

Of late the MTO has been seen on horse-back quite frequently - the reason isn't as simple as defence cuts. The MT Details Clerk won't let him have a vehicle so all other users if you are ever refused a vehicle just remember the MTO.

HUMOUR

The Arabian Shocks son really wanted for his Christmas present a cowboy outfit and throughout the year he pestered his father telling him of his desire. Finally when Christmas Day arrived he came downstairs and started searching for his present. After searching for an hour and finding nothing he went to his father to enquire about his present. His father replied with a very sad face "My son, I tried to buy you the best cowboy outfit in the world, but unfortunately the Close Observation Platoon of the Pommadours is in Belfast".

"GUESS WHO?"



**CRATE OF BEER TO THE PLATOON
WITH MOST CORRECT ANSWERS BY
NEW YEAR'S EVE**



**"I know I dropped my cigarette
down there somewhere."**

Thought for the week: INT to OPS at NBS
Ops : Who owns the bookies
on the Falls Rd?
Int : SP I think.

Conclusion: All the bookies in Belfast are
owned by someone called "Start-
ing Price".

Rugby Afterthought: After watching the All
Blacks play Ulster it was heard that Capt
Gould was thinking of arranging a friendly, if
so the Bn team will probably consist of the
following:

Capt Gould!!!



CLOSE YOUR EYES AND THINK OF ENGLAND!

HUMOUR

SCENE - Ante-Room

1st Subaltern - "I'm telling you Clive, making
love is 70% hard work and 30%
pleasure".

2nd Subaltern - "I totally disagree Edward, I
reckon its 30% hard work and
70% pleasure".

1st Subaltern - "Well let's call the CSgt to
ask his advice and settle this
once and for all".

THE CSGT DUTYFULLY APPEARS

2nd Subaltern - "Colour, my erstwhile colleague
here states that making love is
70% hard work and 30% pleasure.
While I maintain that it is the
other way about. Tell us what
you think?".

**AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION,
THE CSGT REPLIES**

"Well Sir, I reckon its 100%
pleasure".

1st Subaltern - "How do you manage to come to
that conclusion Colour?".

CSgt - "Well its like this Sir, if
there was any work involved,
I'd be doing it would'nt I
Sir".

(WALLOP)



**Mrs Catherine Walsh presents prizes to
the victorious Cross Country Team**



1. 160 years of undetected crime!
2. Officers Mess Rugby Team (Winners)
3. WOs and Sgts Mess Rugby Team (Second)
4. Ladies Netball Team
5. Walkabout Winners
6. Who says we're tired!
7. Band and Drums on Parade





THE POMPADOUR



Merry Christmas



Edition
No 3



Again the Pompadour is published and I would like to thank all our contributors for their continued efforts. Not least amongst them is the Editor and Unit Press Officer, Captain Roland Thompson, who is regrettably leaving the Battalion in the near future to take up another appointment. The success of the Pompadour owes much to his enthusiasm and imagination.

On a sad note you will see recorded the accidental death of Private Stephen Foster on the Potential NCO's Cadre. We extend our deepest sympathy to both his parents and family. He was a very well liked young soldier with obviously considerable potential. An accident like this is doubly sad and ironic whilst we are deployed daily on operations in Belfast.

We are pleased to report that Lieutenant Paul Currell continues to make excellent progress and is already much more mobile than we would have ever believed even 3 or 4 months ago. To Paul and his family go our best wishes for continued recovery. I suspect it will not be too long before we see him back visiting the Battalion.

The last 4 weeks or so have, I appreciate, been particularly busy and the high level of deployment places a strain on all of us, soldiers and families alike, to a considerable degree. However, it is a measure of the success of these deployments that, to date, Belfast has remained relatively unscathed in the recent upsurge of Provisional

IRA activity. And that is, after all, precisely why we are here. The next phase is clearly to catch these terrorists making or planting bombs and we must now all harness our energies to this positive aim.

It has been a busy year and certainly Cyprus now seems a far and remote existence. Even Bulford seems a fleeting memory. Despite all these frantic changes of environment, and personal and domestic turbulence the Battalion has, I am quite certain, retained both its professional skills, practical common sense and good humour - and this is a credit to every individual amongst you. As you have frequently heard me say, the image of any Battalion is simply a reflection of all individuals and personalities within it.

Both my family and myself extend to you all every good wish for a very Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

Lt Col Bill Dodd MBE Commanding Officer



TRAGEDY STRIKES THE POMPADOURS

The Battalion was stunned by the death of Private Stephen Foster during the Potential NCO's Cadre. We will all miss his cheerfulness and friendship. Our sympathy goes to his parents, twin sister Susan, and all his family.

Maj Shervington, C/Sgt Watret, L/Cpl Hughes and Pte Holmes (22), went to Norwich for his funeral on 20 Nov. The service was beautifully conducted by the Battalion Padre, Capt (Rev) Cooper.

They were joined by three of Fozzie's close friends who have left the Army - McCarthy, Rose and Bevan. The Depot produced a buglar and six pallbearers, all Cpl volunteers from the 3rd Bn. Including the 5 wreaths sent by the Bn, wreaths were also sent by the Secretary of State, Northern Ireland, Mr Roy Mason MP, and the GOC and All Ranks N Ireland.

PADRES POMPADOUR NOTES

Padre continues to start with success (!) Having come out as top scorer for Combined Services he has been selected for the Great Britain team to shoot in the Channel Islands next May.

On a theological front the effectiveness of a quick blessing was discovered by the Officers Mess team. After kneeling for a short time, at half time before the chaplain, they went on to hammer the Sgts Mess on the Rugger field. It is understood that the Sgts Mess will be bringing back the present MO next year in his capacity as witch doctor to counter the Officers Mess offensive.

Congregations continue to attend church, much to the Chaplains surprise, and are now well into their training programme for the Carol singing to take place around the quarters at Christmas.

Another aspect of the Church militance has been the start of clay pigeon shooting, which it is hoped will continue to increase in interest. The great interest shown by those currently going clay shooting is matched only by their inaccuracy. However the occasional shot in the direction of the soccer pitches does liven up the RSMs training programme for the Bn team, and the Padre can always live in the hope that his services may be required.

FAREWELL FROM EDITOR

After 3 editions of the Pompadour it will now be someone else's turn to say - "Where are your Pompadour notes - they're late!"

Producing the Pompadour has been fun for me - I hope you have enjoyed it and that it has helped relieve some of the duller moments of the tour.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have supported the magazine in a practical way and appeal to those who haven't to have a go. However, my particular thanks go to the PR Section as a whole for the hard work and enthusiastic dedication they have put into all aspects of their work. We have taken, developed and printed more than 15,000 different photographs in our tour so far and the photographic and printing departments have moved from strength to strength in the 6 months we have been operating.

I wish all Pompadours a happy and successful 1979 and look forward to the next issues of The Pompadour.

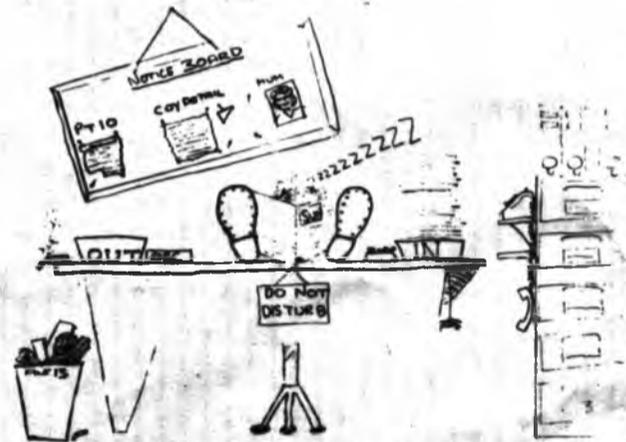
Roland Thompson

(DIS) ORDERLY ROOM NOTES

The Orderly Room wish to thank the CM's Dept for the major roll they play in the survival of the Orderly Room by supplying us with toilet paper (the only paper we can't get from HMSO).

We also wish to thank NAAFI for mending the coffee machines.

But most of all we wish to thank ourselves because never before in the history of human conflict has the orderly room done so much for so many in such a short time.



Last but not least we would like to wish Sgt Yandall (Flip-Flop) Wright all the best on his appointment and posting to 3 RRF, it is said he has now got at least one feather in his cap.

Also a belated welcome to our new ORC, Sgt Jerry Thorne - (in the side) who we hope will be able to see the wood for the trees

SIGNAL PLATOON NOTES

The main talking point this month must surely be the Portacabins which arrived most unexpectedly. Various views concerning this were expressed. The COP marked the occasion with the arrival of a very old commer lorry. It was rumoured they would paint it with flowers and stage a sit in as a protest. Whilst a member of the Int Sect approached the RSO and protested that the position of the cabins would stop the snow reaching the Int Cell huts in winter, and it would cut off the light from the map-store, and worst of all, it would cut off all the Helicopter noise.

Everyone congratulates Cpl Budgie on his promotion and hope that his leave has given him a chance to think about taking a moderate approach to us. Also we congratulate Sgt Eddy Thorpe on his promotion, and may his mess dress fit well. CSgt Mac McGowan who has regularly been sighted sitting in his stores humming ten verses of "you won't get beyond the power of the union" deserves a mention for getting not only the platoon but the Battalion through the PRE.

Unfortunately we now have to say goodbye to Sgt Alex Beck not just because he is leaving, but mainly because of the time he spends chasing Heidi his ever faithful mountain dog?

Staying with the Royal Signals, Sig Razyer has yet again won the monthly award for having the sweetest voice on the telephone, particularly in the middle of the night.

The Ops Room staff would also like to put in a special request to hear more from Sgt Dorritt on security platoon. We understnad he is particularly keen on the dial a bedtime story (sleer tight Sgt Dorritt).

Also Pte Pallant gets the soldier of the month award for his efforts while with B Coy, especially for the P Check he carried out on a deaf and dumb Irishman; Stick with it Boff it could have been worse.

The signallers in Bn HQ would like to put it on record that since we have been operation al in the Province they have made approximately 8,400 cups of coffee. However, when one considers that a man is entitled to only 1/7oz of coffee per day (in lieu of tea) some of the coffee must have been VERY DIFFICULT; Strength

1



"WHAT ON EARTH IS WOII SPEAKMAN UP TO NOW?"



D COMPANY SUPPLEMENT

D COMPANY CHRISTMAS AWARDS

- Pte John Goodman - The Tennants Trophy for his amazing good taste at the Coy Happy Hour.
- 2Lt 'BEAST' Weigold - The RSO's prize for the Very Casual Radio User.
- Pte 'Oddball' Overton - Academy award for his direction of "The A2 Destruction Derby".
- Pte 'Will' Willard - The Vidal Sassoon award for the best groomed man of the year (The Provo Staff are said to be wanting a cut!)
- Cpl Colin Ballinger - The Direction of Army Training prize for providing 16Plt AAC with most realistic night Casevac exercise (Thy no 7ft poles and red lamps carried in the patrol? Make sure they are taken next time!)
- LCpl Tony Lawlor - The Adjutant's prize for the neatest Hours of Work Survey Sheet - Typewritten but nevertheless, like everyone elses, totally inaccurate.
- Cpl 'Ox' Millwood - The Vasco de Jambon map-reading Award for his exploits in the Bally-murphy.

HUMOUR

A Ticket Tout was selling football tickets for £20 each: One enraged customer exclaimed "20.00! ... I could get a woman for that". The Tout replied unabashed "Maybe so, but not for 45 minutes each way and the band of the Coldstream Guards at half time .

ALPHA COMPANY

Highlights

Welcoming back 3 Pl after their Bawnmore break - what happened to LSp1 Muttley, the dog?

Watching Cpl 'Tich' Saunders reverse the OC's Landrover into Sgt Major Speakman's car, Tich has since applied for his last six months in England.

Seeing the OC give the CSM a black eye during the Officers v Sgts Mess Rugger match (note - the Officers won!)

Smelling CSgt McDonald's breath the morning after he had heard he had passed Military Calculations at the * attempt - Mustard, Staff!

Taking part in an RUC presence patrol - without the RUC.

Waiting for the Int Sects Car of the Week to become Car of the Month.

Watching the CSM massacre 2Lt Lane on the squash court, and then explaining that green balls with white spots give better results than black balls with red spots. We await medical confirmation from Dr 'Have you seen my pictures' Sharma.



Lowlights

Failing to catch the phantom Flag Pole thief.

Understanding what OC B Coy meant when he complained of having 'piles' of work.

Listening to Cpl George Ives smoke his first and second cigarettes at 0500 hrs, and 0504 hrs in a bivouac at Ballykinler.

Failing to apprehend the Falls Road wall dauber who intended painting 'Support the PIRA' but only got as far as the 'P' - classic case of being caught short.

Realising that an IRA hoax bomb containing three bricks was only one brick weaker than the average Rifle Pl.

Afternote. Have you heard that Capt (QM) James sprayed himself with aerosol insect repellent in stead of deodorant. It all goes to prove that there are no flies on the QM.

1 PLATOON



Our busy but varied life continues. As a break from the normal Belfast patrolling we spent two days and nights at Ballykinler on the Coy Exercise 'Hard Lay'. This included watermanship training under Sgt Luckman, who instructed the soldiers not to 'catch crabs' whilst paddling. LCpl Kevin Baynton didn't think this advice applied to the Liverpool-Belfast ferry. Pte 'Floater' Pearce was thrown into the Bay to find out whether the life jackets worked or not. They did, and he is now drying out - like Pte Mac Macdonald who is doing the same at Woolwich. We also won the Coy swimming gala - without the help of the Platoon Commander who failed his walking on water test and is now going to swimming lessons.....and church.

Back on the streets of Belfast and congratulations to Cpl Billy Eke for discovering that a Rat trap was not just a pop song - and also for leading a raid on an illegal drinking club and discovering it was an Old Age Pensioners party.

Our thanks to C Coy 2 LI for presenting us with their Moyard Company Plaque. Note to Editor: Please include the Coldstream Guards on this distribution list. Finally we welcome three new lads to the platoon - David Mansfield James Greer (complete with wife) and Nicholas Topp.

