

*The Journal of the*

DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S



ROYAL REGIMENT

(BERKSHIRE AND WILTSHIRE)



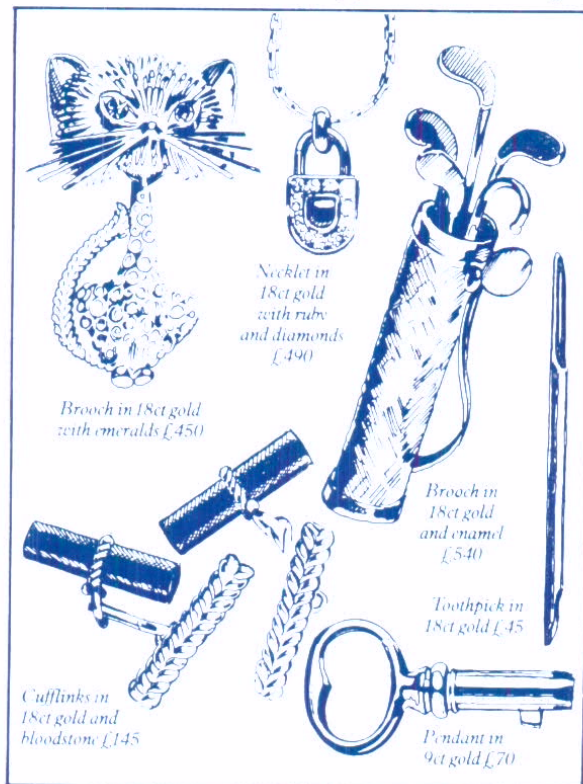


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# The Journal of The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment (BERKSHIRE AND WILTSHIRE)

**Battle Honours:—**

"Louisburg", "St. Lucia 1778", "Egmont-op-Zee", "Copenhagen", "Douro", "Talavera", "Albuhera", "Queenstown", "Vittoria", "Pyrenees", "Nivelle", "Nive", "Orthes", "Peninsula", "New Zealand", "Ferozeshah", "Sobraon", "Alma", "Inkerman", "Sevastopol", "Pekin 1860", "Kandahar 1880", "Afghanistan 1879-80", "Egypt 1882", "Tofrek", "Suakin 1885", "South Africa 1879, 1899-1902".

The Great War—28 Battalions—"Mons", "Le Cateau", "Retreat from Mons", "Marne 1914", "Aisne 1914, 1918", "La Bassée 1914", "Messines 1914, 1917, 1918", "Armentières 1914", "Ypres 1914, 1917", "Langemarck 1914, 1917", "Gheluvelt", "Nonne Bosschen", "Neuve Chapelle", "Aubers", "Festubert 1915", "Loos", "Somme 1916, 1918", "Albert 1916, 1918", "Bazentin", "Delville Wood", "Pozières", "Fiers-Courcelette", "Morval", "Thiepval", "Le Transloy", "Ancre Heights", "Ancre 1916, 1918", "Arras 1917, 1918", "Scarpe 1917, 1918", "Arleux", "Pikem", "Menin Road", "Polygon Wood", "Broodseinde", "Poelcappelle", "Passchendaele", "Cambrai 1917, 1918", "St. Quentin", "Bapaume 1918", "Rosières", "Avre", "Villers Bretonneux", "Lys", "Hazebrouck", "Bailloul", "Kemmel", "Béthune", "Scherpenberg", "Amiens", "Hindenburg Line", "Havrincourt", "Épéhy", "Canal du Nord", "St. Quentin Canal", "Beaurevoir", "Selle", "Valenciennes", "Sambre", "France and Flanders 1914-1918", "Piave", "Vittorio Veneto", "Italy 1917-1918", "Doiran 1917, 1918", "Macedonia 1915-1918", "Suvla", "Sari Bair", "Gallipoli 1915-1916", "Gaza", "Nebi Samwil", "Jerusalem", "Megiddo", "Sharon", "Palestine 1917-1918", "Tigris 1916", "Kut al Amara 1917", "Baghdad", "Mesopotamia 1916-1918".

The Second World War—"Dyle", "Defence of Arras", "St. Omer-La Bassée", "Ypres-Comines Canal", "Dunkirk 1940", "Normandy Landing", "Odon", "Caen", "Hill 112", "Bourguibus Ridge", "Maltot", "Mont Pincon", "La Varinière", "Seine 1944", "Nederrijn", "Roer", "Rhine", "Cleve", "Goch", "Xanten", "Rhine", "Bremen", "North-West Europe 1940, 1944-1945", "Solarino", "Simeto Bridgehead", "Pursuit to Messina", "Sicily 1943", "Monte Camino", "Calabritto", "Garigliano Crossing", "Minturno", "Damiano", "Anzio", "Carroceto", "Rome", "Advance to Tiber", "Italy 1943-1945", "Middle East 1942", "Donbaik", "North Arakan", "Point 551", "Mayu Tunnels", "Ngakvedauk Pass", "Kohima", "Mao Songsang", "Shwebo", "Kyaukmyaung Bridgehead", "Mandalay", "Fort Dufferin", "Rangoon Road", "Toungoo", "Burma 1942-1948".

The Battle Honours shown in heavy type above are borne on The Colours.

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The New Zealand Army—

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Pakistan Army—

13th Battalion The Frontier Force Regiment.

**Affiliation:**

H.M.S. Vernon

Colonel-in-Chief: FIELD MARSHAL H.R.H. THE PRINCE PHILIP, DUKE OF EDINBURGH, K.G., K.T., O.M., G.B.E.

Colonel of The Regiment: BRIGADIER J. R. RODEN, C.B.E.

**Regimental Headquarters**

Regimental Secretary: Colonel K. G. Comerford-Green, C.B.E.	SALISBURY
Asst. Regimental Secretary: Major R. F. Groves	SALISBURY
Asst. Regimental Secretary:	SALISBURY

**1st Battalion The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment**

Commanding Office: Lt.-Colonel G. Coxon, M.B.E.	OSNABRUCK
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**H.Q. Company, 1st Battalion The Wessex Regiment (Rifle Volunteers)**

Major A. S. P. Cook	DEVIZES
---------------------	---------

**'B' Company, 2nd Battalion The Wessex Regiment (Volunteers)**

Major H. F. Bloomfield	READING
------------------------	---------

**'C' (Royal Berkshires) Company, 2nd Battalion The Wessex Regiment (Volunteers)**

Major A. F. Gardner	MAIDENHEAD
---------------------	------------

**'D' Company, 2nd Battalion The Wessex Regiment (Volunteers)**

Major J. H. Spanner	READING
---------------------	---------

**Berkshire Army Cadet Force**

County Commandant: Colonel T. Adams, M.B.E.

**Wiltshire Army Cadet Force**

County Commandant: Brigadier J. T. Paley, C.B.E., M.C.

**Regimental Associations:**

The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment Association (Berkshire and Wiltshire),

The Wardrobe, The Close, Salisbury, SP1 2EX.

The Old Comrades' Association, The Royal Berkshire Regiment, Brock Barracks, READING, Berkshire RG3 1HW

The Old Comrades' Association, The Wiltshire Regiment, Le Marchant Barracks, DEVIZES, Wiltshire SN10 2EP

**Journal:** "The Journal of The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment"

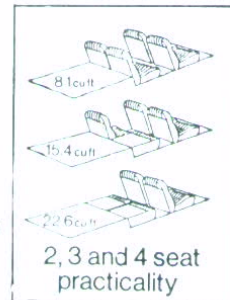
Editor: Colonel K. G. Comerford-Green, C.B.E., The Wardrobe, The Close, Salisbury, SP1 2EX.

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"A FARMER'S BOY"  
Lance-Corporal G. Moyes



## EDITORIAL

IN my last Editorial I expressed the hope that the lease of The Wardrobe in Salisbury Cathedral Close would be signed in March and work on it started in May. Unfortunately owing to legal niceties and delays in obtaining Historic Buildings Council approval these months became June and July. However, as the originator and "manager" of The Wardrobe Project it gives me great satisfaction to tell you that work is now well under way, that occupation of the offices became possible in March and that the work should be completed by mid-summer.

Production of new showcases for the Museum Collection has also been held up. They are to be provided by M.O.D., but their great cost has led to authority being required at a very high level with consequent delays. It is unlikely that the Museum can be opened before August at the earliest.

These delays, while not of our making, have cost us dear. Inflation in the building trade has been running at about 25% a year and V.A.T. was doubled just before work started. In the last Editorial I said we needed £25,000 from our Appeal to The Regiment as a whole; in fact we have more than achieved it in donations and loans from various sources within The Regiment and those who served in it. The sad fact now, a year later, is that we are still well short of our requirement.

An Appeal to the general public in Berkshire and Wiltshire was launched in November and publicity sought and amply given in some cases, from the local press. This Appeal has not been very successful, partly due to the present economic climate and partly, we suspect, owing to another appeal for the Salisbury and South Wilts. Museum's new project, also in The Close, having gone out just ahead of us.

We are anxious not to have to defer any parts of the project until a later date, but if we had to they would be The Regimental Room and Servicary and also the Caretaker's accommodation.

Readers can therefore see that our urgent need is for more money and contributions to the "D.E.R.R. Wardrobe Appeal Fund" from any of you who have not yet given or can find the cash for a further donation will have the Regiment's sincere gratitude.

The Wiltshire Regiment Museum Collection is almost completely packed at the time of writing, the work being ably organised by Colonel D. I. M. Robbins and effected with the help of the Regimental Liaison Team when it had time to spare.

This is the first of the annual Journals, it having been explained in the last issue that costs and other limitations had made the change necessary. It has more photographs and I hope that once contributors have got used to the need to keep notes as the year progresses, their productions will flourish.

Readers may remember that on a previous occasion, I featured a young soldier of The Regiment as a frontispiece. I do this again in this issue to emphasise the importance of the junior ranks to The Regiment today, especially when in Northern Ireland.

# REGIMENTAL GAZETTE

## HONOURS AND AWARDS

We congratulate:

**Captain (I./Major) A. E. G. Westlake** on being made a Member of The Order of the British Empire.

**Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Lea-Cox** on being Mentioned in Despatches.

Both as a result of service in Northern Ireland.

## PROMOTIONS

We congratulate the following on their promotion to the ranks shown:

**Major (Q.M.) J. H. Peters.**

**Captain J. L. Silvester.**

**Captain S. E. Bowkett.**

**Lieutenant S. C. D. Baynham.**

**Lieutenant P. C. Tomlinson.**

**Lieutenant R. N. Wardle.**

## TRANSFERS

**Lieutenant-Colonel G. Coxon, M.B.E.,** was transferred to The Regiment from The Staffordshire Regiment in June 1979.

**Major J. D. Williams** was transferred from The Regiment to The Royal Military Police in July 1979.

## POSTINGS

**Lieutenant-Colonel G. Coxon,** to The 1st Battalion as Commanding Officer in January 1980.

**Major D. A. Parks** to Depot Lichfield (Held Strength) in November 1979.

**Captain (A/Major) S. W. J. Saunders** to the H.E.C. Mulheim for language training in November 1980 and to The Staff College, Camberley, in January 1981.

## APPOINTMENTS

**Brigadier T. A. Gibson** as an A.D.C. to The Queen in September 1979.

**Lieutenant-Colonel D. A. Jones** as G.S.O.1(D.S.) Staff College, Camberley, in January 1980.

**Major J. B. Hyslop** as Assistant Schools' Liaison Officer, Salisbury, in April 1980.

**Major A. J. Rose** as G.S.O.2 Ops/Plans, H.Q. South East District, in September 1979.

**Major R. D. O. Foster** as G.S.O.2 D.O.A.W. in June 1979.

**Captain (A/Major) D. J. A. Stone** as G.S.O.2 Int. H.Q. 1 (B.R.) Corps in February 1980.

## COMMISSIONS

We welcome the following:

**Lieutenant P. C. Stacey** and **2nd Lieutenant R. Davis** on Short Service Commissions.

**2nd Lieutenant P. J. King** on a Regular Commission.

**2nd Lieutenant J. Edmonds** on a Special Regular Commission.

**2nd Lieutenant R. Allen** on a University Cadetship.

**Lieutenant P. C. Tomlinson's** Short Service Commission has been converted to a Regular Commission.

## RETIREMENTS

The following have retired or resigned their Commissions. We wish them good fortune and thank them for all they have done for The Regiment:

**Brigadier J. R. Roden.**

**Colonel J. A. Sellers.**

**Lieutenant-Colonel C. B. Lea-Cox.**

**Major J. N. Morris.**

**Major M. A. Draper.**

## LOCATION LIST — OFFICERS

### Brigadiers

D. T. Crabtree	...	...	...	...	...	Brig GS(W) Dep Comdt and SMDS RMCS
T. A. Gibson, C.B.E.	...	...	...	...	...	Comd BMAT BANGLADESH

### Colonels

D. W. Fladgate, M.B.E.	...	...	...	...	Comdt Cdt Trg Centre
D. C. Munn	...	...	...	...	Col GS (W) NATO SAA Comm

### Lieutenant-Colonels

W. G. R. Turner, M.B.E.	...	...	...	...	GS01 (Ops/Plans) HQ UKLF
L. C. Tremellen	...	...	...	...	GS01 (Indiv Trg) HQ UKLF
G. T. L. M. Graham (S.L.)	...	...	...	...	OC SENNYBRIDGE Trg Area (Retiring Apr 80)
B. R. Hobbs, O.B.E. (S.L.)	...	...	...	...	Trg Offr RCB
M. R. Vernon-Powell	...	...	...	...	GS01 Arms Control Sect Pol/Plans Div SHAPE
D. A. Jones	...	...	...	...	GS01 DS Staff College
J. D. Redding	...	...	...	...	AA & QMG (Ops/Plans) HQ 1 (BR) Corps
G. Coxon, M.B.E.	...	...	...	...	CO 1 DERR



## Majors

D. A. Parks	...	...	...	...	...	...	Att AODO MOD
R. T. E. W. Welsh	...	...	...	...	...	...	Div RO WESSEX
J. B. Hyslop	...	...	...	...	...	...	AA Coll ARBORFIELD (For ASLO SWDIST Apr 80)
J. P. Ward	...	...	...	...	...	...	GSO2 (W) DOAE
D. C. Murray	...	...	...	...	...	...	Depot Lichfield (HS)
C. G. P. Aylin	...	...	...	...	...	...	IO Interpreter HQ BAOR
R. M. C. Wilson	...	...	...	...	...	...	Team Offr A Man SG (WS)
A. J. Rose	...	...	...	...	...	...	GSO2 Ops/Plans HQ SEDIST
W. A. Mackereth	...	...	...	...	...	...	2IC 1 DERR
P. Bradley	...	...	...	...	...	...	GSO2 SD/Trg HQ P of W Div
T. M. A. Daly	...	...	...	...	...	...	DAA & QMG HQ MINDEN Gar
N. R. West	...	...	...	...	...	...	Coy Comd 1 DERR
A. C. Kenway	...	...	...	...	...	...	Coy Comd 1 DERR
R. D. O. Foster	...	...	...	...	...	...	GSO2 DOAE
C. J. Parslow	...	...	...	...	...	...	Coy Comd 1 DERR

## Captains

R. K. Titley	...	...	...	...	...	...	GSO3 Int/Sy HQ OSNABRUCK Gar
A. E. G. Westlake, M.B.E.	...	...	...	...	...	...	GSO3 MIO HQ NORIRLAND (For OC JS Coy Depot Lichfield) (Mar 80)
D. J. A. Stone	...	...	...	...	...	...	GSO2 Int HQ 1 (BR)
S. W. J. Saunders	...	...	...	...	...	...	Coy Comd 1 DERR (For HEC Mulheim Nov 80)
A. Briard	...	...	...	...	...	...	SC AQ HQ OSNABRUCK Gar
M. J. Cornwell	...	...	...	...	...	...	SC Q HQ 1 (BR) Corps (For 1 DERR Oct 80)
R. B. Paddison	...	...	...	...	...	...	Coy Comd JSB TAUNTON. A/Maj
A. P. B. Lake	...	...	...	...	...	...	Adj 1 MERCIAN
B. R. F. Franklin	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR
N. J. Walker	...	...	...	...	...	...	Adj 1 DERR
P. E. O'R. B. Davidson-Houston	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR. (For Adj 1 WESSEX Jun 80)
A. N. Coates	...	...	...	...	...	...	Instr RMAS (For 1 DERR Sep 80)
S. E. Bowkett	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR

## Lieutenants

S. G. Cook	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR. A/Capt
A. M. Crocker	...	...	...	...	...	...	Depot CRICKHOWELL
S. C. D. Baynham	...	...	...	...	...	...	University
P. C. Tomlinson	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR
R. N. Wardle	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR (For Depot LICHFIELD Jun 80)

## 2nd Lieutenants

N. M. Smith	...	...	...	...	...	...	University
J. M. C. Rylands	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR
P. J. King	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR

## S.R.C.

### Captains

A. F. R. Steevenson	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR
J. L. Silvester	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR

### Lieutenant

D. M. Irving	...	...	...	...	...	...	Depot LICHFIELD (For 1 DERR June 80)
--------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	--------------------------------------

## 2nd Lieutenants

R. E. Howman	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR A/Capt
J. J. Edmonds	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR

## S.S.C.

### Captains

W. V. Holmes	...	...	...	...	...	...	OC Trg Cop Depot LICHFIELD A/Maj
--------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----------------------------------

### Lieutenants

D. J. I. Leadbetter	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR A/Capt
P. D. Stacey	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR
S. A. Durant	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 DERR

## 2nd Lieutenants

K. T. Haugh	1200	1212	1200	1212	1200	1212	1 DERR
G. P. Barlow	1200	1212	1200	1212	1200	1212	1 DERR
T. J. Carr	1200	1212	1200	1212	1200	1212	1 DERR
R. Davis	1200	1212	1200	1212	1200	1212	1 DERR

## Quartermasters

Major (Q.M.) P. Martin	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	QM Depot LICHFIELD
Major (Q.M.) J. A. Barrow	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	QM JSB TAUNTON
Major (Q.M.) J. H. Peters	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	QM1 1 DERR
Captain (Q.M.) G. J. Pinchen	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	QM2 RMAS
Captain (Q.M.) W. R. Stafford	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	QM2 1 GLOSTERS
Captain (D. of M.) R. T. Parker	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	D of M P of W Div

## University Cadet

R. Allen	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	London Sch of Economics
----------	------	------	------	------	------	------	-------------------------

## Attached Officers — 1 D.E.R.R.

Major C. S. Wakelin, Glosters	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	OC B Coy
Major R. G. Blackwell, R.A.P.C.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	Paymaster
Captain D. G. Proctor, R. Signals	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	2IC B Coy
Captain L. Bryan, R.A.Ch.D.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	Padre
Captain S. Gregory, R.A.M.C.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	RMO
Captain A. J. M. Day, R.E.M.E.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	EME
Captain (Q.M.) T. F. Allen, W.F.R.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	QM Tech

## WARRANT OFFICERS AND SERGEANTS

### W.O.1

Millard E.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	RSM 1 DERR
Venus S. J.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	RSM 2 WESSEX
Borlase N.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	Depot Lichfield (HS)
Nother R. G.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	Bandmaster 1 DERR

### W.O.2

Povey R. E.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	Depot Lichfield
Wright W. G.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	PSI 1 WESSEX
Turner B. J.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	RQMS HQ Soest Garrison
Smart D.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	PSI 2 MERCIAN
Johnson A. W.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	Sch of Inf
Haynes N. D.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1 WESSEX PSI
Hayden R. G.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	DSM Sigs Sch of Inf
Green M.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	RQMS 1 DERR
Gascoigne G. T.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	Depot Crickhowell
Carter R. H.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	CSM HQ Coy 1 DERR
Wiggins D. T.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	CSM A Coy 1 DERR (RSM 1 WESSEX DES)
Swift R. K.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	PSI 2 MERCIAN
Hicks R. G.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	CSM D Coy 1 DERR (RSM 2 WESSEX DES)
Bailey D. A.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	Pl Comd Depot Lichfield
Hobbs A.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	ARSO Sigs Pl 1 DERR
Mallows P. G.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	Pl Comd Depot Lichfield
Mullings P. J.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	Ops WO 1 DERR
Luckwell R. J.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	CSM C/Sp Coy 1 DERR
Sherman W. H.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	PSI 11 UDR
Perkins T. R.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	Recruiter ACIO Bristol
Flay A. G.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	CSM B Coy 1 DERR
Minty N. W.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	Mor Pl 2IC 1 DERR
Cole S. A.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	TQMS 1 DERR
Habgood P.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	ORQMS 1 WESSEX
Clarke R. C.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	ORS Depot Crickhowell
Turner A. M.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	ARSO Des Sigs Pl 1 DERR
Fielding D. M.	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	1212	CSM POW Coy JS Bn



### Colour-Sergeants

Mortimer M. J.	....	....	....	....	....	CQMS HQ Coy 1 DERR
Turaga L.	....	....	....	....	....	CQMS B Coy 1 DERR
Johnson J. F.	....	....	....	....	....	ACIO Bournemouth
Head D. R.	....	....	....	....	....	AAC Chepstow
Bryant M. J.	....	....	....	....	....	Pl Comd Depot Crickhowell
Long J. C.	....	....	....	....	....	Int C/Sgt 1 DERR
Morgan D. O.	....	....	....	....	....	CQMS A Coy 1 DERR
Smith B. R.	....	....	....	....	....	PSI 1 WESSEX
Hollister R. F.	....	....	....	....	....	CQMS Depot Lichfield
Mehrlich P. R.	....	....	....	....	....	CQMS C Coy 1 DERR
Pearce L. W.	....	....	....	....	....	Rations NCO 1 DERR
Coleman J. B.	....	....	....	....	....	Tech CQMS 1 DERR
Fedrick D.	....	....	....	....	....	CQMS D Coy 1 DERR
Baker G.	....	....	....	....	....	Aslt Pnr WO 1 DERR
Baleimatuku S.	....	....	....	....	....	Pl Comd D Coy 1 DERR
Fielding C.	....	....	....	....	....	Oftrs Mess Steward 1 DERR
Brame A.	....	....	....	....	....	Medical C/Sgt 1 DERR
Paz D. A.	....	....	....	....	....	Pl Comd B Coy 1 DERR
Hiscock N.	....	....	....	....	....	MILAN Pl 2IC 1 DERR
Pinnell A. J.	....	....	....	....	....	IDB Warminster
Beet D. J.	....	....	....	....	....	Int & Sy HQ N Ireland
Keegan P. P.	....	....	....	....	....	HQ N Ireland
Hoare T. J.	....	....	....	....	....	PSI 1 WESSEX
Cox J. A.	....	....	....	....	....	PSI 2 WESSEX
Godwin M. K.	....	....	....	....	....	Sch of Inf
Choules J.	....	....	....	....	....	PSI 2 WESSEX
Walters P. S.	....	....	....	....	....	PSI 2 WESSEX

### Sergeants

Smith N. R.	....	....	....	....	....	1 WESSEX
McPherson D. J.	....	....	....	....	....	
Devine S. J.	....	....	....	....	....	Clothing NCO 1 DERR
Haines M. J.	....	....	....	....	....	MILAN Pl Sgt 1 DERR
Lawrence C. R.	....	....	....	....	....	Accn NCO 1 DERR
Jones B. A.	....	....	....	....	....	MT Sgt D Coy 1 DERR
Trench A. L.	....	....	....	....	....	UNICYP
Scully A. P.	....	....	....	....	....	Mor Sgt 1 DERR
Navarro M.	....	....	....	....	....	LSP Oman
Coupland J. V.	....	....	....	....	....	Provo Sgt 1 DERR
Ravu J.	....	....	....	....	....	MILAN Pl Sgt 1 DERR
Waters P. R.	....	....	....	....	....	Mortar Sgt 1 DERR
Carpenter M. D.	....	....	....	....	....	MT Pl Sgt 1 DERR
Dobie J. C.	....	....	....	....	....	Pl Sgt A Coy 1 DERR
White D. V.	....	....	....	....	....	Mortar Sgt 1 DERR
Baines V. J.	....	....	....	....	....	Sigs Pl Sgt 1 DERR
Kerr M. J.	....	....	....	....	....	Pl Sgt A Coy 1 DERR
Gardner D. R.	....	....	....	....	....	Pl Sgt B Coy 1 DERR
Luker D.	....	....	....	....	....	MILAN Pl Sgt 1 DERR
Bartlett G. C.	....	....	....	....	....	MT Sgt B Coy 1 DERR
Austin P. B.	....	....	....	....	....	PSI 12 CTT
Jones R. L.	....	....	....	....	....	Drums Instr Depot Lichfield
Cook B. L.	....	....	....	....	....	Pl Sgt Depot Lichfield
Griffin E. P.	....	....	....	....	....	Pl Sgt IJLB Shorncliffe
Shervington M.	....	....	....	....	....	Pl Sgt D Coy 1 DERR
North S. P.	....	....	....	....	....	Trg Wing 1 DERR
Dean I.	....	....	....	....	....	Sgts Mess Steward 1 DERR
Le Strange J. V.	....	....	....	....	....	MT Sgt B Coy 1 DERR
Williams G. G.	....	....	....	....	....	Pl Sgt D Coy 1 DERR
Watts C. L.	....	....	....	....	....	Pl Sgt D Coy 1 DERR
Mellors S. R.	....	....	....	....	....	MT Sgt C Coy 1 DERR
Povey R. H.	....	....	....	....	....	Recruiter Gloucester ACIO
Nimmo S.	....	....	....	....	....	Pl Sgt A Coy 1 DERR
Samson R. I.	....	....	....	....	....	Pl Sgt D Coy 1 DERR
Curtin F. R.	....	....	....	....	....	Families Sgt 1 DERR
Paterson W. M.	....	....	....	....	....	Aslt Pnr 2IC 1 DERR
Rose R.	....	....	....	....	....	Accn Sgt 1 DERR
Wheaton E. J.	....	....	....	....	....	ORS Munster Garrison
Pomeroy L. G.	....	....	....	....	....	Mortar Sgt 1 DERR
Evans T. W.	....	....	....	....	....	

Chitty F. D.	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	PSI 2 WESSEX
McLeod P. W.	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	Pl Sgt 1 DERR
Tadhunter R. C.	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	JS Bn Taunton
Wilmot J. L.	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	Sigs Sgt 1 DERR
Coyle P.	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	Depot Lichfield
Davison J. G.	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	Int Sgt 1 DERR
Burlew P. M.	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	Trg Wing 1 DERR
Maynard P. A. G.	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	ACIO Reading
Watts D. A.	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	MT Sgt A Coy 1 DERR
Harrill P. J.	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	Drum Major 1 DERR
Chapman C. R.	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	Depot Lichfield
Ficke D. G.	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	ORC 1 R HAMPS
McIntyre S. A.	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	Trg Wing 1 DERR
Traveller S. P.	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	Pl Sgt D Coy 1 DERR
Moloney D. A.	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	Mortar Sgt 1 DERR
Ward C. N.	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	ACIO Reading
<b>L.S.L. Personnel</b>							
L S/Sgt. Watton T. S.	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	HQ Episkopi Grn
S/Sgt. Whitfield A.	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	Estate Warden Krefeld
W.O.2 Whiting C. P.	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	0000	RCB Westbury



# REGIMENTAL NOTES

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Regimental Golf Meeting—Tidworth, 16th–17th May.  
Wiltshire Regiment O.C.A. Reunion—Devizes, 7th–8th June.  
D.E.R.R. Association Reunion—Osnabruck, 17th–20th July.  
Royal Berkshire Regiment O.C.A. Reunion—Reading, 26th–27th July.  
Officers' Regimental Dinner—Oxford, 5th September.  
No plans for an Officers' Cocktail Party have been made at the time of writing.

## THE COLONEL-IN-CHIEF

Messages of thanks were received from **H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh** in reply to greetings sent to him on the occasions of his birthday and of the Regimental Dinner.

**H.M. The Queen** also graciously responded to loyal greetings sent on the latter occasion.

Our deep sympathy was with the Colonel-in-Chief on the shocking murder of his uncle, Earl Mountbatten of Burma.

## REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

Regimental Headquarters move to their new offices in The Wardrobe on 5th March, 1980.

The address is:

The Wardrobe  
58 The Close  
Salisbury SP1 2EX  
Tel.: Salisbury (0722) Military (6222) 2683

The Museum will not be established there until the late summer.

## COMMAND OF THE 1st BATTALION

**Lieutenant-Colonel Graham Coxon, M.B.E.**, late of The Staffordshire Regiment, assumed Command of the 1st Battalion in January 1980. We welcome him in his great task and wish him all success.

## THE REGIMENTAL BAND

The Band had a merciful escape last August when a bomb exploded under the bandstand in The Grande Place in Brussels when they were preparing to play. Many of their instruments were destroyed, but owing to their being late in starting no serious injuries were sustained.

**H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh** signalled the Colonel of the Regiment: "I was most disturbed to hear of the recent incident in Brussels. Please pass my best wishes for a speedy recovery to all those injured".

The Chairman of The Wiltshire County Council, Mr. Nigel Anderson wrote: "I felt I must send you a line to say how relieved I was to hear that apparently the Band of our County Regiment escaped the explosion in Brussels with only 'minor injuries'. I suspect that that expression is somewhat euphemistic, but no doubt it could have been much worse.

The television pictures seemed to show everyone exhibiting a remarkable calm which, in itself, is obviously a great credit to the Regiment.

I cannot say how sorry I am that this outrage should have been inflicted on the Band when they were about to perform in circumstances which could only have given pleasure to many, and have been of benefit to everyone".

## THE WARDROBE APPEAL

The last Journal gave the names of those who up to the beginning of March 1979 had responded to the Colonel of the Regiment's original Appeal. The following is the list of those who have done so from then up to February 1980. A separate Appeal was made to Members of the three Associations and the names of those subscribing appear in the Association Reports.

Maj. J. Jenkins, M.B.E., Maj. J. B. Ready, Maj. A. C. Snell, Lt.-Col. F. J. W. H. Moore, Maj. T. M. A. Daly, Maj. C. R. W. Stone, T.D., Maj. R. M. C. Wilson, Maj. J. F. Brown, Maj. D. O. Hood, Maj. R. H. Greet, T.D., Maj. J. L. Cain, Lt.-Col. V. H. Ridley, M.B.E., Maj.-Gen. B. A. Coad, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., D.L., Capt. A. N. Coates, Capt. E. L. Francis, Col. D. F. Salt, R. Chester, Esq., W.O.s' and Sgts.' Mess 1 D.E.R.R., Junior Ranks 1 D.E.R.R., Capt. D. J. Allan, The Hawkings Charitable Trust, Maj. N. G. Motion, M.C., Maj. A. C. Kenway, Capt. S. E. Bowkett, Capt. J. G. Penn, R. H. W. Johnson, Esq., T. J. Carr, Esq., Lt.-Col. F. J. Stone, Mrs. D. L. P. Napier, Lt.-Col. W. G. R. Turner, M.B.E., T. J. Carr, Esq. (2nd donation), Capt. S. A. Durant, Mrs. C. C. Townley, M. Daymond, Esq., Brig. T. A. Gibson, C.B.E. (2nd donation), Salisbury Diocesan Welfare Board for H.M. Forces, Mrs. J. Moles, Maj. A. D. Dawkins, The Duke and Duchess of Somerset (2nd donation), Maj. M. A. Draper, Maj. C. G. Rendle (2nd donation).

### Loans

Maj. D. R. Foster, Maj. R. N. Barrett, T.D.

An Appeal to the general public in Berkshire and Wiltshire was mounted in November 1979 with Colonel M. A. C. Osborn, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., Secretary. Altogether these three appeals had, up to the beginning of February, realised just under £25,000 after expenses. The "D.E.R.R. Wardrobe Appeal Fund" is still open for donations or loans and R.H.Q. will welcome them.



### OFFICERS' REGIMENTAL COCKTAIL PARTY

The 1979 Party was held in the Indian Army Memorial Room at The Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, on 27th July.

**The Colonel of The Regiment and Mrs. Roden** received those attending, who numbered eighty. Regimental Guests were Brigadier and Mrs. W. M. Allen and Major and Mrs. R. J. Coate.

### OFFICERS' REGIMENTAL DINNER

Another successful Dinner was held at Wadham College, Oxford, on 7th September. The following attended, the majority of whom spent the night at the College. The Colonel of the Regiment: Brig. J. R. Roden, C.B.E., Regimental Guest: Colonel M. A. C. Osborn, D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., Brigadiers D. E. Ballantine, O.B.E., M.C., D. T. Crabtree, T. A. Gibson, C.B.E., D. W. B. T. Hogg, C.B.E., and H. M. A. Hunter, C.V.O., D.S.O., M.B.E. Colonels F. H. B. Boshell, C.B.E., D.S.O., K. G. Comerford-Green, C.B.E., J. E. Gabain, O.B.E., E.D., L. J. L. Hill, M.C., H. N. Hoare, M.V.O., J. L. R. Metcalf, O.B.E., D. I. M. Robbins, O.B.E., M.C., and J. A. Sellers, M.B.E. Lieutenant-Colonels J. Awdry, D. C. Gilson, M.C., G. T. L. Graham, B. R. Hobbs, O.B.E., T. R. M. Ottowell, F. J. Stone, L. C. Tremellen, L. H. Wood, O.B.E., and G. F. Woolnough, M.C. Majors P. Bradley, S. F. Browne, W. G. La T. Cockcroft, T. M. A. Dalv, P. T. Dunn, C. J. Edwards, A. H. Fraser, R. F. Groves, T. C. S. Jennings, J. N. Morris, M. E. H. Pardoe, A. D. Parsons, M.B.E., M.C., A. J. Rose, The Duke of Somerset D.L., D. J. A. Stone, F. R. E. Turner, J. P. Ward, R. C. Wilkins, M.B.E., T.D., and R. M. C. Wilson. Captains R. J. Parker and J. L. Silvester and Private Guest: Mr. D. Ottowell.

The first Friday in September has been booked at the College for Dinners for the next three years.

### THE REGIMENTAL MUSEUM COLLECTION

Two notable additions to the Collection have been made during the past year. The Victoria Cross awarded to **L/Cpl. Welch**, 1st Bn. The Royal Berkshire Regiment in 1917 was bought at auction in July for £9,000. The Victoria and Albert Museum generously donated half this sum and the remainder was found by The Royal Berkshire Regiment O.C.A., The 1st Battalion and The Colonel of the Regiment's Fund.

A magnificent robe which belonged to the Emperor of China and was taken by Captain Ely of The 99th at the Summer Palace in Peking in 1860, was given on permanent loan by Mrs. M. Crosleggh.

### MAIWAND CENTENARY 1980

This will take place at Brock Barracks on Saturday, 26th July, 1980 and in Reading town on

Sunday, 27th July as part of the Royal Berkshire Regiment O.C.A. Reunion. The outline programme is as follows:

#### Saturday, 26th July, 1980 in Brock Barracks

Annual General Meeting.  
Laying of Wreath on the Cenotaph.  
Reunion.

#### Sunday, 27th July, 1980

Service at Forbury Gardens (Maiwand Lion).  
March Past of the O.C.A., D.E.R.R. Representatives, Indian Army Representatives, relatives of those who fought in the Battle and other invited guests led by the Allanbrook Band, Royal Artillery.

Buffet Luncheon in the Old Town Hall.

Other details will be published in the Royal Berkshire Old Comrades' Association Annual Report.

### THE ROYAL BERKSHIRE REGIMENT CENOTAPH

The photograph below shows the Cenotaph with the new wall behind it which marks the boundary of Brock Barracks. The 2nd Bn. The Wessex Regiment (V) now have the custody of The Memorial following the closure of The Regimental Office at the end of January. However, the Royal Berkshire Regiment O.C.A. is still based at Brock so our interest is safeguarded.



### FITZGERALD TRUST

The above Trust is administered by The Royal Berkshire Regiment Trustees and has recently been extended to benefit the Regiment as a whole. The clear yearly income from the Charity was originally to be applied by the Trustees for the pecuniary assistance of retired officers of the 1st Bn. or 2nd



Bn. of The Royal Berkshire Regiment who are in need of assistance and are either elderly or in poor health. The scheme has recently been extended to cover the following in addition to the original beneficiaries.

- (1) Widows and dependants of retired Officers of the 1st and 2nd Bns. of The Royal Berkshire Regiment.
- (2) Retired Officers who served in other units of The Royal Berkshire Regiment during either of the two World Wars 1914-18 and 1939-45 and their widows and dependants.
- (3) Retired Officers of The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment (Berkshire and Wiltshire) and their widows and dependants.

The income cannot be applied directly in relief of rates, taxes or other public funds but may be applied in supplementing relief or assistance provided out of public funds.

#### THE TERRITORIAL ARMY

We were very pleased to hear in August that the old name of Territorial Army was being restored to the T.A.V.R., and that bounties and pay were to be increased together with other improvements. The Regiment has affiliations with Companies of both 1 Wessex (RV) and 2 Wessex (V) which between them cover from Lands End to not far short of London.

#### CENTENARY OF TILEHURST ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH

1980 is the Centenary Year of this Church which was always considered to be the Garrison Church for The Depot of The Royal Berkshire Regiment. The Vicar is hoping to arrange a short ceremony during a visit of The Regimental Band and a detachment from the 1st Battalion for a K.A.P.E. Tour in early July.

#### THE DRAGON CLUB (ROYAL BERKSHIRE REGIMENT LUNCHEON CLUB)

About 65 members and their wives and friends attended a luncheon at the Officers' Club, Aldershot, on 23rd September, 1979 when a presentation to The Honorary Secretary (**Major Cockcraft**) and his wife was made.

#### GIRLS WEARING THE REGIMENTAL BADGE

As many of our readers know, a number of C.C.F.s in Berkshire and Wiltshire are badged to the Regiment; but what many people do not know is that a number of C.C.F.s now have girls in their ranks.

Last Summer the Cadet Training Centre, Frimley Park, accepted eight girls from four C.C.F.s to take part on one of the Cadet Leader-

ship Courses which are held each year. Amongst the eight were two from St. Bartholomew's School, Newbury, who are badged to the Regiment.

The photograph below shows **W/L/Cpl. J. A. Jones** and **W/L/Cpl. L. J. Evans** of St. Bartholomew's School C.C.F.

The Commandant of the C.T.C., **Colonel D. W. Fladgate** reports that all eight girls did very well on the course and that the two wearing our badge wore them proudly and were a credit to the Regiment.



#### 2nd WILTSHIRES WARTIME OFFICERS' REUNION

**Major and Mrs. Tony Ward**, ably assisted by their family, organised an excellent reception in the garden of their home at Hindhead in September.

**Lt.-Colonel George Woolnough**, who initiated the idea of an annual reunion writes:

"37 were present, many coming a long distance, and we were delighted to see newcomers this year, who included **Cushla MacMurtrie**, on a long holiday from New Zealand, and **John Roden** (now Colonel of the Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment) and **Peggy Roden**. The Reunion was an undoubted success, and brought to mind something of the flavour of the wartime mess parties.

With the numbers increasing, and the desire to continue, the Reunion has reached a stage when some decisions had to be taken, and these were resolved after lunch—after messages were read from those unable to come. In brief, the decisions were:

1. The membership is open to officers who served with the 2nd Bn. during the last war,



and to their wives, and to the widows and the children of those officers.

2. The Reunion to continue in its present form, but those attending to subscribe towards the cost of the entertaining borne by the host; the amount to be determined before each reunion.

Regarding Item 1, I will gladly get in touch with anyone not on the Reunion list if I can be given their address; on Item 2, I will open an account to cover the necessary transactions.

There was general agreement to hold the 1980 Reunion in the same area, and **John Peers** being next on the volunteers' roll, his offer of 'Kenton', Lintside West, Beacon Hill, Hindhead, was gratefully accepted. The date agreed was Saturday, 23rd August, but at the time I overlooked that this is the August Bank Holiday Weekend. As an alternative, John suggests that 16th August will be more suitable, and I am very sorry that again I have to ask you to give your preference of date.

I will send out the letter for the 1980 Reunion early next year, giving whichever date has the majority preference, with a sketch map showing how to get to 'Kenton' and the subscription, which should be about £2".

The Present Reunion List is as follows:

Bob Archer, \*Tiny Ballantine, George Brain, \*Len Buffey, \*David Clark, \*Nobby Clarke, Norman Chadwick, \*Archie Chapple, Les Cook, Kensey Comerford-Green, \*Ralph Davies, \*Desmond Dawkins, \*Gerry Drew, \*Ted Earley, \*Jasper Essex, Frank Harmer, Eric Hefford, Bob Huelin, \*Ted Ingles, \*Jimmy Lee, Sam McClintock, Mercy Oldfield, \*John Peers, \*John Roden, \*Tom

Sales, \*Robert Topham, Robin Unwin, \*Tony Ward, \*Pat Weldon, Frank Wells, \*Jill West-Watson.

\*At the 1979 Reunion, with wife (where appropriate).

### THE MANDALAY HILL MEMORIAL PLAQUE

#### 2nd Bn. The Royal Berkshire Regiment

The War Graves Commission and B.A.C.S.A. have been asked to report on the state of this memorial and to make recommendations for its safekeeping.

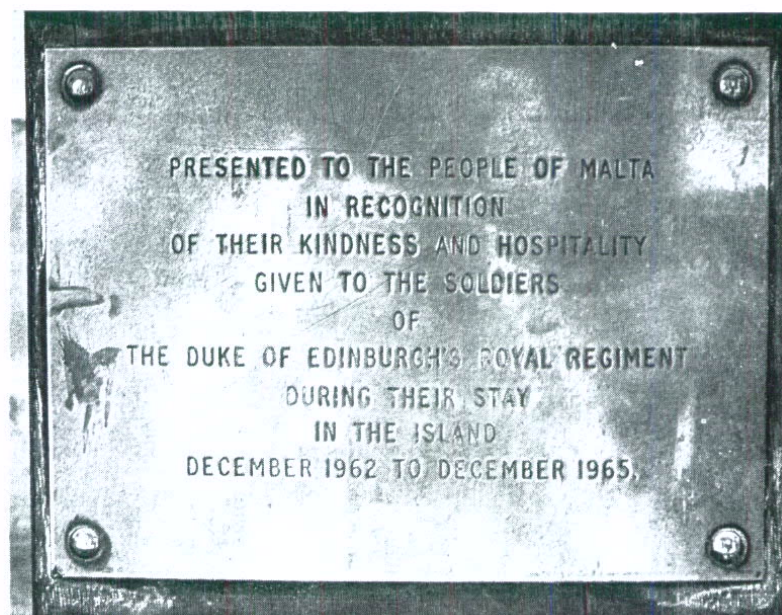
### MALTA

Some readers may be interested in the recently taken photograph below which shows the plate in a seat in a public garden in Malta presented by The 1st Battalion in 1965.

### NEW ANTI-TANK WEAPON FOR THE ARMY

A new light Anti-Tank Weapon (LAW) is due to come into service with the British Army in the early 1980s. It will be a simple to use, cheap to produce, single shot "throw away" weapon in which the launcher is discarded after firing. It has a light-weight specification which will ensure the weapon can be carried by one man, in addition to his other equipment. As the short range member of the Army's anti-armour family of weapons it will complement the crew served MILAN medium range weapon, which is now in service with the 1st Battalion.

Specifically designed for engagements against the whole range of tanks which will be on the battle-





field throughout the 1980s, the Army is confident that it will be lethal against all known and potential targets. LAW is a great improvement on the American M72 (66mm.) and the Carl Gustav (84mm.) both of which will be replaced.

### OLD COMRADES

**Colonel Tom Gibson** records that in London last Autumn he ran into **John Holroyd** who served as a National Service Subaltern in 1 Wilts in Cyprus 1956-57. He is now an Under Secretary in The Ministry of Agriculture but currently seconded to the Civil Service Department Selection Board, the equivalent of the R.C.B. After Cyprus he had gone to Oxford and then served with 4th Wilts (T.A.).

**W.O.2 Habgood** writes that on a visit to America he was recognised by the sound of his voice by **Ex-Lance Corporal Vibert Mussenden**, late of the Signal Platoon, who left the 1st Battalion in 1966. He wished to be remembered to those whom he knew, is now a Vice-President of a branch of The Chase Manhattan Bank, wears Buggers Grips and looks very prosperous!

Of those who have recently become Old Comrades in the full sense of being retired from the Army, **Brigadier John Roden** took the job of Deputy Commander, Army Security Vetting Unit based at Woolwich in March. **Colonel John Sellers** became Secretary of the South East Territorial Army Association, with Headquarters at Maidstone, in June and **Lieutenant-Colonel Clive Lea-Cox** re-married and moved to South Africa to be employed with the South African Army.

Retiring about the time this journal is published is **Lieutenant-Colonel Lofty Graham** who is to become the Secretary of the Army Rifle Association.

### COMMISSIONS IN THE REGIMENT

There are now many different types of commissions: Regular, Special Regular (16 years), Short Service (3 years extendable), Short Service Limited (4-6 months prior to going to University). Also University Cadetships, which are followed by Regular Service. In addition there are other schemes which provide financial help for University students and school pupils who are still completing their education. R.H.Q. are happy to provide information and to help "sons of The Regiment" to follow their fathers.

### K.A.P.E. TOUR

Our Regimental Band, Liaison Team and a detachment from the 1st Battalion with some of the latest weapons and vehicles will tour Berkshire during the first week in July and Wiltshire during the second. "K.A.P.E." stands for "Keeping the Army in the Public Eye" but we hope to get some recruits from the effort.

### REGIMENTAL GOLFING SOCIETY

The Twentieth Annual Meeting was held at Tidworth in May in good weather which held for the two days despite the threat of heavy showers. The winners were:

Stableford Singles (James Cup)	<b>C.S.M. Green</b>
Stableford Foursomes	<b>C.S.M. Green and Major Bennett</b>
Scratch Medal (Gilson Trophy)	<b>C.S.M. Flay</b>
Handicap Medal (Gilson Bowl)	<b>C.S.M. Flay (Division I)</b>
(Education Cup)	<b>Lt.-Col. Turner (Division II)</b>

### Lieutenant Colonel G. COXON, M.B.E.



Lieutenant Colonel G. Coxon assumed command of the 1st Battalion on 3rd January 1980.

Born, raised and educated in Staffordshire he joined one of the County Regiments, then the NORTH STAFFORDS, in 1958. He subsequently joined the Staffordshire Regiment in 1959 when it was formed by the amalgamation of the SOUTH and NORTH STAFFORDS.

In his early military years he was fortunate enough to serve with Commonwealth, and Colonial forces, despite the rapid demise of the British Empire. From 1960 to '64 he served with the Ghana Regiment (successors to the Gold Coast element of the Royal West African Frontier Force) and the Federal Regular Army (formerly the Aden Protectorate Levies). During his tour in Ghana he also spent a year as a platoon commander with the United Nations Forces in the Congo.

After a lengthy tour with the 1st Battalion of the STAFFORDS, during which time he served both as RSO and Adjutant, he attended the Staff College, Camberley as a student in 1970. Follow-



ing his initial staff appointment in ASD 2 Ministry of Defence (Army) he was awarded the MBE. He subsequently rejoined the 1st Battalion and served for 2 years as a combat team commander in Osnabruck. As he was returning to Osnabruck in December '75, from an Op Banner 4 month tour in Londonderry, he was informed that he would be returning to Ulster as BM 8 Inf Bde in —Londonderry!

This resident tour in Derry, during which time he was Mentioned in Despatches, was followed

by a 6 month sojourn in the United States as a student at the US Defence College. He served on the staff at HQ NORTHERN ARMY GROUP for 18 months as the Chief Exercise Planner and it was during this time that he was accepted into our Regiment by the Colonel of the Regiment.

He is a family man. His wife is named Florence and he has two daughters, Jane aged 12 and Emma aged 10. His major hobby is collecting British Army headdress badges and he is an enthusiastic but unspectacular golfer.

## REGIMENTAL HEADQUARTERS

The past year has seen some stirring happenings for us.

Starting at the end, the past few months witnessed the closing of the Regimental Office in Reading in January and the move of the Headquarters from Devizes to Salisbury in March. This ended the Regiment's close links with these two towns, except that connection will be maintained through the O.C.A.s which will continue to be centred there, **Major Cockcraft** attending at Brock Barracks once a week to transact Association business and **Major Avery** doing likewise at Le Marchant Barracks. It was possible to arrange only the move of the Headquarters to The Wardrobe in March, as that part of the building to be devoted to the Museum was not to be ready nor the new showcases for the Collection available. The new address of R.H.Q. is:

The Wardrobe  
58 The Close  
Salisbury, SP1 2EX

The telephone number is: Salisbury (0722) Military (6222) 2683. It has only been possible to get one line into the building owing to demands on Salisbury Military, but there are extensions within to the Regimental Secretary, The Assistant Regimental Secretary, The Museum Curator, the Clerks' office and the Museum Reception Desk.

Going back to the time of the issue of the last Journal, May saw the retirement of **Brigadier John Roden**. He has been temporarily living at Devizes and is shortly to move to Kent at the time of writing. His presence here has enabled him to call on the Mayors of our Freedom Towns and some of the leading local figures, and to chair an appeal within our two Counties for funds for The Wardrobe Project. Hardly a day has passed without him visiting our offices and it has been a tremendous help to have him here.

The Regimental Golf Meeting at Tidworth in May, the three Association Reunions later in the Summer and the Officers' Cocktail Party at Sand-

hurst at the end of July all went well and had good attendances.

The Colonel of The Regiment and Mrs. Roden and also the Regimental Secretary were present at the Presentation of Colours to the 2nd Battalion The Wessex Regiment (V) by their Honorary Colonel, The Duke of Wellington, at Portsmouth on 29th June. In the same month he attended the Colonel Commandants' Meeting with Colonels of Regiments in the Prince of Wales' Division at Crickhowell, **Colonel Comerford-Green** also going there in July. In September we held the Regimental Dinner at Wadham College, Oxford. This was the third occasion we organised it there and the results have been sufficiently successful for bookings over the next three years, on the first Friday in September, to be made. One of the great advantages of a University college is that everyone who wishes to sleep where he eats can do so.

As the end of the year approached, Staff changes began to happen, mainly due to the impending move to Salisbury which was originally expected to take place in January. In the typing world **Mrs. Roache** replaced **Miss Starrett** but soon had to give up and **Mrs. Breeze** took over from her. In December our two stalwarts, **Mrs. Townley** and **Mrs. Matthews**, who did much for the Regiment, said farewell; **Mrs. Townley** going with her husband on his posting to Crickhowell and **Mrs. Matthews** to take up a position as Assistant to a dentist in Trowbridge. It was a sad parting and both received statuettes of a D.E.R.R. soldier, suitably inscribed, from R.H.Q. and the Association in recognition of their outstanding contributions over a number of years. **Mr. White** and **Mr. Daniell** took over, thus ending a long period when the clerical office was entirely staffed by females! **Mrs. Breeze** then had to leave after a short stay and was succeeded as typist by **Mrs. Wilkinson**. Finally at the end of January with the closing of the Regimental Office in Reading, **Major Cockcraft** and **Mrs. Roach** retired from the fray. If you have managed to follow all this you may have learnt



that, apart from **Mr. Holden-White**, the only old hands left are **Colonel Comerford-Green** and **Major Groves**. The two of us wish to record our gratitude for the way those who have left did their jobs and the interest they took in all our affairs, and also to welcome the newcomers and wish them a happy and interesting time at R.H.Q.

When we next write the Regimental Museum will be established in The Wardrobe and we hope making a considerable impact on many visitors to Salisbury, who last year numbered one and three-quarter million. It will, on present plans, have a Curator, who cannot be named at the time of writing. He will take the vacancy left by Major Cockcraft. Major Cockcraft had agreed to take over the running of the Regimental Office in

Reading in June 1977 and to see it through until it closed. This involved him attending three days a week and going on over two years beyond his 65th birthday. We are tremendously grateful to him for doing this and for the ability and friendliness he displayed throughout.

Luckily he is continuing as Honorary Secretary of The Royal Berkshire Regiment O.C.A. as has been stated, so we will still have regular contact with him.

Finally, we would remind readers that though we are at The Wardrobe, we are to a certain extent "camping" until the late Summer when we will be fully installed. Thereafter we will welcome visitors and will be much more accessible, being on a main road to the West and having a railway station.

# 1st BATTALION

## DIARY

For the 1st Battalion 1979 has been a year of changing emphasis. Ski-ing in Southern Germany gave way to mechanised winter training at Soltau. This led to a tactical evaluation exercise which in turn was followed by preparations for the major event of the year, the Northern Ireland tour. Our safe return and a well earned month's leave gave way to rapid preparations for Ferozeshah and the completion of the circle with the first groups of soldiers departing for Exercise Snow Queen.

In January the C.O. went to Londonderry for his preliminary reconnaissance of the Battalion's area of responsibility. During the next three months, in addition to our mechanised training, we set about training some 180 officers and men in the specialised tasks peculiar to Northern Ireland. The Main Body took block leave in April and on 27th the main reconnaissance party flew out to Northern Ireland. On its return a major re-organisation, from four to three rifle companies took place. At this point concentrated training for our Londonderry role began, culminating in a period of intense activity during the first two weeks in June covering shooting, patrolling, riot drills and a host of relevant subjects.

A welcome break in these activities was provided by the arrival of a strong party of officers, W.R.N.S., Chiefs and P.O.s and Ratings from H.M.S. "Vernon", our affiliated Royal Naval Establishment. Their visit coincided with the Maiwand Weekend Celebrations and they took every opportunity to join in all the many sporting and social activities we had organised for the period.

Following the Task Force Delta Sports Day which covered Athletics, Swimming, Tug-o-War and Volleyball and a long weekend the Advance Party left for Northern Ireland on the 2nd July. Responsibility for the West of the Foyle area of Londonderry was assumed at 10.00 a.m. on Monday, 9th July. By 2.00 p.m. we had experienced our first incident with the I.R.A. **Major Stephen Saunders**, O.C., 'A' Company, and a small patrol came under fire from the terrorists, hidden in a building a mere 75 yards away. Fortunately the gunman missed and in the ensuing follow-up operation a rifle with ammunition was recovered. The following day two bombs and a pistol were found in an abandoned car.

Lack of space precludes a detailed description of the four months' tour in Derry. Suffice it to say that apart from a few completely unsuccessful attempts by the I.R.A. to kill our soldiers our intensive operations, patrolling and searches carried out throughout the whole area, based on

sound intelligence gathered by our own and R.U.C. sources completely denied the terrorists the ability to move freely and operate within Londonderry and the rural enclave on our side of the border. There can be no doubt that the civil population appreciated the great efforts that we made in our dealings with them and in particular in the Community Relations Field. They fully understood that our soldiers had a difficult task in the restoration and maintenance of law and order in our area and were open in their praise of the significant success that we achieved. Our dealings with the R.U.C. were both happy and professional and each had complete confidence in the other. Our contribution towards reducing crime was not unnoticed. We captured weapons used in Bank and Post Office robberies, we helped recover stolen cars, we assisted in a major anti-poaching operation and much of our gathered information, handed over to the R.U.C., was used in evidence against common criminals.

Looking after and briefing visitors was a major commitment during the tour. Records show that at least 130 separate visits were catered for; from politicians to policemen, Chiefs of Defence Staff to Colour Sergeants, reporters to recce parties and Bishops to "Blond Feeling", our visiting beauty trio. We were particularly glad to have the Colonel of the Regiment with us from the 6th-7th October. The Regimental Band, too, came from 12th-22nd October, playing at all the Company locations and greatly assisting in our community relations efforts. More remarkable since they had all been involved in the bombing incident in the Grande Place in Brussels in August and had many of their instruments destroyed. It is greatly to their credit that they recovered so quickly and continued their engagement programme without a break.

The Battalion handed over to the 3rd Battalion The Royal Regiment of Fusiliers on 8th November and all were safely back in Osnabruck by early morning on the 10th. Following the Remembrance Service on Sunday 11th, the Main Body went on four weeks' leave, returning to Osnabruck to carry out Boards of Officers, Audit Boards, inter-Company boxing and drill prior to the Ferozeshah Parade.

1980 promises to be a busy year and we look forward to participating in several major exercises, training in Canada, field firing at Sennelager and adventure training throughout the Continent.

We say farewell to **Lt.-Col. David Jones**, our Commanding Officer for the past 2½ years. He will be succeeded by **Lt.-Col. Graham Coxon** who has recently transferred from the Staffordshire Regiment and to whom we will be extending a warm welcome.



## 'A' COMPANY

After our Winter Warfare training at Soltau in February, the Company managed a period of Cadres in March before our block-leave prior to Northern Ireland training. Block leave was a welcome relief as the Battalion had enjoyed a very challenging period since its arrival in B.A.O.R. No sooner had the Company assembled on the Square on its return from leave, than we were all treated to a week's presentation by the N.I.T.A.T. Staff on the forthcoming main aspects of training for Londonderry. The presentation was extremely slick, amusing and helpful and the constant bangs from the sound effects team, ensured that even **2/Lt. Carr** could not fall asleep for too long.

Once the new Company Orbat was settled and the total strength grew to one hundred and thirty all ranks including a fourth Platoon from 'C' Company—"niner" with **Lt. Burnett** and **Sgt. McIntyre**. Training was enjoyable and rewarding as Platoons had stability and remained intact. Fitness training was very painful to start with but the P.T. Staff managed to maintain our interest with a very varied programme. Shooting was also essential and each week we had at least one range day, we also discovered several useful shots who will be an asset to the Battalion Bisley Team. **Sergeants Clarks** and **McIntyre** who had both instructed at N.I.T.A.T. gave the Company the added advantage of an insight into current tactics and thinking. Sometimes the training did get very realistic and having a Medical Orderly available at the riots was essential. Cars that failed to stop at V.C.P.s (Vehicle Check Points) would run the risk of puncturing their tyres as one visiting Quartermaster discovered (to the Company Commander's cost).



'A' Company "Legs and Co."



'A' Company Maiwand Tug-O-War Team

Feeling confident and keen, the Company set off to Sennelager in early June for the final training period. Our training built up logically, leading to a successful climax in Tin City.

Each morning the Video T.V. produced many amusing moments. The Company was delighted to watch the **Company Sergeant-Major Wiggins** caught slipping back to collect his equipment during a proxy-bomb evacuation. Every mistake was captured on film and with so many amateur photographers within the Company, it was difficult to fall asleep or eat an ice-cream without being "snapped".

Returning from Sennelager we had the Maiwand Sports Day and a visit from H.M.S. "Vernon", **Pte. Walker** with the most Sombre Go-Cart won the race when he was one of only two to escape unscathed from the massive pile-up at the first corner. A long weekend before our move to Londonderry followed.

On the 2nd July the advance party flew by Hercules to Northern Ireland and our tour started. The Company had a very helpful handover from the Royal Hampshire Regiment and 'A' Company inherited the Bogside, Brandywell and City Centre. with a shooting incident on the first day which narrowly missed **Cpl. Bush** (the weapon was retrieved) and a bomb and weapon-find on the tour in Londonderry we were fortunate in having second day, it seemed like Tin City. During our



L/Cpl. Perry and Pte. Edwards—Masonic



only two slight casualties, **Ptes. John** and **Curtis** were deafened by the bomb blast on top of their sanger at PAPA 8 (Shipquay Gate).

Our return to Osnabruck was celebrated at our social in which we had before the Company "group" broke up. We were very grateful to those members of the Milan Platoon, Mortar Platoon, Headquarter Company and Messes who helped us and made up our team, not forgetting **Cpls. Dobson** and **House** and **Ptes. Prosser** and **Roberts**, the cooks.

### BATTLING BRAVO

One cannot but admire the flexibility of the British Soldier when you look at the commitments that have been successfully completed by the Company in the last year November '78 November '79.

Last November saw us taking part in the Battalion Skill at Arms Shooting competition followed by the orienteering competition. Some took longer with their orienteering than others. We are still looking for **Major Foster**.

The Ferozeshah parade took place in sub zero conditions and 'B' Company provided a very smart guard as usual.

We had a fighting start to the new year when our boxing team showed great spirit and determination in the Inter-Company Boxing Competition and **Ptes. King, Crawford** and **Webb** won their bouts in the finals.

**W.O.2 Venus** left us in January to take over as R.S.M. of 2 Wessex and **C/Sgt. Fielding** was posted as the C.S.M. of the Prince of Wales's Division Company at Taunton. Their places were taken by **W.O.2 Flay** and **C/Sgt. Turaga** who have done an excellent job between their golf and football commitments.

In February we took part in Exercise Cold Duke at Soltau. By god it was cold too. The Russians and Americans stopped their exercise because it was too cold but the gallant Duke's soldiered on. We relied upon our A.P.C.s a great deal for warmth and succour and also movement, for any-



*Some people have all the luck  
"Blond Feeling" with some of the Company*

one who stepped out of the metal beasts sank waist deep in snow and it was almost impossible to move anywhere. However the exercise was great fun and we remember with fondness the day we routed a very harassed enemy at the Battle of the Tank Bridge. The sight of a complete combat team in "full cry" was a most impressive sight.

From Soltau we returned to Osnabruck. After involvement in the 2 Armoured Division Milan presentation the Company spent two interesting weeks in March on Exercise King's Ride, carrying out close combat trials at Achmer with the Defence Operational Analysis Establishment.

The trials were designed to test the effectiveness of Infantry anti-armour weapons at Combat Team level. Each soldier and vehicle was wired up like a robot so that when "hit" a bleeper and smoke cannister was initiated to indicate a kill. Each battle was filmed and we found we had some budding John Wayne's.

At the end of March the Company returned to Sennelager to complete its annual weapons tests prior to the block leave period in April.



*C.L.F. visits Creggan Camp*



*6 Platoon Search Team: Zapper Paz, Zippy Cottnell,  
Niel Necchi, Wagtail, Kev Turner, Croc Crockford,  
Mel Burlow*





*Pte. Middleton on patrol on Central Drive, Creggan*

On return from leave the Battalion was re-organised to a Northern Ireland orbat and the Company strength increased from 92 to 160. The training pace was fast and furious and the P.T. staff with **Pte. Moyes** beat us into a very fit state. The climax of the training took place in early June.

The five days in TIN CITY was an exciting and exhausting experience and we hoped that Londonderry was not going to give us the problems with which we were presented by "Father Holmes" and his population.

Before we left for Derry we were able to fit in a hilarious Maiwand Day when the Drums Platoon excelled with an Aunt Sally stall that produced a great deal of money. **W.O.2 Flay** also held a party for the senior ranks and officers of the Company from which we are still recovering. The comedy



*Cpl. Hill, Pte./Brig. Shortis, Pte. Hill return from patrol in the Creggan*



*I wish I had some gloves like him*

act provided by **C/Sgt. Paz** and **Sgt. McLeod** was a smash hit. Sgt. McLeod can hold fifteen tomatoes in his mouth at one time and say "my friend has a pretty little pussy" without problems—can anyone beat that?

Our tour in Creggan was quietly eventful. We started with four platoons, the Drums at Rosemount, 5 Platoon in the Creggan, 6 Platoon in the Enclave and the Mortars at V6 (the now not so permanent V.C.P.). After numerous changes for political and operational reasons we moved to a three platoon orbat with the Drums still in Rosemount, with the Creggan being patrolled by 5 and 6 Platoons and the Mortars providing extra manpower to each of the three platoons.

In all we had a total of three shooting incidents, five robberies, three bus hijackings, two bomb



*Zap: "Look Drum, a camera" Les: "Where?"*





*Maj. Wakelin, Brig. Kenney, C.S.M. Flay  
"What do you mean, take my hands out of my  
pockets?"*

scares, two finds (one being an armalite rifle) and countless other miscellaneous incidents.

After four weeks of very welcome leave we returned to prepare for the inter-Company novice boxing competition and the Ferozeshah parade.

'B' Company won the boxing competition after some very spirited boxing from our seven finalists, who were **L/Cpl. Elliott**, **L/Cpl. Moyes**, **Ptes. Webb, Crawford, Milner, Tollafeld** and **Cook**. Mention must be made of **Pte. Brown** who showed lots of guts in the prelims but did not reach the finals.

Now that the excitement of Christmas has passed there are seventy soldiers from the Company on

internal cadres, out of a strength of one hundred and twenty.

1980 promises to be an interesting year and we look forward (?) to the battle trials of Kings Ride in March, the mechanised training at Soltau in April and the main exercise in Canada followed by the grand Exercise Spear Point in September.

Since Northern Ireland the Company has had an influx of some forty new soldiers straight from the Depot so is streamlined with lean and mean warriors ready to keep 'B' Company the best in the Battalion.

#### 4 Platoon

The Platoon role and organisation changed greatly in April 79. **2/Lt. Dick Davis** took over from **Lt. Simon Cook**, and **Drum-Major Harrill** from **Drum-Major Choules**. **L/Cpl. Poole** was posted to the R.L.T. and **Pte. Sam Isherwood** finally left the Army.

The Platoon then gave up its mechanised role for that of foot sloggers for Northern Ireland.

Training for Derry was enjoyable if not confusing with Tin City and Rice Row scribbled on everyone's brain. Although we could not match the Mortar Platoon's Fazzackerly shoot we had **Drummer Jones** crying in the sanger to stay awake. Yes the training was good fun but hard work and to prove it **Drummer Heatherwick** lost at least two stone after the daily B.F.T's.

The advance party left for Derry on the 2nd of July and on arrival were shocked to see it was so small. It was once said that "if you blinked you



*4 Platoon—The Drums—at Rosemount R.U.C. Station*



would miss the place", however it was not that bad really.

The handover from the Royal Hampshire Platoon commanded by C/Sgt. Allen was superb and we felt quite confident as the tour began.

July was quite quiet as we learnt the area, although there were two major successes on the Int. side. August began with a find of a G.P.M.G. pistol grip retaining pin in a car by **Cpl. Stanley** and **Drum-Major Harrill** and on 17th August **L/Cpl. Callcut** aged by fifteen years. Callsigns 21D and 21B were conducting a snap vehicle check-point thirty metres from an empty house when four terrorists fired from the house at a 'D' Company patrol. It was apparent that the gunmen had not seen our patrol. Unfortunately they escaped but on looking at our position in relation to that of the gunmen I can confidently say that we were lucky to have no casualties.

September passed without any major incidents but there were many "Red hot tips" in the middle of the night and **L/Cpl. Flay** excelled in the P.R./C.R. field with his useful right hook.

October saw the emergence of the S.W.O.T. team comprising of **Ptes. Funnell, Savage and McLellan**. They (like the rest of the Platoon: Editor's note) had the ability to cause trouble wherever they went in the shortest period of time. Hopefully we will not be tasked to do any more pub checks at 2330 hours on a Saturday night!

The Rosemount was the only platoon location west of the Foyle and was hard work, however, everyone worked very hard especially our two Search Teams 21B and 24A commanded by **Cpl. Turner** and **Cpl. Gill** respectively.

The tour was a great success and we wish our successors 3 R.R.F. a good tour too.

### 5 Platoon

Since the last issue of the Journal, 5 Platoon has had one or two arrivals and departures—who said diffies and exchanges? Doubtless the arrival which had most impact was **L/Cpl. Hall's** baby boy, Carl, born on 18th May. We also got a new Platoon Commander for Northern Ireland, **Lt. English**, who, rumour has it, arrived in his issue Sopwith Camel, but minus the handlebar moustache. He took over from **2/Lt. Rylands** while the latter occupied himself in hedges, ditches and camouflage cream in and around Warminster.

Important events since last writing definitely include block leave—important for many reasons, not least of which must be the impressions we left on various people back in the West Country—firm impressions, mainly to the face as far as can be gathered.

After leave, we had a day or two on the ranges—days which were enlivened by **Pte. Finnemore** having to aim two targets off to the left (and still passing) and **Pte. Greenham** finding a banana



5 Platoon at Creggan Camp



where he thought he kept his flash eliminator. **Sgt. Burlow** enjoyed operating the pipe range, and sought volunteers for Ireland who would like to work in peaceful surroundings—he needs one man with at least a 40" waist, and two others to pull him through.

Sennelager also revealed that we have some hitherto unrecognised talents—mainly bomb disposal. **Cpl. West** now knows that he should avoid all white cars with the word "Doodlebug" written across the bonnet, as their bonnets are likely to fly off, leaving the dazed observer wandering around in circles, and muttering, "Am I dead then am I? oh!" Sgt. Burlow has a word of warning for us too—Remember lads, don't pursue or take cover in derelicts or—hang on a moment, I wonder what's behind this piece of corrugated iron inside this house with the red "X" on the door . . . "Regulations pause, 2, 3, BANG".

We have also had time to squeeze in our fair share of sports—thrashing 'A' Company 6-0 in the Battalion football championships, thrashing 'D' Company at that new sport, the Pub Check, coming almost first in the Maiwand sports day "It's a Knockout" Competition, and also doing well in the Go-Kart race—despite excessive zeal (or was it because Burlow's Buggy "only had one wheel?) and our cart seemed to turn over rather easily. It also seems that entertaining H.M.S. "Vernon's" Sailors and Sailoresses was a rather sporting pursuit—probably more pursuit than sport though. However it seems that one future sport will be denied us—on receiving his new issue of N.I. patrol boots, **Cpl. West** was overheard to say, "Mmm, not bad, but not as good as ammo boots for kicking doors down".

Rumour has it that we have a new choirmaster in Creggan and **Pte. Mahon** is to be congratulated. Make sense? Course it does. Nod your heads then.

### The Tour

After the departure of the grinding Royal Hampshires, 5 Platoon settled down and made conscious efforts to get on with the local population. Our C.R. was richly rewarded when a horse ambled up to that very vigilant Japanese sniper and ate his sandwiches (the sniper never stirred). In mid July Mr. Rylands re-appeared from his P.C.D. course and took over 5 Platoon from Lt. English who, exhausted by his fine efforts, collapsed into bed. It is however, rumoured that he make occasional visits to the Int. cell and those never before lunch times.

The platoon welcomed two newcomers: **Harbron**, a man of many tongues, who baffled everyone by his language, and **Watson** who while NIRTING in Belfast was shot at, but managed to escape to give us the benefit of his experience. We also welcome eight lads from the Mortars who, under **Cpls. "Tich" Little** and **Stanyer** (who mentioned Laurel and Hardy) helped enormously, especially with the snap vehicle check-points.



2/Lt. Rylands feeling Pink

The platoon had their first bit of action on August 11th when we were called down Tac H.Q. to act as Battalion reserve. We were called out at about 4 p.m. to help our old friends 'D' Company contain a riot in the Little Diamond. Having debussed and deployed we fired some baton rounds at the rioters which they had great fun dodging. Also it was then that we had our first casualty "Butch" Burlow was hit on the knee by a huge rock (in fact the size of a dried pea). Apart from emitting a blood curdling scream he immediately started estimating how much compensation he would get! He limped around camp for a couple of days until he found out that he wasn't going to get a penny!

It wasn't until the 4th September that we really got the message that we weren't wanted. Two bricks commanded by **L/Cpl. "Killer" Murkin** and **L/Cpl. "Teefly" Hall** under the direction of Mr. Rylands were taking part in a Rat Trap exercise—again. They had only been in position at St. Mary's roundabout for about 20 minutes when 7 H.V. shots were fired at them. The Platoon Commander, **Pte. Middleton**, and **Pte. Harbron** (muttering Rench?—Dutch oaths) dived head first into the nearest hedge and yelled "can anyone see the enemy? No one could so they ran towards the suspected Firing Point and were immediately surrounded by terrified natives, all of whom considered that they were the targets.

The platoon had another welcome addition when **Pte. Slanton**, on loan from the M.T., became a father to a boy.

### 'C' COMPANY

The year started with a flurry of activity and snow. Our first task was a NUCLEAR Site Guard at Munster which passed off without incident despite the weather conditions. The next event was the P.R.E. inspection of vehicles and equipments and the efforts of the whole Company were rewarded with a good report.



The Novices Boxing Competition was a great success and we were denied victory only in the last bout. All our boxers fought courageously none more so than **Pte. Keen** who won the best losers award. Our other finalists were **Pte. Gurnett**, **Pte. Elliott** and **Pte. Brown**.

From the beginning of February until the end of March the Company was split. Company Headquarters ran the Potential N.C.O.s' Cadre and the remainder of the Company went to reinforce 'A' and 'B' Companies for Exercise Cold Duke and Exercise Kings Ride. **Captain Howman** was the Cadre Officer and the standards achieved on the Cadre have been vindicated in the success of the brick commanders in Northern Ireland. **Ptes. Proberts, Smith 78, Knowles, Elliott, Roberts and Mellam** all did well and are congratulated on their promotion.

Those members of the Company who were not involved in Cadres or training managed to attend various courses. The most popular being the Ski Courses at Silberhutte although **Pte. Lewis** also managed two weeks of freefall parachuting.

It was after block leave and the Northern Ireland Recce that the sad news of the temporary disbandment of the Company was broken. A Platoon went to each of the Rifle Companies and Company H.Q. formed the basis of the Battalion Operations Staff. Following a splendid party the

Company went into suspended animation and the exploits of the various members are told elsewhere in this journal.

Happily 'C' Company lives again and as C/SP/Trg. Company it was reincarnated on the 9th November 1979 with a very similar Company H.Q. and many familiar faces in the MILAN Platoon, MORTAR Platoon, ASSAULT PIONEER Platoon, H.Q. and TRAINING WING.

The Novices Boxing Team is training hard and we are preparing to run the N.C.O.s' Cadre and also get the vehicles ready for the P.R.E. We are back in business and the situation has changed very little.

#### Milan Platoon

These notes cover the activities of the Milan Platoon during the year. Exercise COLD DUKE was a period of discovery. It was the first time the Platoon had deployed in the field in its proper role with the remainder of the Battalion. During the exercise the section commanders discovered just how cold a Ferret Scout Car can become and the ease with which they can be bogged in.

The Platoon's next major task and one familiar to us was to provide the expertise for the Battalion's Milan Study period which was held on 1st March. **C/Sgt. Hiscock** who was commanding the Platoon during the O.C.'s absence on yet



'B' Company C.O.P. Section: Cpl. Eley, L/Cpl. Hills, Pte. Hume, Cpl. Lohan, Pte. Hill, Pte. King, Sgt. Coyle, Pte. Dick, Sgt. Evans



another course, led the assault. **Cpl. Ward** showed he had lost none of his touch when he informed an attentive audience that the Milan missiles flying characteristics are akin to a housebrick! **Pte. Devlin** proved the weapon system's worth during the live firing phase by scoring direct hits.

Towards the end of March we saw the start of OP BANNER tour preparations. Various people from the Platoon went off to attend courses to learn about specialised tasks and equipments peculiar to Northern Ireland. The Platoon was split up into the Close Observation Platoon, and the remainder who were sent to 'A', 'B' and 'D' Companies as part of these Companies. The choice of the Milan Platoon as a basis for a Close Observation Platoon is easy to understand. Many of the skills inherent in our normal role are easily adapted to the Northern Ireland environment. As a result we were able to complete our training in a much shorter space of time than is normally the case. Photography proved to be our only headache, however, it is interesting to see the number of soldiers in the Platoon who have purchased their own Nikon cameras as a direct result of their growing confidence in what is a difficult art to master. By the time the Battalion embarked for Londonderry in June, the Milan Platoon was spread to the four corners of the Battalion.

The tour proved valuable on a number of counts not the least of which was that J.N.C.O.s from the Platoon were able to exercise a degree of independent command not usually possible in our normal role. Also **Pte. Abdul Husseyin** can now type using two fingers.

In the jigsaw of much to fit in and limited time to do it in, we find as we approach the new year many changes in the Platoon. **Sgts. Nimmo** and **Watts** have left us. **Cpls. Ward** and **Coyle** have left on promotion and we offer them our congratulations. We also welcome the new boys who will become fully fledged members of the Platoon in the new year when they complete the Milan Cadre.

#### Mortar Platoon

1979 has been a busy year all round for the Mortar Platoon. Starting off with Battle Group exercises and a mortar concentration. After the Battalion block leave in April we transformed ourselves into a rifle platoon and were attached to 'B' Company or "Battling Bravo" as they call it.

Our task with 'B' Company for the Op BANNER tour was to take over and run the permanent vehicle check-point in their T.A.O.R. So that obviously took the priority in our training. We did our fair share of the patrol and riot training as well, and I think I can say with reasonable success, especially in TIN CITY during "the great Fazackerly shoot out". However, our P.V.C.P. training was intensive, with the Company Commander enjoying giving us many "Proxys" and other varied incidents to test our drills.

The Battalion and Company command element left for N.I. on the 2nd July. Within a matter of hours of our arrival we were at what was to be our home for the next four months (so we thought). It was affectionately known as "The Submarine", less affectionately known as the "Black Hole" and officially known as Victor 6. We soon managed to master the (dare I say it) Vengefull, and were ready for the platoon to arrive on the 10th. After the thorough training in B.A.O.R. it took no time at all to settle into the job and though the amenities and also the bed space were lacking, morale was always very high, which says a lot for the character of the lads.

There are two particular incidents of many from the Submarine that come to mind at the time of writing. Both are to do with the Company Commander's notorious "Proxy" drills. The first one involved a Coffee Pot, or W.R.A.C. for the uninformed. It was the very first practice and as we had practiced during training, we cleared the complex within 25 seconds, ran across the road and leapt over the bank leading down to the Foyle river. What a sight! Have you ever seen 18 squaddies on top of a Coffee Pot? That bank was much steeper than we had bargained for. (I wonder if the C.S.M. ever got his £1 back from the O.C. It cost him that for new tights for the Coffee Pot).

The second incident was during the period of the Marches. The boss had told us there would be no practices due to the situation. "The next one will be the real thing". Then two days later he hit the siren. You have never seen so many undressed squaddies running in the street at one time before. "I forgot Sergeant Major".



*"I refuse to look at a Punk C.S.M."  
But Sir, he only puts it through his nose at nights*



"Fx'?O\*g right you did sir". The writer was one of those in bed at the time.

Our four months in the "Submarine was not to be". It was eventually handed over to some out of work Red Caps!

The Mortar Platoon was unfortunately split up to reinforce 4, 5 and 6 Platoons. (Really it was to show them how it should be done). Two bricks went to each platoon, and **Sgt. Evans** tried his hand at becoming the "phantom whisperer" with the Int. bricks.

During the last couple of weeks of the tour we were to see our old home, the Submarine, demolished in a matter of two days by the R.E. Support Squadron. It has now been replaced by Victor 1 a purpose built P.V.C.P. and patrol base, in the hope that it will improve the security of the rural area by covering more entry points into Londonderry.

Not all of the Mortar Platoon were with 'B' Company: **Capt. Nigel Walker** started as the Bn. P.R.O. and then took the post of Adjutant. **Sgt. Chippy Carpenter** was the office manager with 'D' Company Int. and **Sgt. Bert Baines** and **Pte. Wetherall** were away taking Porny pics somewhere. **Cpl.**, now **Sgt. Denis Maloney** (congratulations) and **L/Cpl. Merv Towner** worked for the Tac Int Cell and **L/Cpls. Goffier Mills** and **Berny Wragg** joined the other rifle companies. So in one way or other we were still fulfilling our role of supporting the Battalion. We say farewell to **Cpl. Spud Taylor**, thank him for all his efforts and hope he has a good tour at the Depot.

In closing we thank **Major Wakelin** and all ranks of 'B' Company for making us welcome in their midst. No one can say N.I. was particularly enjoyable in the present situation, but I think we all made the best of it.

We now look forward to supporting the Battalion in our proper role in Germany.

### DELTA DETERS

'D' Company, now over a year old, stayed as a Rifle Company for the Northern Ireland Tour when the Battalion came down to three Rifle Companies. It will remain a Rifle Company for the rest of the tour in B.A.O.R. The SUPPORT distinction now passes to 'C' Company.

The year started off with the Company acting as enemy to the Battalion Exercise COLD DUKE. Having to work closely with TASK FORCE DELTA's H.Q. who set and ran the Exercise, it was useful that **Major Foster** knew the Task Force Commander, having been his G3 when the Brigadier was at 4 Armd. Div. It was also interesting that the Company Commander Designate, **Major Parslow**, was the G3 of the TASK FORCE. The various hardships of this exercise, with the temperature down to -20° and the move back in



*Cpl. Bowers debussing from a Wessex Helicopter in Fort George following an Operation*

the worst snow storms that Northern Germany has suffered for many years, will be well remembered by all on the exercise.

In May, the Company Commanders changed, Major Foster leaving for a post in England, and Major Parslow coming from the Garrison Headquarters. At this stage **Capt. Paddison** was 2IC, to be followed by **Lt. Cook** for a few weeks and then on the "re-allocation" of 'C' Company, **Capt. Howman** came and stayed until September, then believe it or not Lieutenant, soon to be Captain, Cook came back. At least the C.S.M., **W.O.2 Hicks**, and the Colour Sergeant, **C/Sgt. Fedricks**, stayed with us, and the Platoon Commanders and Platoon Sergeants didn't change: Messrs. **Wardle**, **Barlow** and **Tomlinson** and their Sergeants, **Watts**, **North** and **Rose**. **Sgts. Mellors** and **Dean** left the Company at the end of April to join the proposed Rear Party for our Northern Ireland Tour. When it was discovered that our Tactical Area of Responsibility—Londonderry was to be a 3 Company T.A.O.R., 'D' Company inherited 8 Platoon from 'C' Company with **Lt. Baynham** in Command, and **Sgt. Curtin** the Platoon Sergeant. It also contained the majority of the old 'C' Company's Rugby Team which pleased the Wardles of the Company! Not only did the Company get this extra platoon but the vast Intelligence organisation headed by **Capt. Bowkett** joined us, ably supported by **L/Cpl. Noddy Martin**. Two bricks from the Milan Platoon commanded by **Cpls. Gibbs** and **Bowers** also joined us plus **Sgt. Povey** who was to help run



*Waiting for the Riots of 9th, 10th, 11th August 1979*





*Rioting in Rossville Street*

the Intermediate Search Centre in Londonderry. In all the Company totalled just over 140 all ranks.

The training period at Sennelager and on the Ranges gave us the chance to settle down and start working as a Company. It stood us in very good stead when we arrived in Londonderry and also produced classic movements recorded on video, like Lt. Tomlinson sitting in the Ops Room some 6 feet away from a Car Bomb, and when reminded, flapping like a "good un". The expression on **L/Cpl. Bastow's** face, when in hot pursuit he charged up the stairs of a house to be confronted by a camera, was also worth remembering.

After Sennelager and a long weekend leave the Advance Party left for Londonderry on the 22nd July followed by the rest of the Company on the 7th, 8th and 10th July. Then followed the series of incidents that helped to determine the Company's motto DELTA DETERS; a motto also suited to our B.A.O.R. role.

Waterloo Place features high on all our memories of Londonderry, in particular the constant Friday and Saturday nights minor aggro. **Pte. Fraser** enjoyed using his AKIDO on a particularly unpleasant peasant, Sgt. Watts knew exactly how many mosaic squares there were in LITTLEWOOD'S doorway. Various arresting squads led by **Cpl. Richardson** or by Lt. Wardle always came back with one or two yobbos which helped to produce a situation where the aggro stopped. The Brigade Commander, **Brigadier Shortis**, congratulated the Company on sorting this problem out for him.



*Lt. Tomlinson, having just been bottled in Waterloo Place*

The other problem, or should I say nightmare, especially for the Platoon Commanders and Platoon Sergeants were the Permanent Vehicle Check Points (P.V.C.P.s). The nightmare was caused by the constant visits of the O.C. and C.S.M. How do you keep a kitchen spotless 24 hours a day? Sgt. Watts thought he'd found the answer, Sgt. North was positive he had, but Lt. Tomlinson never quite made it, Lt. Wardle just gave up and got Cpl. Bowers up whenever the O.C. visited. It was at the P.V.C.P.s that the chat-up techniques came to the fore, **Pte. Blaber** with his pet egg and **L/Cpl. McGuire** all helped to humour the "customers". It was a shame that more lollipops were eaten by the soldiers and Coffee Pots than were given to the children passing through!



*2/Lt. Barlow Briefs the C.L.F., Maj.-Gen. Glover*

The main "event" of our tour was definitely the riots of the 9th, 10th and 11th August when half a dozen anniversaries occurred at the same time. "TROOPS OUT", APPRENTICE BOYS' MARCH", "10th ANNIVERSARY OF TROOPS IN", all added up to one thing, AGGRO. 'D' Company stood firm in Sackville Street and in Waterloo Place and just let the yobbos vent their feelings on us rather than the premises in the Strand Road. We suffered a few minor injuries, **L/Cpl. Owens** with his foot, **Pte. Turner** (MAGGOT) thumb and Mr. Tomlinson being "bottled".

**Cpl. Barber** featured in two incidents. Firstly, when 25 rounds were fired at his brick, **Pte. Bowman** remarked that he had no idea where the rounds came from they "were flying all over the place and I just took cover", sensible fellow. **Pte. Weaver** claimed he had an idea where the "dicker" was though. A week later Cpl. Barber was again in the news, this time fortunately it resulted in the recovery of £250 and a pistol.

During our tour we played Football and Rugby against the R.M.P.s, 'A' Company and 'B' Company, being successful in all our matches. We have now got the basis for good Company sides. We also ran an Inter-Brick Competition with the Bde. Comd. presenting the prizes. I wonder if we will ever see the plaques from TAC H.Q.?





*'D' Company amphibious operations*

Towards the end of our tour the Company took on a more car orientated attitude. The visits to the P.V.C.P.s were only done to allow the C.S.M. to look at cars. He hadn't heard of inflation, still wanting a luxury car under £1,500. Sgt. North became a real car bore, the Colour Sergeant got it wrong and Sgt. Watts quietly got it right, although disappearing to do a Small Arms Course after so long playing with the big stuff must have severely shocked him.

The Company returned safely to Osnabruck at the beginning of November and said farewell to all those who had joined us just for the tour; thank you for helping us to deter. We are now a three platoon Company looking forward to the challenge of next year, Canada and the largest exercise done



*I'm slowly loosing control of this Ops Room—  
Sgt. North*

in B.A.O.R. for a very long time will feature high on our list of activities. Before that we have got Exercise SNOW QUEEN to look forward to, Lt. Tomlinson and L/Cpl. Ball already have gone to Norway in preparation. We also have January-February full of courses and cadres, plenty to keep us busy.

Although the majority of these notes are taken up with Northern Ireland a special vote of thanks should go to our hard working rear party headed by **Sgt. Trench** with **Ptes. Gibbs** and **MacFarlane** who have prepared our vehicles for the rigours of next year.

### **SIGNAL PLATOON**

The past ten months have been an extremely busy period for the Signal Platoon, with a variety of activities and training. There has also been a



*10 Platoon*



considerable turnover of personnel; the most notable arrival being **W.O.2 Alan "Shirts" Hobbs**, who took over as Asst. P.S.O. last January. Following the vehicle and telecommunications inspections in January the Signal Platoon had to prepare and go on Exercise "COLD DUKE" on Soltau which proved to be very cold and quite an experience for all concerned. The deep snow and continual blizzards apart, the communications on the exercise were good and useful experience was gained working to TASK FORCE DELTA H.Q., who acted as the higher control.

On returning from the snows, the Signal Platoon ran a Regimental Signaller Standard II Cadre, for 14 students selected from the Mech. Companies and H.Q. Company. This was a six-week Cadre based on the new CLANSMAN range of radios, and eight students qualified as R.S.S.2, the best student award going to **Pte. Romain** ("C" Company), who subsequently joined the Signal Platoon along with **L/Cpl. Hunt** and **Ptes. McCormack** and **Foy**.

At the end of March everyone went on three weeks' Pre-Northern Ireland Block Leave, and returned at the end of April to be drastically re-organised to the N.I. Orbat. The R.S.O., **Capt. Davidson-Houston**, became Asst. "Ops Officer", the Asst. R.S.O. joined the ranks of "007" and "M" to become Asst. I.O., **C/Sgt. Algie Turner** con-

tinued to run the stores and took over as Asst. R.S.O., **Sgt. Junior Gardner** was sent away to do a Skill at Arms Course and ended up by becoming a Platoon Sergeant in "A" Company, **Sgt. Chas. Irwin** R. Signals, and his Rear Link Detachment plus three Regimental Signallers learned all about teleprinters in preparation for running the Battalion COMCEN. **Sgt. Nigel Stevens** managed to remain as Radio Sergeant but on arrival in N.I. became an Asst. Watchkeeper in TAC H.Q. **Cpl. Paddy Bromilow** and **Pte Bob Pullen** were detached to the Rear Party to take on the onerous task of maintaining all H.Q. Company vehicles, during our absence.

**Cpl. Willy Wilmot** joined the ranks of the TAC H.Q. Ops Staff as an Asst. Watchkeeper and **Cpl. Greg Oland** took up the challenge of running the ancient Echelon Telephone Exchange with **L/Cpls. Tarrant** and **Preston** and **Pte. Ranns**. Last but by no means least **Pte. Berry** ("Mick" to his friends) was selected to be the C.O.'s Driver and so he joined the ranks of the Regimental Police to form the C.O.'s "Falling Plates".

The months of May and June were spent training for these specialist appointments and also practising the various basic infantry skills, this included two weeks at Sennelager in June. At the beginning of July the Platoon moved to Londonderry, being well and truly split between locations. Signallers



*Regimental Signallers Standard II Cadre R.S.O., Instructors and Students*



were based at TAC H.Q. (affectionately known as "Slack Tac" by those that did not work there) in R.U.C. Strand Road, Echelon and 'D' Company in Fort George (suitably renamed "Fort Fun"), 'A' Company in the Masonic Car Park and B' Company in the Creggan Camp. In addition **Sgt. Kerr**, **L/Cpl. Shannon** and **Pte. McCormack** were "loaned" to H.Q. N. Ireland for the duration of the tour. All ranks performed very well during the tour and most of the signallers managed to fit in a few mobile and foot patrols from time to time, including the R.S.O. who attracted a number of stones from a group of "mini yoblets" (under 4 years old) whilst on patrol in the Bogside with 'A' Company.

The Signal Platoon has just returned from the Battalion Block Leave, re-organised to the B.A.O.R Orbat, and is now heavily involved with the Ferozeshah Parade, Boards of Officers, Pre-Course training and preparation for Christmas. **Sgt. Nigel Stevens** and **Cpl. Viv Nutting** both completed their service in Northern Ireland and are serving their last six months in England before becoming fully fledged civilians. We have also said goodbye to **Sig. Mick Gale**, R. Signals, who was loaned to us for N.I. from TASK FORCE DELTA Signal Squadron.

In the New Year the Signal Platoon will be running a R.S.S.2 Cadre and preparing for training at Soltau and Canada. Finally **Capt. Simon Cook** (of New Zealand fame?) has been seen hanging around the Signal Platoon office of late and it is rumoured that he is trying to learn "Morse Code" in order to replace **Capt. Patrick Davidson-Houston** ("D-H") as "Pronto" in March.

### ORDERLY ROOM

The last year has seen many changes in the throbbing "heart" of the Battalion. For the Northern Ireland tour the Chief Clerk, **W.O.2 Breen**, went to grow his hair long and learn how to type intsums, whilst **Cpl. Proctor** moved in to supervise all the Battalion administrative matters in his place. We saw yet another new Adjutant, this time **Captain Walker**, who sent **Captain Briard** back to Osnabruck, looking rather lean after a two weeks' Mayo holiday, to start work with the 2nd Battalion at Garrison Headquarters! **Sgt. Taylor** had the dubious honour of looking after the rear party office with **Cpl. Jarrett** and **L/Cpl. Fern** (who has again returned to the Depot) and we believe that they were busy enough to be kept at work until 4.30 in the afternoon!

Life as a clerk is not all that rosy, and sitting indoors beside a radiator, with a large in-tray and a friendly typewriter, with thoughts of being deprived of happy footslogging is not all that one might imagine. However, **Ptes. Harbron** and **Launder** seem to think that it is a suitable challenge and we welcome them into the fold.

**Pte. Gowland** is now delighted to have an electric

duplicator and keeps locking himself in his office so that no one else can get a go with it.

**Sgt. Ficke** has been posted to 1 R. HAMPS at Munster as O.R.C. where we wish him well. We hope to see him back in the not too distant future. **Cpl. Finnegan** has moved in to take his place, and with **L/Cpl. Thomas** in charge of movements we have plenty of new blood to charge us into the 1980s.

**Cpl. Leeming** and **L/Cpl. Kinnersley** have set up in a new office looking after the Battalion 2IC and Operations Officer respectively and we see them occasionally when a problem has to be sorted out, otherwise they spend most of the time hiding behind the last three years' worth of files. (They keep promising to clear their office). **Cpl. Lowery** was pleased to be out of that particular office during the N. Ireland tour and enjoyed his short period of freedom and is now tied to documents; his feet have not touched the ground yet, and we keep telling him things are bound to settle soon.

The Orderly Room is a most awkward organisation, because clerks keep most irregular hours and are fed on most peculiar diets, but they live in a most happy atmosphere (being mad helps).

Having had a very unsettled year of moves, upheavals and transfers, everyone has grown in experience and looks forward to seeing people from time to time in the next year; anything is better than talking to a typewriter.

### TECHNICAL QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT

The year 1979 started as a "full" year should with us all working on New Year's Day. This auspicious start was followed almost immediately by the preparation for the Periodic R.E.M.E. Inspection of all vehicles, weapons and instruments and **C/Sgt. Coleman** with his F.A.M.T.O. team just about broke all records in obtaining the spares needed to get the vehicles, both tracked and wheeled in good working order.

After the P.R.E., no respite . . . it was preparation for the Battlegroup Exercise COLD DUKE which occupied our time. We look back on this exercise with a certain smugness and no little pride. We carried on when other nations' armies gave up and returned to barracks. The conditions at the time, however, did not produce many smiling faces! The exercise area at Soltau (just north of Iceland, as **C/Sgt. Coleman** put it) was feet deep in snow. The conditions were such that movement of wheeled vehicles off any hard road was impossible but the Echelon, and the Tech. Q.M.'s, produced what was needed on time (well, I didn't hear many real complaints!). Two hard weeks was followed by the road move back on a day when most of the German traffic was immobile. The F.A.M.T.O. vehicles (last in the column) in fact arrived back in Osnabruck 24 hours after the start time.



After a break of a weekend the next event to occupy us was preparation for the Close Combat Study, Exercise **KINGS RIDE**. This required the modifying and fitting of **SIMKILL** Kits to A.P.C.s and the collection of large amounts of specialised stores. But after numerous recesses of the exercise area and a considerable amount of work and training, the whole exercise was cut back to a week on a local training area. (Not to worry, however, we are scheduled to run another **KINGS RIDE** in March 1980).

Three weeks' leave was the next event on the calendar and the Department then re-organised into those who were to go to Northern Ireland (the lucky ones) and those who were to stay and keep the Battalion running on our behalf. **W.O.2 Cole**, the T.Q.M.S., and **Cpl. Barnes** (F.A.M.T.O.) reluctantly decided to form our Rear Party—although the T.Q.M.S. did insist in accompanying the Q Advance Party to Londonderry to help with the takeover from the Royal Hampshire where he did a sterling job for three weeks.

The Battalion moved to Sennelager at the end of May for Northern Ireland training and for this exercise both the Technical and the Regimental Quartermaster's "OP BANNER" groups combined to form one Department—as it was to be for the next five months. Under canvas at Sennelager in June, with only two downpours of rain during the whole period, was not a particularly arduous experience, but the training carried out by the Battalion, and in particular the Echelon, was invaluable.

At the end of June the 'Q' Advance Party under the command of **Captain T. F. Allen**, the Technical Quartermaster, left for Londonderry and the next ten days were fully occupied in taking over the West of the Foyle locations from 1st Battalion The Royal Hampshire Regiment. The Echelon was based in Fort George and for the next four months supported the Battalion, as the Echelon does everywhere, by providing food, fuel, clothing and a whole host of "special to Northern Ireland" equipments. The Quartermaster's Department was sited in a hangar—ideal for the purpose as everything was under one roof. One added facility Echelon provided was a laundry, most capably run by **L/Cpls. Haddow** and **Bond** and all Companies obtained from it an excellent service. The only incident being some "over-done" shirts in a tumble dryer . . . and they belonged to the R.Q.M.S., **W.O.2 Green**!

It is not possible to speak of 80 plus individuals in the Echelon but everyone played their part to the full throughout the OP BANNER tour. The R.Q.M.S., who said that for experience, four months in Northern Ireland was worth two years elsewhere; the Echelon C.S.M., **W.O.2 Carter**, who not only "policed" Fort George but also needed the use of a computer to provide guards and escorts from his limited resources; **W.O.2 Smallridge**,

**A.C.C.**, who with his cooks caused many a soldier (and officer!) to take a crash course of the Mayo Clinic diet, **C/Sgt. Coleman** whose job it was to obtain spare parts for the fleet of Landrovers and civilian cars—and succeeded even if he did on the odd occasion visit a few scrap-yards! **S/Sgt. McMillan**, R.E.M.E., IC of the L.A.D. whose task it was to keep our vehicles on the road, and who takes most of the credit for the excellent 100% P.R.E. result. **W.O.2 Turner** whose signallers manned an antiquated telephone exchange in Fort George, **C/Sgt. Pearce** who ran the ration account and ensured that the Battalion ate so well; **C/Sgt. Fielding** and **Sgt. Lestrangle** who looked after the Officers' and Sergeants' Messes and all others of the M.T., Pay Section and Quartermasters who did so much to make the tour so administratively successful.

The handover to 3rd Battalion Royal Regiment of Fusiliers went well—with the usual "wheeling and dealing" resulting in 1 D.E.R.R. leaving with no bills to pay. The Quartermaster's Department were, in the main, on the very last flight back to B.A.O.R. and in less than 36 hours after getting back were all away for the much thought of month's leave.

December saw us once again in our separate Sections, with the Technical Quartermaster gaining one addition in the F.A.M.T.O. stores, **Cpl. Finnegan**. Despite the T.Q.M.S. doing so much whilst on the Rear Party (with his visit to Kohima occurring in the middle) there was an awful lot of work to do; with **C/Sgt. Coleman** carrying out a 100% stockcheck of his spares and the G1098 stores rapidly being denuded of the massive quantity of stores which had arrived during the previous four months.

Christmas interrupted our work but the New Year and 1980 is now with us—as is the 1980 Events Plan . . . P.R.E. . . . **KINGS RIDE** . . . **SOLTAU** . . . **CANADA** . . . and so forth. Here we go again!

## M.T. PLATOON

Once again the platoon was under new management, **Lt. Stafford** left after Exercise **COLD DUKE** and moved up the road to become Tech. Q.M. of 1 GLOSTERS at Munster. He handed over to **W.O.2 Perkins** who kept the wheels turning until the arrival of **Lt. Stacey** in March, who almost immediately returned to the U.K. to attend his "Playtime" course. During this period the Battalion was re-organising for the OP BANNER Tour, and members of the platoon were posted into the three rifle companies where they were to remain until returning from Northern Ireland. The M.T.O. returned from his course full of enthusiasm only to find he was required to run the Urban C.Q.B.R. during the Battalion's pre Northern Ireland training. On return from Sennelager it was time to pack our boxes and park up our vehicles in readiness



for the move to Londonderry in early July. We said goodbye to W.O.2 Perkins who returned to England to become a recruiter in Trowbridge. We thank him for all his hard work over the years and wish both him and PAT all the best for the future.

On arrival in Londonderry we quickly settled down to life in Fort George. Although the Echelon element didn't actually get involved with operations there was plenty to keep us occupied. Our one civilian van covered an average of one thousand miles a week until it finally gave up the ghost and was buried in 46 Command Workshops to the delight of **Cpl. Simms**. Our delight was short lived however, as the replacement was even older than the original. The Bedford Section under **L/Cpl. Cartwright** soon became familiar with old R.L. Bedfords some of which were in service before their drivers were born, but age apart they proved reliable and travelled many miles during the tour. During August **S/Sgt. MacMillan** (L.A.D.) and **L/Cpl. Taylor** entered the Northern Ireland Safe and Skilled Driving Competition held at Ballykinler, unfortunately **L/Cpl. Taylor's** Bedford developed a brake light fault and was prevented from entering. **S/Sgt. MacMillan** stopped to give assistance to a stranded civilian driver during the road drive section and was penalised for being over time.

**L/Cpl. Ballantyne** became an expert at repairing punctures and managed to repair some 250 tyres during the four months—this must be a record. In September **L/Cpl. Spaggon** returned to England to spend his last six months' service in Lichfield, and **L/Cpl. Arnold**, our servicing N.C.O., followed him on posting, his place was taken by **L/Cpl. Moore**. The P.R.E. inspection took place in October, this involved a great deal of extra work for the drivers but resulted in the Battalion receiving a very good report.

At the end of October we handed over to 3 R.R.F. and were all back in Osnabruck by 9th November, and proceeded on a month's well-earned leave. The Rear Party during the Northern Ireland tour consisted of **Sgt. Dobie**, **Cpl. Parsons**, **Ptes. Jones**, **Smart** and **Smith** who all worked extremely hard preparing vehicles for the Battalion's return.

#### LIGHT AID DETACHMENT

1979 saw many a change of face as well as a change of pace within the L.A.D. We welcomed in our new E.M.E., **Capt. Day**, and A.S.M., **W.O.1 Chamberlain**. The change of pace came in the form of a lot of turning spanners by both the L.A.D. rear party and the lucky sixteen earmarked for N. Ireland under **S/Sgt. McMillan**. **Q. Baxter** and several of our "Wobblies" (Control Equipment Technicians) also went to N.I. with the Battalion, and had a very interesting time.

Whilst the rear party beavered away continuously at the Battalion fleet in readiness for

their return, the L.A.D. in N. Ireland was proving an invaluable time for the many young tradesmen whose first tour it was. Working on a fleet of 80+ vehicles which were covering a staggering 40,000 miles a month, good maintenance helped to attain the sum of only three vehicles breaking down in the four months. An excellent P.R.E. result was a befitting end to the tour.

**S/Sgt. Bone** and the armourers are still smiling at his determined attempt at plaque making to record the Battalion's N.I. tour. It took 88 hours to make and cost the taxpayer £985.60 + V.A.T.

N. Ireland faded and freezing Ferozeshah was on us again, closely followed by the usual round of successive events that make the end of the diary the most used part of the year. How did we survive?

1980. "B.F.T., what's that A.S.M.? Oh! I remember now, it's something they put in fire extinguishers isn't it?"

"About those P.R.E. dates A.S.M.".

Here we go again!

#### FAMILIES OFFICE

Since the last edition our major task in the Families Office has been to keep the wives and children happy whilst their husbands and fathers prepared themselves for and finally embarked on their Northern Ireland tour.

We set about producing an information booklet in May. The booklet was issued to each family and gave up-to-date information on such subjects as postal arrangements, telephones, medical Services, pay, travel to O.K., compassionate leave, help in an emergency, public relations, record requests, security and those activities we had planned for the families during the four months' tour.

Mindful of the saying "time flies when you're having fun" we decided that a full programme of activities would help the time pass quicker for the families. The weekly programme was as follows:

Sunday	— Day trip—local place of interest
Monday	— Church and Sunday School
Tuesday	— Coffee afternoon
Wednesday	— Keep fit and Badminton
Thursday	— Day trip
Friday	— Coffee morning

In addition we held monthly wives' clubs meetings, Sunday lunches, Sunday teas and Saturday shopping trips.

The family lunches and teas proved to be the most popular activities, mainly because we showed films to the children and video recordings of the husbands at work in Londonderry to the wives. At the same time we made recordings of the wives and children to send over to the menfolk in Northern Ireland.





*Orienteering—Children's Camping Weekend*

One of the Sunday lunches was changed to a barbecue, and by way of entertainment the wives played football and hockey, the hockey proved to be very successful and as a result the wives now have a hockey team.

The bus trips got off to a poor start due to the appalling weather. Nevertheless they gained momentum during the month of August, in particular those to Fantasia Land (Cologne), the Pony Park (Slagharren, Holland) and the Safari Park (Stuchenbrock). However, once the children returned to school it became more difficult for the mums to travel because of the time restriction.

The most memorable of the wives' club's evenings was the visit of Dave Raven from B.F.B.S. when a radio programme was recorded for the



*Spectators at the Barbecue Day Football Match*



*A.P.C. rides—Children's Camping Weekend*

husbands. The wives without exception all looked very smart and a credit to their husbands.

We were also visited by Shirley Mathias of the Swindon Evening Advertiser, who spent three days in Osnabruck. She met wives in their homes, was borne out by the vast quantity that was consumed.

Throughout the period there was a daily post run to the quarter areas, this was a very popular service which was much appreciated by the wives.

Overall there were very few problems and the Families Office would like to thank all the wives for their co-operation and assistance.

We expected a slowing down of the pace of life on the return of the Battalion from Northern Ireland. Far from it; we have been busier than ever what with twenty-nine quarters to be taken over during the block leave and the preparations for Christmas. A major event was the children's Christmas Party which took place on Saturday, 15th December. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves and particularly popular was the Bavarian Group in their Lederhosen provided by the Regimental Band.

attended a coffee afternoon, and saw Clive School, Belm, and the NAAFI facilities in Sedan Strasse. Mrs. Mathias obviously enjoyed her stay with us, and her articles in the paper showed how impressed she had been by everyone she had met.

One weekend was devoted to the children. A camp was organised for them in the barracks area and the highlights of the weekend were the A.P.C.



*Children's Christmas Party*



rides, .22 shooting and the barbecue. However, none of them were very interested in the five mile orienteering or the early morning P.T. That the children were impressed by the cookhouse food,

In early January we said farewell to **Lt.-Col. and Mrs. D. A. Jones**. On behalf of the families we would like to wish them both health and happiness for the future and a special word of thanks to Mrs. Jones for all her efforts for the wives during the past two and a half years.

Finally we would like to welcome **Lt.-Col. and Mrs. G. Coxon** to the Battalion and hope that they will both have an enjoyable tour with us.

### OFFICERS' MESS NOTES

To mention every arrival and departure and incident in a year as full as 1979 would be both difficult and invidious. Northern Ireland dominated most of our lives for the greater part of the year for in effect the preparatory phase lasted for over three months, the tour for four and the concluding month was spent on leave for all except the hard working Rear Party.

On 22nd February a Regimental Guest Night was held for the Colonel of the Regiment, **Brigadier J. R. Roden, C.B.E.**, on his retirement from the Army. This was followed by a Ladies' Guest Night on the 28th March to dine out **Major Edward Churcher** and his wife Jenny, as well as **Capt. Richard Palmer** who returned to serve with the Royal Signals in Cyprus.

During the earlier part of the year we sadly said farewell to **Lt. Bill Stafford**, **Major Dick Foster** and **Capt. Barry Paddison** and welcomed **Lt. Peter Stacey** and **Major Colin Parslow**.

To celebrate the Anglo-German day in Osnabruck on 24th May the Mess held a reception and guests included local dignitaries from our affiliated town Melle, which was followed by a Massed Bands Concert, including our Regimental Band, in the Stadthalle in Osnabruck.

Whilst on Northern Ireland training at Sennelager two formal lunches were held in the "Field". A marquee was erected behind the C.Q.B.R.(U) Range and the colours and various pieces of silver adorned the interior. The Osnabruck Garrison Commander, **Brigadier B. L. G. Kenny** was entertained to lunch on 11th June, and **Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal** Minister of State for Defence, **Major-General A. C. S. Boswell**, G.O.C.2 Armd. Div. and **Brigadier B. L. G. Kenny** entertained to lunch on 12th June.

On returning from Northern Ireland training at Sennelager, we entertained the Captain and four members of the H.M.S. VERNON Wardroom from 14th to 18th June. This included taking part in the Maiwand Day celebrations, which caused great amusement to all concerned. In addition a Regimental Guest Night was held in the Mess for

the H.M.S. VERNON Officers, which was our last big social event before departing for Northern Ireland.

At the beginning of July the Battalion moved to Londonderry. Although fairly well split up geographically, with Officers' Messes in each of the four main locations, we managed to entertain a large number of guests during the four month tour, using the large Mess in Fort George on most of the formal occasions.

Four Curry lunches were held during the tour for officers from the 8th Infantry Brigade Staff, 40 Commando Royal Marines, 1 STAFFORDS, 176 Pro Company R.M.P., 8 Inf. Brigade H.Q. and Signal Squadron and 25 Fd. Squadron R.E. In addition a number of small informal dinners were held to which various R.U.C. Officers and their wives and some civilians were invited.

In mid October the Regimental Band came over to Londonderry from Osnabruck and amongst a very full programme gave two Band Concerts at R.U.C. Strand Road, which were well attended by the R.U.C., 8 Inf. Brigade Staff and members of the Battalion. They also performed a very varied programme of music during a Guest Night held at Fort George on the 19th October.

For the latter half of November and beginning of December the Battalion was on Post Northern Ireland leave. The first function to be held in the Mess in Osnabruck after June, was a Ladies' Guest Night on the 15th December to dine out **Lt.-Col. David and Nerissa Jones**. We also said goodbye to **Major Alan and Tisha Ladds**, **Major Tony Piers**, **Capt. Lois Lodge**, R.A.M.C., **Capt. Bill Holmes**, **Capt. Robert Castle**, R.E.M.E., **Lt. Bruce Burnett**, R.E.M.E., and **Lt. Mike English**, Int. Corps, both attached for N.I.

Following the presentation of L.S. & G.C. Medals on the 18th December, the G.O.C.2 Armd. Div., **Major-General A. C. S. Boswell**, was entertained to lunch in the Mess. This was closely followed by a Buffet Dinner for the W.O.s and Sergeants after the Inter-Company Boxing Finals on the 19th December.

The final fling before the Christmas break was a lunch on the 21st December for the Colonel of the Regiment and 50 guests following the Ferozeshah parade, including many officers and their wives, serving away from the Battalion in B.A.O.R. In the evening we were guests at the excellent W.O.s' and Sergeants' Mess Ferozeshah Ball.

The Officers' Mess saw the end of 1979 with a black tie New Year's Eve Party, which was an enjoyable way to end an extremely busy year. **C/Sgt. "Flower" Fielding**, **Cpl. Smith** and the Mess Staff have looked after us all very well during the past year and have our grateful thanks.

### WARRANT OFFICERS' AND SERGEANTS' MESS NOTES

During the past year the Mess has gone from strength to strength and of course, comings and



goings and promotions are too many to chronicle. We have well and truly settled into our new home in Osnabruck. The move went quite smoothly and with only minor property damage. It's quite amazing the amount of property we have accumulated over the years. Gifts from members over the years always come under the nostalgic gazes of Visitors to the Battalion. We were glad to see **W.O.2 Chris Whiting** and his wife last year and other notables such as **Philip** and **Kate Hull**.

1979 has been what can only be described as a traditional year in which the Mess re-lived to the full such traditions of yester-year. The Maiwand sports were a great success and we were enlivened by members of H.M.S. VERNON, male and female.

Ferozeshah was held on the 21st December with four full guards followed by the Ball in the evening. The salute was taken by the Colonel of the Regiment, **Brigadier J. R. Roden, C.B.E.**, who attended the evening entertainment as well.

Before moving to N.I. we had to say farewell to **R.Q.M.S. Ben Turner** who has taken up post as R.Q.M.S. SOEST.

He thought he was the Senior Serving Mess Member until he arrived at the dinner and saw **W.O.2 Chris Whiting** present. Then we had the real truth. Seriously though, we would like to thank Ben and Joy for all they have done and wish them all the best. Look out SOEST our loss is your gain!!

Of course 1979 will be best remembered for the Battalion tour in Northern Ireland from July until November. Even though the tour is four months by the time training and leave have been added we are talking in terms of eight months in all.

Mess life somewhat dwindled but we did manage to hold a couple of Regimental Dinners at Fort George. Each Company Sergeants' Mess also held their own mini social to host the local officials.

**W.O.2 Steve Cole** (our own BLASHFORD-SNELL) went off to India and Pakistan and you will read a detailed account in this edition.

1979 can also be described as an Active Year because in addition to N.I. we were sent to Soltau in 10 feet of snow and temperatures as low as -20° C. for Mechanised training. It was so cold that the Russians and East Germans went home in the G.D.R., and they are equipped for bad conditions (LESS WHISKY). We were actually snowed up in the Mess Bar at one stage. The inconvenience one has to put up with in the modern Army.

We lived in Woodlands Camp at Sennelager for two weeks during June training for the Northern Ireland tour. Those with a tear in their eye will be pleased to know that "Geordie's Bar" is still there outside the front gate. Some even went as far as Schloss Neuhaus.

What is perhaps unique, is the fact that we had

serving in the Battalion at one time four Ex R.S.M.s: **Major John Peters, Q.M.**, **Lt. Bill Stafford, M.T.O.**, **Lt. Dave Leadbetter** as Families Officer and **Lt. Pete Stacey** as M.T.O. designate. Plenty of room at the top Mr. Vice.

Before closing we would like to congratulate **W.O.2 Dave Wiggins** and **W.O.2 Rod Hicks** on their selection for promotion to **W.O.1**. Taking over in 1980 as R.S.M. 1 WESSEX and R.S.M. 2 WESSEX respectively.

For those of you who are by now choked up with tears and nostalgia we have 1980 to look forward to with the biggest exercise in Germany since the War. (We thought that was real) and Canada again. (GET YER HAT ON BLASHFORD).

### CORPORALS' MESS NOTES

Since this time last year the change of Mess Members has been enormous. Many have gone to the Sergeants' Mess to whom we wish all the best, and many more entering the Mess for the first time. These we congratulate, hoping their stay will be a long one.

The Christmas Ball 1978 was a great success. The Mess hired a German Gastatte for the evening, this being the first major function in Germany. Since then most members have more respect for the local brew.

After Christmas it was all go for a last fling in mechanised training before N.I. training started in May.

The Mess held a German Bier night with Bavarian Band and all. Never before have we had so many German singing Mess Members and wives. It must have been the liquid German course earlier in the evening, which all started with 0.5 litre.

N.I. lasted from July until November. Apart from invitations to other Messes in the area social life consisted of two cans of beer in any 24 hours. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Corporals' Messes in the Londonderry area who went out of their way to make our stay as enjoyable as possible.

There was leave in November, but, in the meantime, the Rear Party Corporals had laid on a Christmas Draw and Ball for early December. This really was a terrific night. Unfortunately it coincided with the Officers' Farewell to the Colonel. However, the R.S.M. and a few selected Sergeants' Mess Members were most impressed. The Disco-Cabaret was the Devon and Dorsets' Band "54321" who really laid it on for us.

**Cpl. Yorky Marginson** has left the Army and is now living in Berlin, and **Cpl. Don Bolton** has gone to the great geriatric scrap heap in the sky, namely the Depot. Seriously though, all the Mess would like to wish these two all the best for the future.



By the end of this year we hope to have our own custom-built Corporals' Mess. The money has been approved and we only hope that all will be ready for the next festive season.

## SPORTS NOTES

### Cricket

The 1979 Season was interrupted by the Northern Ireland tour and was thus not as successful as it could have been. The Battalion, however, put up some excellent performances and fourth place in the Garrison League was creditable, considering the Rear Party had to play half the matches. After an exciting victory against 5 Innis D.G. in the Army Cup 1st Round we were narrowly beaten by 3 PARA in the 2nd Round in another very tight finish.

The highlight of the season was the tour to Denmark when we were entertained by Kolding CC. The weather only allowed us one match but the social life was so superb that most of the team made firm friends with our hosts and plans are well advanced for a return visit in 1980. There were several excellent individual performances but in the main our successes were achieved by good team effort with safe catching and ground fielding and steady bowling. Our batting was little more than steady and with the absence of **2/Lt. Tomlinson** and the lack of form of **W.O.2 Hobbs** and **L/Cpl. Owens** we often couldn't quite score enough. **Cpl. Iles** in his role of senior professional, batted and bowled very well and **Capt. Castle**, our L.A.D. Commander, bowled consistently well and fast. **Major Ladds**, **C/Sgt. Turaga**, **L/Cpl. Owens** and **Sgt. Smith** all had some good performances with the bat and **Cpl. Butler** and **Pte. Legister** looked useful when they were given a bowl. **L/Cpl. Haddow**, **Pte. Shillingford** and **S/Sgt. Tunney** put in some useful all round effort and **Sgt. Curtin** has proved himself to be a safe keeper and an excellent team member. **Sgt. Miller** once again refused to be intimidated and is a well respected and knowledgeable Umpire, and **L/Cpl. Haddow** ensured that the Cricket Bag was always present and in good order. Our Cricket may not have been the best in the garrison but our teas were due to the efforts of **Sgt. Miller** and the S.Q.M.S. The following represented the Battalion:— **Major Ladds**, **Major Blackwell**, **Capt. Castle**, **2/Lt. Tomlinson**, **W.O.2 Hobbs**, **C/Sgt. Turaga**, **C/Sgt. Mortimer**, **S/Sgt. Willoughby**, **S/Sgt. Tunney**, **Sgt. Gardner**, **Sgt. Curtin**, **Sgt. Singh**, **Sgt. Smith**, **Cpl. Butler**, **Cpl. Iles**, **Cpl. Parsons**, **Cpl. Foxford**, **Cpl. Qualters**, **Cpl. Barnes**, **L/Cpl. Owens**, **L/Cpl. Shinnick**, **L/Cpl. Haddow**, **L/Cpl. Carpenter**, **L/Cpl. Charlton**, **Ptes. Legister**, **Shillingford**, **McMurray** and **Mason**.

### Results

Played 14      Won 8      Lost 6

### Averages

#### Batting (5 Completed innings—Average 10)

\*Signifies not out.

	Innings	Not Out	Runs	Highest Score	Average
Cpl. Iles	11	3	217	56	27.13
Major Ladds	9	2	166	34	23.71
C/Sgt. Turaga	7	0	123	81	17.57
L/Cpl. Owens	9	1	117	53	14.6
Sgt. Smith	12	0	155	36	12.91

#### Bowling (9 wickets)

Pte. Legister	17	2	58	9	6.4
Capt. Castle	69	17	159	21	7.57
Cpl. Iles	76.4	22	214	23	9.3
S/Sgt. Tunney	46.4	5	134	10	13.4

### Boxing

The two main boxing events during this period have been the Inter-Company Novices Boxing Competition in December 1979, and the quarter finals of the B.A.O.R. Novices Boxing against 1 Royal Hampshires in January 1980.

The Inter-Company Novices competition produced its normal spectacle of determination, courage and good boxing.

All Companies produced teams for nine weights which was a good effort considering the very short time available for training. The final was held on 19th December with 'A' and 'C' Companies providing three boxers, 'B' Company seven, 'D' Company four and H.Q. Company one. 'B' Company were the overall winners but the winning finalists were:

Bantam weight	Pte. Parker (C)
Feather weight	Pte. Sutton (C)
Light weight	Pte. Cook (B)
Light Welter weight	Pte. Smart (H.Q.)
Welter weight	Pte. Edgar (A)
Light Middle weight	Pte. Milner (B)
Middle weight	L/Cpl. Moyes (B)
Light Heavy weight	Pte. Smart (D)
Heavy weight	L/Cpl. Gayle (D)

This competition provided the basis for the Battalion team which boxed against 1 Royal Hampshires at Munster in the quarter finals of the B.A.O.R. Novices Boxing competition. Although our team only had a short time to train they put up a very spirited fight against their opponents.

**Pte. Ditchburn** was unlucky enough to sustain a cut eye early in the first round and the fight was stopped. **Pte. Bastin** had his knee cap knocked out of place (yes it was boxing!) and he had to withdraw. **Pte. Gurnett**, **Pte. Webb** and **L/Cpl. Moyes** all had very close fights and we were all disappointed when the decision went against them. **Ptes. Parker** and **Smart** lost their fights but **Cpl. Hillsdon** won his after very courageous boxing and **L/Cpl. Gayle** left no one in any doubt as to who won when he knocked his opponent very cold in the first round.

Mention too must be made of two men who fought special bouts prior to the competition. **Pte. Edgar** knocked out his opponent very quickly and **Sgt. North** won his bout after an excellent fight.

The team did us proud, but it was not without a great deal of effort. **C/Sgt. Mehrlich**, **Sgt. North**, **Cpl. Batty** and **Pte. Egan** must be thanked and congratulated on the effort and work they put into training the team.

**C/Sgt. Mehrlich** provided the enthusiasm and dynamic backing without which we could not have started.

We look forward to a good season this year.

### Hockey

Unfortunately the weather played havoc with the Hockey fixtures in the Spring and prevented the Battalion team playing 11 games which were outstanding by the end of March. However, those fixtures which were played in the 2 Armd. Div. Crosskeys Hockey League produced some good and enjoyable hockey, indicating that the Battalion has the potential to do well. The following were the results for this year:

Played	Won	Drawn	Lost
9	2	3	4

During the Northern Ireland tour several Company teams played "friendly" matches and the Battalion Team played two matches as follows:

1 D.E.R.R. 'A'	3	176 P.R.O. COY. R.M.P.	1
1 D.E.R.R.	1	1 STAFFORDS	1

The Battalion Team is now preparing for a very busy season which includes participation in the 2 Armd. Div. Crosskeys Hockey League and the Infantry (B.A.O.R.) Cup.

The following have regularly represented the Battalion: **Major S.W.J. Saunders**, **Capt. P.E. O'R-B. Davidson-Houston**, **Capt. D. C. Proctor**, R. Signals, **C/Sgt. Fedrick**, **Sgt. Williams**, **Sgt. Curtin**, **Sgt. Carpenter**, **Sgt. Gardner**, **Sgt. Irwin**, R. Signals,

**Sgt. Walters**, **Q.G.M.**, and **I/Cpl. Shinnick**. In addition the following have represented the Battalion from time to time: **W.O.2 A. Hobbs**, **C/Sgt. Mortimer**, **C/Sgt. Turaga** and **Cpl. Harvey**.

### Random Shots

As usual, with the most successful sport in the Battalion, the end of last year's and the beginning of this year's season has been full and eventful. The year commenced with some stalwart members of the club either about to leave or just having left the Battalion, leaving us with a few experienced shots but with rather more less experienced. This meant that for the two big matches, the Army Rifle Association and the National Smallbore Rifle Association inter-unit matches, we would be with considerably less muscle than in previous years. It was a great surprise therefore, when the team duly collected medals for both matches; having gained third and fourth places respectively.

The greatest success at the end of last season was the 'A' Team's win in Division 1 of the Wiltshire League followed also by the 'B' Team's win in Division 5 of the same league.

The Battalion also made its mark in B.A.O.R. events. The 'A' Team were runners-up in the Rhine Army Championships with **Capt. Bill Holmes** taking the prize for the highest score. Seven of the Battalion found themselves in the 2 Division individual finals taking 2, 3 and 4 places. April saw five D.E.R.R. members representing 2 Division in the B.A.O.R. leg of the inter-DIV/District match. Unfortunately no honours for us in this match were forthcoming this year. This season started with the Battalion still in Northern Ireland, all the usual leagues and matches were entered into as in previous years. There began therefore, a search throughout the rear party for new blood. It was soon found, and now that everyone has returned from N. Ireland the club is almost twice as strong as before, with everyone shooting enthusiastically. This, together with known smallbore shots returning to the fold augurs well for the future.



# MISCELLANY

## KOHIMA—THE JOURNEY OF A LIFETIME

By W.O.2 S. Cole

### Introduction

The journey of my lifetime really started in March 1979. On a cold and wet day I was summoned "post-haste" for an immediate interview with the Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. D. A. Jones. As I sped across the square my mind clicked over trying to remember any fault which would cause such an express interview. I was ushered into the Commanding Officer's office and I was greeted with the words—"You have been selected to form part of a group visiting the War Memorial at Kohima". Kohima! Vague recollections of a famous World War II battle whirled through my mind. It became a little clearer as the Commanding Officer went on to tell me that the Royal Berkshires were part of the 2nd Division during that action and to commemorate the new Memorial the present 2nd Armoured Division (of which 1 D.E.R.R. is part) was sending a contingent to India. Kohima in India! What a chance that will be; and when the Commanding Officer finally asked if I really wanted to go . . . there was only one answer!

The next few days were spent poring over maps of India and Burma, and searching the Army Library for books on the battle but nothing really happened for a few weeks until in June I was asked to attend a briefing and initial get-together at Headquarters 2nd Armoured Division in Lubbecke.

For the first time I saw the others who were to be my travelling companions:

Major Francis Daniell	Royal Engineers
Lt. Paul Wilkis	Royal Signals
W.O.2 Peter Grove	Devon and Dorsets
Sgt. Paul Hughes	Royal Artillery
L/Cpl. Glynn Walker	Royal Army Medical Corps

The General Officer Commanding 2nd Armoured Division, Major-General Boswell, opened the briefing and then handed over to Major Harvey, on the G.O.C.'s staff, who did such a lot of the ground work required to get this visit set up, including obtaining grants from a multitude of sources and getting the clearances required for us to visit India.

After this initial meeting it was back to Osnabruck to work, and to await August. Then, for a variety of reasons the departure date was put back—not once but twice. It was just as well really as the month of August is in the middle of the monsoon season in India. Finally the date was set for the 7th October.

On the Thursday prior to departure, I received a call from Major Harvey to collect the Travellers' Cheques from a bank in Lubbecke. In typical

Army style I was "invited" to "sign here" for 2,300 U.S. Dollars, our expenses as the money for our air fares had already been forwarded to Hong Kong.

So, Sunday, 7th October, dawned and my aim now is to give a brief account of our journey from Germany to India, our visit to Kohima and the return journey to Osnabruck.

### Sunday, 7th October

I took off from R.A.F. Gutersloh en route to R.A.F. Brize Norton in an R.A.F. VC10. On arrival we were booked into the Gateway Hotel, the "in flight" accommodation for all service travellers. We met up with Major Daniell who by this time had been posted to Ripon, Yorkshire, and Lt. Wilkis who had been in the U.K. on leave. A pleasant stay; care of the R.A.F.!

As we had a night flight out of Brize Norton, we decided to pay a visit to Oxford where we did some shopping and participated in the delights of the local home-made beer. At 2015 hours, approximately, we took off from R.A.F. Brize Norton in a chartered British Airways Boeing 707—destination Hong Kong. A pleasant flight with only one stop-over at Dubai. The time taken for the journey was roughly eighteen hours. By the time we landed at Kai Tak airport in Hong Kong it was almost 2000 hours on Tuesday, 9th October. Travelling in an Army bus from the airport the Hong Kong scenery was all I had expected—huge towering skyscrapers and colourful neon-lighting everywhere. Our hosts during our stay in Hong Kong were the Gurkha Transport Regiment, stationed at Gun Hill Barracks, Kowloon. After finally getting to bed, we settled to a well deserved sleep.

### Wednesday, 10th October

We received some bad news. The Boss (as I called the Major) went with the Paymaster to purchase return air tickets to get to Kohima. The problem that occurred was that since 2 Armoured Division had sent the payment for the air tickets, two things had happened: all airlines had recently increased their flight charges, and the value of the U.S. dollar had fallen, bringing with it the pound sterling. In effect we had less Hong Kong dollars for our money! We owed about 1,100 of our 2,300 dollars for extra payment for our airline tickets. The Boss, however, persuaded the Paymaster to wait until our return before paying back the deficit.

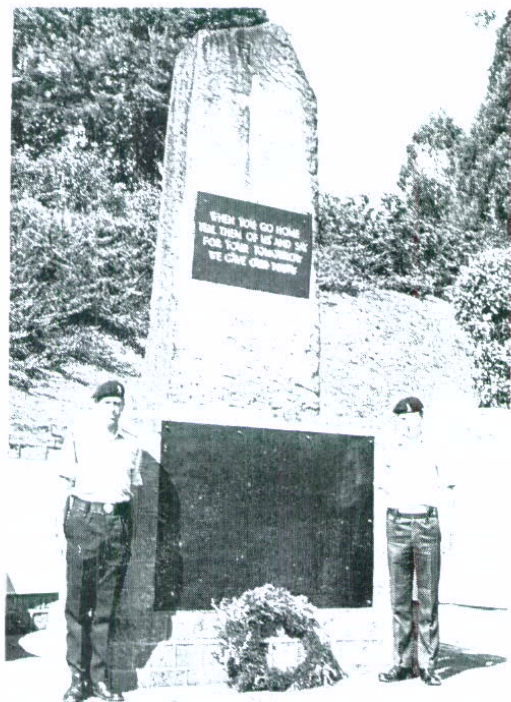
In the evening we set off again to Kai Tak airport—this time for a flight to Calcutta. Again care of British Airways, but this time a Boeing 747 (Jumbo). An excellent flight and the highlight was after "chatting up" the Chief Steward he in turn went to see the Captain and all of us were then invited up to the flight deck at intervals, (a really



marvellous sight). We landed late in Calcutta and it was approximately 1 a.m. before we were cleared through customs. We stayed the night (what was left of it) upstairs in what is called overnight transit accommodation. As our next flight was at 0640 hours that morning we jumped at the chance of a bed, even if it was one double bed per room per couple!

#### Thursday, 11th October

Our troubles that day started when we tried to hand in our baggage and register for the flight to Imphal. Foreigners (even Indians) were not allowed to enter another state without what is called an "inner-line" permit. We all thought that to get this far and then to be turned back would be a disaster, but the Boss got out his file and went off with an official. He returned some time later inferring that although the airport official relented in letting us proceed, the immigration officials at Imphal may not allow us to continue with our journey. It seems that at Imphal they have severe restrictions about the movement of people going from state to state.



We finally took off; this time with Air India in a Boeing 737 and we were very relieved to be leaving Calcutta. We had one stop-over prior to landing at Imphal, where I am afraid we nearly caused an international incident, because we began taking a few photographs of an old bi-plane. A Lance Corporal (just out of Dad's Army) ordered us off the plane, and backed up by another soldier with what appeared to be a .303 rifle. After a lot of discussion with airport officials we again boarded the plane. We were very lucky not to have the films confiscated. We were met at Imphal air-

port by a Major in the Indian Army who was to act as our Liaison Officer: Major Vikas Bajpai, and Mr. Samuel Meghur the group supervisor of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission who had on our behalf hired two taxis for the duration of the visit.

We were ushered into a special room by the immigration authorities who asked us for (yes, that's right) our inner-line permit. It was explained that obviously the army knew we were arriving hence Major Vicki's (his nickname from now on) presence and also the Commonwealth War Graves Commission knew, hence Mr. Samuel Meghur (nicknamed Sam). This was not acceptable to the authorities and we trooped into the taxis, Vicki leading in an undercover army jeep and the Immigration officials at our rear, to Imphal police station.

We were ushered into a room and interviewed by a security immigration official who although very polite and understanding, would not allow us to proceed any further without the inner-line permit! (It should be noted that before we left Germany the British High Commission in Delhi said that no visas would be required).

What seemed like hours passed before decisions were to be made. Another official arrived on the scene and from the amount of bowing and scraping that followed he appeared to hold some power. In fact, he turned out to be equivalent to a Brigadier, but in the police force. Not to dwell on the subject too long we were finally given a permit for Manipur (Imphal) but we still required one for Nagaland (Kohima). We were then taken to the house of the Secretary to the Governor of Manipur, to have tea (very nice). We looked around his gardens and gave a little advice to the restoration of a small cemetery where some British Officers were buried who had been killed during the mutiny in India. After quite a time lapse had passed since we first landed at Calcutta we visited the Tourists Lodge to have a late lunch and await our inner-line permit which had to be made out and signed. Finally we set off for Kohima, which Sam informed us was about a six hour journey, but the distance involved was only 88 miles. Everyone who went with the Battalion to Belize and travelled "up-country" by 4 Tonner can understand why it can take several hours to drive a comparatively short distance. The road was, in the main, tarmac, but due to the recent monsoon huge pot-holes had appeared everywhere and of course we were climbing all the time towards the border of Imphal Nagaland. The taxi driver gave the impression that he knew only two controls, accelerator and brake, many times I shut my eyes as I was sure we would never arrive at our intended destination.

Nearing the border Major Vicki disappeared (don't worry, our tail was still there) and when we approached the border he waved us through—who was to argue, certainly not us. Halfway to Kohima



dusk fell and fog appeared but our driver still maintained a good speed (for a rally driver). Obviously the road originated following the contour lines as there was a drop of several thousand feet all along the way until at last we arrived at Kohima. Once again we were billeted in the Tourist Lodge. We had dinner and a few drinks whilst discussing our next two days and finally we went to bed.

#### Friday, 12th October

It must be stressed that the reason why our small contingent had travelled halfway around the world was basically to visit the War Cemetery and see the new stone plaques that had replaced the old bronze ones, commemorating the gallant stand of the 2nd Division during the siege of Kohima, when the Japanese army crossed through Burma attempting to force the British out of South East Asia.

We awoke fairly early which is a credit to everyone as consistently travelling and "jet-lag" does catch up on you. From our verandah we could see Kohima village (it is still called a village but Kohima district has a population of over 130,000) and we could clearly see the huge Commonwealth War Graves Cross situated at the other side of the valley where the cemetery lay.

Major Vicki, Sam and our police escort met us at the lodge and after a brief discussion we climbed aboard our respective vehicles and headed for the cemetery armed with our cameras. We found very few problems during our stay in Kohima taking photographs. After the drive down into the valley and through the main street we arrived at the cemetery whereupon the Boss told us to "do our thing" and meet at the 2 Div. Monument which was at the foot of the cemetery.

The first impression of the cemetery was how beautiful and well kept everything was; after walk-

ing around and looking at various headstones, noting the different British units of the men who had given their lives in the defence of India.

The cemetery itself like most of Kohima lies on the side of a hill which is called Garrison Hill, the Commonwealth War Graves Cross acts as a centre piece within, and is situated in the grounds of the District Commissioner's tennis courts, which was a scene of really severe fighting during the Battle.

After taking many photographs I located the graves of the Royal Berkshires which lie downhill of the Cross. I counted 2 officers and 94 men who lie in this sad but beautiful place of rest. The men of the Royal Berkshires lie next to one of our present Divisional Regiments, men of the 2nd Dorsets, which is now part of the Devon and Dorset Regiment. The monument depicting the loss of men of the Royal Berkshires lies in what is called a "protected area". When I made enquiries from Sam I learned that at the top of Garrison Hill is the Governor of Kohima's residence and our monument lies inside his boundary. As the whole of the cemetery is very steep it is all layered, the walls to the layers are made of stone, on the wall by the side of the graves of the Royal Berkshires, a replacement plaque is sited.

There is no doubt that a great deal of time is spent on the maintenance of this cemetery and we gave praise unanimously to Sam and his staff. We finally met at the foot of the cemetery and saw what we had travelled thousands of miles to see; the monument of 2 Div. This is what a dictionary calls a "monolith", a solitary stone, erected by the Nagas not long after the War had finished.

To the rear of the monolith, in a semi-circle set into the stone case, are the 12 new plaques, also made out of stone, depicting a roll of honour of all the men fallen in that great battle.





We had to leave the cemetery to see the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. C. N. Meren, who after greeting us took tea with us, he was the official who was to obtain our inner-line permit for Nagaland. Mr. Meren proved not only to be a "Character", but a very important ally during our stay.

We finally said our goodbyes and promised to meet later at our accommodation for a "few drinks", and we then returned to the lodge for a late lunch. Remembering that it gets dark at five o'clock, it was fairly dangerous to walk in the gathering darkness due to the very steep and narrow paths leading up to lodge. It was decided that if we so wished we could walk down to the village and visit the local shops and people. This turned out to be of great interest to all of us as it was clear that the local inhabitants had not seen many white men before.

No sooner had we returned to the lodge than Mr. Meren and three ladies paid us a visit. We used most of our "duty free" spirits which we had purchased in Hong Kong to entertain our visitors. The fact that Mr. Meren had a far better repertoire of English songs than all of us put together, put us to shame, but the more spirits we consumed the better our spirits rose. Finally we bade each other goodbye and after Mr. Meren told his chauffeur to get in the rear of his jeep he proceeded to speed off down the mountain road singing his head off!

#### **Saturday, 13th October**

Dressed in military "shirt sleeve order", we left for the cemetery again after breakfast. There we conducted a very simple Service of Remembrance. Major Daniell read the lessons and L.Cpl. Walker laid the wreath. Major Vicki took films of this occasion using W.O.2 Grove's cine camera. The local Nagas, seeing us again but this time in uniform, flocked down to the area of the cemetery. Some of us thought of H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh, and the curious spectators wherever he appears! We all had another look around the cemetery and taking more photographs. Afterwards we drove back to the lodge to change into civilian clothes. I had to change some travellers cheques to pay for the taxis and accommodation, so with the help of Major Vicki and the Boss, we paid a visit to the local bank. One must remember here that everything takes time. It took at least 1½ hours to get the cash, even then we, thanks to Vicki, pushed our way past dozens and dozens in the queue.

We had chairs provided and we sat at the chief cashier's table, taking coffee while we waited!

After leaving the bank and paying our respects to Mr. Meren, the Deputy Commissioner, who by this time had produced our inner-line permit, we then left to visit the Nagas village. This visit was enjoyed by all. With the help of Major Vicki and Sam, the tactical war was reconstructed. It must be stated that all of the ridges, pimples, spurs, etc., that the Japanese and British fought, lost and

counter-fought are still named today—names like: Garrison Hill, G.P.T. Ridge, Treasury Hill, D.I.S. (Daily Issue Store), Jail Hill, Bunkers Hill, etc., named when the British maintained the Garrison at Kohima.

A visit to the Nagas Museum was taken after looking around the village. This also proved to be very interesting, seeing the early culture of the Nagas Indians. The Nagas are predominantly Christians converted by missionaries. One interesting factor was that they were Head-Hunters at one time and the last time they claimed "heads" was 1944; to some unfortunate Chinese who crossed the border!

A quick lunch was the order of the day as we had some shopping to do in the village and then we met at the house Major Vicki used when he was stationed in Kohima. The shopping once again proved a huge laugh, as very large crowds flocked outside the shops as we went through the village. W.O.2 Grove and I caused a mild commotion when we had our shoes cleaned by a man and his son; the father preened his moustache then gathered his family in when we started clicking away with cameras, and the crowds were massing causing traffic chaos. We then returned to Major Vicki's old residence where we were to RV prior to having a few drinks with Mr. Meren.

A surprise followed when we drew up to the equivalent of his "village hall", hundreds of people, mainly children had assembled outside. We passed through the crowds prior to meeting Mr. Meren, who in turn introduced us to the village elders who were dressed in traditional costume. Inside the hall on a stage at the far side were two girls, also dressed in their traditional attire. They stood next to a table groaning with the weight of food on it. In front of the stage a huge table spanned the width of the hall. This was where we were to sit. As soon as we neared the table the girls moved down the stairs from the stage to ensure that each of us were comfortably seated (no words can express what amazement and delight went through our minds). In a matter of seconds the girls were pouring out drinks (the local brew, which looked like thick milk, was in fact made out of rice and had a kick like a mule!) and food, which was mainly bowls of pork and salted lentils and looked like fried rice. It tasted excellent. By this time all the chairs which flanked the sides of the hall, had been filled by villagers and hundreds of children were in the centre. Those who could not get into the hall were peering through the windows. The ritual of drinking and eating, each time served by those two beautiful girls, went on and on. The wooden mug, when full, must have held at least 1½ litres and after every mouthful you took it was immediately refilled.

As the party progressed the elders started to sing in their native tongue. This was followed by the girls and, guess what, naturally, we had to follow "singing of course". The evening was one I hope



never to forget. The people were so kind to us (I only hope that the photographs that were taken will do them justice). Speeches were made by the elders (Mr. Meren translating) and the Boss replying on our behalf. Then the Boss presented Mr. Meren with a Divisional Plaque, thanking him for entertaining us so lavishly. What a finale to an excellent stay in Nagaland (I'm convinced some of us will tell our grandchildren about the time we spent there). But like all good things it had to end, so we bade our farewells (time after time) and not quite so steady as we entered, made our way to the faithful taxis to go back to the lodge.

Not to be outdone Mr. Meren and his girls (we never did meet his wife) and Major Vicki came back with us and we tried to match our previous hosts in the art of entertaining. All I can say is that we did not fail (as hosts I mean).

#### **Sunday, 14th October**

An early reveille as we planned to leave by 0830 hours. So packing, breakfasting and saying farewells to many of whom wished to come to the lodge to see us off, with our police escort, Sam (Commonwealth War Graves Commission) and Major Vicki in our convoy of vehicles we again set off—this time, back down the mountains to Imphal. A journey I don't wish to bore anyone but again an experience. Accelerator, brake, horn for just under five hours back to the tourist lodge in Imphal. After lunch we visited the cemetery, this time at Imphal. Once again a very picturesque, peaceful and very well managed cemetery (over-seered by Sam, of course). To my mind one of the most memorable occasions of the whole tour was to see and meet an elderly English lady from Lancashire, who, although she had re-married (her husband was ill at the tourist lodge with stomach complaints) had always vowed that one day she

would visit her first husband's grave, at the other side of the world in a place called Imphal. We were proud to help this lady in taking photographs of her standing next to her late husband's headstone and our medic, Glyn Walker, treated her husband at the lodge. A very quiet night at the tourist lodge was had by all as a curfew was still in operation, so we sat chatting about our forthcoming journey back to Hong Kong and the plaque presentations to Major Vicki.

#### **Monday, 15th October**

It was a short drive to Imphal Airport, fighting to dodge water-buffalo and tricycles (brake and horn) but not before we had bade our farewells to Sam. Again we all gave our unit plaques. To everyone's envy I gave, on behalf of the Battalion, the framed Emblazon which of course has Kohima adorned as one of the Royal Berkshires Battle Honours. Imphal Airport was again very busy serving the states of Manipur and Nagaland. After seeing our baggage on to the aircraft we chatted away outside in glorious sunshine, we then boarded our flight, again a Boeing 737—destination Calcutta.

This flight presented no problems (we are now veterans) and we finally landed at Calcutta after a two hour flight. Calcutta—this time in the day was light—we checked through customs and after reading the tourist guide at the airport decided on a hotel and hailed two taxis to take us into the City. Although we had two day's stay in Calcutta without going into detail it was something I shall never forget. Poverty was rife and literally hundreds upon hundreds of men and boys sleep rough in the streets every night, basically they have no bed!! We stepped over them or just walked around them. The continuous begging for money by people from all walks of life and seeing boys





who at birth had their arms and legs cut off purely to spend the rest of their days as beggars really hurt inside. Unfortunately if one gives something to one person, the word spreads and you are plagued even more.

Four of us, originally going on a shopping tour, went off with a smooth talking Indian who said he could show us the sights of Calcutta that one wouldn't normally see on an official tour. He was right. We saw the ghettos of Bangladesh people made refugees after the Indian-Pakistan war and it was a horrific sight!! We also saw the famous "Black Hole", but only at a distance as it is now a prohibited area. A visit to the Ganges River where we were lucky, depending on how squeamish you are, to see a "Funeral Pyre". All the relations were there when we trooped inside a courtyard facing the River Ganges. I personally thought this was just an open fire until the attendant started raking the Pyre and then, to my amazement, a part of a human body fell to the floor. We were obviously not getting conned because as we left another coffin was being carried in—quite a busy place our guide told us. The others are then thrown into the Ganges. We moved up stream from the area of the open crematoriums to see hundreds of people being cleansed in the river. We later learned that today was a holiday in the Indians' calendar.

A visit to the famous Sister Theresa's child orphanage where we looked into all the rooms and saw the poor children who, in the main, had been abandoned like sacks of coal in the streets. In fact it was a battle to get inside as volunteers cooked food daily to give to the masses that queue there. I said famous, as later, after arriving in Hong Kong, I learned that Sister Theresa had been awarded this year's "Nobel Peace Award" for her devotion to her work in the orphanage. Unfortunately for us she was not there but we were told that she was in Cambodia trying to help refugees of yet another war. Also included in the tour was a trip to famous buildings that one would normally see on the official tour, mostly built during the time the British Empire included India. We visited the markets where we purchased various gifts for our families. Considering all this was carried out by taxi and took about 2½ hours to complete, it cost us less than £5.00 each. A very worthwhile guided tour.

#### **Wednesday, 17th October**

Once again on the move. After packing suitcases getting heavier with presents, taxis again to Calcutta Airport where we found that because of our reservations lapsing we were not booked on to the flight. After a lot of bantering and white lies, we managed to get our names down as standby passengers. With time ticking away closer to take-off we finally made it on to the flight with what seemed like minutes to spare. Destination this time "Hong Kong via Bangkok", flying on Thai Airlines new airbus. A superb flight, but as we

were late departing from Calcutta, when we arrived at Bangkok our connection for Hong Kong was already waiting for take-off. Although assured by airline officials that our baggage would be aboard we learned on disembarking at Hong Kong, our baggage was nowhere to be seen. In fact it arrived two days later after a lot of investigations and pestering by us.

Hong Kong—what is there to say, we had a stay (or R & R) for six days before our flight back to U.K. The time was used for sight-seeing, shopping and entertainment, until Tuesday 23rd, when we flew back to Brize Norton (although landing at Heathrow because of technical trouble).

A very welcome walk through the "green" at Heathrow's Customs without being stopped and to the "new" to us, underground to King's Cross. There we said our farewells to Major Daniell, who was departing to Ripon and the rest of us left to book into Britannia Airways. Yet another flight, this time to Greven (Osnabruck). More farewells to each other; promising to meet up at a later date once our individual films were developed and finally home to our families.

To conclude, the entire trip was worthwhile and something I will always remember. To visit the Far East and to remember those of our Regiment who fell in the service of our country, to see the care given to where they lie and the country where the battles were fought was, for me, my journey of a lifetime.

#### **WEST OF THE FOYLE**

There's a peace to keep and gunmen to catch,  
From the Northlands road to the Creggan Patch.  
There's a car bomb here and a sniper there,  
Intimidation, terror and the rule of fear.  
The dogs will bite and the kids hurl stones,  
There are bleeding faces and broken bones.  
From Eastway to Westway and on Central Drive,  
It's alertness and team work that keeps us alive.  
We don't expect kindness we suffer abuse,  
And often we ask ourselves "what is the use?"  
But we know that the job that we do must be done,  
Till peace returns like the prodigal son.  
And we welcome so gladly that bright ray of hope,  
That was left to us all by a warm hearted Pope.  
There's a long way to go but the journey's begun,  
To the day when we'll work without fear of the gun.

But it's kindness and courtesy, friendship and trust,  
That will win us the war—and to win is a must.  
So here's to your courage, your hard work and toil,  
And here's to the Duke's that are west of the Foyle.

#### **A TOKEN OF THANKS**

Many incidents, events and meetings occur during the day-to-day life of a Regiment. A Regiment is a family, a society, almost a separate



entity wrapped up in its own environs. When a stranger, a visitor, comes to this society from outside (even if from a Sister Regiment) he is naturally made welcome and treated as a member of the Regiment, no matter how long he stays.

It has always been traditional to exchange gifts when the visitor leaves. This is not just peculiar to our Regiment or its forebears, nor even the Army, but throughout the world and throughout the ages, tokens of gratitude have been given from one party to another.

In the fullness of time the memories of the visitor and hosts dull—those who were present may occasionally tell stories of the visits. These may be prompted by an inquisitive admirer asking what certain articles are, inscribed with a long-forgotten dedication.

Then over the years only the gift is left, some-

times only a small, seemingly trivial token has been given, but the memories are the same. The newcomer to the Regiment may ask, as I did, where visitors originated and the reason for their visit. Normally an answer is given straight away or can be found near to hand. Sometimes a little research is necessary, and once or twice everyone is stumped. Such a predicament I have found myself in over a certain Silver Tankard presented to the Officers' Mess of the Wiltshire Regiment in 1925 by Captain Ishiokws Okuba, Imperial Japanese Army. No one I have spoken to can explain why this man was with the Wiltshire Regiment or for how long. All Japanese records were lost in 1945 during an allied air raid.

I wonder if any reader, perhaps an old Comrade, can shed any light on this intriguing man and his token of thanks?

SONGWRITER



## PHOTO MISCELLANY



*What do you mean? Can we go home for Christmas?*



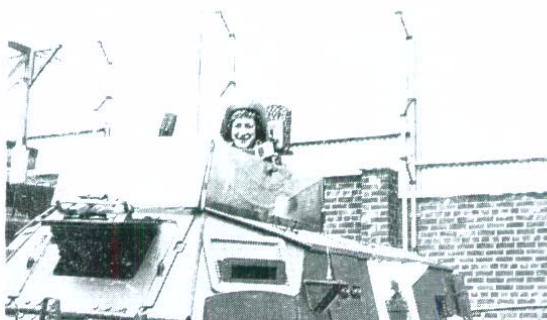
*The fearless Pte. Lewis—Felix's escort*



*Second-in-Command fiddling with his flies*



*Pte. Hardy and friend*



*Capt. Lois Lodge, R.A.M.C.*



*Capt. Davidson-Houston and Sgt. Irwin in the Bn. Ops Room*



*Maiwand Day—  
Victorious H.Q. Company Tug-O-War Team*





Maiwand Day Prize-giving—Mrs. Jones and Cpl. Grainger



Concentration



L/Cpl. Cook, Cpl. Barnes, Mrs. Jones



The Captain—H.M.S. "Vernon"





# THE DEPOT, LICHFIELD

Since the last Journal notes hit the headlines there have been many changes of D.E.R.R. permanent staff at the Depot.

At present we number 32 all ranks and the high standard of training both Junior Soldiers and Adult recruits is being maintained.

Currently there are 10 junior soldiers and 22 Adult recruits undergoing training.

Headquarter Company welcomes **C/Sgt. Bob Hollister** who replaced **C/Sgt. "Bali" Beilematuku** as C.Q.M.S. G1198 Stores. We wish C/Sgt. Beilematuku and his family future happiness.

**Cpl. Chris Trowers** continues to be a worthy 2IC of the G1198 Store, blankets are being neatly stacked by **Cpl. Mick Taundry** in the Accommodation Store and the Armskote is by no means unD.E.R.R. manned as it is being controlled by **Cpl. James Nathan**, **L/Cpl. Grae Archer** and the new arrival, **Cpl. "Ginge" Bolton**.

The M.T. is being driven mad by the presence of **Cpl. "Arnie" Arnold**, **L/Cpl. Tom Spraggon** and **Pte. George Dominik** (rumour has it that he is slimming!).

**Cpl. "Fred" Hedges** continues to keep the Officers' Mess well served whilst **Cpl. "Paddy" Kendrick** and **L/Cpl. "Smokey" Edwards** prop up the "other side" of the Sergeants' Mess bar! Congratulations to L/Cpl. and Mrs. Edwards on the birth of their son Robert Paul who was born on 20th August, 1979. **Cpl. "Radar" Fern** is chief scribe in the Company—he keeps a close eye on the flexing muscles of **Cpl. "Chopper" Hills**—our fitness representative in the Depot Gym.

Training Company is now commanded by **Major W. V. Holmes**, the Depot welcomes him aboard. **W.O.2 Pete Mallows** (not **Mellows** as mentioned in the last edition of the Journal—although he is through old age!), continues to command Ferozeshah Platoon. His new Platoon Sergeant is **Sgt. "Herbie" Coyle** who has taken over from **Sgt. Dave Luker**. We welcome Sgt. Coyle to the family and congratulate Sgt. and Mrs. Luker on the addition to theirs, Sara Jayne was born on 1st August, 1979.

**Sgt. "Chappers" Chapman** is congratulated on his recent promotion. **Sgt. "Grif" Griffin**, the "Whittington Warbler" of the drill square continues to turn out recruits by the dozen.

The weapon training element of the Company is represented by **Cpl. "Grae" Giddy**, **Cpl. "Spud" Tait**, **Cpl. Phil Tuckwell** and **Cpl. Brian Stanley**.

We extend our congratulations to Cpl. and Mrs. Stanley on the birth of their daughter Emma, born on 18th September, 1979.

Junior Soldiers Company said farewell to **Capt. J. L. Silvester** in December. New arrivals to the Company are:

**Cpl. "Spud" Taylor** who has taken up post as a section commander, **L/Cpl. George Smith** as Drums N.C.O. and **W.O.2 Doug Bailey** who came from 2 WESSEX (V) via a two years' secondment tour with 1 STAFFORDS!

**Lt. D. M. Irving** is well in command of his second platoon. Passing the good word on Tactics and weapon training to the junior soldiers are **Cpl. Gerry Decarteret**, **Cpl. Dave Porter** and **Cpl. "Ben" Truman**.

**Cpl. Alex Kirkland** attached to the External Leadership Wing has been producing some competent climbers. Meanwhile **Cpl. Charlie Mason** expertly shins up the mountain of paperwork in the company office!

On the sporting scene we have Cpl. Truman and Cpl. Kirkland representing the Depot at Football. The team is through to the Semi-final of the Minor Units Army Cup, we wish them success in their forthcoming matches.

Finally, in the preceding paragraphs, most, if not all of the D.E.R.R. permanent staff have been mentioned, those who join us after these notes are published are cordially invited to attend the proposed D.E.R.R. social club, to be known as "The Farmer's Club". Members of all ranks will be invited to meet once a month at a suitable establishment to participate in the art of sampling local dishes and beverages.—Hard life here at D.E.R.R. soldier factory!!!

## NOMINAL ROLL—D.E.R.R. PERSONNEL DEPOT LICHFIELD

No.	Rank	Name	Initials	Employment
497837	Maj.	HOLMES	W.V.	OC Trg Coy
500277	Lt.	IRVING	D.M.	Pl Comd JS Coy
23832354	W.O.2	MALLOW'S	P.G.	Pl Comd TRG Coy
23847259	W.O.2	BAILEY	D.A.	Pl Comd JS Coy
24005266	C/Sgt.	HOLLISTER	R.F.	CQMS G1198 Store
24258172	Sgt.	COYLE	P.	Pl Sgt TRG Coy



24110525	Sgt.	GRIFFIN	E.P.	Pl Sgt Trg Coy
24233409	Sgt.	CHAPMAN	C.R.M.	NCO i/c Potential Offrs
24258600	Cpl.	GIDDY	G.	Trg Instr Trg Coy
24320457	Cpl.	STANLEY	B.J.	Trg Instr Trg Coy
24298481	Cpl.	TAIT	R.I.	Trg Instr Trg Coy
24253266	Cpl.	TUCKWELL	P.	Trg Instr Trg Coy
24213330	Cpl.	DECARTERET	J.	Sect Comd JS Coy
24303054	Cpl.	PORTER	D.	Sect Comd JS Coy
24298438	Cpl.	TRUMAN	M.	Sect Comd JS Coy
24221081	Cpl.	TAYLOR	A.	Sect Comd JS Coy
24257131	Cpl.	MASON	C.	Clerk JS Coy
24279547	Cpl.	KIRKLAND	A.	Instr EL Wing
24348109	Cpl.	ARNOLD	A.	MT NCO
23120854	Cpl.	BOLTON	D.W.	Armskote
24020703	Cpl.	HEDGES	F.T.	Offrs Mess NCO
24325017	Cpl.	HILLS	J.R.	Gymnasium
24114558	Cpl.	KENDRICK	P.J.	Sgts Mess
24143360	Cpl.	NATHAM	J.E.	Armskote
24262495	Cpl.	TAUNDRY	M.J.	Accn Stores
24257805	Cpl.	TROWERS	C.D.	G1198 Storeman
24193078	Cpl.	FERN	C.E.	Clerk HQ Coy
24298391	L/Cpl.	ARCHER	R.G.	Armskote
24315835	L/Cpl.	EDWARDS	G.P.	Sgts Mess
24348438	L/Cpl.	SMITH	G.	Drums NCO
24277876	Pte.	DOMINIK	G.R.	MT Dvr

#### HELD STRENGTH

24143922	L/Cpl.	SPRAGGON	T.	MT Dvr (last 6 months)
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#### H.Q. P.O.W. DIV.

479452	Maj.	BRADLEY	P.	GSO2 (SD/Trg)
505176	Capt.	PARKER	R.J.	Director of Music



## DEPOT, CRICKHOWELL



*"The Prince of Wales's Divisional Depot at Cwrt-y-Gollen, Crickhowell"*

"To read an article from Cwrt-y-Gollen might come as rather a surprise to most readers, but the reasons should become clearer as the story unfolds. The Depot of the Prince of Wales's Division at Cwrt-y-Gollen, Crickhowell began life as the Welsh Depot, where Recruits were trained for The Royal Welsh Fusiliers, The South Wales Borderers and The Welch Regiment, and, when the latter two Regiments amalgamated in 1969, The Royal Regiment of Wales. In the early Seventies, some English Regiments, from the Division, infiltrated and Crickhowell, which is easier to say than Cwrt-y-Gollen, became the sister Depot of Lichfield, although Lichfield kept the Divisional Headquarters within its walls. The English Regiments which infiltrated are the Devon and Dorsets and the Glosters although due to Divisional manning problems and badging policies all nine Regiments of the Division are now represented here amongst Recruits and Junior Soldiers while all but the Worcester and Sherwood Foresters are represented by the Permanent Staff.

Two Companies are run for Trainees, Recruits going to Training Company for 18 weeks and Juniors going to Junior Soldiers' Company for a

year, training being along the same lines as at Lichfield. The Regiment is well represented by Recruits in Training Company, some 25 having joined the Battalion in Osnabruck from there and while Junior Soldiers' Company can only boast three Regimental trainees, two of these have just been promoted to Junior Lance Corporal (congratulations to **J.S. Crook** and **J.Dmr. Walker**). Permanent Staff-wise, the Regiment are represented by **Lt. Crocker** (Pl. Comd. J.S. Company), **W.O.2 Gascoigne** (Adventure Training W.O., J.S. Company) and **C/Sgt. Bryant** (Depot Headquarters), these last three celebrating Ferozeshah Day with great vigour. Plans are being formulated for involving Recruits and Juniors into next year's celebrations in some way.

Life is very pleasant at Crickhowell; there is a great deal of sport (mainly Rugby, as befits an ex-Welsh Depot), Sennybridge Training Area is not too far away and the area abounds with natural adventure training facilities. All that is missing at present are a few more D.E.R.R. instructors. Anyone wishing to come to this idyllic setting should first apply to the Chief Clerk in Osnabruck!"



## THE REGIMENTAL LIAISON TEAM

The Regimental Liaison Team has changed its personalities over the 79/80 Winter Season. Gone to the Divisional Recruiting Office is **Cpl. Steve Shaw**, in his place came **L/Cpl. Martin Hayter**. **Sgt. Phil Austin** returned to the 1st Battalion in February and was replaced by **Sgt. Geoff Williams**. **Pte. Burgess** arrived in February.

The team now comprises IC Sgt. Williams, 2IC **Cpl. Taylor**, L/Cpls. **Antoni, Hayter, Poole** and **Pte. Burgess** all ready for the hectic summer season ahead.

The Winter Season saw the team working very hard with very little time off for pleasure. The only pleasure the team had was the hour's P.T. in the gym every morning. This accounted for the ease everyone passed the B.F.T. Headquarters South West District kindly surprised the team by granting a K.A.P.E. during January in the South Wiltshire area, and ordered the only snow to assist us. The spare time was taken up by assisting R.H.Q. to pack the Regimental Museum prior to their move to Salisbury. The normal near daily schools visits and evening A.C.F. visits kept the team, when not preparing the show for the 1980 season very busy.

The Summer Season 1980 is full until October 1980. The team look forward to working with the

Battalion Kape Team from 30th June to 15th July, 1980.



# INFANTRY JUNIOR LEADERS' BATTALION

Presently serving at I.J.L.B. Shorncliffe are the following Permanent Staff:

**Sgt. Shervington** M. Pl. Sgt. S.A.A.  
posted to Bn. Aug.

**Cpl. Charles** (Charlie) P.T.I. Gym  
posted to Bn. May

**Cpl. Seal** (Baz) Dvr. M.T. N.Y.K.

### Happenings—Marriage

Our congratulations go to Cpl. Charlie Charles on his recent marriage. We wish him and his wife every happiness in the future. He is looking forward to May when he rejoins the Battalion in Qsnabruck.

(Thinking about it)

Cpl. Baz Seal is deciding when to take the plunge, however, he finds it difficult between driving details so the Padre tells me.

## Battalion Visit

Sgt. Martin Shervington took a group of 20 J/Ldrs. to Osnabruck. One S.N.C.O. and seven J/Ldrs. visited 1 D. & D. and Sgt. Shervington and 12 J/Ldrs. visited the Battalion. The visit was for ten days which proved very beneficial to all the Junior Leaders. Many thanks to all members of the Battalion who made our visit a very pleasant one.

A special thanks to **Major Wakelin, O.C.** 'B' Company, and **2/Lt. Davis** who took care of us during our visit. Not all the J/Ldrs. were D.E.R.R., amongst them were Glosters, R. Hamps and Staffords. Since our return to Shorncliffe it has given their Platoon Commander a headache dealing with questions from them, i.e.:

J/Ldr.: "Sir, I want to be an A.P.C. Driver when I join my Battalion, can you arrange it?"



"If I don't get in the Mortars I'll get into the Milan Platoon".

However, the visit was enjoyed by all concerned, once again many thanks.

In August the next J Ldrs. will pass out (Term Two) among them will be **C.S.M. Bailey's** son and **C/Sgt. Barnett's** son (R.C.T.)

#### Final Note

Although those members of the Regiment serving at I.J.L.B. have a feeling of being forgotten, we would like to thank the P.R.I. for sending Regimental Kit we can sell to J Ldrs., the Orderly Room for keeping us up to date with PT. I Orders, and Regimental Headquarters for sending us copies of the Regimental Journal. Thank you all.

## 'C' COMPANY (ROYAL BERKSHIRE) 2nd BATTALION THE WESSEX REGIMENT (Volunteers)

#### Ypres Marches

1. Twenty-two members of the Company participated for the fourth time in these International Marches. Many of the Company team were abroad for the first time.

We were placed **first** in team competition and won a most attractive cup. The marches provide a first-class PRESS story, which in turn generates recruits and keeps the unit in the public eye. Also our Company recruiting leaflets can allow the boast "We march abroad".

The Company were grateful to Bn. H.Q. for obtaining a grant towards expenses and for being able to take a unit vehicle. Although the Volunteers are paid their normal pay for the duration of the marches, all other expenses, travel, ferry charge, food, etc., come from the soldiers' pockets.

#### Recruiting

2. We have concentrated on the satisfied soldier concept and this has met with some success. The winner of our internal competition managed to get four friends to join. Recruiting seems to be very much on the up, and static displays organised by **Sgt. Pullen**. We are currently advertising for unit cooks and have met with some success.

#### Training

3. For the first time in the Company's history we were able to throw grenades. A good turnout of members took part in a range weekend based at Longmoor. The weekend, run jointly by our new **Training Major, John Cann**, and **Sgt J. Overton**, resulted in all those present, both old members and recruits, priming and throwing grenades and firing L.M.G., S.M.G. and zeroing their own S.L.R.

The weekend was in preparation for the Battalion Rifle meeting, at which the unit won, for the second year in succession, the coveted Hackney Shield, as the champion Company, besides winning individual cups for Pistol, S.M.G. and the Section Match.

The majority of the Company have now qualified for their A.P.W.T. and Classification.

**Training Attendance.** Evening drill numbers have now topped 50 and our weekend and camp attendances approach this figure.

#### Ex "Native Silk"

4. The Company took an active part in 8th Field Force Exercise "Native Silk" and are now preparing to act as enemy to 1 WESSEX (R.V.) on their Test Exercise. These major exercises provide a wonderful opportunity to encourage active participation and maximum attendance as all the military hardware is at hand.

#### Congratulations

5. The Company have lost, on promotion, the services of **Lt. Brian Childs**. Brian was in charge of our recruiting prior to the Colours Parade, after a magnificent spell at our then problem location, Slough. The Company now has an Officer Cadet in **Christopher Protheroe**; prior to his appointment Chris was our Signal Corporal.

#### Change of P.S.I.s

6. **C/Sgt Dave Morgan** left us, prior to camp, to return as C.Q.M.S. to 'A' Company, 1 D.E.R.R. He took with him both our very best wishes and some very nice gifts donated by the many friends he made in the Company during his spell with us. He also left the legacy of a neat and tidy store, plus a stores system that will enable us to function more efficiently. His successor, **C/Sgt. Charlie Choules**, has been weaned from thumping drums and he now concentrates on the role of the T.A. soldier. We all hope he will enjoy his stay with us and welcome his friendly and relaxed style, although wish a return to beer as his shorts are expensive.

7. A welcome awaits all ex Regulars moving into the Maidehead, Slough, Bracknell triangle. Your skills would be put to good use in our Company. Remember we too wear the brandywine. Why not call in for a drink any Thursday evening, to the T.A. Centre, St. Lukes Road, Maidenhead.



# **'D' COMPANY**

## **2nd BATTALION THE WESSEX REGIMENT**

### **(Volunteers)**

1979 has been an important year for 'D' Company. On 30th June, The Duke of Wellington presented Colours to the Battalion and we were privileged to form No. 4 Guard at the presentation and the Trooping of the Colours ceremony at Portsmouth. It was also an honour to have **2/Lt. Miles Richards** as one of the Colours Ensigns.

After this unique ceremony, the Battalion travelled to Catterick to spend the second week of Camp on field training and exercises. This led 'D' Company back to the usual training cycle, where we are most fortunate to have **C/Sgt. Paul Walters, Q.G.M.**, as our P.S.I. His enthusiasm and expertise have been greatly appreciated by all members of 'D' Company.

In August a team of 'D' Company soldiers, led by **Capt. Patrick Wilde** and **Sgt. Barry Taylor** took part in the Royal Military Police Chichester March in Sussex and were well rewarded by the presentation of medals and a handsome cup for one of the team awards. Weekend training has included participation in an 8 Field Force exercise in Scot-

land, an all-too-realistic Internal Security exercise at Ogbourne St. George, the Battalion Rifle Meeting and Company exercises.

Our Christmas Dinner was, once again, very well organised by **C.S.M. Fred Zawadski** and attended by even more volunteers than last year.

Recruiting continues to attract a steady flow of new soldiers and the detached Newbury Platoon continues to thrive. Now that **Lt. Julian Walker** has joined us from 'A' Company we have a full complement of Officers. Our Senior N.C.O. situation remains stable but we can always find room for Junior N.C.O.s and Riflemen. Any ex D.E.R.R. soldiers who move to either Reading or Newbury are assured of a warm welcome, should they decide to join 'D' Company.

1980 sees the beginning of a new year and one of the major events is on 20th April when the Battalion is to be granted the Freedom of Reading. Naturally, 'D' Company expects to play a full part in this splendid occasion.

## **BERKSHIRE ARMY CADET FORCE**

Early in 1979 the County changed from three to two Areas. This was done for a number of reasons, not the least important being the shortage of A.C.F. Officers and Adult Instructors, East Berks. Area and West Berks. Area each having seven Detachments. Of these detachments nine are badged to the Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment, the remainder being badged to the Royal Corps of Transport.

Due mainly to the recruiting drive sponsored by the Ministry of Defence and the T.A.V.R. Association our Officer and Adult Instructor position has improved a great deal. We also hope to open a new detachment in Sunningdale to replace the one we had to close in Crookham Court School, in the very near future. This will give us fifteen detachments and will enable us to go back to the three Area concept which is much more suitable from the control and supervision aspects.

Our Cadet strength is around 500 and we have some very good senior cadets in the various detachments. Our record for enlistments into the Regular Army is also good, both at junior and adult entry. It is unfortunate that only a few of those that go

into the Army actually go into the County Regiment. This is a matter of concern both to Regimental Headquarters and to us and we are looking for ways to improve this situation. It should be borne in mind that the Army Cadet Force does not exist primarily as a recruiting organisation for the Army. It is the Army's youth movement and our aim is to develop among the Cadets the qualities of good citizenship a spirit of service to our Queen and Country. Having said that, let me say that we stimulate interest in the Army at all times, and encourage those Cadets who express an interest in joining the regular and reserve forces.

In 1979 we were fortunate in getting two cadets, **Cadet Staff Sgt. Stone** of Chippenham Detachment and **Cadet Cpl. Larkin** of Wokingham Detachment, to Canada. Both gave a very lucid and interesting account of their visit at a Study Day held in Brock Barracks on 13th January, 1980. We also sent parties to B.A.O.R. and to Ypres last year. These visits are prized by the cadets and they do a great deal to widen the cadets' experience and outlook. Unfortunately it was not possible for



our party that went to B.A.O.R. to be hosted by 1 D.E.R.R. because of the Battalion's commitments. This year we are going to be more fortunate, and we are sending a party with Wilts. and Bucks. A.C.F. to 1 D.E.R.R. in April. The cadets are looking forward to this especially as two of them are the sons of **Lt. Stacey D.E.R.R.** and the party is to be led by **Lt. David Holland A.C.F.** who has the Stacey boys in his detachment at Thatcham.

We are also sending a party on the annual visit to Ypres and have been fortunate to have been selected to send a party to take part in the Nijmegen Marches. This party of marchers is to be commanded by **Capt. Peter Howells A.C.F.**, who is well known in the County for his enthusiasm and success at this type of activity. He is very busy in a training/selection programme in order to produce a fit band of warriors to take part in the marches. Talking of marches, mention must be made of the success of **Capt. Howells'** party in the Barnsley Marches in November last year when the party qualified for "gold awards" for completing 25 miles in 7 hours, then drove back from Barnsley to Reading during the night so as to be back at work/school on the Monday morning. No lack of spirit there!

Annual camp last year was at Fremington, North Devon, and despite the foul weather, was enjoyed by us all. This year we are going to Scarborough, North Yorkshire, and we are hoping that the weather will be good enough to enable us to enjoy all the facilities that the area offers. The Penine Way and Lyke Wake Walk are both in our sights!

Shooting has not been one of our strong points in recent years. We are attempting to put this right now and our shooting adviser, **Capt. Charlie Clacey, A.C.F.**, who may be remembered by some of the "old and bold in the Regiment", is doing his best to train some shots among the cadets. Whatever else isn't Charlie's heart is still in the right

place, and the cadets are benefiting from his keenness and devotion to duty.

**Capt. Guy Alway, A.C.F.**, the County Sports Officer, is kept busy organising County Sports and assisting in the Regional meetings. We had some successes in the Regional Swimming Championships last year and soon we shall be involved in soccer and cross-country running competitions.

Cadet Sunday is the day on which the A.C.F. nation wide, goes to Church. Last year we paraded at Windsor and attended at Holy Trinity Church, where one of our padres, **Rev. Brian Shenton**, took the service. Afterwards we were proud to march past the Lord Lieutenant, **Colonel The Hon. G. W. N. Palmer, O.B.E., T.D., J.P.**, who presented the stick for the best cadet to Cadet Staff Sgt. Stone. This year we are holding Cadet Sunday in Reading with the salute to be taken by the Lord Lieutenant in Brock Barracks.

Inevitably there have been changes in personnel. **Colonel Tom Adams, M.B.E.**, took over from **Colonel Francis Stanbrook, M.B.E., M.C.**, in April last year as Cadet Commandant. **Majors Vivian Herbert** and **Ron Carter** retired after giving many years valuable service to the A.C.F. To all those officers and adult instructors who left last year we say thank you for all the service that you gave to the A.C.F. and to the newcomers we say, "welcome to the family—make sure that the cadets and you enjoy yourselves".

Finally a word of thanks to the permanent staff who cope with the day to day activities in our Headquarters in Brock Barracks. **Major Peter Bond, T.D.**, A.C.F., is the Cadet Executive Officer and he has **Capt. Terry Pudwell, A.C.F.**, **Capt. Charlie Clacey, A.C.F.**, and **Lt. Graham Sale, A.C.F.**, who are Cadet Admin Assistants to help him. Last but certainly not least in the H.Q., is our clerk and typist, **Mrs. D. Pottinger**, Doris as she is known to all, keeps us on the right plane, her kindness and helpfulness is very much appreciated by the cadets and adults alike.

## WILTSHIRE ARMY CADET FORCE

The strength of The Wiltshire Army Cadet Force on 1st Decembr, 1979, was:

Officers 42. S.M.I.s/S.S.I.s/S.I.s 60. Cadets 592.

Recruiting of adults has been satisfactory. Our frozen ceiling of adults is currently 49 Officers and 72 Adult Instructors. In the pipe line we have 4 Officers and 10 Adult Instructors at present being processed and so are very close to our ceiling. The quality of adults coming forward is improving. Cadet recruiting has been normal except for the period June and July 1979 when a sudden increase not yet reflected on the strength figures given above, took place. The cadet turn-over has been

high which is reflected in low numbers of the higher star gradings obtained.

The following star gradings were obtained in the year ending 31st March, 1979.

One star 176. Two star 90. Three star 21. Four star 6.

This year we have carried out star testing in Wiltshire and did no testing at Camp. It will be interesting to see how this affects the final figures on 31st March, 1980.

### Annual Camp 1979

We were allotted Crowborough Camp for 1979. This is a well found Camp but bears the marks of



Defence cuts. Much maintenance work has been shelved for over 12 months and the D. of E. were very pressed for money. Nonetheless the cadet accommodation was adequate, the Dining Halls, Cookhouses and Messes were excellent. The training area although restricted in size, comprised thick secondary woodland and fern and there was the great bonus of the Hythe and Lydd Ranges. The sea was nearby as was London with its Museums. As has been mentioned we planned no star training at Camp and our programme which was the same for each Company, staggered to provide like facilities for all, was as follows.

In the first week after a day's familiarisation each Company had two days in the training area pursuing a very lively band of terrorists/saboteurs, one day firing on the Camp Ranges both .22 and .303, one day on the Hythe Ranges and an outing to either the seaside or to The Imperial War Museum. The middle Sunday was Parents' Day which started with a Drumhead Service followed by lunch attended by over 200 visiting parents, followed by various sports and competitions not least of which was the Officers' and Sergeants' Tug of War, very nearly, but not quite, won by the Officers for the first time. The day ended with the parents having supper with their sons before returning to Wiltshire.

The second week gave the Companies an Inter-Company exercise in the training area, two days preparing for the Guard Mounting and Section Leading Competitions and one day competing in these two Competitions. The Cadet Training Team ran a four star Leadership Course and an Adults Range Supervision Course.

The one day two Company exercise in the second week were planned by the two Companies concerned and were again marked by the enthusiasm of all taking part.

The shooting at Lydd was run by County H.Q. A team of Range Supervisors and Instructors was drawn from Companies and ran the Range for a different Company each day. Five Ranges were used, Indoor Cine Target Miniature Range for recruits and The Falling Plate, Fire Control, Individual Battle Shooting and Moving Target Range for those qualified to fire full bore. Companies were divided into squads and moved from one Range to the other throughout the day. The weather was perfect and we certainly made the best of the facilities available.

Films obtained from the S.K.C. were shown every evening and were well attended. The NAAFI, no doubt spurred on by a visit from their top brass in the middle of Camp, provided excellent service. We once again employed Tappe Catering to feed us which they did better than ever.

Our visitors at Annual Camp were **Brigadier Joe Starling**, Deputy Commander South West District, **Colonel Eddie Northey**, our Honorary Colonel, The Chairman of The Western Wessex T.A. &

V.R. Association, **Lt.-Colonel Charles Sievewright**, our gallant Secretary, **Lt.-Colonel Malcolm Carr**, **Colonel David Fladgate**, Commandant of The C.T.T., Frimley Park, and **Roy Bethel**. As they all kindly came on the same day, one programme sufficed for all and they had a comprehensive look at our activities. It was a pleasure to have them with us.

One very worthwhile and unusual occurrence must be recorded. Before Camp we were approached by the Cub Scout Leader of a group of severely handicapped Scout Cubs asking if we could do anything to interest them during their Annual Camp close to Crowborough. To cut a long story short we invited 23 Scout Cubs and 25 young Adult Volunteer assistants to lunch with us and spend the afternoon with us. They duly arrived, most in wheelchairs or on crutches, had lunch provided most generously for nothing by our contractor and watched various cadet activities. The Cub Scouts were grievously handicapped. Yet not one appeared conscious of the fact. All were cheerful and many exuberant.

The young volunteer helpers who were mostly in their late teens, were patient, kind and radiated an air of unselfishness. The impact of this group on our cadets was soon evident, shy at first, the cadets were soon taking the place of the volunteers, the Cub Scouts were wearing the cadets' berets and showing a great interest in all they were shown. One event was a cadet Tug of War, this quite unrehearsed developed into the cadets pulling against the male volunteers, then against the female volunteers and ended with the Cub Scouts pulling in their wheelchairs against each other. All Cub Scouts wanted to shoot and this they all did using the mobile Air Gun Range produced by the R.L.T. of The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment. Each Cub Scout received a Certificate showing the number of hits he had scored. Hardly any could hold the air rifle by themselves and some could not operate the trigger but the will was there and fire they did, all and everyone.

When they eventually departed they left us uplifted. Our sympathy for them had evaporated and was replaced by a wondering admiration for them and their volunteer helpers.

All in all we had a most excellent Camp. Cadet behaviour was remarkably good and everyone pulled their weight to the full.

Lastly, we are very conscious of the support given us by The Regular and Territorial Army Units in Wiltshire. Our sincere thanks go to these Units for their invaluable help, 12 Cadet Training Team, The D.E.R.R. R.L.T., 2 Fd. Hospital R.A.M.C. for our Medical Orderly, 1 Wessex for a Sergeant Instructor, 2 Wessex for a S/Sergeant H.G.V. driver, 'A' Sqn. Royal Yeomanry for our two invaluable Officers' Mess barmen, 10 Ord. Sp. Bn. for a 4 ton vehicle and H.G.V. driver, 245 Sqn. R.C.T. (V) for our M.T. Sergeant and four



H.G.V. drivers. The Infantry Demonstration Battalion for the loan of a Land Rover and 31 Signal Regiment (V) for the loan of a Sergeant Instructor. We are lucky in Wiltshire not only for this invaluable help but for the way in which it is generously given and the way in which the personnel loaned integrate with us at all levels.

### ANNUAL CAMP 1980

We have just heard that we are due to go to Okehampton for our Camp next year from 16th-31st August. We know and like Okehampton and look forward to our fifth visit in ten years.

### RECRUITS TO THE REGULAR ARMY

Up to the present since last September, 50 cadets have joined the Regular Army.

### HONOURS AND AWARDS

In October 1978 the undermentioned were honoured with the Award of H.M.'s Lord Lieutenant of Wiltshire Certificate for Meritorious Service.

Captain A. G. Martin	Captain H. S. Parsley
Captain P. D. Shiston	S.M.I. Compton, D.F.
S.M.I. Southey, S. G.	Mr. V. Challoner

In October 1979 we have heard the following are to be honoured in like manner.

Major C. R. Crumell  
A.U.O. C. P. Neal  
Mr. H. Waller

**Harry Waller**, the last named, is a retired Master Gunner from Larkhill. We are particularly pleased at this Award as he, though never a member of The Wiltshire A.C.F., has given regular and invaluable assistance to our Battery based at Larkhill over the last thirteen years. Now in retirement, but over age to join us, he still attends twice weekly and whilst officially only running the Canteen, does a great deal also besides.

### SPORTS

The County Cross Country Race was won by 'D' Company with 'C' Company as runners-up. We laid out the Course for the South West Region Cross Country and provided Course Marshals, in Tidworth. Despite this, we only managed to finish second to Devon A.C.F. in both the junior and

senior events. However, **Bdr. Mercer** of 'B' Battery managed to win the senior event.

Our Rugby response this year was poor but we managed to produce a junior team who tried hard and did manage to win one match.

Our Athletics Match was again held at Tidworth Oval and was a great success from the organisation if not the performance point of view. The Meeting was won by 'B' Battery with 'D' Company a close second. Cadet Bdr. Mercer who convincingly won the 800 and 1,500 metres senior event went forward to the National A.C.F. Athletics Championships and repeated his performance winning the 800 and 1,500 events in C Class. The South West Region swept the board in the National Championships winning all classes and the aggregate cup.

### OTHER ACTIVITIES

We ran a successful Open Day just after Camp at our Weekend Training Centre. This was organised most successfully by a relatively junior Committee, each Company and the Battery sponsoring various activities. Over five hundred parents and friends attended a most interesting and enjoyable afternoon. Coming as it did just after Camp we were delighted at both the arrangements made and by the generous support we received from parents and friends.

This year has been a very busy one training-wise and as a result we have not had time to press on with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. However, many cadets are enrolled in the Scheme through their schools and are progressing well.

### THE WEEKEND TRAINING CENTRE

The Western Wessex T.A.V.R. have refurbished our Weekend Training Centre at very considerable cost. Lining all the huts, putting night latrines and wash basins in all of them and have installed Calor Gas heating throughout. Although deprived of the Centre for twelve long months of frustration, the finished article is a tremendous improvement. Also because it looks clean, is comfortable, is watertight and warm we find both cadets and adults take a pride in it and are keeping it clean and tidy.

Our only anxiety over its use is now the cost of providing transport for cadets to attend. We shall have to be sure that our planning for its use matches up to money in the transport kitty.

We have had a good year and look forward to 1980 with enthusiasm and optimism.



## THE REGIMENTAL ASSOCIATION

In the past year there have been unspectacular but positive indications of continuing improvement in the general state of the Association. By "general state" we mean activity—social contact, gatherings, suppers, dinners, discos, barbecues, etc., in the Branches. The problems differ from area to area, and where Branches are flourishing their success has come only through a great deal of effort and determination from the Branch Secretary and a few close supporters.

The highlight of the year was the Annual Reunion, which was held at the Salisbury Race-course Bibury Suite, and organised and run by the Salisbury Branch and its ladies, the latter providing lunch for just on 200 including the Devon Band of 1 WESSEX. The Reunion was very much a family affair, with children welcomed and something provided for their amusement, and, as always, above the noise of the children and the Band could be heard the steady hum rising from an atmosphere thick with the most unlikely stories as old friends greeted each other and reminisced.

Amongst Branch activities during the year there were a supper/disco party at Reading in October and a pre-Christmas dinner party in mid-December;

a dinner party at Exeter in December, with a record-breaking double-decibel output disco, and Salisbury had a supper/disco party in March and a dinner in November, in addition to their tremendous effort in laying on the Reunion, as already mentioned. At Salisbury and at Reading there have been successful joint Regimental Association/Old Comrades' Association evenings, a development which reinforces the view that closer formal ties will come naturally in due course.

This year the Commanding Officer of the 1st Battalion has invited the Association to mark the twenty-first anniversary with a Reunion visit to the Battalion in Osnabruck. This is planned for 17th–20th July, with two days travelling and two days (three nights) with the Battalion. Association Members will have had details in their Annual Report, and Old Comrades will hear in their O.C.A. Reports of the invitation extended to them by the Association to join the party for the visit. The Association looks forward keenly to the Visit, and is grateful to **Lt-Col. Coxon** for fitting it into an already crowded programme, and providing this opportunity for renewing acquaintances and strengthening our links with the Battalion.

## THE ROYAL BERKSHIRE REGIMENT OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

### **The Annual Reunion on 28th/29th July, 1979**

The Reunion was well attended and an excellent buffet was arranged by **Mr. Goddard**. A telegram was received from **Harrington-Jones** in Australia and **Lt-Col. Don McLeay** from Australia, together

with several members who we have not seen for some years including **Tiffy Aldridge**, attended.

The Service at the Cenotaph on the Sunday was memorable for the excellent bugling by the buglers of the 1st and 2nd Bn. K.E.O. Goorkhas. They,







*The Mayor of Reading, Councillor Charles Sage, watches the March Past at Brock Barracks*

together with the Band of the Brigade of Gurkhas (2nd K.F.O. Goorkhas), gave a demonstration afterwards.

Once again our thanks are due to **Tommy Baynham** and 2 Wessex (T.A.) and the Berkshire A.C.F. for their assistance and also to **Mrs. Di Whitewick** for arranging the collection on the Sunday which raised £106 for the Benevolent Fund.

#### READING BRANCH

Monthly Meetings have generally been well attended though at times the "business" side of the meeting is small. Socially, drinks, chats of times past and times to come make these evenings worth the effort.

Socials have been well attended, special mention for that held in September which was voted one of the best this year.

In conjunction with the Reading Branch D.E.R.R. Association a very successful "Cheese and Wine Party" was held. A few members also attended the "Dinner and Dance" organised by D.E.R.R. Association.

Remembrance Sunday Service held at the "Regimental Cenotaph" was well attended by members of the branch. we were pleased to see many more Officers of the Regiment taking part in the "March Past". Brock Barracks, it seems, became the centre of Civic as well as Military "Remembrances" in Reading, the service being attended by the Mayor and Corporation. A wreath was laid at the Cenotaph on behalf of the Branch by our President, **Mr. L. T. McCalm, M.B.E.**

Our thanks to **John Walters** (Steward of Courage Social Club) one time Corporal 1st Battalion, for

his help in promoting our "Xmas Draw" amongst his members and his generosity in providing gifts for our raffles over the years.

#### MIDLAND BRANCH

##### Spring

The first meeting of the year was in the form of a Social Evening which was a great success; unfortunately, many more came than we had anticipated and the room became a little crowded, nevertheless everyone had a good time and we hope to repeat the experiment next year. We were very fortunate in having the services of the Peterson Players (free of charge) this was mainly due to the good offices of a new member (**Mr. George Ellis**) who is a member of the band himself. During this period the Branch heard of the death of **Ray Elisha**, and **George Malone** also lost his wife.

##### Summer

The meetings are (considering our diminishing numbers) very well attended and the raffles usually manage to bring in the sum of around £4 which pleases our Treasurer, **Sid Stinton**, greatly. The trip down to Reading was very well organised this year, both from the point of view of transport, accommodation and the reception at the Depot and we were able to recruit two new members from the Nuneaton area whilst we were there. **Jock Povey**, our member from the U.S.A., was very kind and paid for the ladies' entertainment whilst the lads were at the Reunion itself and as a mark of respect for his generosity, not only on this occasion, but on many more, we have arranged that he should be life Vice-President of the branch. **Tom Hill**, our Australian member, did not turn up as promised but I fear that something has



happened to him but cannot seem to find out anything from his friends or relatives.

#### Autumn

Meetings once again fairly well attended except the A.G.M. which got a very poor response, this was due to illness, either of the member or near relative, so we must not grumble too much. But we did manage to attract a new member to this meeting which was very important to us, his name is **Mr. Denis Murphy**, of Sparkbrook. At this meeting we had a very good talk from **Major Fraser** on the subject of his family's connection with the Army, everyone listened to him with rapt attention, and it turned out that the new member joined the Depot only one day before Major Fraser so they had plenty to talk about. The Armistice Day Parade was attended by seven of our members so we joined forces with the local branch of The F.E.P.O.W.S. who kindly asked **Colonel Hill** to lead the group on the march past. During this period we heard of the death of **George Kitely** and his widow asked for the use of our Standard to drape the coffin. Our sick members at the present time are: **Jack Bates**—hospital—amputation of a leg; **Frank Pountney**, at home but very poorly; **Arthur Stocks**, due to go into hospital for small operation on his heart. Here's wishing them a quick recovery.

#### WINDSOR BRANCH

The Branch has had a fairly successful year, although our Social activities have not been as plentiful as we would have wished.

We are hopeful however, that our Social Committee will remedy this during the coming winter months.

Our members who attended the Reunion at Brock Barracks in July were very pleased at the outcome. They met several Old Comrades whom they had not seen for many years and this always makes attendance at the Reunion very rewarding. The members of the Branch wish to express their thanks to the organisers of the Reunion and are conscious of the many difficulties which had to be overcome to make this event the success it is each year. This is especially so with the small staff available to assist with this task.

We all regret the sad loss of the late **Earl**

**Mountbatten** in such tragic circumstances, and members of the Branch attended a Memorial Service at the Garrison Church, Windsor, on Sunday, 21st October, 1979. There were 28 Standards from the various Service Organisations of the District, including our own Branch Standard carried by **Mr. E. Vicary** (late 6th Bn. Royal Berkshires).

On Sunday, 11th November, the Branch was represented at the Armistice Service at the same venue. The Hon. Secretary, **Mr. C. O'Hara**, carried the Poppy Wreath and **Messrs. G. Taphouse** and **J. Vass** acted as escort for the ceremony. After the service members gathered in the Life Guards N.C.O.s' Mess to reminisce and partake of suitable refreshment.

The Branch Meetings have not been well attended as we would have wished and we should take heart from the example set by our oldest member, **Mr. J. (Jessie) Newport**, aged 83, Army No. 9972—Ex 1st Bn. Royal Berkshire Regiment—Dover 1913. He, accompanied by his wife, attends every Branch Meeting.

At the time of going to press arrangements are in hand for our Xmas Buffet Supper at the T.A. Centre on 13th December, also for a Buffet Dance at the same venue in February 1980. A donation from the latter will be made towards the "Maiwand" Celebrations in July 1980. We hope the response to this event will justify the efforts being made by the Regimental Committee for its success.

Branch Meetings are held in the T.A. Centre, Bolton Road, Windsor, on the last Thursday of each month, commencing at 2000 hrs.—All are welcome.

Hon. Secretary: **Mr. C. O'Hara**,  
8 St. George's Close,  
Windsor.  
Tel.: Windsor 67717.

#### 10th BATTALION

We have been notified of the following two dates:

19th April, 1980—Ladies' night in the Dragon Club.

11th October, 1980—10th Battalion Reunion.



# THE WILTSHIRE REGIMENT OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

The Annual General Committee Meeting will be held on 26th April and the Annual Business Meeting and Reunion at Devizes on 7th and 8th June. Full details will be given in the Annual Report, which will be published in mid-March.

When Regimental Headquarters moves to Salisbury in March much work will remain to be done on the accommodation in The Wardrobe, and for the time being, at least, the O.C.A. office, manned by **Major H. V. Avery**, the Joint Secretary, one day (Tuesday) each week, will continue as now in Le Marchant Barracks. For lack of space Branch Notes, which follow, have regretfully been heavily edited.

## BIRMINGHAM

There was a good turn-out for the City's Remembrance Day Parade, but attendance at our monthly meetings is not as strong as in the past. Even so, the Branch is functioning, and meets on the first Friday of each month at the United Services Club, 287 Broad Street, Birmingham.

## CALNE

We look back on a good year, with some happy evenings at the London Road Inn, and Skittles and Darts evenings with the R.A.F. Association, and Skittles and a Dance with Devizes Branch. The Branch Standard, carried by **Mr. C. Langley**, was paraded on Remembrance Sunday, and a wreath was laid by **Lt.-Col. Wood**, our Branch President. We meet at 8.00 p.m. on the last Monday of each month, and by kind permission of the R.A.F. Association in their Social Club in Church Street.

## DEVIZES

**Major Clarke**, the Branch President, appealed at its recent Annual General Meeting for more support from the Branch's sixty-two members. However, whilst the regular monthly meetings are attended by an average of only seventeen members it is encouraging that the main events, such as the dinner and dance, are strongly supported. The Branch visited Calne twice during the year, and the dinner and dance was a great success.

## MARLBOROUGH

The Branch continues to hold its Meetings on the first Friday of each month, throughout the year, at the Royal British Legion Club, to the members of which we are grateful for all their generous assistance over our social events.

## SALISBURY

Branch Meetings continue to be well attended. We meet in the Royal British Legion Club in the

Market Square at 8.00 p.m. on the first Wednesday in January, April, July and October. The passing of the years has brought a few changes, notably the retirement as Branch Secretary of **Major George Read**, who revived the Branch in 1967, and **Mr. Macey** who, after 32 years as our Standard Bearer, felt that the time had come to stand down. We are grateful to them for all they have done for the Branch and the O.C.A. as a whole. They have been succeeded by **Captain Steele** and **Mr. Lodge** respectively. During the year we have shared two most enjoyable evenings with the Regimental Association Salisbury Branch at the Porton Sports Club, and we have also visited Warminster Branch, and paraded for the Annual "Badges" Service at Fovant in July.

## SWINDON

This year we have had the oddity of two Christmas Dinners in one year, having for various reasons to postpone the previous year's to January last year. However, both were most enjoyable and highly successful. A faithful nine or ten members meet regularly on the third Wednesday of each month at the excellent Albion Club in Bridge Street, and we would welcome any old members of the Regiment who have recently come to Swindon or have not yet joined.

## WARMINSTER

It has been a good year for the Branch, with the highlight our Annual Dinner at the School of Infantry Sergeants' Mess. The Branch was well represented at the Annual Reunion and also at the Annual Commemoration Service at St. Giles' Church at the School of Infantry. In October we had a very good evening indeed when Salisbury Branch visited us for what was intended to be a Games Evening, but we soon forgot about games when our guests arrived. At the moment we are looking forward to our next Annual Dinner, late in January, at the recently renovated and converted United Services Club, and hoping for a strong turn-out.

## 5th BATTALION

Thirty-four years on since the end of the 39-45 War, but enthusiasm is as strong as ever and we have had a very successful year. We mustered a good-ish number for the Annual Reunion at Devizes, and had a turn-out of seventy members for our own 29th Annual Reunion at The Stag, Victoria, in September. Our Reunion for 1980 will be held at The Stag again on 11th October, and any Old Comrades who happen to be within range will be very welcome.



## REGIMENTAL MUSEUM

The preparation and packing of the two old Collections in readiness for the move to Salisbury is almost complete. Delivery of the display-cases has unfortunately been delayed, but it is hoped that the work of assembling the combined Collection can be started early in the summer in preparation for opening to the public in August.

A major acquisition, by purchase at auction, was the Victoria Cross won by the late **Lance Corporal J. Welch** with 1st Battalion The Royal Berkshires in France in the 1914-18 War.

The following items have been gratefully received:

Various articles of uniform from **Lt.-Col. G. F. Woolnough, M.C.**

Uniforms, Sword and collection of old documents from the late **Lt.-Col. L. H. Bearne**.

From the late **Gilbert Charles Coulchey** a group of medals, uniforms, diaries and photographs.

From the late **C.S.M. Smith**, Royal Berkshires, various articles of uniform and some photographs.

From the late **Cpl. Alexander**, Wiltshires, two medals, and various papers and photographs.

Three medals and assorted papers from **Sgt. Watts**, Wiltshires.

From the widow of **Capt. Goodhart, M.C.**, Wiltshires, a 1911 Christmas Card sent from South Africa.

From **Brig. G. Wort, C.B.E., D.L.**, framed photographs of the Obelisk at Ferozeshah commemorating the Battle, and of the Anglo-Sikh War Memorial near Ferozeshah, these photographs having been taken on the occasion of his re-visiting India in 1978.

A perfectly preserved embroidered yellow ceremonial robe, together with a pair of embroidered sleeves and an embroidered strip of material 3½ feet long. Expert opinion holds that these were the property of the Emperor and Empress of China in 1860. Received on permanent loan from **Mrs. M. M. Croslegh** and her family, having originally been acquired by Captain (later Major-General) Henry Ely of The Wiltshire Regiment.

A group of six medals awarded to **Lt.-Col. Swayne, M.C.**, including the Military Cross won by him when serving in The Wiltshire Regiment in the 1914-18 War. Presented by Mrs. R. Swayne, his widow.

## BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

### BIRTHS

#### Officers

**Capt. A. F. R. Stevenson**. Toby Charles Anthony, on 21st March, 1979.

**Capt. B. R. Franklin**. Bernard Patrick Finbarr, on 18th March, 1979.

#### Soldiers

**Pte. Hickman R.** Serena Elaina, on 1st February, 1979.

**L/Cpl. Stanley**. Kizzy Simone, on 12th January, 1979.

**Cpl. Chitty F. Simone Jenessie**, on 3rd March, 1979.

**Sgt. Waters P.** Simon Lee Peter, on 26th January, 1979.

**Pte. Devlin**. Brendan Francis, on 1st March, 1979.

**Pte. Devlin**. Barry John, on 1st March, 1979.

**Pte. Windsor E.** Stephen Mark, on 11th March, 1979.

**Pte. Deakes**. Zoe Joanne, on 5th April, 1979.

**Pte. Hickman N.** Maria Emma Jane, on 13th March, 1979.

**Cpl. Tucker D.** Emma Louise, on 30th March, 1979.

**Pte. Smith M.** Simon Andrew, on 15th January, 1979.

**Pte. Taylor J.** Paul Robert, on 19th February, 1979.

**Pte. Elliot D.** Derrick, on 2nd April, 1979.

**Pte. Ward A.** Jamie Andrew, on 19th April, 1979.

**Cpl. Finnegan L.** Emma Louise, on 21st May, 1979.

**L/Cpl. Carpenter J.** Jamie Louise, on 24th June, 1979.

**L/Cpl. Johnson B.** Sabrina Jane, on 13th July, 1979.

**Pte. Hudd C.** Alison Carole, on 30th January, 1979.

**Sgt. Trench A.** Adam Leslie, on 18th June, 1979.

**L/Cpl. Fisher A.** David John Anthony, 26th July, 1979.

**Pte. Mason N.** Stacy June, on 12th July, 1979.

**L/Cpl. Haddow M.** Gavin David, on 5th July, 1979.

**Cpl. Leeming R.** Brendan Terrance, on 7th July, 1979.



**Sgt. Taylor W.** Scott David, on 4th October, 1979.  
**Sgt. Ravu J.** Frances Naomi, on 25th September, 1979.

**L/Cpl. Knowles R.** Robert Kenneth, on 21st August, 1979.

**Cpl. Lowery M.** Wesley Samuel, on 19th September, 1979.

**W.O.2 Hicks R.** Rodney Charles, on 13th July, 1979.

**Cpl. Goddard P.** Aaron Peter, on 11th October, 1979.

**L/Cpl. Bastow P.** Matthew Paul, on 23rd October, 1979.

**L/Cpl. Coates R.** Marc Raymond Edward, on 7th November, 1979.

**Cpl. Herbert K.** Lauren May, on 3rd December, 1979.

**Pte. Jacobs K.** Martin Anthony Paul, on 30th May, 1979.

**Pte. Guy M.** Karl Maurice, on 2nd September, 1979.

**L/Cpl. Cook P.** Jamie, on 18th January, 1979.

#### **Grandson**

**Colonel L. J. L. Hill, M.C.** Christopher William Lindsay, son of Jacky (née Hill) and Richard Cant, on 23rd December, 1979.

### **MARRIAGES**

#### **Officers**

**Colonel D. I. M. Robbins, O.B.E., M.C.** Married to Mrs. Fleur Taylor at Warminster, on 4th April, 1979.

**Captain A. N. Coates.** Married to Miss Marleen de Wulf in Belgium, on 18th August, 1979.

#### **Soldiers**

**L/Cpl. Sobers W.** Married to Donna Elizabeth Michelle Harrison at the St. John the Evangelist, Bath, Avon, on 29th September, 1979.

**Pte. Goldsmith D.** Married to Ramona Margarete Anneliese Petersohn at the Register Office, Nottingham, on 24th November, 1979.

**Pte. Sutton S.** Married to Jutta Klapper at the church of St. John the Divine, Stockcross, on 24th November, 1979.

**Pte. Prior L.** Married to Carolyn June Sherman at the Register Office, Reading, on 17th November, 1979.

**Pte. Tollafeld P.** Married to Alison Pedley at the St. John the Baptist and St. Andrew Church, Swindon, on 8th December, 1979.

**L/Cpl. Tarrant A.** Married to Margaret Maryann Booth at the Register Office, Swindon, on 17th November, 1979.

**Pte. Hopgood M.** Married to Tina Jean Bendy at the Parish Church, Frome, on 14th April, 1979.

**Pte. Hillier K.** Married to Louise Bernadette Clark at the Parish Church, Swindon, on 14th April, 1979.

**Cpl. Davies M.** Married to Marlene Grace Walton at the United Church, Trowbridge, on 14th April, 1979.

**L/Cpl. Harris R.** Married to Linda Brzesziewicz at the Register Office, Warminster, on 7th April, 1979.

**Pte. Smart P.** Married to Shirley Christine Butcher at the Baptist Chapel, Kensington, Powys, on 14th April, 1979.

**Cpl. Waterfall J.** Married to Janice Horsell at the Register Office, Swindon, on 14th April, 1979.

**Pte. Wright G.** Married to Janet Marilyn Martin at the Register Office, Worthing, on 18th April, 1979.

**Pte. Goodrich-Meech K.** Married to Amanda Withey at the Register Office, Newbury, on 7th April, 1979.

**Pte. Ward G.** Married to Helen Owen at the Register Office, Ynys Mori, Llangeni, on 7th April, 1979.

**Cpl. Ward C.** Married to Rebecca Ann Horsecroft at the Parish Church, Newbury, on 7th April, 1979.

**Pte. Gunning C.** Married to Ann Goddard at the United Reform Church on 14th April, 1979.

**Cpl. Simms J.** Married to Linda Mary Pond at the Methodist Church, Bath Road, on 26th May, 1979.

**Pte. Cowell K.** Married to Barbara Atha at the St. George's Church, Osnabruck, W. Germany, on 2nd June, 1979.

**Pte. Combes D.** Married to Deborah Cooke at the Holy Trinity Church, Rayleigh, Essex, on 17th March, 1979.

**Pte. Hutchins G.** Married to Sueanne Frida Kroger at the St. Mary's Church, Kintbury, on 1st December, 1979.

**Pte. Cheeseman P.** Married to Marisa Louise Selvaggiro at the St. John's Church, Frome, on 1st December, 1979.

**L/Cpl. Essery J.** Married to Sandra Regina Findlay at the Parish Church, Clysaen, on 24th February, 1979.

**Pte. Henry J.** Married to Marrion Mary Pontin at the Parish Church, Stanton Fitzwarren, on the 24th November, 1979.

**L/Cpl. Holmes A.** Married to Frances Mary Teague at the St. Barnabus Parish Church on 17th November, 1979.



## DEATHS

We regret to record the following:

### Royal Berkshire Regiment

#### Officers

**Captain C. W. Booth, T.D.** at Warfield on 12th April, 1979.

**Captain L. H. Davies** in July, 1979.

**Major D. Webb** in July, 1979. Q.M. 1st Bn. and Depot.

**Mr. G. Smith, D.C.M.** in September, 1979. Enlisted 1903. Commissioned 1918.

**Major J. A. H. MacMillan** in September, 1979. Commissioned into R. Berks. 1953. Retired D.E.R.R. 1971.

**Mrs. Ivess.** Widow of the late Captain Ivess (T.A.) in September, 1979.

**Colonel Lloyd Baker, D.S.O., T.D.** in October, 1979. Commanded 4th Bn. in 1918.

**Major-General P. H. Man, C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.** at Woodbridge on 10th October, 1979. Late R. Hamps. Served with R. Berks. 1949 to 1951.

**Major G. H. J. Fleming, M.B.E., T.D.** at Emmer Green on 12th November, 1979.

**Major H. J. Killick** on 17th December, 1979. 6th Bn.

**Mr. W. A. Upton, D.S.O.** in January, 1980. Awarded the D.S.O. as 2/Lt. with 2nd Bn. in 1917.

#### Other Ranks

**Mr. A. M. Elisha** in February, 1979.

**Mr. H. Pratley** in February, 1979. Enlisted 1906.

**Mr. C. J. Lewis** in March 1979. Was R.S.M. 10th Bn.

**Mr. W. Geraghty** in January, 1979.

**Mr. A. J. Bridgett** in February, 1979. Pensioner.

**Mr. E. F. Ains** in March 1979. Pensioner.

**Mr. F. Beeston** in The Star & Garter Home in April, 1979.

**Mr. W. G. Williams** in January, 1979.

**Mr. W. Taylor** in May, 1979. Pensioner, ex C.S.M.

**Mr. A. V. Walker** in May, 1979. Pensioner.

**Mr. F. H. Perkins** in May, 1979. Pensioner.

**Mr. E. Cane** in June, 1979.

**Mr. E. F. Drewett** in Australia in June, 1979.

**Mr. A. H. Bendle** in December, 1979.

**Mr. W. G. Chandler** on 4th January, 1980.

**Mr. G. T. Funnell, M.M. & Bar** in June, 1979. Pensioner (obituary elsewhere).

**Mr. L. S. Doe** in June, 1979. Pensioner.

**Mr. S. Lucking, M.V.O.** in August, 1979. (Former Superintendent at Windsor Castle. Served 6th Bn. 1939-1942).

**Mr. A. C. E. Booker** in September, 1979.

**Mr. G. H. Kiteley** in September, 1979.

### The Wiltshire Regiment

#### Officers

**Capt. S. J. L. Avery** (ex Band 1st and 2nd Bns.) died at Ivybridge, Devon. Aged 68—On 26th October, 1979.

**Lt.-Colonel L. H. Bearne** of Little Waldingfield, Suffolk. Aged 81—On 6th October, 1979.

**Capt. C. D. E. Keeling** of Oxshott, Surrey. Aged 58—On 6th June, 1979. I.O. and Adj. of 5th Bn. in 1944/45.

**Lt.-Colonel A. R. Moore, M.B.E., M.M.**, of New Milton. On 8th April, 1979. Enlisted in 1914 and was recalled in 1939. Served with the 1st and 2nd Bns. Aged 85.

**Lt.-Colonel K. J. P. Oliphant, M.C.**, of Netheravon. Aged 87.—On 14th May, 1979. Commissioned into the Regiment in 1910. Went to France with the 1st Bn. in 1914, and commanded the Depot in 1935. Promoted to command the 2nd Bn. in 1939, and took it to France later that year. Retired in 1947.

**Major A. F. Pryor, M.B.E.**, of Tilehurst, Reading. Aged 76—On 29th August, 1979. Served with the 1st, 2nd and 7th Bns. and spent his last years before retirement with the 4th Bn. as Quartermaster. His widow Anne wishes to thank the many kind friends who sent letters and cards, and also the donations amounting to £79 which have been passed to the British Heart Foundation.

**Colonel F. N. Jagger, T.D.**, of Brettenham, Suffolk. Aged 82—On 25th December, 1979. Commissioned into the Royal Welsh Fusiliers in 1915 and served in France. Retired in 1930, settled in Wiltshire, joined the 4th Bn. and became Second-in-Command. Commanded the 5th Bn. when it was raised in 1938.

**Brigadier E. E. J. Moore, D.S.O.**, in Cheshire at the age of 85—In December 1979. Came from his own Regiment, The Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, to the 2nd Bn. in February 1940, when he took over from Lt.-Col. Oliphant and commanded the Bn. until June 1940.

**Lt.-Colonel C. T. K. Faithfull**—In December 1979. Duke of Wellington's. Commanded the 1st Bn. in India in 1945/46.

**Mrs. Ponsford**, widow of the late **Major J. M. Ponsford, M.C.**—In November 1979.

**Mrs. Goswell**, wife of Major A. G. Goswell. 16th January, 1980.

#### Other Ranks

**Mr. A. E. Acres** of Victoria, Australia. Aged 82—On 7th March, 1979.

**Mr. W. T. Atkins** of Toronto, Canada. Aged 71.—On 7th March, 1979.

**Mr. F. C. Avons** (ex 5570928) of Trowbridge. Aged 80—On 18th August, 1979. Served in both World Wars—5th Bn. 1934-45.



**Mr. A. E. Brewer** of Devizes. Aged 86—On 21st September, 1979. 4th Bn.

**Mr. G. C. Couldrey, D.C.M.**, of Eastleigh. Aged 87—In August 1978.

**Mr. A. H. Caswell** of Greenford, Middlesex—On 27th April, 1979. 2nd Bn.

**Mr. S. Cockle** of Bristol. Aged 74—On 3rd October, 1979. 1st and 2nd Bns. Batman to Lt.-Col. Beaven. A Regimental Boxer. In recent years Wreath Bearer at Reunion Services.

**Mr. C. Cowley** of Bristol, formerly of Swindon. Aged 81—On 15th October, 1979. (Ex 10386). An Old Contemptible; also a Batman to Lt.-Col. Beaven.

**Mr. R. B. Doel** of Trowbridge. Aged 81—In June 1979.

**Mr. A. Hampshire** of Marlborough. Aged 90—On 3rd April, 1979.

**Mr. W. E. Ray** of Birmingham. Aged 72—On 16th March, 1979.

**Mr. A. J. Stroud** of West Byfleet. Aged 89—On 13th March, 1979.

**Mr. F. C. Southey** of Putney. Aged 91—On 19th March, 1979.

**Mr. P. T. Wiltshire** of Melksham. Aged 84—On 12th February, 1979.

**Mr. P. Westall** of Ramsbury. Aged 80—On 28th February, 1979.

**Mr. H. J. Watts** of New Hinkley, Oxford. Aged 85—On 6th June, 1979.

**Mr. G. S. Edgar** of Salisbury. Aged 85—On 20th December, 1979; former correspondent 1st/4th Bn. 1914/18.

**Mr. H. J. Sampson** of Somerset. Aged 70—On 19th December, 1979.

**Mr. W. W. Boulton, M.S.M.**, of Lower Apperley, Gloucester. Aged 77—On 27th September, 1979. Ex R.S.M.

**Mr. A. R. Cannings** of Knook—On 27th December, 1979.

**Mr. J. Fry** of Codford. Aged 61—On 13th January, 1980.

**Mr. G. Trimmell** of Melksham—On 29th June, 1979.

**Mr. J. Jacobs** of Figheldean. 1st Bn. (Drums) India and Burma.

**Mr. W. C. Woodward** (ex 5562283)—On 23rd October, 1979. Enlisted 1914.

**Mr. C. Brann, D.C.M.**, of Devonport. Aged 79—On 25th January, 1979.

**Mr. H. H. J. Cletford** of Pewsey. Aged 64—In December 1978.

**Mr. E. H. Labrum** (ex 27256) of Wellingborough, Northants. Aged 87—In January 1979. 1st and 2nd Bns. Batman to Brigadier Glyn Hughes.

**Mr. K. Bown** of Swindon (ex 5577143). Aged 55—On 21st July, 1979. 5th Bn.

**Mr. F. W. Roper, M.M.**, of Erith—On 13th June, 1979. 5th Bn.

**Mr. J. Park** of Melksham—On 14th July, 1979. 5th Bn.

**Mr. J. A. Stacey, M.M.**, at Carlisle—On 17th January, 1980.

**Mr. F. Best** at Colney—On 19th January 1980. Aged 72. Ex 1st Bn. in Egypt, Shanghai and Singapore.

**Mr. J. Smith** at Eastleigh—On 1st February, 1980.

**Mr. J. Fry** at Codford—In January 1980. Ex Cpl. 4th Bn.

#### **Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment**

**C/Sgt. Mehrlich**—Daughter, Katie Louise, died at British Military Hospital, Munster, on 19th December, 1978.

**Ex-C/Sgt Meade**—C.O.H. Bryn Meade (LIFE GUARDS), son of Ex C/Sgt. W. J. Meade D.E.R.R., was killed in a road traffic accident whilst serving with the U.N. Forces in Cyprus on 1st September, 1979.

**Q.M.S.I. Larkham, A.P.T.C.**—Wife, Regine Anne, died at R.A.F. Hospital, WEGBERG, West Germany, on 7th April, 1979.

**Pte. Rowe**—Son, Clifton Clifford, died at B.M.H. Munster, on 29th March, 1979.

**C/Sgt. Fedrick**—Daughter, Wendy Louise, died at B.M.H. Munster, on 28th February, 1979.

## **OBITUARIES**

### **LT.-COL. K. J. P. OLIPHANT, M.C.**

Lieutenant-Colonel Jack Oliphant, who died on May the 15th, 1979, in his 88th year, was the last survivor but one of those regular officers commissioned into The Wiltshire Regiment before the First World War. He bore the stamp of that generation, with his charm, courtesy, kindness and

consideration, and he was a fine athlete, a keen professional soldier, and a natural leader of men in whom he inspired loyalty and affection.

Commissioned in October 1910, he joined the 1st Battalion at Pietermaritzburg, where he was able to develop his natural aptitude for games and sports, the Battalion having established a high



reputation in all Army games and sports during its tour there. Ten years later he rejoined the same Battalion in Dublin, where it became the champion unit in Ireland for soccer, athletics, cross-country, tug-of-war and bayonet fencing, giving Jack Oliphant the opportunity to take a leading part in several of those events, and to captain the Battalion team which won the Army Soccer Cup in 1922.

His early professional career was not so successful. The 1st Battalion went from Tidworth to France with the B.E.F. in August 1914. He survived Le Cateau and the retreat from Mons, but was captured in the desperate fighting at Neuve Chapelle in the October, from which the Battalion emerged 200 strong. His years as a P.O.W. in Germany brought out remarkable qualities of determination, endurance and fortitude. He escaped three times, once being re-captured on the Dutch border after walking 300 miles by night in eight days: he spent many periods in solitary confinement. He was one of a group of British officers renowned for their persistence in escaping, who retained an unquenchable spirit in adversity. The award of the Military Cross was thoroughly deserved.

Repatriated to Holland early in 1918, in November he went with the Knox Mission to Kolchak in Vladivostock, and for a few months in 1920 he was an Asst. Commissioner in the Allenstein Commission Plebiscite. For the remainder of the inter-war years his service covered the full range of Regimental experience. From the 1st Battalion he went on a tour at the Depot in 1925, and returned to the 1st Battalion as Adjutant, at Tidworth and in Egypt. Promoted Major in 1930, he commanded 'A' Company of the 2nd Battalion in 1931, going on to command the Depot in 1935. He returned to the 2nd Battalion in 1938, now at Catterick, as Second-in-Command. There was little incentive between the wars for a regular officer to show professional enthusiasm, but Jack Oliphant always worked to produce the best standard, particularly in training and in morale. Promoted to command the 2nd Battalion in February 1939, when the Second World War was on the horizon, he quite clearly trained the Battalion for war, giving it a tone and professional standard which it never lost. In particular, the exercise in trench construction—a forgotten art in 1939—was to be of value, the training in anti-gas warfare was, fortunately, never put to use. He took the Battalion to France in September 1939, with the B.E.F., but was fated not to lead it in action. An age limit on command in the B.E.F. debarred him, and he was posted to the U.K. in February 1940. However, he experienced one poignant event before leaving: at the head of the Battalion on a night march from Givenchy to Armentieres, as he came to the cross-roads in Neuve Chapelle after midnight, he turned to his Adjutant and said: "I was captured a few yards up that lane just 25 years ago".

Given command of the 7th Battalion in Hamp-

shire, he showed that physically and mentally he was still very active. Under his leadership the 7th Battalion developed an esprit-de-corps which is remembered still by the former members. At the end of 1941 he became Garrison Commander, Bournemouth. His last appointment, by an ironical turn of fate, was Commander, Prisoner of War Camps. His retirement in 1947 marked the end of a fine Regimental career.

In retirement, he retained his interest in the Regiment, and was a regular attender at Depot functions, at first from his home at Conock, and then at Fittleton on the Avon. His Christian faith, which had supported him as a prisoner, was evident in the active part he took in the life of the village Church, where he was a Church Warden at both places. His love of the Wiltshire countryside was fulfilled in his garden, and in his fishing. An expert fisherman, he had an uncanny knowledge of the trout and grayling for miles above and below his home, where he was always delighted to welcome his many friends and visitors. He married Roma Cave-Thomas in October 1918, at the Hague, who went with him to Vladivostock as a V.A.D.—an unusual case of a husband and wife serving on the same Mission. They had a son and two daughters. Roma died in 1950, and he married in 1952 Joan Allen, who sustained him so well in his last years. His friends share with Joan and the family their personal loss.

Jack Oliphant will be remembered for his friendliness and humanity, and for the example he set as a good Regimental Officer. By his personality, and insistence on high standards, he undoubtedly influenced the younger officers and men to give of their best to their Regiment and profession. No man can have a finer memorial.

G.F.W.

#### **COLONEL F. W. JAGGER, T.D.**

Colonel Frank Whitley Jagger, T.D., died suddenly at his home at Brettenham on Christmas Day 1979. He was born on 1st September, 1897, and was educated at Malvern College. He attended the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, and was commissioned into the Royal Welch Fusiliers in 1915. He served in France in 1916 and 1917, but was invalided home with typhoid. He later served in Ireland and retired as a regular Army Officer in 1930.

He then settled in Wiltshire and joined the 4th Bn. The Wiltshire Regiment T.A. as a Captain. In 1937 he was promoted Major and became 2IC. He later was promoted Lt.-Colonel and in 1938/39 he raised the 5th Bn. The Wiltshire Regiment T.A. After the outbreak of War he trained his Unit at Tisbury, Maidstone, Dover and Deal.

It was obvious that Lt.-Colonel Frank Jagger laid the foundations of this fine Battalion, and at the termination of his command in 1940 this dedicated C.O. handed over to Lt.-Colonel Neville



Kenrick a well organised, highly disciplined, happy Unit that later fought so courageously in Northern Europe.

After Colonel Jagger left the Wiltshires he became Garrison Commander of the Faroes, and later O.C. Troops, Bicester.

Frank Jagger married Catherine Deborah Barford (Chief Commander A.T.S.) on 23rd September, 1943. They had a daughter, Penelope Frances, born on 21st June, 1944, and a son, Andrew Martin, born on 26th June, 1946. Mrs. J. A. Baring-Gould is the daughter of his earlier marriage.

J.H.B.

#### **CAPTAIN C. W. BOOTH, T.D.**

Carl Booth was educated at Leys School, Cambridge, and Peterhouse College, Cambridge. He served in France and Palestine with the Royal Dublin Fusiliers in 1917/18.

He farmed at Warfield for many years and joined the 4th Battalion The Royal Berkshire Regiment in 1926 until 1935 when he went on the reserve. He rejoined the 1st Battalion The Royal Berkshire Regiment in 1940 and was taken P.O.W.

He always attended the Dragon Club Dinner and never lost his interest in the Regiment. He was a keen horseman and Secretary of the Garth Hunt for many years. A delightful and charming person.

H.P.V.

#### **GEORGE T. FUNNEL, M.M. and Bar**

Died 10th June, 1979. Mr. Funnel enlisted in 1912 and joined the 1st Battalion The Royal Berkshire Regiment and fought throughout the First World War with great gallantry gaining the

Military Medal at Bourlon Wood on the 30th November, 1917, and a Bar to the Military Medal at Courcelles on 21st August, 1918. He was severely wounded in both ankles, knees and shoulder. After World War One George spent two years in the Sierra Leone Regiment as an Instructor rejoining the 1st Battalion The Royal Berkshire Regiment in India in 1924. He finished his engagement in 1933 but in 1944 he joined the Territorial Army, was mobilised in 1938 and served with the Royal Artillery A.A. Command in the U.K. and Germany after which he continued with the T.A. and was Camp Commandant at Burnt Farm and Lippetts Hill Camps until 1956. In all he served nearly 40 years with the Army and was a regular attender at Reunions.

#### **MAJOR G. H. J. FLEMING, T.D.**

George Fleming who died on 12th November, 1979, joined the 1st Battalion The Royal Berkshire Regiment in 1911 and fought with the 2nd/4th Battalion in France from 1916–December 1917 when he was wounded. After World War One he served in Mesopotamia and India with the 1st Battalion and then at the Depot where he became R.S.M. Commissioned in 1939 as Q.M. of the 7th Battalion until it was disbanded in 1942, he served on the staff and as Camp Commandant 8th Corps during the Campaign in North West Europe earning the M.B.E. and Mention in Despatches. For a short time after World War II he commanded the Depot and was the first Business Manager of the China Dragon Journal. George Fleming was a good all round sportsman, particularly in the shooting world both small bore and service.

He was released in 1948 after 37 years' service and became Q.M. of the 4th/6th Royal Berkshire Regiment (T.A.) until 1951.

## **NOTICES AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

### **ARTICLES FOR SALE**

The following articles may be obtained through R.H.Q.:

(a) Drum Ice Buckets	...	...	£7.05
(b) D.E.R.R. Plaques	...	...	£7.70
(c) Perpetual Calendars	...	...	50p
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(e) Key Fobs	...	...	17p
(f) Regimental Ties			
Wiltshire Regiment	...	...	£2.25
D.E.R.R. (blue)	...	...	£2.20
D.E.R.R. (Green/Maroon)	...	...	£2.20

### **(g) Christmas Cards**

Old pattern (Blue, small) limited stock	...	...	8p
New pattern (Red, large)	...	...	10p
Postage extra.			

Items (c), (d) and (e) are in blue with the Regimental Badge in silver.

### **OFFICERS' PENSION SOCIETY**

President: Admiral Sir Desmond Dreyer, G.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.C.

Chairman: Air Marshal Sir Harold Maguire, K.C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E.



General Secretary: Maj.-General L. W. A. Gingell, C.B., O.B.E.

Council Members include:—

Maj.-General D. A. Beckett, C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E.

General Sir Charles Harington, G.C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C.

Maj.-General J. H. Page, C.B., O.B.E., M.C.

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### **Why should I join the Officers' Pensions Society?**

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Do you know how and why the new method of applying the first pension increase after retirement can have a very material effect upon your retired pay and your widows' pension—and why you must therefore think very carefully before selecting your date of retirement?

Do you know how increases are applied to your retired pay and the conditions of eligibility? If you have a disability do you know how to go about applying for a disability pension? Do you know how your retired pay may affect a pension from a private occupational pension scheme? What do you know about commutation and its implications? In short, can you find your way around this labyrinth?

If the answer to this question is "No", then that surely is the best possible reason as to why you should join the Society. For we are here not only to look after the interests of all retired officers and their dependants, but also help and advise our members on their pension problems. If you would like to know more about us, which I hope you will, please write to the General Secretary, Officers' Pension Society, 15 Buckingham Gate, London S.W.1.

Membership is open to all retired officers and their wives, the wives of serving officers and widows. The subscription is very modest being only £4 a year and this includes both husband and wife.

### **REGULAR FORCES EMPLOYMENT ASSOCIATION**

This Association is part of the Forces Resettlement Service. It exists to help the non-commissioned ranks of the three Services to resettle in civilian life when they leave the Forces, and in particular to help them to find suitable employ-

ment. It also takes a long term interest in ex-Regulars, who may use its services as often as they wish.

The Association has 42 Branches covering the United Kingdom, and its Employment Officers—all ex-Servicemen—are in close touch with employers. It provides all its services free. Addresses and telephone numbers of Branches can be obtained from Regimental Associations—or from Post Offices, Employment Offices or local telephone directories.

### **THE ROYAL CAMBRIDGE HOME FOR SOLDIERS' WIDOWS**

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82-84 Hurst Road, East Molesey, Surrey KT8 9AH  
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### **THE NEXT JOURNAL**

The next Journal will be published in April 1981. Contributions are required at R.H.Q. by the end of January 1981 **at the latest.**



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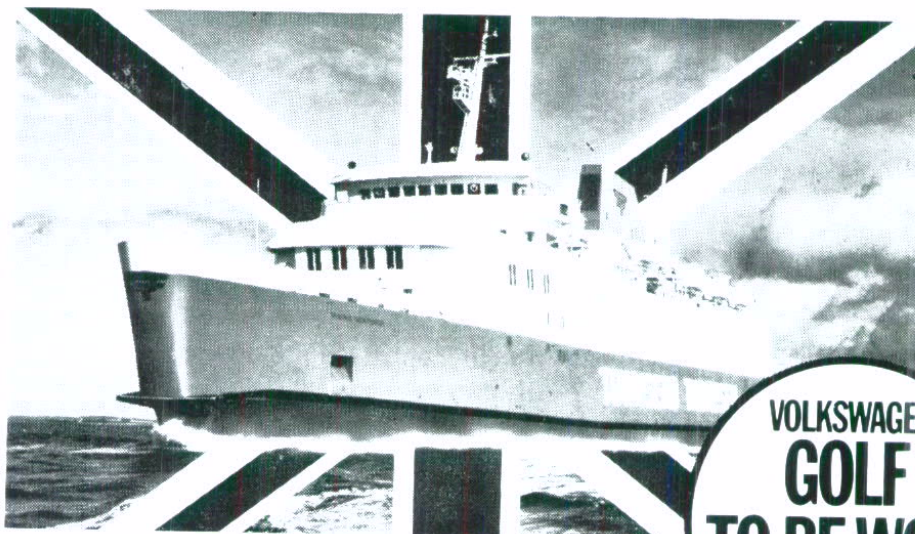
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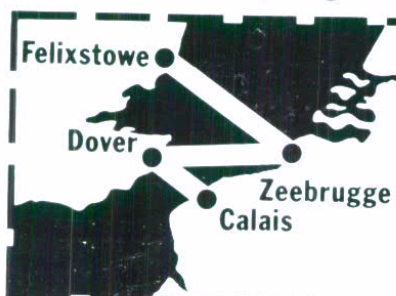
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## THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S ROYAL REGIMENT OFFICERS' REGIMENTAL DINNER

1. The 1980 Dinner will be held at:—

WADHAM COLLEGE, OXFORD

on Friday, 5th September, 1980 at 7-15 p.m. for 8-00 p.m.

**2. CHARGE**

To include drinks before a four course dinner and wines and port at dinner, but not cigars or drinks after dinner.

To regimental subscribers	...	...	£10.50
To non-subscribers	...	...	£16.00

(inclusive of Service and V.A.T.)

Officers of other Regiment/Corps who are serving or have served in the Regiment pay the lower charge providing they are subscribers in their own Regiment or Corps.

**3. APPLICATION FOR SEATS**

Applications for seats must be received on the form below by Friday, 22nd August at the **LATEST**. Applications will be acknowledged.

**4. SEATING**

Seating will be arranged beforehand. If any member wishes to sit with a particular person would he please put this down on the seating request on the application form below.

**5. DRESS**

Dinner Jacket.

**6. ACCOMMODATION**

Undergraduates' rooms in the College and Breakfast (08.15 — 09.15 hours) may be booked on the form below, and the rooms taken over from mid-day onwards.

**7. CHARGE**

£4.50 including Service and V.A.T.

**8. CAR PARKING**

Very restricted in the vicinity of the College, otherwise City Car Parks.

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To: RHQ, The Duke of Edinburgh's Royal Regiment,  
The Wardrobe, 58 The Close, Salisbury SP1 2EX.

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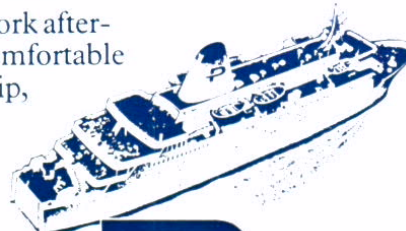
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